

University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Environment Committee

Agenda

10:00am 9th April 2019

Meeting 5(19)

Location: Environment Office

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Election of Chair
- 1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners
- 1.3 Attendance
- 1.4 Apologies
- 1.5 Proxies
- 1.6 Membership
- 1.7 Adoption of Agenda

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Confirmation of minutes from meeting 4(19) on the 26th March, 2019.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4. Correspondence

Vice Chancellor Duncan Maskell & Acting Vice Chancellor Mark Considine

Communications with the Chancellery about the SS4C produced less than satisfactory results. Acting VC Mark Considine confirmed that the University would not use their email privileges to spread work of the strike, and since then Maskell has got back to the office saying that he stands by this decision, and would only use the email service for 'important' issues.

Hernan Lardux & the 'Food Co-op' Movie Invoice

Received an email from a film rights company regarding the invoice for the screening of a film last year during Summerfest. Apparently it hasn't been paid. Will talk to Callum and Lucy as the correspondence referenced happened in Feb 2018.

5. Office Bearer Report

Key Activities

Rad Ed Week

Radical Education Week will be taking place in the middle of semester, approximately three weeks from now. Rad Ed week is a fabulous week of workshops and conversations about radical ideas, theory, and how to re-vision our broken education & social systems. We organised this week every year to engage student in radical learning "outside the university classroom" - symbolised by the location of our marquee on South Lawn from Monday through to Thursday.

This year like last, we want to try and get more UMSU Departments on board, rather than it just being an Enviro and our friends series, and engage more students in radical ideas. Last year we had workshops from Welfare, Queer, Women's, Education Public and Academic, and People of Colour. This year we want to continue that - if you have an idea for a workshop, head to the UMSU Enviro page and follow the link to submit workshop ideas!

This year we will be running the radical classroom from Monday 15th April to Thursday 18th April (Week 7), with a student forum on Tuesday evening and a closing party taking place on the Thursday. Throughout the week, the radical classroom will be providing workshops, movie screenings, lunch and chats with a range of themes. Some workshops from previous years have been 'Divestment 101', 'Radical Pedagogy', 'The Lost Subjects', 'Anti-racism 102 and 102', 'Reimagining Consent', and 'Glyn Davis: A Life'. Topics range from feminism to circular economies and more.

Djab Wurrung Solidarity

Two weeks ago the Environment Department took part in organising and facilitating a snap solidarity action in support of the Djab Wurrung Embassy. We, along with a number of other groups, put pressure on Richard Wynne, Victoria's minister for planning. More than two dozen staunch people came down to help out all up, with only a day's notice. This is our statement from the protest:

"The University of Melbourne Student Union is deeply concerned about what is happening on Djab Wurrung country. We were outraged to see Victorian police, accompanied by VicRoads bulldozers, are attempting to break up campsites and arrest protectors last week.

The Djab Wurrung Indigenous community and their supporters have been fighting for more than a year against the Victorian Government and VicRoads who are planning to bulldoze more than 260 sacred trees on Djab Wurrung country in order to expand the Western Highway in Victoria. This struggle has seen one of the longest blockades, and one of the strongest stands against colonisation in Victoria in decades.

Djab Wurrung people have labelled the project "an act of cultural terrorism". It is set to destroy 800 year old trees of immense cultural significance to Djab Wurrung people, including birthing trees estimated to have birthed 10000 Djab Wurrung children or more.

The proposed mere 12.5km expansion of the highway is expected to cost to government \$42 million dollars. For such a brief and unnecessary expansion of the Western Highway, VicRoads is willing to decimate sacred women's birthing trees and cultural land. We are sending a message to all parties responsible: business as usual will not continue while the government pursues cultural genocide.

It is wrong and unfair for any government to talk about treaty at the same time as they are pushing policies that lead to cultural genocide - such as the plans to bulldoze the Djab Wurrung trees. We stand with the Djab Wurrung Embassy in their demand "NO TREES NO TREATY".

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Action Point 1: Confirm speakers for the Student Forum on Divestment

Five out of six speakers for the Student Sustainability Forum have been confirmed. We will have Danielle Rostan-Herbert (Sustainability Manager), Sue Hopkins (Sustainable Campus), Dan Baird (Finance), Lucy Turton (Previous OB) and Raveena Grace (Postgrad Environment Network) speaking on the panel on Tuesday night. We may also be joined by a representative from Mercer, the accounting firm contracted by UoM for investment analysis.

We are also proud to announce the panel will be chaired by our own Molly Wilmott, who has selflessly agreed to facilitate discussion for the night.

Action Point 2: Schedule for the upcoming Rad Ed Week to be drafted & promotional material ready

Workshop submissions are coming through and our schedule should be ready by Tuesday 9th of April for distribution. Promotional materials are also on their way. Feeling geared up for a very rad week in the Radical Classroom.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Action Point 1: Report-back on the success of Rad Ed Week organisation

By the date of next Students' council.

Action Point 2: Feedback and report from the Student Sustainability Forum, including new ideas and initiatives for transparency and ensuring the success of the divestment campaign

This will also include a summary of how communication between University and students can continue to be improved on all topics, especially sustainability and investment.

By date of next Students' council.

Budget Expenditure

\$1400 spent on invoices for catering throughout Summerfest.

\$30 spent on banner-painting materials.

\$150 spent on safety high-vis wear and a new megaphone for the Environment office.

6. Motions on Notice

Motion: Approving funding for the hire of weights for the Rad Ed Week marquee.

Preamble

Radical Education Week will be taking place in the middle of semester, approximately three weeks from now. Rad Ed week is a fabulous week of workshops and conversations about radical ideas, theory, and how to re-vision our broken education & social systems. We organised this week every year to engage student in radical learning "outside the university classroom" - symbolised by the location of our marquee on South Lawn from Monday through to Thursday.

Last meeting we passed \$2000 for catering and remunerations of workshop holders during Rad Ed Week. An added cost for Rad Ed Week has come up for the hire of weights for the Rad Classroom/Marquee, totalling 449.90 from Premium Event Solutions. This is

organised through Events. We will need these weights for safety and they are essential, albeit pricey.

Motion:

To approve \$449.90 for the payment of Premium Event Solutions for the hire of marquee weights during Radical Education Week. Taken from the special projects events budget line.

Motion: Approving funding for a waterproof Radical Classroom sign for the Rad Ed Week marquee.

Preamble

We have also been chatting with Events about a durable, waterproof vinyl sign for our 'Radical Classroom' on south lawn next week. This can be used in coming years as well, and will simply read Radical Classroom with a Rad Ed Week byline above it. Will be great for attracting students & explaining what we're doing on South Lawn in the cold weather of Autumn. Total costs \$137.50 for the sign and \$49.50 for delivery.

Motion:

To approve \$200 funding for a waterproof vinyl sign for the Rad Ed Week classroom from the special projects events budget line.

Motion: Approving reimbursements for MUCG spending.

Preamble

The Community Garden have been busy again! Clare and Mimm and purchased a new load of things (seedlings, hose stuff, workshops, compost bin essentials, and reading material for workshops). The total is \$173.27 (receipts sent in to environment inbox by Clare). Let's reimburse!

Motion:

To approve the reimbursal of \$173.27 to Clare Harvey, co-convenor of the Community Garden, for their purchases of required equipment over the past week. This will come from the Community Garden budget byline.

7. Motions Without Notice

8. Other Business

Rad Ed Week volunteering on Monday morning

Boeing Meeting

MUCG Welcome to Country

Mimm from MUCG has been organising a Welcome to Country and Smoking for the Community Garden (as this has never been organised for the Garden before).

Tentative booking for 5.15pm for a 5.30pm start on Wednesday 29 May this year. John Wayne Parsons singing.

Also organising for an appropriate indigenous edible bush/small tree to be planted. And some yam daisies. Super cool.

However; cost looking like \$1200 (not including food and plants) which exceeds MUCG budget.

9. Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 30th April (**note: not in two weeks!**), at 10:00am. Enviro Office.

10. Close