

University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Education Committee

Unconfirmed Minutes

10 am Friday 6 December 2019

Meeting 12(19)

Location: OB Space, Level 1, Union House

MEETING OPENS AT 10:13 AM

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: To elect Josh as chair

Moved: Josh Munro

Seconded: Hannah Krasovec

CWD

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

1.3 Attendance

In room: Emma Dynes, David Collis, Matt Harper, Hannah Krasovec, Luca Taven, Josh Munro, Charlie Joyce,

On Call: Georgia, Allan, Elizabeth

1.4 Apologies

Nishtha Banavalikar. Georgia Walton Briggs

1.5 Proxies

No proxies

1.6 Membership

No changes in membership

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: To adopt the agenda

Moved: from the chair

CWD

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion 2: To confirm the previous minutes

Moved: from the chair

CWD

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

No conflict of interest

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising from the minutes.

5. Correspondence

Charlie is corresponding with NTEU about the dispute of casual arts tutors with Unimelb HR, will update the committee when we know more.

6. Office Bearer Reports

Georgia: I sat on academic board yesterday. The board rushed through the Fit To Practice policy, and half the room didn't vote on it because they didn't know what was happening. Hardly any discussion happened. FtP is a modified version of the currently existing policy. If a student commits a misconduct on a placement, it's up to the dean's discretion as to whether the student is compensated. This isn't intrinsically

Josh: There are changes to O-Week changes beginning 2020. The three-day Summerfest is being condensed into 1 day.

Luca: will this lead to less student engagement?

Charlie: the amount of days that UMSU departments proper have to engage with students has stayed the same. Previously, there has been UMSU activities spread out over 3 days, with 1 day for departmental outreach and 2 days for clubs. These have been condensed into one day, and this may have the added benefit of attracting new students to UMSU who had otherwise just cared about clubs.

Charlie: Yesterday as part of OB orientation, we had a presentation from the development team of the New Student Precinct. Heaps of university money is being put into developing a new student precinct, and the plans were actually impressive. The potential downside is that UMSU will have to move from union house to the Doug McDonnell building, and this may damage our identity as a separate organisation. It may also sever our links to the union's radical history, much of which occurred within Union House. We must maintain vigilance through this process, and make sure that as we transition to the new student precinct we maintain our identity and independence.

Motion 3: To accept the office bearer reports

Moved: Hannah K

Second: Matt Harper

CWD

7. Other Reports

No other reports

8. Operational Business

8.1. 2020 Budget

Emma D: Climate crisis is the biggest issue facing students right now. The Education department should maintain focus on environmental campaigns. Should have more money for printing posters, and banners on union house. Crisis is just going to continue over summer, and this will mean that it will be fresh on new students' minds going into 2020.

Charlie: We will maintain our focus on the environmental movement, but also, we need to be fulfilling our role as advocating for better conditions for students on campus and fighting for student rights and for better conditions in higher ed.

Georgia: Would just like to agree with all that, but also add that we have dedicated no money to printing because it is free.

Elizabeth: Will we keep our focus on advocating for better conditions on campus.

Georgia: Ed Ac will be doing this. We can also start holding their funding over their heads unless they start changing things because of federal government reforms. We will also be boosting the SRN so that students can feel like they have more of a voice.

Charlie: Ed Pub will definitely do this, as I pointed out before. We need to be running an intersectional campaign which can link the ways that the corporate university has contributed both to attacks on higher education as well as complicity in the climate crisis, as well as a whole host of other issues. We need a campaign that can make these connections, and thus mobilise students around a whole suite of different issues and from a whole range of different backgrounds.

Luca T: Government has been chipping away at higher education, but also they're not on the front foot right now. The climate movement is really heating up, and the focus on environment was really good this year at increasing student engagement with the union.

Elizabeth: We are the education department, we should be focussing on education

Charlie: these issues are intersectional and are not distinct.

Hannah: people on the ground really care about education, as it impacts their daily lives.

Emma: Unions have power through mobilisation. We need to be fighting around issues that mobilise people, and the environment movement is a mobilising issue right now. If we mobilise people we can then funnel that mobilisation into education issues.

Georgia: Side track, but I forgot to mention in my OB report. Ed Fest is a will be a big activity in early semester 1 of the education department. Focus will be on communicating education issues to the wider student population in a way that is engaging and accessible. This may include big board game activities that are education themed. Ultimately just a week of activities that get them thinking about things happening on campus concerning education.

Motion 4: to accept the budget

Moved: Josh Munro

Second: Georgia Walton Briggs

CWD

9. Motions on Notice

No motions on notice.

10. Motions Without Notice

No motions without notice.

11. Other Business

No other business.

12. Next Meeting

12.1. Schedule January committee meeting.

Friday 17th January, 2:30pm

13. Close

Meeting closed at 10:54