

University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the People of Colour Committee
Unconfirmed Minutes
7:00pm, Wednesday the 27th of January 2021
Meeting 2(21)
Location: Online via Zoom



Meeting opened at 7:03pm by Mohamed Hadi.

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: Mohamed Hadi be elected as chair.

Mover: Mohamed Hadi

Seconded: Sian Tjia Hennesy

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So acknowledged.

1.3. Attendance

Emily AlRamadhan, Hiba Adam, Mohamed Hadi, Sian Tjia Hennesy, Emily Kaji, Myo Mon San, Vignesh Krishnan, Vishal Chopra

1.4. Apologies

Mayank Gurnani.

1.5. Proxies

Mayank Gurnani proxies to Hiba Adam.

1.6. Membership

No changes.

1.7. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: That the agenda, as presented, be adopted.

Mover: Mohamed Hadi

Seconded: Sian Tjia Hennesy

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion 3: The previous minutes of 11/12/2020 are confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Mover: Emily AlRamadhan

Secunder: Emily Kaji

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

No declarations presented.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Sian Tjia Hennesy's middle name was misspelled in the previous minutes.

5. Correspondence

No correspondence.

6. Office Bearers' Reports

An Update on Purchases

We managed to have a committee meeting and submit all relevant documents to all relevant parties in a mere few days. Granted, we ran into a few issues here and there, but thankfully none were unmanageable. Starting off with our yearly subscription purchases in anticipation of an increase in social media presence, our requests for a Canva account were denied and our requests for a 6-month subscription of MailChimp was met with issue(s). Unfortunately, MailChimp does not offer subscriptions outside of a month-by-month nature; in this case, we have to re-submit a request to tap into the budget, but this time it'll be from the 2021 budget.

As for office supply purchases, we managed to get everything aside from a jigsaw puzzle and a few stationery items. Finally, in terms of our plants, only one plant was not in stock at the time of purchase and so we've decided to forego it and bring in one of Emily's for the year. Admittedly, this was a lot harder than expected given that at some point purchases couldn't be made following the (temporary) downfall of the glorious UMSU Credit Card.

Myriad: Issues, outcomes, and payments

Our department magazine has FINALLY been launched! The editors have worked tirelessly to deliver another amazing edition and we've liaised with comms to upload it onto issuu, an online platform for magazines. Its release was announced last Monday on the Myriad and People of Colour Facebook page.

Regarding payments, we've paid one of the editors using the 2020 budget and we've passed a motion during student's council to remunerate the two remaining editors from the whole of the union budget. This was because the two editors couldn't arrange that before the lapse of 2020 budgets in December of last year since they either didn't have a TFN or a super fund. Definitely

something to keep in mind for this year's edition: get the editors to arrange for these details prior to passing motions to remunerate them.

SummerFest: Videos, Guides, and Updates

A big chunk of our time was spent on preparing things for SummerFest. This year it's looking like we're mainly having an online O-Week with a little bit of time on campus.

Firstly, the UMSU guide needed some input in terms of design aspects for our section of it, and so we chose this opportunity to pick out a colour scheme that we want to refresh the graphics and website with. Additionally, we needed to create elevator pitch videos for new students to view; this included creating a script, filming ourselves, editing and adding captions.

Finally, we've received some Hopin training and got a better idea of what orientation will look like. Hopin is the online platform that was initially used for last year's WinterFest. Mohamed attended a workshop hosted by the past officers and it was good enough considering the limited options we have. We're thinking of holding a workshop about active anti-racism as an introduction to the department, but we're open to other ideas as well.

2021 Semester 1 Budget

A majority of our time was spent researching the costs of events and projects Emily and I want to undertake. We sought out budgets and handovers from 2019 and 2020 to figure out the budget and expenditure for important initiatives we intend to bring back, like the student led anti-racism workshops.

In addition, we've spoke to multiple departments about renewing inter-collaborative collectives, such as Queer People of Colour collective. In order to decide the budget to set aside for each collective, we discussed the frequency of such collectives and how the COVID-19 pandemic has and will continue to affect these events.

Banner Making Workshop

This was done in collaboration with UMSU Indigenous, Creative Arts and Women's. Mohamed attended and helped out in the call. With around 10 people showing up, overall attendance was good given that the event was made on such short notice and there was a mishap with the Facebook event post. The session lasted half an hour longer than advertised! Some of the people who attended were overseas students and we found out that there will be live coverage of the protest. Mohamed has even been asked to do a short interview by a student about the workshop.

Racism Reporting Form

We began working on reforming this, Mohamed spoke to Comms about the types of forms that are website friendly and ones that look better. Additions include an optional box to indicate whether the student is international or domestic, a confirmation message sent to the student after submitting the form, and information regarding mental health services and resources.

Website Graphics

Continuing on from the decision to rebrand ourselves, Emily has created samples for a website redesign for Comms. Compared to other departments, such as Queer, the People of Colour section on the UMSU website is largely unappealing and will not attract as many students with its unprofessional, yet seemingly corporate, style. The website redesign will include a new layout and a change in the style of the ‘tiles’.

Campaigns

We’re looking into the mental health of People of Colour and continuing the campaign from previous years. We’ve contacted UMSU Indigenous and UMSU International to set up a meeting to discuss initial ideas and formulate objectives so we can start moving forward with it.

6.1. Accepting the office bearer report

Motion 3: To accept this office bearer report, and retroactively accept all hitherto submitted reports.

Mover: Emily AlRamadhan

Secunder: Vishal Chopra

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Discussion:

- Sian Tjia Hennesy posed a question on updates on Summerfest. Mohamed explained how the decision was for it to be mostly hosted online with limited in-person activities that will be guided by the UMSU Host Program.
- Vishal Chopra and Sian Tjia Hennesy wanted to know how the progress on the website revitalization was going. Emily explained that decisions have been made for layouts (including text) and that submitting the request to Comms was all that was left for now.
- Vishal Chopra made a note to include the reading lists on the website on a page for resources. In that same vein, Sian asked for an inclusion of a special ‘highlight’ on the Instagram page for the reading lists post.

7. Motions on Notice

Not Applicable.

8. Motions Without Notice

None.

9. Other Business

None.

10. Next Meeting

TBC.

11. Close

Meeting closed at 7:23pm.