Women’s Committee Meeting 3(2021)

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, 16th February, 2021.

Advertised time: 5:00 PM (AEST)

Venue: Zoom  
<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/81159458878?pwd=blR4N01tUk8wZVNBQUJVOFRzVjJLdz09>

Agenda

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair  
Srishti as chair. Mickhaella did minutes.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians  
Srishti gave Acknowledgement.

1.3 Attendance  
Mickhaella Ermita, Srishti Chatterjee, Anna Olivia Burnett, Emily Crawford, Veronica Chu, Comfort Agunbiade, Ananya Agarwal.

1.4 Apologies  
Tahlia Crossley unable to attend -- Emily Crawford as proxy.  
Charlotte McPherson.

2. Agenda

2.1: Women’s Department Budget 2021  
*Platform*  
The Women’s Department have planned for a total expenditure of $15,000 for the first half of 2021, anticipating a 30% decrease from the 2020 budget of $40,300 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The main goals of the Department this year are to make Women’s more accessible, diverse and radical, ensuring that all women, non-binary, trans- and gender-diverse students feel included and represented, and that we centre those who are queer, BIPOC, have lived experiences of disability and/or come from overseas, interstate, rural or regional areas. It also means promoting radical education through workshops, panels and events – which we primarily hope to do through our biweekly Feminist Fridays. Finally, we will be heavily focusing on Safety on Campus and campaigning for the university to take action regarding Sexual Assault and Harassment, especially given that Universities Australia has commissioned a relevant survey that will most likely take place this year.   
  
Our Budget Submission to Council (which has passed) has been attached.  
MOTION: To adopt the attached budget as the Women’s Department Budget for the first half of 2021.  
Mover: Mickhaella Ermita  
Seconder: Srishti Chatterjee  
Motion passed without dissent.

2.2: Delegation to Operations Sub-Committee  
*Platform:*The Operations Sub-Committee (OpSub) is a sub-committee of Student’s Council that exists to keep UMSU running with smaller operational expenses. If we ever need more money than we have in our budget under $1000, this motion allows us to go to OpSub and get those funds.  
MOTION: That we approve budgetary delegation to the Operations Sub-Committee of up to $1000 for each Women’s Department Budget Line  
Mover: Srishti Chatterjee  
Seconder: Mickhaella Ermita  
Motion passed without dissent.  
  
2.3: Running of Women’s Collectives  
We’ll be discussing the operation of the weekly Women and Women of Colour Collectives, including their structure, who will be running them and other cool stuff.  
  
Srishti raised that collectives have been renamed as Women and Enbies Collective, and Women and Enbies of Colour Collective, respectively. Comfort has agreed to run the latter, but volunteers can help out with both in whatever way they can – contributing themes, carrying food, etc. Looking for someone to help run former.

3. Other Business

3.1: Sexual Assault/Sexual Harassment Working Group  
Frequently meet (fortnightly during semester, monthly off-semester). Representatives from all autonomous departments. Allows Women’s Officers to give updates on Safety on Campus and hear back from all departments to hear feedback to adequately represent their views. Open to all Unimelb students. First is this Friday (19th February) at 3PM.  
  
3.2: SummerFest  
Update on two live workshops to be held on HopIn: Intro to Feminist Collectives on Tuesday from 1:00PM to 1:45PM (run by Srishti), and; Representation of Women and Non-binary People of Colour in Arts and Media from 1:30PM to 2:00PM on Thursday as collaboration between UMSU Media and UMSU Women’s (Mickhaella).   
  
Unlikely to have fliers. Most likely that SummerFest will be online. Volunteers can help out during events if they’d like.  
  
Volunteers can also help run Feminist Fridays.  
  
3.3: Ideas for Future Events  
Emily raised idea of inviting Melbourne sex worker to discuss sex work for one of our Feminist Fridays. Will follow-up on contact details soon~

4. Next Meeting  
Every meeting from now on will be fortnightly because semester has started. WhenIsGood will be sent out to establish regular meeting time. Most will only be 30 minutes. Probably will be after 5PM to accommodate timezone differences.

5. Close  
Closed at 5:25.