


<p>University of Melbourne Student Union Meeting of the Students' Council Minutes Friday 22 March 2024, 10am Meeting 5(24) Location: Room 202, Level 2, Building 168; Zoom https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/83580351874?pwd=N3hCYnNaRIRFN1BoTHRZSGFLUEZiUT09</p>	
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Meeting opened and quorate at 10:11am

Kevin spoke to the last minute venue change, he acknowledged that it was due to the University last minute cancelling the meeting venue booking.

Acknowledged that the current situation is not within the Standing Orders, consulted Council's opinion as to deferring the meeting to next week, or continuing the meeting as is.

Councillors were happy to proceed with the meeting.

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Kevin Li be elected as Chair.
 Moved: Kevin Li
 CARRIED

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

So acknowledged.

1.3. Attendance

Councillors

Representatives on Students' Council	Full name	Attended?
Students of Colour Representative on Students' Council	Wen Hao (Clement) Wu	Yes
Students' Council Indigenous Representative	Oskar Martin	Yes
Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council	Sameeksha Mudigere Keshav	Yes
Queer Representative on Students' Council	Tianyi Yu	No
International Student Representative on Students' Council	Navyaa Jain	Yes
Graduate Student Representative on Students' Council	Yashica Mishra	Yes
Southbank Student Representative on Students' Council	Hugh Collins	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Harrishman Shobanan	<i>Proxy requested</i>
Students' Council (General Representative)	vaibhav girdhar	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Inderpreet Singh	<i>Proxy requested</i>
Students' Council (General Representative)	Lucy Kelly	Yes

Students' Council (General Representative)	Alessandra Grace Baggio Ward	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Leon Paratz	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Yash Sah	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Kunal Dewani	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Penelope Scacciante	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Pranav Gupta	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Anndrya Chua	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Hayley Cheung	<i>Resigned</i>
Students' Council (General Representative)	Rachael Hynds	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Natalie Sinicka	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Labdhi Gandhi	No

Office Bearers

Department	Full name	Attended?
President	Disha Zutshi	Yes
General Secretary	Enzhe (Kevin) Li	Yes
Activities Officer	Amy Peters	Yes
Activities Officer	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	<i>Resigned</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Shravya Akkapeddi	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Jiajie Zheng	No
Clubs & Societies Officer	Azalea Rohaizam	No
Clubs & Societies Officer	Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja	No
Disabilities Officer	Adam Whitehead	<i>Leave of Absence</i>
Disabilities Officer	Anishaa Jeyakumar	Yes
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Julian De Marco	Yes
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Lucy Rachman Vascotto	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Raphael Duffy	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Bella Beiraghi	Yes
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	Yes
Environment Officer	Jaan Schild	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Hamish Rose	Yes
Media Officer	Joel Duggan	Yes
Media Officer	Gunjan Ahluwalia	Yes
Media Officer	Kien-Ling Liem	Yes
Media Officer	Jessica Fanwong	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Denzil Minnaar	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Ying Kwan Jania Lam	No
Queer Officer	Binderiya Batzorig	Yes
Queer Officer	Rahul (Ryan) Mittal	Yes
Welfare Officer	Joshua Stagg	Yes
Welfare Officer	Divyanshi Sati	Yes
Women's Officer	Akanksha Agarwal	No
Women's Officer	Micaela Rynne	<i>Apology</i>
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Jake Duyvestyn	Yes
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Ariel Teo	<i>Apology</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Amy Rogers	No
Southbank Activities Officer	Justine Light De Guzman	<i>Apology</i>
Southbank Education Officer	Felicity Patrice Liston	<i>Apology</i>

Other: Sara Pheasant (CEO), Phoebe Churches (Divisional Manager, Advocacy and Legal), Mary Kin Chan (Student Representation Coordinator, minute taker), Marceline Di Bartolomeo (observer), Farrell Candrasa Adi (observer), Ibrahim Muan Abdulla (observer), Samuel Eggleston (observer), Stefan Gavrilov (observer)

1.4. Apologies

Office Bearers: Micaela Rynne, Ariel Teo, Felicity Liston, Justine Light De Guzman

Councillors: NA

1.5. Proxies

1.5.1. Inderpreet Singh to Anndrya Chua

1.5.2. Harrishman Shobanan to Clement Wu

Motion 2: To accept the proxies of Inderpreet and Harrishman for this Council en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.6. Leave of Absence Requests

1.6.1. Adam Whitehead

Motion 3: To accept Adam's leave of absence request for this Council.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.7. Membership

1.7.1. There has been a ticket replacement appointment just before Council, will be announced at the next meeting.

1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 4: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1. Minutes 4(24)

Motion 5: To accept the minutes as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5. Correspondence

5.1. Southbank Update (Flagged report from Ariel)

Chair spoke to Ariel's OB report, outlining the workload arrangement across four Southbank OBs.

All outstanding actions were passed during the Southbank Committee Meeting held on 11 March.

CAPS bookings for are now available for students on the Southbank campus, so they do not have to travel to the Parkville campus.

Ariel and Amy Rogers are Southbank Campus Coordinators, however Amy has been unresponsive to co-OBs and staff. Ariel noted in her report that Southbank OBs are working over capacity in the absence of Amy, and workload has not been equally distributed.

6. Office Bearer Reports

Department	Full name	Submission Status?
President	Disha Zutshi	<i>Not Submitted</i>
General Secretary	Enzhe (Kevin) Li	<i>Submitted</i>
Activities Officer	Amy Peters	<i>Submitted</i>
Activities Officer	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Shravya Akkapeddi	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Jiajie Zheng	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Azalea Rohaizam	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja	<i>Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Adam Whitehead	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Anishaa Jeyakumar	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Julian De Marco	<i>Submitted*</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Lucy Rachman Vascotto	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Raphael Duffy	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Bella Beiraghi	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Jaan Schild	<i>Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Hamish Rose	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Joel Duggan	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Gunjan Ahluwalia	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Kien-Ling Liem	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Jessica Fanwong	<i>Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Denzil Minnaar	<i>Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Ying Kwan Jania Lam	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Binderiya Batzorig	<i>Late</i>
Queer Officer	Rahul (Ryan) Mittal	<i>Late</i>
Welfare Officer	Joshua Stagg	<i>Submitted</i>
Welfare Officer	Divyanshi Sati	<i>Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Akanksha Agarwal	<i>Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Micaela Rynne	<i>Submitted</i>
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Jake Duyvestyn	<i>Submitted</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Ariel Teo	<i>Submitted</i>

Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Amy Rogers	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Activities Officer	Justine Light De Guzman	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Education Officer	Felicity Patrice Liston	<i>Submitted</i>

Chair reminded OBs that the deadline for submitting reports on Teams is 12pm.

Motion 6: To accept the OB Reports en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

7. CEO Report

Sara spoke to her report, taken as read. Invited Councillors to ask any questions, to which there was none.

Motion 7: To note the CEO's report.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

8. Other Reports

9. Operational Business

9.1. Student Initiative Grant (SIG) Applications

Chair spoke to the four applications received prior to Council. All have asked for the maximum amount of \$1000. Chair noted that there is \$5000 budgeted for SIG in Semester 1, therefore Council cannot accept all applications that come through. Each of the applications were discussed as follows:

Planetary Health Workshop Series

Julian asked how many students would the proposed catering serve. Chair responded that the question is not on the form.

Peer Mentoring Program Closing Ceremony

Chair reminded Council that the funding applicants are asking for (\$1000) is less than 10% of the event's budget. Given the size of the event budget, it doesn't fit with SIG is supposed to do, event also has other sources of funding.

Royal Melbourne Hospital Medical Student Valedictory Dinner

Chair noted that the dinner, UMSU is asked to subsidise the dinner ticket. Requested amount is low (\$1000) relative to the entire event budget (\$15000).

British Medical Journal Christmas Issue Writing Group

Chair reminded Council that SSAF is not for funding research, but could fund the experience within research.

Julian asked whether this application is a one off initiative. Chair responded that it has been running for a very long time.

Julian expressed concerns about the event catering costing about \$1000 per student.

Chair responded that it is up to Council to decide whether the applications are a fair spend of money. Only the first one fits the criteria for SIG – workshops and networking for students of the African diaspora, event also does not have alternative sources of funding.

The other three applications should be rejected on the following grounds:

- Grant does not have effect on actual operations of the event;
- Questionable outreach and promotion for UMSU during the event, and how many people will actually be engaged with UMSU as a result; and
- The research application in particular is beyond the nature of the grant.

Chair recommends that Council vote on each application separately, rejecting the last three.

Leon asked how much money is budgeted for SIG. Chair responded that SIG comes from the Whole of Union budget line, totalling \$10000 for the whole year, divided in 2 semesters, \$5000 each.

Leon expressed his support for the Closing Ceremony application.

Chair reminded Councillors to consider how the funding will significantly impact the operations of the event. The Closing Ceremony in particular will be getting funding from ticket sales and FBE, it is also part of the University's Peer Mentoring Program, which currently receives funding from SSAF.

Motion 8: To approve the SIG application for Planetary Health Workshop Series.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Motion 9: To approve the SIG application for Peer Mentoring Program Closing Ceremony.

Moved: Chair

FAILED

Motion 10: To approve the SIG application for Royal Melbourne Hospital Medical Student Valedictory Dinner.

Moved: Chair

FAILED

Motion 11: To approve the SIG application for British Medical Journal Christmas Issue Writing Group.

Moved: Chair

FAILED

10. Motions on Notice

Chair invited Hamish to speak on the Indigenous motions. 10.1 is for publishing last year's issue of Gundui Bunjil for last year, 10.2 is for running the weekly Blak Wednesday event.

10.1. Indigenous motion

Motion 12: That Council approve expenditure of \$12,000 from the Publications line of the Indigenous department budget for the publication of volume 11 of Gundui Bunjil.

Moved: Hamish Rose

Seconded: Amy Peters

CARRIED

10.2. Indigenous motion

Motion 13: That Council approve expenditure of \$400 from the Events (Campaigns) line of the Indigenous department budget to run Wear It Blak Wednesday.

Moved: Hamish Rose

Seconded: Joshua Stagg

CARRIED

10.3. Media motion

Preamble:

Last council, we moved a motion to spend \$260.57 on Fodder's contribution to the Tuesday 19th Bites and Bustles event. Seeing that the event has passed and we have not used the money, we would like to relocate this to paying for Fodder's Mix Cloud Subscription and part of the cost for a CDJ. This will help immensely with the Tuesday recurring event for the rest of semester, and will make show hosting on Fodder easier for years to come.

Ling spoke to the motion. There is no invoice as this is a subscription, the exact amount is in the motion. The money was originally for paying the DJ during Bites & Bustles, but was not used at the end.

Motion 14: That Students' Council approve expenditure of \$260.57 from Period 2 of the Grants > Student Initiative Budget Line to pay for Radio Fodder's Mix Cloud Annual Subscription and a new CDJ. The Mix Cloud Annual Subscription is \$135, meaning the \$125.57 will be left for purchasing a new CDJ.

Moved: Kien-Ling Liem

Seconded: Gunjan Ahluwalia

CARRIED

10.4. UMSU stands with Violet Coco and Bradley Homewood - jail climate criminals not climate activists

Preamble:

Extinction rebellion activists Violet Coco and Bradley Homewood have been hit with two month long prison sentences for protesting the climate crisis. Earlier this month they hired a truck and parked it across three lanes on the West Gate bridge, unfurling a banner which read "DECLARE A CLIMATE EMERGENCY."

They were arrested for "public nuisance." Yet just across the bridge, in Southbank, police blocked many more lanes of traffic while escorting a cavalcade of climate criminals to the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. There they met for a special summit of ASEAN, the Association of South-East Asian Nations. While the West Gate protesters were remanded in custody, heads of state and mining billionaires were wining and dining, wheeling and dealing at the summit's CEO lunch.

Australia is the third largest exporter of fossil fuels globally. The leading cause of climate change is fossil fuel emissions. This makes our own leaders some of the biggest criminals on the planet. But they get to walk free while jailing those who protest against the destruction of our planet for profit. In prosecuting Violet and Bradley, the Australian government is also curtailing the basic democratic right to protest, which includes acts of civil disobedience in the form of strikes, blockades, marches and occupations. Student unions have historically been at the forefront of movements demanding democratic rights - From the fight to defend free speech on campus to mobilising in favour of marriage equality.

Platform:

- That UMSU supports the democratic right to protest, including acts of civil disobedience in the form of strikes, blockades, marches and occupations.
- That UMSU affirms its support for climate activists and condemns state repression.
- That UMSU demands all charges against Violet and Bradley be dropped immediately.

Action:

That UMSU elected Student Representatives take a solidarity photo in this council meeting.

Bella spoke to her moving rights.

There was extensive discussion over the motion.

Yash proposed an amendment:

Proposed Amendment:

Amend the motion to remove the action.

Moved: Yash Sah

This was not amenable to the mover.

Yash invited to speak to the amendment, he did not exercise his right of reply.

Raphael waived speaking rights as the seconder, Paterson Laws spoke to the motion instead.

Jaan spoke against the amendment. Taking solidarity photo is ordinary. Motion is significant because raises significant issues. Student union should extend their solidarity.

There were more discussions over the motion.

Raphael invited Yash to speak, Yash waived speaking rights. Raphael expressed that fighting for democratic rights is more important than discussing whether to approve a grant for a boat party (Closing Ceremony SIG application). Student unions should take political issues seriously, and pick a side.

Stefan questioned what the motion will do to deliver for students like him.

Procedural Motion: To move to a vote on the amendment.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Chair noted that for minute taking purposes, Yash Sah was elected on the Left Action ticket.

Procedural Motion: To close the speaking list and directly move to a vote on the motion.

Moved: Pranav Gupta

CARRIED

Lucy Rachman, Lola, and Penelope were on the speaking list prior to the procedural motion. They exercised their speaking rights in that order.

Chair reminded Councillors about the Code of Conduct and principles of respectful debate, asked Councillors not to raise their voices.

Motion 15: To accept the motion as amended.

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

Seconded: Raphael Duffy

CARRIED

Bella named once, then twice.

10.5. UMSU condemns all nuclear power

Preamble:

Peter Dutton and the Liberal National Party have recently proposed the creation of nuclear energy sources in Australia. They have officially added to their party platform a plan to build small and large scale nuclear reactors on retired coal-fired power stations near towns such as Anglesea and the Latrobe Valley.

Nuclear power has been banned in Australia since 1983 and now Dutton is calling to overturn this ban and build nuclear power as a renewable energy alternative to coal. This would be disastrous. Nuclear power is the most dangerous energy source in the world and a necessary component for weapons construction - the seven countries with the largest nuclear weapons stockpiles also have serious networks of nuclear power and this is not a coincidence.

As scientists writing in a 1946 US State Department report said, "The development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes and the development of atomic energy for bombs are in much of their course interchangeable and interdependent". This remains true today.

And then there is the problem of nuclear waste, the indestructible radioactive byproduct of nuclear power. The nuclear submarine deal AUKUS has again raised the question of where this radioactive waste will be dumped —and inevitably, it is Indigenous land that is being considered.

Australia also already contributes a crucial step in the creation of nuclear power - the mining of our massive uranium stores. However, it is illegal to mine uranium in most states and territories besides the NT and WA, a result of the anti-uranium movement of the 1970s and 80s that saw students and workers on the streets refusing to let the government build uranium mines. Student activists have always been part of the fight against nuclear energy and weaponry in Australia and must continue it today.

Platform:

- That UMSU condemns the LNP's proposal to build nuclear power reactors in Australia.
- That UMSU rejects the viability and safety of all nuclear energy and by extension nuclear weaponry.
- That UMSU opposes the mining of Uranium and calls for it to be banned in all Australian states.
- That UMSU understands the creation of nuclear power reactors to be inextricably linked with a nation's ability to produce nuclear weaponry.

Procedural Motion: That the meeting move into Formal Debate.

Moved: Chair

Jake Duyvestyn left the meeting at 11:07am

The Chair reminded that each speaker has three minutes of speaking time, called on Penelope (mover) and Raphael (seconder) to speak on the motion.

Penelope, Samuel, Lucy Rachman, and Oskar spoke for the motion.

Joshua and Amy Peters spoke against the motion.

Disha Zutshi entered the meeting at 11:21am

Procedural Motion: To cede the Chair to Disha.

Moved: Kevin Li

CARRIED

Kevin spoke against the motion.

Procedural Motion: To cede the Chair to back to Kevin.

Moved: Disha Zutshi

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: That motion 10.5 proceed as a named vote.

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

FAILED

There was extensive discussion over the motion.

Disha Zutshi left the meeting at 11:25am

Lucy Kelly named once, then twice.

Jaan named once, then twice.

Rachael Hynds named once.

Motion 16: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Penelope Scacciante

Seconded: Raphael Duffy

FAILED

10.6. UMSU condemns Labor's amendments to the Fair Work Act as unserious

Preamble:

The Albanese government is bragging about its latest raft of amendments to the Fair Work Act.

Airtight legislation can provide a basis for unions to mount serious fights for better rights. Labor's amendments are anything but.

Australia has one of the most casualised workforces of any advanced capitalist country. This is a serious problem for workers, as the 'casual' classification dramatically reduces their rights. But this legislation offers no real steps forwards for casual workers.

A section of Labor's new definition of "casual work" states: "An employee who has a regular pattern of work may still be a casual employee if there is no firm advance commitment to continuing and indefinite work". This is the exact argument that the High Court accepted in 2021 when it ruled that Robert Rossato, a truck driver in a coal mine, had to stay as a "casual" even though he'd been given a roster for work which specified every shift for the next 12 months. And now this is written into Labor's legislation.

There is a whole section on casual work but it offers only fluffy language. The substance beneath the surface has few clauses a union could seriously enforce.

This is typical of Labor's approach in government in general – on the surface they are for unions and workers, but beneath a thin surface, they're not.

It remains to be seen how all of the legislation will play out, but it does not bode well.

Platform:

That UMSU condemns Labor's amendments to the Fair Work Act as mostly rhetoric, offering no steps forward for the union movement.

Hamish Rose left the meeting at 11:31am

Raphael spoke to his moving rights.

There was extensive discussion over the motion.

Procedural Motion: To close the speaking list after the mover has spoken, and directly move to a vote on the motion.

Moved: Chair

Yashica Mishra joined the meeting at 11:35am

Phoebe Churches left the meeting at 11:35am

Kien-Ling Liem left left the meeting at 11:33am

Lucy Kelly named once.

Penelope Scacciante named once, then twice.

Motion 17: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Raphael Duffy

Seconded: Oskar Martin

FAILED

11. Other Business (Motions Without Notice)

12. Next Meeting

12.1. 5 April 2024 (every fortnight)

13. Close

Meeting closed at 11:39am