

Confirmed Minutes

A. Attendance

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>	<u>Attendee</u>
President:	Sasha Braybrooke		Present ▾
Secretary:	Felix Hughes		Present ▾
Treasurer:	Campbell Frost		Absent ▾
EdAc	Naomi Drego	Paul Haliday	Proxy ▾
EdPub	Madeline Curkovic		Present ▾
Activities:	Reggie Noor		Present ▾
CLA:	Anban Raj	Natnael Gebremedhin	Proxy ▾
Welfare:	Furqan Ahmed	Mohamed Orabi & Rofida Arnaout	Proxy ▾
Indigenous:	Caitlin Carpenter	John Sopar	Present ▾
ESJ	Remus Brasier		Present ▾
Women's:	Frances Clark		Present ▾
Queer:	Mallory Norman		Present ▾
Disabilities & Carers:	Charlotte Sutton		Present ▾
People of Colour:	Lana Abdelhalim		Present ▾
Residential Community:	Leroy Van Schelleback		Present ▾
MUISS:	Bryan Law		Present ▾
MAPS:	Alex Self		Present ▾
Clubs & Societies:	Jay Davis		Present ▾
Radio Monash:	Georgie McColm		Present ▾
General Representative:	Tayla Husband		Proxy ▾
General Representative:	Diyara Jaswar	Veesspathip Chandrakumaran	Proxy ▾
General Representative:	Beck Riches		Present ▾
General Representative:	Jennifer Tran		Present ▾

Observers:

Angus Duske, Aaron Stevenson, Gabe Pascoe, Alessandro Papaleo, Eden Rembach, Jasper Evens, Mandy Li, Max Tory, Eden Rosen, Sophie Allen, Edrick Daymond, Josh Chauh, Riley Rogers, Sapir Triffon, Rofida Arnaout.

Meeting opened 11:26 am

B. Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners of Land

This MSC acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong peoples of the Kulin nations as the original and ongoing owners and custodians of this land. The MSA commits itself to actively fight alongside Indigenous peoples for reconciliation and justice for all Indigenous Australians.

C. Confirmation of Agenda Order

Confirmed

Procedural motion:

That this MSC hears agenda item J before I.

Moved: Madeline Curkovic

In Favour: 18

Against: 1

MOTION CARRIED

D. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion #1: This MSC confirms Minutes of [MSC 10/2024](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 8

Against: 0

Abstentions: 8

MOTION CARRIED

Motion #2: This MSC confirms Minutes of [MSC 14/2024](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

Moved: Felix Hughes **Seconded:** Jay Davis

In Favour: 8

Against: 0

Abstentions: 10

MOTION CARRIED

Motion #3: This MSC confirms Minutes of [Special MSC 3/2024](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

Moved: Felix Hughes **Seconded:** Jay Davis

In Favour: 9

Against: 0

Abstentions: 10

MOTION CARRIED

Amendment to Motion #3: To delete the current wording of general business motion #3 and replace it with the following:

Moved: Paul Halliday

“Any decision to suspend proceedings at the SGM on the 3rd of September 2024 will be at the discretion of the chair.”

ACCEPTED BY MOVER

Paul Halliday moved to amend the urgency motion, noting the original wording was missing.

E. Reports

Office Bearer and Divisional Reports	Submission Compliance
Education (Academic Affairs)	Sun, March 2, 3:53pm (Late Submission)
Education (Public Affairs)	Sun, March 2, 10:44pm (Late Submission)
Welfare	Tues, March 4, 5:11pm (Late Submission)
Environment and Social Justice	Sun, March 2, 4:14pm (Late Submission)
Queer	Report Submitted on time

Indigenous	Report Submitted on time
Disabilities and Carers	Report Submitted on time
People of Colour	Report Submitted on time
Women's	Report Submitted on time
Residential Community	Report Submitted on time
Treasurer (MSC 1)	Tues, March 4, 11:35am (Late Submission)
MAPS (MSC 1)	No Submission Received

Motion #4:

This MSC:

1. Accepts all submitted Office Bearer Reports en bloc.
2. Accepts the attached Women's Student Safety Conference report, and President's NUS Presidents Summit report.

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

F. Amendments to Standing Orders - Recordings & Notice

Motion #5:

This MSC—

1. amends clause 30.5. of the Standing Orders to read as follows:

30.5. The minutes of the MSC should not include direct quotations from members present, except where the member requests during a MSC their statement(s) to be directly quoted in the minutes, however the request:

2. inserts clause 30.5.1 and 30.5.2 into the Standing Orders to read as follows:

30.5.1. must be made prior or during to the the member's statement(s); and

30.5.2. may be accepted or rejected at the Secretary's discretion.

Moved: Jay Davis **Seconded:** Felix Hughes

In Favour:

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Jay Davis explained the proposed amendment clarifies that direct quotes in minutes are at the Secretary's discretion, following legal advice that the current clause is problematic.

Charlotte Sutton questioned why legal advice wasn't made available to MSC and argued directors should have access to it when voting.

Felix Hughes clarified that legal advice falls under Executive responsibility and shouldn't be shared without agreement from the Executive, and noted this was not possible at the time as a member of the Executive was absent from MSC. He supported the motion as a balanced solution that addresses legal risk while still allowing members to request direct quotes.

Alex Self noted that, while he disagrees with the approach, access to legal advice is ultimately at the discretion of the Executive.

Naomi Drego supported Charlotte Sutton's broader point about access to legal advice for informed decision-making, suggesting the Executive consider how to manage this in future.

Max argued that legal advice has political content and should be debated like any other political opinion, suggesting legal interpretation needs to be viewed through a political lens.

John Sopar sought clarification that the amendment was based on legal advice, which Felix Hughes confirmed was interpreted and drafted by the Executive.

Paul Halliday raised concerns about what he feels is a trend of amending regulations without sufficient scrutiny or long-term consideration. He argued that governing documents should be treated with care and proposed establishing dedicated working groups to ensure future amendments are reviewed before being brought to MSC.

Jay Davis withdrew the motion.

Georgie McColm raised concerns about defamation decisions resting with one person and suggested additional oversight to protect freedom of speech.

11:57 Rofida Arnaout joined as observer

Motion #6:

This MSC–

1. amends clauses 5.2.1. and 5.2.2 of the Standing Orders to read as follows:

5.5.1. given to each member of the MSC by sending it to the email address notified by the member to the Secretary. If no e-mail address has been notified by a member, this obligation will not apply in relation to that member; and

5.5.2. posted on the MSA website.

2. removes clause 5.2.3. of the Standing Orders.

3. amends clause 5.3.3. of the Standing Orders to read as follows:

5.3.3. the location of the meeting, which must be on University ground and generally accessible to students and/or by technology that allows members to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other participating member.

4. inserts clauses 6.5. and 6.5.1. and 6.5.2. and 6.5.3. of the Standing Orders to read as follows:

6.5. the Secretary may alter or withdraw notice of a meeting convened in accordance with Standing Order 6.3.2 provided that:

6.5.1. notice of the alteration or withdrawal of the notice is given the same manner as the initial notice;

6.5.2. notice of the alteration or withdrawal of the notice is given at least 7 days before the current date of the meeting; and

6.5.3. the reasons for the alteration or withdrawal as determined by the Secretary are included in the notice.

Moved: Jay Davis **Seconded:** Felix Hughes

In Favour: 19

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

Jay Davis stated that the current standing orders are outdated and not fit for purpose, highlighting issues with hybrid meetings and scheduling. He emphasised the need for updates to ensure meetings can proceed effectively and reflect current practice.

Felix Hughes supported the motion, noting it would allow the MSC schedule to be released despite ongoing venue issues caused by university bookings. He emphasised that the amendment preserves the 7-day notice requirement while providing needed flexibility to amend the schedule.

Georgie McColm raised concerns about missing MSC emails due to delegation delays and asked how notice obligations are managed in such cases. Jay Davis confirmed that if a member doesn't receive notice, it is considered invalid.

Paul Halliday stated he was comfortable voting for the motion given its urgency and agreed it may not suit a working group process. He clarified his concern was with the lack of legal review on wording, not the need for changes.

Motion #7:

~~This MSC~~

~~1. inserts clause 5.6. and 5.7. and 5.7.1. and 5.7.2. And 5.7.3. and 5.7.4. and 5.8. of the Standing Orders to read as follows:~~

~~5.6. Accidental omission to notify a member or the non receipt of a notice by a member does not thereby invalidate a meeting or motion.~~

~~5.7. For any notice under the Constitution, these Standing Orders or other regulations:~~

~~5.7.1. 'minute' means 60 seconds; and~~

~~5.7.2. 'hour' means 60 minutes; and~~

~~5.7.3. 'day' means 24 hours; and~~

~~5.7.4. 'week' means 7 days.~~

~~5.8. Notice sent to an e-mail address is taken to be given and received immediately upon being sent.~~

Moved: Jay Davis **Seconded:** Felix Hughes

In Favour:

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION WITHDRAWN

G. Amendments to Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies

Motion #8:

That the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies* be modified as follows:

Fix references and grammar

(1) In regulations 14.1 and 14.4, **replace** “sub-paragraph 23(1)(d)-(e)” with “paragraphs 24(1)(d)-(e)”.

(2) In regulations 14.1 and 14.4, **replace** “MSC Executive” with “Executive”.

(3) In regulation 14.1, **replace** “an meeting” with “a meeting”.

Delete the old election method (confirmatory voting)

(4) In regulation 14.1, **delete** the second sentence.

(5) **Delete** regulation 14.2.

Insert the new election method (vote only if the position is contested)

(6) After regulation 14.1, **insert** (and renumber accordingly):

14.2. An eligible member may nominate themselves or, with the member’s consent, be nominated by another eligible member. A nomination must then be seconded by an eligible member. A person may not nominate and/or second multiple candidates.

14.3. If only one member is nominated for the position, the Chair must declare the member elected to the position.

14.4. If more than one member is nominated:

14.4.1 the election must be by secret ballot using the optional preferential method of election; and

14.4.2 the Chair must act as returning officer; and

14.4.3 only the members eligible to hold that position may vote.

14.5. In the event of a tie between 2 or more candidates, the returning officer must:

14.5.1 conduct a further election to determine which one of those candidates is to be elected or eliminated; or

14.5.2 with the agreement of those candidates, determine by lot which of them is to be elected or eliminated.

Moved: Alex Self **Seconded:** Jay Davis

In Favour: 13

Against: 4

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

Alex Self explained the motion standardises the election method for general representative by aligning it with how other MSC positions are elected, using the current Executive vacancy as an example of why this is needed.

Jay Davis supported the motion and addressed earlier comments by Paul Halliday, stating that current election processes aren't consistent with the Constitution's requirement for preferential voting. He added that the changes simply clarify and update references, aligning the executive election process with the constitution.

John Sopar questioned whether the process could result in a nominee being elected without full input from all division representatives.

Alex Self clarified that the requirement for eligible members to be given a chance to attend elections remains unchanged and said the aim is to enable contested elections.

Procedural motion:

That individual speaking time is limited to one minute per person.

MOTION IMPOSED BY CHAIR

Motion #9:

That after regulation 14.6 of the ~~Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies~~, insert:

~~14.8. The members listed under paragraphs 24(1)(d) – (e) of the Constitution hold office until any of the following occurs:~~

~~14.8.1. the position becomes vacant under subclauses 42(1) – (2) of the Constitution;~~

~~14.8.2. the member is removed from office under subclause 24(2) of the Constitution;~~

~~14.8.3. in the case of the Divisional representative, the member is no longer a member of the governing body of a Division;~~

~~14.8.4. the first ordinary MSC meeting of the calendar year at which a quorum is present is opened by the chair.~~

Moved: Alex Self

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour:

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Alex Self said the motion was left on the agenda for transparency and noted it was the one that required legal advice.

H. Administrative Revisions

Motion #10:

That the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies* and *Monash Student Council Standing Orders* be modified as follows:

- (1) **Transfer** regulation 14 from the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies* to before standing order 33 in the *Monash Student Council Standing Orders*.
- (2) **Delete** regulation 15 of the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies*.
- (3) Renumber the above documents accordingly.

Moved: Alex Self

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 10

Against: 3

Abstentions: 5

MOTION FAILED

Alex Self explained that the motion removes a duplicated clause on the Academic Affairs Committee from the OB Regulations, as a more updated and representative version exists in the Committee Regulations.

Jay Davis supported removing the duplicate clause to avoid confusion and noted the election reference is better placed in the MSC Standing Orders, as Office Bearer Regulations focus more on reports and honoraria.

Paul Halliday supported the transfer but raised concern that moving it to the Standing Orders reduces the notice required across the organisation.

Jay Davis responded that the higher threshold in the Office Bearer Regulations is intended for conduct standards, not this clause specifically, though agreed the added scrutiny is beneficial.

I. No Appeasement to the Far-Right: Break the US Alliance

Preamble:

Over a month into Trump's second presidency, we've seen a barrage of right-wing attacks on workers, migrants and other oppressed groups. The political right is cohered and confident, and the Australian Labor Party is playing the game. Albanese and Wong were quick to congratulate Trump on his election victory last year and have continued to express their undying support for the US throughout Trump's horror show. Penny Wong said it was a 'privilege' to attend Trump's inauguration after watching Elon Musk perform two Nazi salutes and Albanese refused to comment on Trump's plan to "own" and "level" Gaza.

Albanese can't even bear to criticise an out-and-proud fascist because he's concerned with preserving the military alliance with the US. These priorities are ridiculous to anyone who stands against the far-right. Appeasing Trump has serious ramifications for politics in Australia. Ignoring Trump's aggressive and intense far-right campaign of attacking trans rights, migrants, workers and other oppressed groups enables and normalises similar actions here and emboldens the political right. We need to be fighting far-right bigots like him head-on instead of allowing their influence and confidence to grow without challenge.

In addition to ignoring egregious attacks by the Trump administration, the Labor Party has had a part in carrying out attacks on the oppressed here in Australia. In just the past year, the Labor Party has kept Indigenous children as young as 12 locked in youth detention centres, passed draconian bills targeting people seeking asylum and the Victorian Labor government is set to axe thousands of public sector jobs, mimicking Elon Musk's DOGE. The Monash Student Council should stand unequivocally against the approach of federal and state Labor governments, which have laid the groundwork for the Liberals to potentially win the next election by pandering and moving Australian politics to the right. Confronting attacks on the oppressed is essential, whether they come from the centre-left or right. A serious approach to confronting such attacks must involve breaking alliances with far-right governments who champion them.

As the world hurtles towards an all-out war between the US and China, our alliance with the US puts a target on our back. Anti-war and left-wing activists should be calling for an immediate break to Australia's alliance with the US, especially when its nuclear weapons are in the hands of someone as power hungry and savage as Trump. We need a strategy of confrontation and outright rejection of the politics of the far-right, not collaboration and normalisation.

Motion #11:

This MSC condemns the ALP's refusal to oppose Trump's attacks on migrants, Palestine, trans people, workers and the oppressed.

This MSC acknowledges Albanese and Wong have taken part in the normalisation of far-right politics by undermining and ignoring Trump and Elon Musk's far-right campaign.

This MSC calls for a break of the Australia-US alliance.

Moved: Madeline Curkovic **Seconded:** Beck Riches

In Favour: 2

Against: 11

Abstentions: 5

MOTION FAILED

Madeline Curkovic introduced the motion as a political follow-on from the previous item. She argued that the global rise of far-right politics has been enabled by Labor governments failing to challenge it. She criticised the Albanese government's unwillingness to condemn Donald Trump and pointed to its record of appeasing reactionary forces, such as during the Voice referendum. She claimed Labor's centrist approach has allowed far-right ideas to grow. Madeline said student unions have a responsibility to take a stance on these developments.

Beck Riches supported the motion and criticised Anthony Albanese's refusal to comment on Trump. Beck said Labor has been vocal on other global issues, such as Palestine and Ukraine, but silent when it comes to their closest ally. This, Beck argued, revealed a double standard and undermined claims about shared democratic values in the US-Australia alliance.

Frances Clark said she agreed with much of the motion but was concerned that it did not specifically reference students. She suggested that motions passed by MSC should include some relevance to students and the university community.

Madeline Curkovic responded by noting that MSA has previously passed motions on issues like climate change, Palestine, and Argentina. She argued that student unions should engage with global political issues and that this motion was meant to open space for debate. She encouraged Labor-affiliated councillors to reflect critically on their party's actions and to respond openly.

Felix Hughes opposed the motion, arguing that it lacked a clear connection to students or MSA's purpose. He said motions passed by the student union should include tangible actions or relevance to student life. Felix also rejected the suggestion that Labor had enabled far-right politics, reminding MSC that Labor is a progressive party focused on improving conditions for workers. He said he agreed with some of the criticisms in the motion but did not support passing motions that were symbolic and outside the scope of MSA's responsibilities.

Mallory Norman said they mostly agreed with the motion's political content but questioned its purpose. They said MSC should focus on matters it can act on and that directly affect students, rather than symbolic positions on international issues outside the union's control.

John Sopar said he liked the general sentiment of the motion but questioned the relevance of comparing it to Vietnam War activism, which directly affected students at the time. He

said current students are not being drafted and that he preferred motions with concrete outcomes.

Jay Davis agreed with John Sopar and Mallory Norman. He said the motion had no direct student relevance and questioned whether it should be considered at all by MSA.

Max Tory defended the motion and argued that student unions have historically taken political stances on broader issues, such as during the Vietnam War. He said students live in the world and are therefore affected by far-right politics, and that MSA should continue to stand in solidarity with oppressed people around the world.

12:18pm: Mohamed Orabi left the room. Rofida Arnaout became proxy for Furqan Ahmed.

J. Resisting the Right-Wing Vibe Shift

Preamble:

Global politics is moving to the right, and the world is becoming a more dangerous place because of it.

Trump has recently been elected for his second term as the President of the United States, and we have already seen in recent months several attacks on workers rights and oppressed groups. Trump has issued a plethora of anti-trans executive orders, and services to millions of people around the world have been destroyed as his administration cut USAID contracts.

This right wing agenda hasn't left Australia untouched. Here, the Liberals have been promoting anti-trans politics in a bid to score political points by mimicking the Republicans. The recent attacks on trans health care in Queensland have seen a total halt of HRT treatment for new patients under 18. While the Liberals have presented this as a measure taken out of concern for children's health, the ban on HRT treatment must be understood for what it is: a cynical move to generate a moral panic to normalise attacks on trans people. This is a deeply concerning attack on the most basic rights of trans people to access vital healthcare.

The Liberals have been able to confidently posture as the party that will crack down on progressive gains among queer groups, hold down the boot on Indigenous communities and increase austerity. Going into the federal election, this should be a warning sign of how right wing politics on the rise around the world is also affecting the Australian political landscape.

Motion #12:

1. This MSC condemns the rightward political shift in global politics which creates a space for attacks on oppressed groups.
2. This MSC recognises that this shift will need to be met with left-wing pushback, and recognises the important role of student unions in this.

Moved: Madeline Curkovic **Seconded:** Beck Riches

In Favour: 17

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Madeline Curkovic moved the motion, citing recent political developments in the US and Queensland and arguing that student unions should take a position on broader issues.

Beck Riches responded to past criticisms of political motions, arguing that students are affected by global events and that student unions have a role in speaking out.

Jasper Evans warned that rhetoric about “protecting children” is often used to justify restricting rights and said MSC should be alert to how such narratives develop.

Mallory Norman questioned whether the motion was within MSC’s powers and said she would prefer it focused more directly on issues like HRT access for under-18s.

Madeline Curkovic said the motion aimed to highlight broader trends but agreed there could be value in drafting a more specific follow-up motion.

Max Tory supported the motion and said student unions should take a stand against global shifts toward authoritarianism and right-wing politics.

John Sopar said motions like this should go beyond statements and include meaningful action, especially on issues affecting marginalised communities.

Felix Hughes said the motion was on the line but ultimately justified, as it recognised the role of student unions in confronting political attacks that affect students.

Paul Halliday said the motion helped reaffirm the MSA’s values and highlighted the importance of grassroots organising in responding to right-wing populism.

Georgie McColm supported the sentiment but said political motions should include concrete actions like events or campaigns to be more impactful.

Remus Brasier spoke in strong support of the motion, describing the rise of far-right and anti-environmental politics globally as alarming.

Procedural motion:

That the chair imposes two minute speaking times on motions I, J and K.

Moved: Max Tory

MOTION IMPOSED BY CHAIR

K. Stop Woodside Monash

Preamble:

The Monash Woodside partnership poses significant risks to the sanctity of Monash as a public institution.

Woodside has a long history of environmental destruction. In 2022-2023, the company amassed a profit of \$10 billion, yet less than 1% of that was directed toward the carbon capture technologies they claim are leading their transition to clean energy. Furthermore, Woodside is one of the world's ten largest hydrocarbon extractors and has faced significant controversy, including intimidation of young activists through gag orders and bail conditions, destruction of sacred Indigenous rock art for the Burrup Hub offshore gas drilling project, and accusations of bribery and corruption with the Mauritian Government.

A further concern to the MSA, is the response by Monash to activists who disagree with the partnership. An activist group on campus named 'Stop Woodside Monash' spoke to the Dean of Engineering to determine what the partnership entailed. Although they were told they would receive information on the partnership, they did not, and as such an FOI was submitted. The FOI requested 5 specific categories of documents. Furthermore, the group has faced significant issues with security in response to their presence on campus. The MSA is deeply opposed to the silencing of student voices on campus, and calls on the university to reconsider their position and response.

Meeting adjourned at 12:38pm

Meeting resumed at 12:45pm

Jennifer left 1:46pm

Motion #13:

This MSC:

1. Reaffirms Motion #6 of MSC 3/24 (below).
2. Directs the Executive to begin consultation with groups such as 'Stop Woodside Monash' to establish a framework to advocate for the abolition of the partnership.
3. Directs the Executive to consider legal avenues to combat the denial of the FOI request.
4. Condemns the University's continued partnership with Woodside Energy.
5. Condemns the response of the University to activists on campus.

Motion #6:

This MSC;

1. Supports the 'Stop Woodside Monash' campaign and their actions to oppose and disrupt Woodside Energy,
2. Endorses several goals of 'Stop Woodside Monash' campaign, namely abolishing the Woodside-Monash Partnership (including research, Woodside events on campus, and leadership summits), getting rid of Woodside branding on the Monash University Clayton campus, and preventing future collaborations between Monash University and Woodside Energy,
3. Authorises the MSA to organise official MSA contingents to attend 'Stop Woodside Monash' rallies,
4. Commits to sharing information and material from the 'Stop Woodside Monash' campaign across relevant social media platforms, and encouraging student involvement in the 'Stop Woodside Monash' campaign,
5. Commits to informing the student body about the Woodside-Monash Partnership and its impacts on university operations through the Environment and Social Justice Department,
6. Calls on the university to totally abolish the Woodside-Monash Partnership, including the WMEP,
7. Further calls on the university to commit to not accepting funds, donations, and in-kind contributions from fossil fuel companies
8. Commits the departments of the MSA to not hold events that it organises itself in the Woodside Building for Technology and Design.

Moved: Sasha Braybrooke **Seconded:** Remus Brasier

In Favour: 17

Against: 1

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Sasha Braybrooke passed the chair to Paul Halliday.

Sasha Braybrooke supported the motion, criticising Monash's partnership with a company known for greenwashing and significant fossil fuel output. She argued the university's dismissal of opposition shows disregard for student voice, and said MSA should oppose such climate-damaging partnerships on campus.

Remus Braiser stated the ESJ Department is firmly opposed to Monash University's partnership with Woodside, consistent with past departments and the views of most students. He criticised Woodside's record of environmental harm and attempts to greenwash through associations with respected institutions like Monash. He praised the Stop Woodside campaign and condemned Monash Security's treatment of student activists.

Madeline Curkovic described security's response to Stop Woodside activists as outrageous and spoke about her own history with unauthorised activism on campus. She emphasised the importance of political stalls and student protest, particularly in response to climate change and university complicity.

Max Tory echoed Madeline Curkovic's comments and detailed Monash's broader ties to companies like Rio Tinto. He criticised the university's leadership and its partnerships with arms and mining companies. He described Monash as a pro-capitalist institution suppressing student activism.

John Sopar condemned Woodside's role in destruction of Indigenous land and expressed support for public access to information. They supported the motion and criticised the hypocrisy of acknowledging Country while supporting environmentally destructive companies.

Alex Self condemned Woodside and Monash's treatment of activists but opposed the motion. He argued it failed to distinguish between Woodside as a corporation and individual researchers on campus working on climate solutions.

Madeline Curkovic reiterated her support, criticising Woodside's role as a major polluter and describing the Monash-Woodside partnership as the largest of its kind in Australia.

Paul Halliday returned the chair to Sasha Braybrooke.

Procedural motion:

That this MSC discussed motion 15 following this motion.

Moved: Georgie McColm

In favour: 17

Against: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Procedural motion:

That the MSC moves agenda item P to be the next agenda item following this motion.

Moved: Madeline Curkovic

For: 15

Against: 0

MOTION CARRIED

L. Junior Wages

Preamble

Junior Wages are wages paid to individuals under the age of 21 and allow for the legal payment of less than the minimum wage of \$24.10 per hour. This creates a significant wage disparity, where an 18-year-old can be paid as little as \$15.06 per hour for the same job that a 21-year-old would be paid the standard minimum wage for.

This issue is particularly critical as data shows young people in disadvantaged areas are 20% more likely to be working than those in middle-class suburbs, and nearly 60% of full-time workers aged 20-24 live in areas of below-average socio-economic status. This results in young workers across Australia losing an estimated \$3 billion annually.

For university students, particularly those working in retail and hospitality, this wage disparity means that they may not be paid the minimum wage throughout their degree, further adding to the financial burden many already face. It is important to recognize that 45% of people in retail are under the age of 25, highlighting the need for fair pay for all workers, regardless of age.

As such, this issue is of great concern to the MSA. The MSA is opposed to disadvantages which threaten the wellbeing and safety of students, and will examine the best manner in which to address this issue on a campus level.

Motion #14:

This MSC:

1. Directs the executive to commence consultation with unions, the Young Workers Centre and the National Union of Students (NUS) on a policy to abolish junior wages on campus.
2. Will voice their condemnations of junior wages and will draft a statement expressing this.

Moved: Sasha Braybrooke **Seconded:** Mohamed Orabi Rofida Arnaout

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Sasha Braybrooke spoke about the issue of age-based pay rates, noting that many students working in retail or hospitality are paid below the minimum wage due to their age. She highlighted that this system has been overturned in other countries, including the UK. Sasha suggested the MSA should examine employment practices on campus, including those within MSA-run operations, in light of the cost-of-living crisis.

John Sopar added that many students come from interstate and face significant financial pressure while living away from home. They stated that reducing financial stress for students should be a key priority.

M. Amendments to Standing Orders - Photos/Videos & Automatic Adjournments

Motion #15:

This MSC inserts clauses 13.1.14. and 28.7 into the standing orders.

~~13.1.4 Taking a photo or video of an individual in attendance without their permission, this includes taking photos or video of how members of the MSC have voted.~~

~~28.7 Meetings that extend over two hours will be automatically adjourned after the completion of a motion. The period of adjournment is to be determined by the Chair.~~

~~Moved:~~ Charlotte Sutton — ~~Seconded:~~ Georgie McColm

~~In Favour:~~ _____

~~Against:~~ _____

~~Abstentions:~~ _____

~~MOTION WITHDRAWN~~

Charlotte Sutton introduced the motion, citing past issues with photos being taken during meetings and argued for scheduled adjournments after two hours. She said these changes were common in other unions and claimed they would improve participation, though did not address concerns about enforceability or existing powers.

Georgie McColm supported the motion, saying she had felt uncomfortable with unapproved photos during contentious debates and agreed breaks were good practice.

Beck Riches questioned whether the motion added anything new, noting the Chair already has discretion over meeting conduct.

Jay Davis clarified that while the Chair can control recordings, the motion would formally ban unauthorised photos. He supported the idea but raised issues with how the clauses were worded and structured.

Felix Hughes expressed in-principle support but noted that the motion included drafting issues and could not be amended due to notice requirements. He recommended that it be rewritten to address the technical errors and offered to assist with redrafting if Charlotte Sutton wished.

Madi Curkovic opposed the underlying logic of the photo ban, arguing it could be used to avoid accountability and reduce transparency in student democracy.

Alex Self agreed with the intent but pointed out a flaw in the adjournment clause that could allow filibustering, making it practically unworkable.

John Sopar supported restricting photos, citing personal safety concerns and saying members should not be put at risk over how they vote.

Charlotte Sutton withdrew the motion.

N. Amendments to Election Regulations - Hidden Disability Sunflower Lanyard

Preamble:

The Do Not Approach Badges were introduced in the 2023 MSA election to support students who find the election period stressful. In this past year's election, the badges were fully implemented. Based on student feedback we have identified changes that should be made to the Election Regulations to further support the purpose of the badges. The changes to these regulations have been developed in consultation with the Disabilities & Carer's community and builds on the work on past D&C Obs.

One of the biggest pieces of feedback we received was around the Sunflower with students asking for it to be included or students believing that it already had the same status as the Do Not Approach badges.

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower is a global symbol for non-visible disabilities. The Sunflower is a way for people with hidden disabilities to let those around them know that they might need extra help, understanding, or just more time. Hidden disabilities come in many different forms. Some of our wearers live with chronic pain, Tourette's, ADHD, and a lot of other conditions that aren't immediately visible. Individuals can become Sunflower supporters by undergoing training about hidden disabilities and the Sunflower.

The addition of the Sunflower Lanyard would further expand and support the work of the Do Not Approach Badges by allowing more students to engage with elections in a way that it is comfortable and accessible for them.

Statement about the proposed change by a member of the community:

As a disabled and neurodivergent student, election periods and other times when students actively approach people on campus can be incredibly overwhelming and anxiety-inducing for me. I often find myself avoiding campus altogether during these times. While the current "Do Not Approach" election badges help deter unwanted interactions, they are large and attention-grabbing. Ironically, this can make me feel even more self-conscious, as it often leads to increased staring and unwanted attention.

I have worn the sunflower lanyard for a long time and appreciate that it serves as a subtle yet clear indicator of an invisible disability. If it were recognized as a "Do Not Approach" signal during election time, I would feel far less exposed and more comfortable navigating campus. The sunflower lanyard is already a well-established symbol for disabilities—extending its use in this way would simply enhance its accessibility benefits. I

understand concerns that some disabled students who wear the lanyard may still want to engage with election activities. However, participation should always be a choice. If we want to be involved, we will be. This change would allow those who do not wish to be approached to set that boundary in a way that is more discreet and empowering. – Kira

Motion #16:

~~1. This MSC amends the following clauses of the Election Regulations, Regs 23.1, 23.5 and 43.4.32 to read as follows:~~

~~23.1. There must be a badge students can wear should they not want to be approached by campaigners during election week~~

~~23.4. The badges will be made available prior to election week at Student Union Recreation Library, the Disabilities and Carers lounge and office and at least 2 other locations to be determined prior to the election period, one of which must be located outside of Campus Centre.~~

~~43.4.32. Approaching a student who wears a 'Do Not Approach Badge' or Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lanyard per regulation 23 for campaigning purposes, unless that student first approaches and speaks to the campaigner themselves;~~

~~2. This MSC inserts clauses 23.5. and 23.6 into the election regulations~~

~~23.5. The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lanyards will have the same standing as the Do Not Approach badges.~~

~~23.6. The Returning Officer must provide a picture of the badge and sunflower lanyards to all Authorised Officers at the start of the election period.~~

Moved: Charlotte Sutton — **Seconded:** John Sopar

In Favour: —

Against: —

Abstentions: —

MOTION WITHDRAWN

O. Honoraria Transparency

Preamble

Student unions are run for students, by students. Students should have a right to know where their money is being spent, ~~and how their elected Office-Bearers are being compensated.~~ and any honoraria paid to Office-Bearers.

This increases organisational transparency and ensures accountability for elected Office Bearers.

~~Fair compensation is essential to ensuring elected Office Bearers are able to fulfill their roles.~~ By making this information public, it ensures that students seeking to stand for an elected position are aware of the ~~compensation~~ honoraria for their role prior to standing. This will increase the ability for candidates to ensure they are able to manage the responsibilities of being an Office Bearer.

The Executive has unanimously endorsed recommending this proposal to MSC.

Motion #17:

This MSC directs to the Secretary to make details of Honoraria for Office-Bearer positions available to students on the MSA Website.

Moved: Felix Hughes **Seconded:** Leroy Van Schelleback

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Amendment to motion #17:

To edit to preamble to:

1. Remove 'and how their elected Office-Bearers are being compensated' and replace it with 'and any honoraria paid to Office-Bearers.'
2. Remove "Fair compensation is essential to ensuring elected Office Bearers are able to fulfill their roles."
3. Remove "compensation" and replace with 'honoraria'

Moved: Paul Haliday

AMENDMENT ACCEPTED BY MOVER

P. Queer Department Budget Appeal

Preamble:

The MSA Queer Department has experienced a significant cut to our budget. We are requesting a partial reversal of this cut, in line with our proposed budget amendment attached below.

The changes we are asking for are specifically calibrated based on what we expect we will need as a department to run the events and provide the services our community expects from us.

The increase in the Conference and Training line is specifically what is required for us to be able to get our whole committee trained in first aid and mental health first aid - something that would make it significantly easier for us to run events both on and off campus. We are expecting to experience some continuity between this year's QuAC and next year's QuAC,

meaning that any training we manage to secure for our committee will also benefit the MSA in the years ahead.

The increase in the Social Function line is intended to allow us to run all the regular events our community expects from us. While we can make some reductions in spending here, the initial proposed reduction would significantly impact what events we could run. Social events such as Queer Ball provide an important sense of belonging within the university queer community, and we wish to avoid cutting back on such events.

The increase in Projects and Campaigns is intended to allow us to increase our advocacy efforts, bringing in outside resources, educators, and professionals to ensure that our community gets the best quality of support and education possible. Some of the projects we are hoping to put this funding towards include queer sexual health education, information and access to m-pox vaccinations (as the LGBT+ community is disproportionately affected by m-pox), and supporting our trans community with information sessions and advice about how to budget for and access various forms of medical transition.

The modest increase in the Media budget line would make it significantly easier for us to provide books and resources for under-served segments of our community, without having to make tough decisions about which resources we can and can't provide.

We have also requested an amendment to our Repairs and Maintenance line. In the past few weeks, we have had to respond to several breaks in the Queer Lounge, including a major water leak that has (at the time of writing this) rendered the Lounge unusable. Whilst most of the larger repairs we've needed are likely to be covered by Monash, having slightly extra

budget in this line is important in case the larger issues reveal smaller concerns that we have to cover.

Motion #18:

The MSC accepts the recommendations of the MSA Queer Department and adopts [the amended 2025 budget for the department](#) as included in this motion.

Moved: Mallory Norman **Seconded:** Charlotte Sutton

In Favour: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Procedural motion:

That MSC moves to agenda item Q.

Moved: Felix Hughes

MOTION IMPOSED BY CHAIR

Mallory Norman stated that key items such as training and conferences should be included in the budget, noting that without this allocation, funding would likely be sought from central sources later.

Charlotte Sutton seconded the motion, stating that the revised budget was reasonable and necessary to support the department's planned activities.

Felix Hughes supported the motion and explained that the Executive had relied on the previous year's draft budget in the absence of a passed 2023 budget. He stated that the current amendment addressed a gap in funding and acknowledged the department had provided a clear justification for the proposed changes.

Jay Davis supported the motion and apologised for it being ruled out of order at the previous meeting. He stated that the revised form was appropriate and that the amendment fairly addressed issues in the original allocation. He raised a minor concern regarding the

preamble referencing continuity into next year but confirmed it did not impact the motion's validity.

Eden Rosen encouraged support for the motion and stated that support for broader queer rights must be matched with practical action.

Jasper Evans emphasised the need for training and events given increasing threats to LGBTQIA+ rights and said the request was essential for student wellbeing.

Eden Rembach spoke as a member of the Queer Affairs Committee and stated that the funding would enable the department to fulfil its advocacy and support responsibilities.

Mallory Norman added that the training funded through the motion would benefit the wider community over time, regardless of office-bearer turnover.

Q. Appointment of Caretaker CLA Office Bearer

Motion #19:

That this MSC appoints Ashley Rosewall as caretaker to the position of Creative and Live Arts Officer for the period of Michelle Grigorian's leave of absence, pursuant to s.32(9)(b) of the MSA Constitution.

Moved: Felix Hughes **Seconded:** Anban Raj-Natnael Gebremedhin

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Felix Hughes spoke in favour of appointing Ashley Rosewall to the position and outlined why he believes she would make an excellent Creative and Live Arts Officer.

R. General Business

Charlotte Sutton, Mallory Norman, John Sopar, and Paul Halliday raised concerns about the timing of MSC meetings and requested changes or a rotating schedule.

Felix Hughes responded that while he appreciated the feedback, safety was a key consideration in determining the MSC schedule. He noted that holding meetings after dark could pose risks for students travelling home and may discourage in-person attendance. He

also cited logistical and accessibility factors, and the importance of ensuring meetings are quorate.

Charlotte Sutton raised concerns about the Indigenous Department sharing an office with the Disabilities and Carers Department, stating that the nature of her role involves students disclosing personal and sensitive issues. She expressed a preference for having sole use of the office and said she had suggestions for alternative arrangements.

Jay Davis responded that office space across the MSA is limited, noting that only the President has a private office. He acknowledged the need for privacy but pointed out that confidential conversations can take place in other spaces such as the MSA meeting room or elsewhere in Campus Centre.

Felix Hughes acknowledged the importance of creating a functional and supportive working environment, but noted that individual offices for all Office Bearers are not feasible due to space constraints. He explained that decisions around office allocations are made with fairness and practicality in mind, balancing the needs of all departments. He invited Charlotte to submit a formal proposal to the Executive for consideration.

S. Next Meeting

Meeting 3/25 of MSC will be held on 19/3/2025 at 11:00am in the Conference Room, Floor 1, Campus Centre, Clayton.

T. Appendices

Meeting closed at 2:24pm

Meeting time: Opened at 05:05 PM on 04/10/2024

Meeting location: In the Conference Room at the Campus Centre of Monash University and Zoom (Hybrid)

Meeting Minutes

A. Attendance

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>
President:	Chloe Ward (Absent)	Campbell Frost
Secretary:	Zareh Kozanian	
Treasurer:	Joshua Walters	
Education (Academic Affairs):	Grayson Lowe	
Education (Public Affairs):	Nafiz Ibrahim	
Activities:	Fatima Iqbal	
CLA:	Anban Raj	
Welfare:	Teagan Hayward	
Indigenous:	John Sopar	
Environment & Social Justice:	Sophie Allen	
Women's:	Katya Spiller	
Queer:	Madeline Curkovic	
Disabilities & Carers:	Charlotte Sutton	
People of Colour:	Anshuman Das	
Residential Community:	Aylin Vahabova	
MUISS:	Vedant Gadhavi	
MAPS:	Stuart Gibson	
Clubs & Societies:	Paul Halliday	
Radio Monash:	Georgie McColm	
General Representative:	Jay Davis	
General Representative:	Dilhan Simsek	
General Representative:	Beck Riches	
General Representative:	Stella Robinson	Haneen Ghanyem
General Representative:	Diyara Jaswar	

Observers

Sarah Stancombe
Sam
Lowan Sist
James P
Angus Duske
Alessandro Papaleo
Naomi Drego
Luka Kerm
Samantha Hudson
Patrick Irwin
Khoa Tran
Tayla Husband
Mandi Li

B. Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners of Land

This MSC acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong peoples of the Kulin nations as the original and ongoing owners and custodians of this land. The MSA commits itself to actively fight alongside Indigenous peoples for reconciliation and justice for all Indigenous Australians.

C. Confirmation of Agenda Order

Confirmed

D. Confirmation of Previous Minutes & Office Bearer and Divisional Reports

Office Bearer and Divisional Reports	Submission Compliance
Lot's Wife	Report Submitted on time
Queer	Wed, Oct 2, 9:45 PM (Late Submission)
Disabilities and Carers	Sun, Sep 29, 11:04 PM (Late Submission)
Welfare	No Submission Received
Environment and Social Justice	No Submission Received Report Submitted on time
Education (Academic Affairs)	No Submission Received
Education (Public Affairs)	No Submission Received
People of Colour	No Submission Received
Indigenous	No Submission Received
Women's	No Submission Received

Residential Community	No Submission Received
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Motion #2:

This MSC accepts the report submitted by Lot's Wife [and ESJ](#), as attached at the end of this document.

This MSC also accepts the late reports submitted by Queer and Disabilities and Carers, as attached at the end of this document.

This MSC also acknowledges the impact of the global unrest on the MSC Members, and encourages the MSA Secretary to submit the MSC Minutes for the confirmation of the council at the next scheduled MSC Meeting.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian

Seconded: Aylin Vahabova

In Favour: 22

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment to Motion #2:

1. To change ESJ from 'No submission received' to 'Report Submitted on Time.'
2. Add 'and ESJ' to after 'Lot's Wife'

Moved: Zareh Kozanian

The Mover and the Seconder consented to the amendment so this motion did not proceed to a vote

AMENDMENT ACCEPTED

The chair asked in the report could be shared in the room and on zoom.

Zareh Kozanian also noted that members are not submitting reports to the MSC and it is becoming a recurring problem, he also noted that he does understand the current time restraints on members due to exam period.

Georgie McColm asked Zareh Kozanian why for Divisions the reporting schedule ends in July when a lot of Divisions still have significant items that they would like reported to the MSC.

Zareh Kozanian explained that the schedule was based on a consistent manner with odd and even months. However, the MSC would be more than able to accept any reports outside of the schedule. Zareh went on to note that it is a way of allowing transparency within the MSA.

Paul Halliday noted that the schedule is not drafted by the Secretary but contained within regulations.

Vedant Gadhavi gave a verbal report on the actions and activities of MUISS. Vedant noted the successful One World Fest collaborated with the MSA and had 900 students involved with the activity.

Georgie McColm gave a verbal report on the activities and actions of RadMon. She noted that RadMon and D&C had a successful silent disco that also had a good turnout. RadMon also had a Battle of the Bands with CLA that had a good turnout with lots of well performing acts. There was positive feedback from the acts that had performed. RadMon had held its first off campus event 'Back on the Waves' at the Boogie Band Room with an excellent turnout where they had also interviewed someone from the US Consulate. RadMon programming is also at an all time high with a consistent 22 to 25 shows and three to four albums coming out. The division is also coming out with its own Christmas Album.

The chair asked if anyone else sought to provide a verbal report.

The Chair read the motion out as amended.

E. Executive Divisional Representative Divisional

Motion #3:

In accordance with 24(2) of the MSA Constitution, this MSC removes Paul Halliday from the position of the Executive Divisional Representative with immediate effect.

Moved: Stuart Gibson

Seconded: Vedant Gadhavi

In Favour: 14

Against: 9

Abstentions:

MOTION CARRIED BY MORE THAN AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

Stuart Gibson moved a procedural motion "I move that the member no longer be heard."

The chair ruled out this procedural motion.

A discussion took place regarding Motion #3.

Paul Halliday was named by the Chair.

Beck Riches moved a procedural "I move that we proceed directly to a vote."

The chair ruled the motion out of order.

Dilhan Simsek moved dissent in the chair.

Joshua passed the chair to Paul.

The alternate ruling that Dilhan is seeking is that the motion moved by Beck not be ruled out of order and be put.

Josh was named by the Chair.

The Chair put the dissent motion to a vote.

Procedural Motion:

Dissent in the Chair.

Alternative ruling: "that the procedural motion now be put."

Moved: Dilhan Simsek

In Favour: 14

In Favour: 14

Against: 9

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Zareh Kozanian raised a point of clarification asking what motion is being debated.

The Chair stated that they are voting on Beck Riches procedural motion to go directly to a vote on motion #3.

Procedural Motion:

That the motion now be put.

Moved: Beck Richies

In Favour: 14

Against: 9

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

G. General Business

Paul Halliday introduced an urgency motion.

Preamble:

As members are aware, an additional special MSC was called for 2PM today. This was well outside the norm for MSC with the body set to meet twice in the same day. Questions also arose about the validity of the notice given for this meeting. No explanation was given as to why this meeting was convened in addition to this meeting scheduled at 5PM the same day as is required under section 7.1 of the MSC standing orders.

Motion #4:

This MSC;

1. Condemns steps taken by any MSA members to convene special meetings at the MSC without explanation of their urgency reaffirms the importance of special MSC is being justified when they are called as specified in section 7.1 of the MSC standing orders.
2. Reaffirms the right of students to be kept informed through a variety of channels of the goings on of the MSA as per the Constitution and relevant regulations.
3. Directs the secretary to add the appendix included with this motion to the appendix of the minutes of the MSC and the appendix appears to be the email chain from Zareh and Paul and the agenda of the special MSC.

Moved: Paul Halliday

In Favour:

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION LAPSED

Procedural Motion:

That Motion 4 be considered urgent and be dealt with immediately.

Moved: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 9

Against: 14

Abstentions: 0

MOTION FAILED

The chair passed around the motion.

Jay Davis raised a Point of clarification whether an urgency motion does not require an absolute majority for the motion to be heard?

The chair responded in the affirmative and mentioned that they were going to go to the motion on whether to hear the urgent motion momentarily once members had a chance to read the motion.

Angus Duske thanked members that had submitted their reports and reminded members that hadn't submitted their reports to get them in as soon as possible.

Grayson Lowe thought members that did not speak to Motion #3 were cowards.

Charlotte Sutton agreed with Grayson's sentiment.

Georgie McColm raised that she wanted to see action on Divisional independence and that it has been an ongoing issue. Georgie also noted that other Divisions have been suffering from the ongoing staffing costs associated with their divisions. She also mentioned that MAPS has not seen action on their ongoing request for an office for their Committee as all other Divisions received and has not seen action from the current Executive. Then going on to say that she felt like they were being treated like Departments and not Divisions. She went on to say that the weekly meetings scheduled by SRSU were starting to become a necessity and that they never used to be required to run the radio station. Messaging has been inconsistent between staffing departments and has made it harder to run the Division. Also saying that no longer being granted after hours access has impacted the Division.

Paul Halliday wanted to note that certain members of the MSC had left the room.

Dilhan Simsek noted that he was still present.

Paul Halliday withdrew his comments.

Meeting closed at 6:03PM

H. Appendices

Meeting time: Opened at 5:10 PM on 11/11/2024

Meeting location: *In the Conference Room at the Campus Centre of Monash University and Zoom (Hybrid)*

Meeting Minutes

A. Attendance

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>
President:	Chloe Ward	
Secretary:	Zareh Kozanian	
Treasurer:	Joshua Walters	Josh Chuah
Education (Public Affairs):	Nafiz Ibrahim	
Activities:	Fatima Iqbal	
CLA:	Anban Raj	
Welfare:	Campbell Frost	
Environment & Social Justice:	Sophie Allen	
Women's:	Zoe Binns	
Queer:	Madeline Curkovic	
Disabilities & Carers:	Charlotte Sutton	
People of Colour:	Anshuman Das	Rafiad Ruhi
Residential Community:	Ariq Ilham	
MUISS:	Vedant Gadhavi	
MAPS:	Joshua Pelach	Harry Swingler
Clubs & Societies:	Jay Davis	
Radio Monash:	Georgie McColm	
General Representative:	Dilhan Simsek	
General Representative:	Beck Riches	
General Representative:	Diyara Jaswar	
General Representative:	Krishiraj Santchurn	
Observers	Jos Downey James Yorke	

Amiriya Dorian
Tayla Husband
Stuart Gibson
Lowan Sist
Nhan Nguyen
John
Alessandro Papaleo
Imogen Layfield

B. Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners of Land

This MSC acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong peoples of the Kulin nations as the original and ongoing owners and custodians of this land. The MSA commits itself to actively fight alongside Indigenous peoples for reconciliation and justice for all Indigenous Australians.

C. Confirmation of Agenda Order

Confirmed

D. Office Bearer and Divisional Reports

Office Bearer and Divisional Reports	Submission Compliance
Queer	Report Submitted on time
Disabilities and Carers	No Submission Received
Welfare	No Submission Received
Environment and Social Justice	No Submission Received
Education (Academic Affairs)	No Submission Received
Education (Public Affairs)	No Submission Received
People of Colour	No Submission Received
Indigenous	No Submission Received
Women's	No Submission Received
Residential Community	No Submission Received
Clubs and Society	No Submission Received
Radio Monash	No Submission Received
MUISS	No Submission Received

MAPS	No Submission Received
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Chloe Ward opens the meeting at 5:10pm, apologises for not being in person and claims she is feeling unwell

Chloe passes the chair to Campbell Frost

Motion #1:

This MSC accepts the reporting schedule and the report submitted by Queer as attached at the end of this document.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian

Seconded: Georgie McColm

In Favour:

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION

AMENDMENT

Strike "Clubs and Society, Radio Monash, MUISS and MAPS" from the reporting schedule for this MSC as the regulations only stipulate that these divisions submit a report at the start of each odd month and when there are multiple meetings that month only one report is due.

Moved: Jay Davis

MOTION ACCEPTED

Georgie speaks to the RADMON christmas album being released at the end of the month and encourages all students to stream it.

E. Filling of Vacancy

Preamble:

On Wednesday, 30 October 2024 the Secretary received a resignation from Jay Davis as General Representative, effective from the same date.

Following this, the Secretary contacted the Authorised Officer of the Ticket on which Jay was elected (CHANGE!) requesting that they 'lodge a statement in the form of Schedule 1.2, nominating an individual to fill the vacancy' in accordance with 49.2 of the Election Regulations.

This email was sent on Wednesday, 30 October. No response was received by the deadline of Wednesday, 6 October.

As per 49.2.2 of the Election Regulations: *'If the ticket appointment form is not submitted within one week the Secretary giving notice of the vacancy, then the vacancy shall be filled by resolution of MSC.'*

Motion #2:

This MSC appoints Krishiraj Santchurn to the position of General Representative per section 42(4)(b) of the Constitution, following the vacancy created by the resignation of Jay Davis in compliance with membership requirements under section 21 of the Constitution.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 5

MOTION carried unanimously

Discussion during MSC:

The mover waived his speaking rights

Jay Davis notes that he enjoyed his tenure as General Representative to the Monash Student Council and looks forward to continuing to serve students in his new role as Clubs and Societies President in 2025.

Zoe asks the nominator to provide some background on who Krishiraj is and why they were nominated.

Zareh notes that Krishiraj has been an active member of the MSA and student life through clubs and societies as well as the faculty of engineering student teams. The nominator continues to say how he thought Krishiraj would make an excellent replacement for Jay and will continue on with the work that Jay has done.

Paul (observer) raises a point of clarification asking if this was just who the Secretary thought would be suitable.

Zareh notes, as Paul would very much already know, as Secretary it is his responsibility to coordinate resignations and the filling of vacancies that open. Any member of the MSC is well within their rights to move or second a motion if they think there is a student who is more suitable. Zareh further notes that this motion will subsequently be put to a vote and the MSC will decide on who will fill the vacancy.

Georgie asks Krishiraj to provide a brief summary of himself and his experiences and what he thinks he will bring to the MSA.

Krishiraj talks about his long standing passion for student experience and his dedication to playing an important role in improving student life at Monash. As an international student, Krishiraj touches on how his whole life is based around university and his experience at Monash. Krishiraj speaks about the privilege he has had in being able to study at Monash and wanted to give back and get involved to show his gratitude. Krishiraj continues by talking about how he has met so many people through the MSA and made valuable connections and friendships he hopes to continue to foster.

Josh Chuah (proxy) asks the MSA Secretary to prove that an email was sent to the Authorised Officer of the Change! ticket. Zareh Kozanian explains that while this is contrary to standard procedure, he would be more than happy to provide this evidence. He further notes that he is currently on his phone and his secretary delegate inbox was not accessible via mobile app and would be happy to table it at the end of the meeting.

Campbell Frost calls for an adjournment of 10 minutes till 5:32pm to allow Zareh to log onto his laptop and provide evidence of the email.

Jay Davis calls for dissent from the chair with an alternative decision of “the MSC not adjourn”

Campbell Frost passes the chair to Chloe Ward

Jay explains that he moved dissent from the chair due to the confidence the council bar one proxy, Josh Chuah, have in the MSA Secretary and their ability to do their job. Jay also highlights that if the MSA Secretary were lying this motion would be invalid anyway. Jay also notes that it would also be illegal and in violation of his fiduciary duties under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and Zareh had completed.

Campbell Frost explains that his ruling was made because a proxy to the council had asked for proof of an email.

Procedural Motion:

Dissent from the chair.

Alternative Ruling: “that the MSC not adjourn”

Moved by Jay Davis

For 9

Against 9

PROCEDURAL MOTION FAILED

Chloe Ward passed the chair to Campbell Frost and adjourned the meeting for 5 minutes.

Zareh again explains to Campbell that he is currently on his phone and his secretary delegate inbox was not accessible via mobile app and would be happy to table it at the end of the meeting. Campbell Frost insists that this evidence must be provided.

Jay Davis moves that the motion be put.

Campbell Frost calls for votes on the procedural motion that the motion now be put.

Procedural Motion:

The motion be put.

Moved by Jay Davis

For 13

Against 9

PROCEDURAL MOTION FAILED

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

F. Secret Ballot Voting

Motion #3:

This MSC resolves to conduct any secret ballots at this MSC for the election of Executive positions via ~~Strawpoll~~ using the unique voting code function Election Buddy.

Moved: Jay Davis

Seconded: Nafis Ibrahim

In Favour: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION carried unanimously

Discussion during MSC:

Campbell Frost asks that an amendment be moved to change to Election Buddy because an account had already been set up. The amendment was accepted and the motion passed unanimously.

G. Election of Executive General Representative

Motion #4:

This MSC opens nominations for the election of MSA Executive General Representative for 2024, pursuant to s24.1(e) of the MSA Constitution.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 13

Against: 1

Abstentions: 4

MOTION

Discussion during MSC:

Alessandro (observer) raises a point of clarification to verify whether the MSA Executive General Representative was vacant.

As seconder, Jay Davis clarified that the election of Executive Divisional Representative was ruled invalid because the chair did not hold a confirmation vote by secret ballot and the election of the MSA Executive General Representative was held the same way the Executive Divisional Representative election was held and for the avoidance of doubt and validity, the election was being held again.

Charlotte asks what the relevance of the Executive Divisional Representative election has on the Executive General Representative election.

Dilhan Simsek speaks and provides greater context that a member of the Executive had sought legal advice to invalidate a democratic election for the position of Executive Divisional Representative which they oversaw at a previous council meeting due to them not following proper process and procedure. This was the same process and procedure that the said member of the Executive had used at the council meeting that Dilhan was elected to the Executive. As a precaution and to ensure a similar stunt isn't pulled, the election is being run again to remove any doubt of the validity of Dilhan's election.

Jay Davis speaks and confirms that on the basis of the advice and move to invalidate a previously held election, this election would clear any doubt. Jay moves a procedural motion that the motion be put.

Sophie Allen asks Jay that if this were the case and Dilhan's election were to be invalidated due to the procedure followed by the chair if the decisions and actions made by Dilhan while the council thought him to be elected were valid.

Jay brings to the attention of council clause 43 of the MSA Constitution which covers these concerns.

Jay then raises a point of order to the chair and clarifies that when a procedural motion is raised, it must immediately be put to a vote.

Procedural Motion:

Dissent from the chair with an alternative ruling that the motion be put.

Moved by Jay Davis

For 13
Against 5

PROCEDURAL MOTION PASSED

The procedural motion carried.

The motion was put and carried.

Dilhan nominates himself and Santhurn seconds the nomination. Dilhan is the only candidate with no other nominations received .

Motion #5:

This MSC confirms the election of Dilhan Simsek as Executive General Representative.

Moved: Beck Riches **Seconded:** Krishiraj Santchurn
In Favour: 3
Against: 0
Abstentions: 1

MOTION PASSED unanimously with an absolute majority

Discussion during MSC:

Campbell issues ballots via Election Buddy to complete the confirmation voting via a secret ballot.

Dilhan is declared elected.

H. Election of Executive Divisional Representative

Motion #6:

This MSC open nominations for the election of MSA Executive Divisional Representative for 2024, pursuant to s24.1(d) of the MSA Constitution.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian **Seconded:** Dilhan Simsek
In Favour: 19
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

MOTION PASSED unanimously

Discussion during MSC:

Paul (observer) raises questions as to how Harry Swingler has the MAPS Proxy.

Zareh provides evidence of an email sent by the Mature Age and Part Time Students Division acting president confirming that Harry Swingler had been appointed to fill a vacancy on the committee and therefore suggesting he validly holds the MAPS proxy.

Campbell Frost accepts this email as valid evidence.

Jay nominates himself and Vedant seconds the nomination. Jay is the only candidate with no other nominations received.

Motion #7:

This MSC confirms the election of ____ as Executive Divisional Representative.

Moved: Vedant Gadhavi **Seconded:** Harry Swingler

In Favour: 3

Against: 1

Abstentions: 0

MOTION passes unanimously

Discussion during MSC:

Campbell Frost issues ballots and closes voting before all members of the divisions vote.

A member representing MAPS claims they never received a ballot.

Campbell Frost says the ballot paper that hadn't been cast is taken as an abstention.

Jay asks for a recount and that the ballots be reissued because a division has claimed that their ballot was never issued. Campbell Frost refuses and claims that his decision is final.

Jay moves dissent from the chair. Campbell passes the chair to Chloe Ward.

Jay provides the reason that Campbell Frost has refused to hold a recount as required pursuant to section 16.9 of the MSA Standing orders and for his antidemocratic conduct of this election.

Campbell's response is that the ballot had been completed validly.

Procedural Motion:

Dissent from the chair with an alternative ruling that the ballots be reissued and recounted.

Moved by Jay Davis

For 13
Against 6

PROCEDURAL MOTION PASSED

Jay's dissent from the chair motion passed and the ballots were reissued to all divisions.

Campbell Frost declares that following the recount Jay is elected, and asks to be directly minuted that "this result is from a re-run election based on Jay's interpretation of a recount to include a redistribution of the ballots for a second vote. Jay's interpretation of a recount is incorrect and I think that this election will be invalid but it was a fun exercise of democracy either way."

I. General Business

Jay moves the following urgency motion

URGENCY Motion #1:

This MSC accepts and confirms election results at this MSC as valid under the constitution and regulations as per 64.5 of the MSA Constitution.

Moved: Jay Davis **Seconded:** Krishiraj Santchurn

In Favour: 13

Against: 3

Abstentions: 3

MOTION passes with an absolute majority

Campbell Frost strikes this motion out of order.

Jay moves dissent from the chair.

Campbell passes the chair to Chloe.

Jay's alternative ruling is that the motion is deemed in order and it be heard as it is well within the rights and powers of the MSC under 64.5 of the constitution to interpret the constitution.

Campbell argues that the election was held and we have moved on and that the motion is trying to sidestep his rulings and the motion is null and void.

Procedural Motion:

Dissent from the chair with an alternative ruling that the motion not be stricken.

Moved by Jay Davis

For 13

Against 6

PROCEDURAL MOTION PASSED

Jay's dissent motion carries and the alternative ruling is upheld.

Chloe passes the chair back to Campbell.

Campbell puts the motion to consider this item as an urgency motion to a vote.

This is carried with an absolute majority, the item is deemed an urgent item of business.

Jay begins by saying that this is ridiculous that this is now the second MSC to hold this election and we have now been on this election item for 2 hours. He continues by saying that these elections should be done within 10 minutes but they are being dragged out deliberately with antidemocratic intentions.

The procedural passes with an absolute majority and the item is immediately put to a vote.

Procedural Motion:

The motion be put.

Moved: Krishiraj Santchurn

For 13

Against 6

PROCEDURAL MOTION PASSED

Georgie speaks and raises concerns with the length of these meetings for simple matters of business and is confused by how much of these items and the politics she is unaware of.

Georgie says that she doesn't know why there has been so much obstruction with today's proceedings and that she would like to know. She continues by saying that if she doesn't know what is happening or going on she doesn't know how she is supposed to vote. Georgie calls upon the constituents of the MSA to be transparent. Georgie claims that the election is in relation to budgetary issues that not many people know about.

Paul (observer) seconds with what Georgie says and is concerned that many students don't know what is happening with the MSA and MSC governance. Paul also encourages council to amend standing orders to make meetings more accessible for observers and Paul says this as someone who is not on council anymore and is an observer.

Charlotte is disappointed that people left the MSC after a 3 hour meeting and encourages members to vote on a matter of fact.

Madi agrees that there should be more discussions at council meetings and we shouldn't get tied up with these antidemocratic conduct of

Georgie has been surprised that some motions that seem uncontroversial later become controversial and that no one tells her

Georgie says that she doesn't know what every member of the council is thinking and that she doesn't know about what is happening in the political environment.

Jay says that all of this leads towards the idea of a governance reform including a separation between the council where hacks can hack it out and a board where they focus on service delivery.

Dilhan says that he totally agrees with a governance reform and thanks the work that Jay put in on drafting a proposal that certain members of the executive had no appetite for.

Campbell Frost passes the chair to Chloe Ward

Campbell Frost says that no one who votes in this MSC understands the implications of what they are doing and that the 64 year organisation won't exist if we continue down this path. Campbell further says that this is a reckless board and that 'shazzy p' is calling the shots with the MSA's finances. Campbell says that current members of MSC could not run a bath let alone a 7.5-million-dollar organisation. As the incoming treasurer Campbell is worried about an institution and governance because of people who can stack out the board and are above the law. Campbell Frost believes there may be legal issues with recent MSCs. Campbell Frost says that no one understands the implications of their bureaucratic actions. Campbell states that there will be no season 2025 and references a youtube documentary, State of the Union, 'how do you think this will end? It'll end up in the magistrates or the high court'.

Jay confirms that as per the constitution, no individual wields power other than a few specific powers given to the president, secretary and treasurer, and it is the MSC and its collective decisions that wields the power as the democratically elected body.

Meeting is closed at 8:26 PM

J. Appendices

DEPARTMENT: Queer

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims this year:

In 2024, the main goal for MSA Queer was to create a lively, left-wing activist network that fights for queer rights and other left-wing issues. We aimed to diversify types of events and campaigns held by the office, and to invite and engage wider layers of the queer student population than in previous years.

Department Goals This Year

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Goal 1: Meet new student activists	Promote events outwardly with leaflets and social media posts and advertise them as welcome to students who are newer to activism and the Queer department.	We met a new cross section of activist students this year, from being part of campaigns and events with groups like the NTEU and Students for Palestine.
Goal 2: Meet regularly with students	Hold weekly meetings with various groups of students to collaboratively engage in campaign work for queer activism.	We have had a high level of engagement with students, particularly around activist spaces. Where there are left-wing events, our office bearers are building connections with students at them.
Goal 3: Establish a left-wing activist network	Build connections with aspiring queer activists.	We have established a cohort of activists on campus that regularly take part in different organising groups for activism. This year, this goal has successfully been achieved.
Goal 4: Establish the Queer Office as explicitly left-wing	Make statements on political issues, build rallies and contingents to rallies about left-wing issues, and hold activist-related events on campus.	Resoundingly, this has been achieved. We have been approached several times this year to be part of organising national campaigns regarding free speech on campuses, local issues like Monash's ties to weapons companies, and organising against education cuts going into next year. This is an indication that we have established the Queer Office

		as having a left-wing reputation and willing to engage with activism, much more so than the remainder of the MSA.
Goal 5: Engage other clubs and societies with MSA Queer	Meet and liaise with members and executives of different clubs to explore possibilities for collaboration.	We reached out to a number of clubs and societies for collaboration, and ended up building a productive working relationship with many of them, like the Monash Greens Society.
Goal 6: Collaborate with other MSA Departments and NUS	Meet and liaise with Office Bearers and Committee Members of other MSA Departments to explore avenues for joint events, collaboration on motions.	Recently, we have been having regular meetings with both NUS Queer officers to discuss matters like threats to freedom of speech on campuses nationwide, and the campaign in South Australia to combat the right-wing threat to abortion rights.
Goal 7: Hold activist events on campus	Organise and promote banner paintings, contingents to protests, film screenings and forums regarding queer activism.	We have held a record number of protests on campus, and intend to keep doing this in the future, including outside of the MSA Queer Office next year.

Overall Assessment of the Year

This year, the Queer Officers have left a strong activist, left-wing legacy to the MSA. We began the year organising events like the Queers for Palestine Banner Painting, and our most successful event, Radical Queer History, which hosted two guest speakers who were attendees of the very first Mardi Gras in Australia in 1978.

Most of our time was spent organising activist events, namely protests and demonstrations. This included organising and promoting protests on campus about Palestine, like the Gaza Solidarity Encampment, which lasted several weeks. Through this, we were able to substantially change to a politicisation on campus around the issue of genocide in Gaza, and create a space where students were able to discuss what was happening in Palestine at the time and hold demonstrations about the attacks on Rafah at the time. Even weeks after this, we created widespread discussion about Palestine and the Encampment, between students on campus, in classes, and activist spaces.

We also organised and promoted protests in the Southeastern Suburbs and Melbourne's CBD for Palestine. Our office bearers spoke at multiple pickets outside the AW Bell factory in

Dandenong, including chairing one of these demonstrations. One of our OBs, Madi, spoke at a School Strike for Palestine earlier in the year, and at one of the Sunday Palestine demonstrations, speaking about the repression of pro-Palestine activists by university administration at Monash.

To finish, we organised the largest pro-Palestine event on Monash Clayton campus ever, which was the Student General Meeting. We have reported about this before, but it is worth noting here that it was a historic activist event and achievement for everybody involved in organising this, who leafleted and postered for weeks on end, to make this event a success. We both hope to continue our activist efforts into the future, both in and out of the MSA, and encourage the 2025 office bearers to take similar steps to organise against injustice, whether that be genocide, all kinds of oppression, or attacks on our education.

Meeting time: Opened at 05:03 PM on 25/08/2024

Meeting location: Zoom

Meeting Minutes

A. Attendance

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>
President:	Chloe Ward	
Secretary:	Zareh Kozanian	
Treasurer:	Joshua Walters	
Education (Academic Affairs):	Naomi Drego	
Education (Public Affairs):	Nafiz Ibrahim	
Activities:	Reggie Noor	
CLA:	Haider Shah Gina Ford	
Welfare:	Teagan Hayward	
Indigenous:	Marlley McNamara	
Environment & Social Justice:	Sophie Allen (Absent)	
Women's:	Zoe Binns	
Queer:	Madeline Curkovic	
Disabilities & Carers:	Charlotte Sutton	
People of Colour:	Tooba Javed	
Residential Community:	Aylin Vahabova	
MUISS:	Vedant Gadhavi	
MAPS:	Stuart Gibson	
Clubs & Societies:	Paul Halliday	
Radio Monash:	Georgie McColm	
General Representative:	Jay Davis	
General Representative:	Dilhan Simsek	
General Representative:	Beck Riches	
General Representative:	Stella Robinson	Joshua Strauss

General Representative: Diyara Jaswar

Observers: Lucia Darcy
Connor Knight
Harleen
Luka Kerm
Dom
Malak Ababneh
Mahathir Lutfullah
John Sopar
Alex Self
Jos Downey
Kristen Dodson-Geary
Sam Allan
Angus Duske
Amiriya
Max Tory

B. Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners of Land

This MSC acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong peoples of the Kulin nations as the original and ongoing owners and custodians of this land. The MSA commits itself to actively fight alongside Indigenous peoples for reconciliation and justice for all Indigenous Australians.

C. Confirmation of Agenda Order

Confirmed

D. MSC 9/24

Office Bearer and Divisional Reports	Submission Compliance
President	Report Submitted on time
Secretary	Report Submitted on time
Lot's Wife Editors	Report Submitted on time
Treasurer	No Submission Received
Activities	No Submission Received
Creative Live Arts	No Submission Received

Motion #1:

This MSC accepts the reports submitted by the President, Secretary, Lot's Wife en bloc, as attached at the end of this document.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian

Seconded: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion during MSC:

The mover of the motion, Zareh Kozanian, waives his right of speaking.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday, waives his right of speaking.

Leave of Absence Request

Motion #2:

This MSC approves unpaid leave of absence for Joshua Walters for the 16th of August 2024

Moved: Chloe Ward Naomi Drego

Seconded: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion during MSC:

The mover of the motion, Naomi Drego, waives his right of speaking.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday, waives his right of speaking.

Indigenous Office Bearer

Motion #3:

It is moved that this MSC removes Marley McNamara as Indigenous Officer of the MSA, as per Section 42(1)(e)(i) of the MSA Constitution, due to failing to attend three consecutive MSCs, namely Special MSC 2, MSC 7 and MSC 8.

Moved: Chloe Ward Charlotte Sutton

Seconded: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion during MSC:

The mover of the motion, Charlotte Sutton, waives his right of speaking.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday, spoke to the motion highlighting that ongoing challenges in establishing contact with Marley excited since January, despite multiple outreach attempts. William Cooper Institute at Monash expressed serious concerns over her lack of engagement, which has now led to reputational risks for the Monash Student Association (MSA) due to this disconnect. The Institute is considering scaling back its involvement with the MSA if the issue remains unaddressed, making it a priority to ensure Indigenous students are represented by an actively engaged student office bearer. The speaker emphasised the importance of maintaining a positive relationship with William Cooper Institute to support student-led initiatives and preserve MSA's standing in these collaborations.

Motion #4:

That the MSC appoints John Sopar to fill the vacancy in the position of Indigenous Office-Bearer

Moved: Chloe Ward Charlotte Sutton

Seconded: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion during MSC:

The mover of the motion, Charlotte Sutton, waives his right of speaking.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday, noted that John, last year's Indigenous office bearer, had performed exceptionally well and had taken on the role again this year in Marley's absence.

MSA Student General Meeting

Preamble:

The horrors being committed by Israel in Gaza are only getting worse, with more than 40,000 confirmed dead and projected death count estimates as high as 186,000. Monash University has outrageously maintained its ties with arms companies like Lockheed Martin, Textron, and others, which are complicit in, or profiting from, the crimes being committed in Gaza.

Students should not let their universities maintain such connections unchallenged. Universities should serve the goal of human need, rather than contributing to humanitarian disaster. Over the last few months, Student General Meetings at UQ, USyd, RMIT, Adelaide Uni, QUT, Unimelb have seen thousands of students take a powerful stance against the complicity of their universities.

900+ students have signed the petition to call a student general meeting. This overwhelming response reflects the depth of student feeling about this issue. The MSC has an obligation to respond to these 900 students by calling a Student General Meeting and allowing them to put their motion in support of the people of Gaza.

Motion #5:

Platform

- 1) Students for Palestine has collected more than 900 signatures of students at Monash Clayton, and they delivered them to the MSA executive office on Monday.
- 2) The MSA constitution 10.(2) states: "The MSC **must** convene a student general meeting if petitioned by at least 1% of students."
- 3) The MSA constitution 10.(3) states "The MSC must by resolution set the date, place and agenda of each student general meeting."
- 4) The MSA constitution 11.(1) "Student general meetings may only be held between 1:05 p.m. and 1:55 p.m. on an academic day at the Clayton Campus."
- 5) The MSA constitution 15.(1) states "The President is entitled to chair student general meetings." 15.(2) states: "If the President is not present, or does not wish to chair the meeting (or part of the meeting), the Deputy Chair is entitled to chair." 15.(3) states "If neither the President nor the Deputy Chair is present, or if neither wishes to chair the meeting, the MSC must appoint a chair."
- 6) This resolution fulfills these constitutional obligation in its action points below

Action

- 1) In accordance with its constitutional obligations, this MSC calls a Student General Meeting for Tuesday the 3rd of September.
- 2) The Student General Meeting location will be the Lemon Scented Lawns
- 3) Registration for the Student General Meeting will open at 12pm on the day, to allow for those attending to be processed and verified as students before the meeting begins. The meeting proper will then begin sharply at 1:05pm

4) As stated in the constitution, the chair of the MSC will be the President Chloe Ward. If she does not wish to chair, then deputy chair Joshua Walters will. If he does not wish to chair either, then this MSC appoints Madeline Curkovic to chair the meeting.

5) The Agenda for the student general meeting will be a discussion of the following motion, which was attached to the petition that over 900 students signed:

1. MSA supports an immediate and just end to Israel's war on Gaza. This means stopping the bombing, a permanent withdrawal of Israeli troops, an end to the 18- year long blockade, and reparations to be paid for the reconstruction of Gaza.

2. MSA endorses the demands of the Gaza Solidarity Encampment protests - calling on Monash University to reveal and cut all ties with companies and institutions involved in the development and manufacturing of weapons used by the IDF against the Palestinian people.

Moved: Luka Kiernan

Seconded: Malak Ababneh

Moved: Madeline Curkovic

Seconded: Beck Riches

In Favour: 17

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION PASSES

Discussion during MSC:

Amendment by Mover

1) Add action Platform 7, the mover of the motion Luca Kiernan and seconded Malek Abenef will have three minutes to speak to the motion and those who want to speak in favor or against the motion will have two minutes of speaking time.

2) Action point four to read as stated in the constitution the chair of the MSC the chair of the MSC will be President Chloe Ward. Madeleine Kirkevich will co-chair the meeting with if the president does not wish to chair then deputy chair Josh Walters will. If he does not wish to chair either then this MSC appoints Dilhan Simsek to chair the meeting with Madeleine Kirkevich.

3) To add an action point to read, the MSA executive will decide on a location by Saturday the 24th of August as per their constitutional requirement to decide a location six academic days before the meeting.

The Seconder consented to the Mover's amendment and so this motion did need not proceed to a vote

MOTION CARRIED

Madeline Curkovic clarifies the proposed amendment, stating that the amendment involves appointing Madeline Curkovic as a co-chair of the meeting alongside either Chloe, Josh, or

Dilhan. Madeline Curkovic explains that the reasoning behind this proposal is based on the significant work they, along with others present at the meeting, have undertaken throughout the year to support the Palestine campaign on campus. Given this extensive involvement, Madeline Curkovic emphasizes that it would be logical for them to co-chair the meeting with one of the executive members of the MSA.

Stella Robinson raises a point of clarification, asking whether the structuring of chairing and co-chairing applies only to this specific, one-off calling of a general meeting or if it is intended as an ongoing arrangement. They inquire if this structure would also apply in situations where one percent of students petition to hold another general meeting on a different topic.

Chloe Ward provides clarification regarding the constitutional guidelines for chairing meetings. They explain that, as per their understanding of the constitution, the president is entitled to chair meetings, with the deputy chair taking on the role if the president opts not to. In the event that neither the president nor the deputy chair is present or willing to chair, it falls to the MSA to elect another chair in their stead. Chloe Ward notes that the co-chair structure is not explicitly prescribed in the constitution. They clarify that this arrangement would apply solely to this Special General Meeting (SGM). Chloe Ward invites Paul, who is more well-versed in the constitution, to correct them if this interpretation is incorrect.

Madeline Curkovic confirms that the co-chair structure applies only to this Special General Meeting (SGM) and would require a constitutional amendment to be used for all meetings. They explain that this arrangement is justified by their significant role, alongside others, in organizing the Palestine campaign, including efforts with Students of Palestine, the encampment, and campaigning for the SGM. They highlight that over 900 student signatures were collected to make the meeting possible, further supporting their role in chairing.

Connor Knight (Observer) expresses agreement with the proposed co-chairing arrangement and adds a political justification for Madeline's role as co-chair. They argue that, considering the political content of the motions and the significant number of students—now likely exceeding a thousand—who have signed in support, it would be inappropriate to delegate sole chairing to a member of the Labor Party. Connor emphasises the importance of aligning the meeting's leadership with the spirit of the motions and the political values they represent. They highlight Madeline's background as a left-wing activist with a strong record of standing with the oppressed, asserting that Madeline's involvement would ensure meaningful political contributions to the chairing. They argue that sole control by a Labor student would be unacceptable in this context.

Chloe Ward rules that Madeline and Beck will use their speaking time as the mover and seconder of the motion. Once they have concluded, the discussion will proceed to Paul's proposed amendments. The Chair invites Madeline to speak as the mover.

Madeline Curkovic speaks as the mover of the motion, outlining the reasons for its approval and the efforts made to organize the meeting. Madeline Curkovic explains that the motion is part of a national campaign, with student general meetings at various universities advocating for divestment from weapons companies complicit in genocide in Gaza.

Successful meetings have been held recently at UQ, RMIT, QUT, and UniMelb, creating a positive atmosphere and providing students with a platform to support Palestine through democratic processes in student unions. Madeline Curkovic emphasizes that this is a significant political issue, likening it to Vietnam for this generation. The motion aims to oppose genocide, address the university's potential involvement with weapons companies, and challenge political support for Israel's war effort in Gaza. Madeline Curkovic highlights that over 900 students have signed the petition, demonstrating widespread support for the meeting and providing students the opportunity to vote on motions that oppose genocide, address the university's involvement, and respond to the university's treatment of pro-Palestinian students and the encampment. Madeline Curkovic criticizes the university for supporting Israel and suppressing pro-Palestine activism. Madeline Curkovic further notes that student general meetings were historically common at Monash, especially during the 1970s, reflecting a rich history of left-wing activism. They argue that this meeting is a significant opportunity for Monash students to engage with a pressing issue and ensure that student unions take a stance on the gravity of the situation in Palestine.

Lucia (Observer) speaks on the motion, sharing their experience with pro-Palestine activism, which began a few months ago and served as their first major interaction on campus. They highlight their involvement in campaigning as a student and commends Madeline's tireless daily efforts in this area. They also acknowledge the challenges Maddy has faced, including criticism from the university due to her activism, particularly concerning the encampment. They argued that Madeline is the logical choice for chairing the meeting, emphasizing their limited interaction with Dilhan during their time in pro-Palestine activism. Lucia notes that many students recognize Madeline from her visible role on platforms like the Students for Palestine Instagram and would likely appreciate seeing a familiar and active figure chairing the meeting.

Motion to Amend:

Motion attached at the end of this document

Moved: Paul Halliday

Seconded: Dilhan Simsek

In Favour: 11

Against: 4

Abstentions: 2

MOTION CARRIED

Madeline Curkovic responds to the discussion, clarifying their concerns regarding certain aspects of the proposed amendments. They express strong disagreement with politically objectionable changes, specifically highlighting the removal of language that states weapons companies are complicit in or profiting from crimes committed in Gaza. Madeline Curkovic emphasizes their belief that this removal is illogical, asserting that weapons companies producing components for F-35s are, without question, complicit in the genocide occurring in Gaza.

Dilhan Simsek raises a point of clarification, directly asking whether the amendment has been accepted or not.

Madeline Curkovic responds to the amendment, stating that they are addressing it in its entirety. They explain that while there are parts of the amendment they find objectionable, there are other parts they agree with.

Dilhan Simsek seeks clarification, asking whether the amendment, if accepted, will proceed to debate.

Madeline Curkovic clarifies that the amendment has not been accepted. Madeline Curkovic elaborates, stating that while there are parts of the amendment they find acceptable, there are other parts they strongly object to. They question why the amendment is being considered as a single block, highlighting specific concerns. These include provisions that remove their right to co-chair and the removal of references to the encampment, which they describe as "disgraceful." Madeline Curkovic clarifies that they cannot provide a simple yes or no answer regarding the amendment, as it contains distinct components with differing implications. They express the desire for the amendment to be split into at least two separate amendments, allowing for individual consideration. They explain that they agree with certain parts but strongly disagree with others.

Dilhan Simsek moves a procedural motion requesting that the amendment now be put to a vote, allowing the student council to decide.

Procedural Motion:

That this MSC moves the motion to be put to a vote

Moved: Dilhan Simsek

In Favour: 13

Against: 3

MOTION CARRIED

Madeline Curkovic moves a procedural motion requesting that the amendments be split into separate parts for individual consideration.

Chloe Ward clarifies the process for handling procedural motions. The first procedural motion, moved by Dilhan, is to put the amendment to a vote. The Chair states that this procedural motion must be addressed and voted on before proceeding to the second procedural motion, which requests splitting the amendments.

Madeline Cukovic suggests that the process does not make sense factually. They point out that a massive document has been moved without a clear acceptance or rejection.

Paul Halliday raises a point of order that Madeline does not currently have the floor to speak.

Madeline Curkovic requests the opportunity to speak against the proposed amendments.

The Chair clarifies that the amendments are proceeding directly to a vote, and therefore there will not be an opportunity to speak against them at this stage.

Madeline Curkovic interrupts the chair.

Chloe Ward addresses Madeline, reminding her that she has not been called on to speak and instructing her to refrain from speaking out of turn. The Chair states that Madeline will be named again if she continues to interrupt.

Chloe Ward explains that the MSC will address the amended motion.

Madeline Curkovic expresses strong objections to the recent vote on the amendments, arguing that it undermines student democracy. They emphasize that 900 students signed a petition requesting a specific motion to be moved at the Student General Meeting (SGM) and criticize the decision to alter the motion without respecting the original intent. Madeline Curkovic highlights the removal of references to the encampment and the complicity of weapons companies. They question the appropriateness of editing a motion that 900 students supported and express outrage that approximately 20 individuals voted to pass these amendments without individual consideration. They accuse the process of being undemocratic and allege deliberate sabotage of the motion over the past week. They claim that the amended motion misrepresents the intent of the petition and fails to reflect the original request of the students. While expressing frustration, the participant acknowledges relief that the motion is finally being discussed after significant delays.

The Chair moves a procedural motion to limit the speaking time of each participant in the debate to two minutes. This decision is made in the interest of time to ensure that other important motions can also be addressed. The Chair emphasizes the importance of allowing everyone a chance to speak on the issue.

Max Tory acknowledges Madeline's objections and expresses willingness to wait for their turn on the speaking list. They then propose allowing Dilhan to take their place to respond directly to Madeline's concerns, particularly regarding the appropriateness of changing the wording of a motion that over 900 students signed petitions in favor of.

Dilhan Simsek provides clarification regarding the petition and its relation to the current discussion. They note that while the petition gathered 900 signatures, only about 250 of those could be verified by the MSA. They explain that the council's current action is not directly responding to a petition of 900 people but is instead exercising its authority to call a Special General Meeting (SGM). They acknowledge the significance of even 250 verified signatures as a basis for calling the SGM. Dilhan commends the broader movement of SGMs across Australia, describing it as inspiring, and emphasizes the importance of having a similar initiative at Monash. They highlight the relevance of recognizing international events and refer to a statement issued at the first MSC meeting, encouraging members to review it and reflect on the council's position. On the topic of chairing, they argue that the chair's role is administrative rather than partisan and assert that political affiliations or beliefs should

not influence the ability to fulfill this role effectively. They express disagreement with the idea that being left-wing or politically active enhances the capacity to chair and cite past examples of chairs successfully managing MSCs.

Max Tory (Observer) notes that Dilhan did not directly respond to the question raised by Madeline and themselves. They express strong disagreement with Dilhan's claim that only 250 signatures from the petition were able to be verified, describing this assertion as absolutely ridiculous.

Dilhan Simsek requests clarification, asking for confirmation on whether only 250 signatures from the petition are able to be verified by the MSA.

The Chair addresses the point of clarification, explaining that according to information provided by the MSA senior management team, only 250 to 300 signatures from the petition could be verified using the MSA's available data. The Chair notes that this does not imply the remaining signatures were invalid but rather that they could not be verified due to limitations in the MSA's data, which does not include the university's data.

Luka Kerm (Observer) raises a point of clarification, questioning whether the inability to verify signatures was due to the MSA not taking sufficient steps to process the signatures.

Paul Halliday provides clarification regarding the verification process for petition signatures. They explain that Monash University does not share full student lists with the MSA or any of the student unions at Monash, which restricts the ability to verify signatures. Paul Halliday emphasizes that it would be inappropriate to approach Monash with a list of students who have taken a political position on an issue. Sharing such information, including names and email addresses, could compromise the privacy of international students or others who may not want the university to be aware of their involvement. Paul Halliday stresses that this limitation is not an excuse but a reflection of the obstructionist practices of Monash University. Paul Halliday clarifies the actions taken by the MSA to verify petition signatures. They explain that the MSA acted to the fullest extent possible using the data available in their database. This included broadening the definition of "student" to include inactive students who had logged on, which, under a strict interpretation of the constitution, should not have been counted. This approach allowed for the verification of approximately 350 signatures. Paul Halliday emphasizes that the remaining 600 signatures are not considered invalid but simply could not be verified due to the lack of data sharing by Monash University. They reiterate that it would be improper for the MSA, as a third-party student union, to share the political positions of students with the university, as it could compromise the privacy and safety of those who signed the petition.

Max Tory (Observer) expresses skepticism about the explanation regarding signature verification, questioning how the MSA is able to verify signatures for student election validation and similar processes if such limitations exist. Max Tory raises objections to the substantive politics of the amendment. They criticize the removal of language asserting that weapons companies profiting from selling arms to Israel are complicit in bombing civilians in Gaza. They also highlight the omission of references to the Gaza solidarity encampment. Max Tory attributes these changes to sectarianism and a refusal to honor the intent of the

900 students who signed the petition, specifically supporting the demands of the Gaza solidarity encampment. They suggest that the amendments reflect the affiliations of Labour Party members and their reluctance to take a strong stance against the government and the university by adopting the original wording from the Gaza solidarity encampment. Max Tory concludes by expressing that these amendments dilute the political content of the motion and represent a significant step back.

Paul Halliday clarifies that they did not state the signatures were valid but rather that they have no way of proving they are not valid. They emphasize that this lack of validation does not confirm validity but acknowledge that if all signatures were validated, it is likely the threshold would be met. However, they reiterate that there is no definitive way to confirm this.

Connor Knight (Observer) raises a series of objections to the amendments and decisions regarding chairing the meeting. They criticize the focus on bureaucratic debates, suggesting it serves to deflect attention from the core political issues. The participant argues that members of the Labor Party, a party they describe as complicit in the ongoing genocide, have received a petition from over 900 students only to politically dilute and moderate its demands. They attribute these actions to sectarianism, political moderation, and loyalty to the Labor Party. Regarding the chairing decision, the participant asserts that chairing a political meeting about Palestine is inherently political. They accuse the decision not to allow Madeline to chair as politically motivated, aimed at preventing a left-wing, radical activist from having control over the meeting. They describe the effort to reduce the meeting to a bureaucratic exercise as a way to suppress the significance of the campaign.

Procedural Motion:

That this MSC moves the motion to be put to a vote

Moved: Jay Davis

In Favour: 12

Against: 4

MOTION CARRIED

Madeline Curkovic requests that her amendment in the zoom chat must be heard prior to the procedural.

Paul Halliday addresses the Chair, citing Standing Order 22.2, which states that an amendment can only be moved between speakers and not while a speaker is mid-speech. Paul also references Section 14.4, which specifies that speakers may not interrupt during another speaker's allocated time. Paul draws the Chair's attention to these procedural rules to ensure compliance with the standing orders.

Jay Davis cites Standing Order 24.7, which stipulates that once a procedural motion has been moved, it must be put to a vote.

The Chair acknowledges the reference and confirms that they were about to proceed with putting the procedural motion to a vote.

Connor Knight (Observer) has been named by the Chair for interrupting

Harleen (Observer) has been named by the Chair for interrupting

Dom (Observer) has been named by the Chair for interrupting

Connor Knight (Observer) has been named once more by the Chair for interrupting

Election of ResComm Office Bearer

Preamble:

As it stands the MSA constitution requires candidates for Women's Officer, Disability and Carers Officer, Indigenous Officer, Queer Officer and People of Colour Officer to be a member of their respective autonomous group. However the same requirement does not apply to the Residential Community Officer; although this requirement has recently been introduced via the election regulations, it would be desirable to also have it in the constitution.

Motion #6:

~~This MSC:~~

~~1. resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2024 MSA annual elections on the proposed constitutional changes as outlined—~~

~~The new clause:~~

~~a. The Residential Community Officer must be directly elected by and from students who reside in on-campus accommodation.~~

~~Is to be inserted as 32(7) and subsequent clauses be renumbered accordingly.~~

~~2. resolves that the wording of the referendum question to be as follows:~~

~~**A Proposed Change:** To amend the MSA Constitution to require that the Residential Community Officer live in on-campus accommodation.~~

~~**Do you approve of this proposed amendment?**~~

~~3. appoints OGL Group to act as Returning Officer of the student referendum. This MSC resolves that the dates, locations and hours of polling for the student referendum shall be that of the 2024 MSA Annual Elections.~~

~~4. directs the Returning Officer to—~~

~~a. ensure that copies of the proposed changes are made available to all students on the MSA website and via email as part of the Election Guide.~~

~~b. place the referendum questions on the same ballot as the annual elections.~~

Moved: Jay Davis

Seconded: Dilhan Simsek

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion during MSC:

Amendment by Mover

This MSC:

1. resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2024 MSA annual elections on the proposed constitutional changes as outlined–

The new clause:

a. The Residential Community Officer must be directly elected by and from students who:

new clause:

currently reside in on-campus accommodation; or

Is to be inserted as 32(7)(a).

c. The new clause:

have resided in on-campus accommodation within the past 12 months.

Is to be inserted as 32(7)(b).

2. resolves that the wording of the referendum question to be as follows:

A Proposed Change: To amend the MSA Constitution to require that the Residential Community Officer be elected by and from students who currently live in on-campus accommodation or have done so within the past 12 months.

Do you approve of this proposed amendment?

3. appoints OGL Group to act as Returning Officer of the student referendum. This MSC resolves that the dates, locations and hours of polling for the student referendum shall be that of the 2024 MSA Annual Elections.

4. directs the Returning Officer to–

a. ensure that copies of the proposed changes are made available to all students on the MSA website and via email as part of the Election Guide.

b. place the referendum questions on the same ballot as the annual elections.

The Secunder consented to the Mover's amendment and so this motion did need not proceed to a vote

MOTION CARRIED

Zareh Kozanian highlights concerns about members speaking without raising their hand, noting that this behavior deviates from appropriate council conduct. Zareh Kozanian proposes to disable the mute/unmute option to better maintain order during the meeting. They suggest requiring participants to send a message in the chat if they wish to respond, emphasizing the need to uphold proper council behavior.

Chloe Ward (Chair) responds to the proposal, expressing a preference for allowing participants to unmute themselves but acknowledging that due to repeated instances of members speaking out of turn, it might be appropriate to require participants to ask for permission to unmute. The Chair reiterates the importance of maintaining order and directs members to raise their hands if they wish to speak. They confirm that participants will be called on in turn.

Jay Davis explains the motion he is raising, which stipulates that the Residential Community Officer must be someone who currently lives on campus or has lived on campus recently. The rationale behind the inclusion of "recently" is to account for situations where an individual may take a break or temporarily leave campus, ensuring the university cannot target the office bearer if they are no longer residing on campus. Jay clarifies that this motion addresses concerns that were raised with him. He also notes that student opinions are important, as recognized by the constitution, and that students are required to vote on referendums to alter the constitution.

The seconder of the motion, Dilhan Simsek, waives his right of speaking.

Madeline Curkovic responds to the motion, explaining that referendums serve as a way to ask the student population whether they agree with a particular issue, similar to how the SGM petition functioned. They express frustration that the MSC has disregarded the petition and the rights of students to move a motion and accept a position previously supported by 900 students. They argue that the MSC has failed to take up the demands of the Gaza Solidarity Encampment, effectively ignoring student democracy. Madeline Curkovic accuses the MSC of undermining the position that weapons companies are complicit in genocide, calling this stance absurd. They challenge the MSC, questioning whether they would openly express such views at rallies, knowing the negative backlash they would face. The participant asserts that the involvement of weapons companies in genocide is widely recognized and that the positive momentum of mass meetings across campuses supports this view. They criticize the MSC for gutting the original motion, calling it indicative of the political leanings of the members. The participant states that aside from one motion at the start of the year, the MSC has not taken any meaningful action in favor of Palestine. They emphasize that the petition, supported by nearly 1,000 students, is far to the left of the positions the MSC has taken, and urge the MSC to reflect on this contrast.

Dilhan Simsek highlights that the call for an SGM is a result of student demand, as evidenced by the petition. They acknowledge that the previous motion passed with support from Madeline and others, and express hope that this SGM will be a significant step forward, similar to successful SGMs seen around the country. The participant notes the discussion regarding the verification of signatures and emphasizes that the MSA could have prevented the SGM from occurring but chose to move forward with the motion, indicating the MSC's desire for the SGM to take place. They clarify that the issue with signature verification was due to the data limitations of the MSA, and while the signatures could not be verified, the MSC exercised its right to call an SGM. They argue that the perception of the MSC opposing the SGM is misplaced, as the MSC has actively supported the SGM. Dilhan Simsek expresses optimism about the upcoming SGM, noting the significance of having a pro-Palestinian stance and recognizing the efforts of Students for Palestine in organizing the petition. They encourage all members to support the SGM and contribute to the pro-Palestinian action.

The Chair moves a procedural motion to close the speaking list after Malak, ensuring that everyone who has raised their hand will have a chance to speak. This decision is made in the interest of time.

Malak Ababneh expresses strong dissatisfaction with the MSA's actions, particularly regarding the verification of signatures. They accuse the MSA of disregarding student opinions and politically moderating the motion that students petitioned for. The participant criticizes the MSA for aligning with Labor or Labor-affiliated members, calling the actions politically motivated and appalling. The participant states they are leaving the meeting to attend a refugee rally, referencing the Australian Labor Party's (ALP) treatment of refugees over the years as part of their rationale for leaving. They express frustration with the MSC's decision to ignore student opinions.

Jay Davis acknowledges that there appears to be no significant objection to the motion and addresses the Trots, suggesting that the previous motion has been concluded and that the discussion has moved on to a new topic. They invite anyone with comments on the substance of the current motion to share them but propose that, unless there are further comments, the meeting should proceed to a vote.

Zareh Kozanian acknowledges that the procedural motion to close the speaking list passed as it was moved by the chair, but asserts their right to propose a procedural motion to put the current motion to an immediate vote.

Procedural Motion:

That this MSC moves the motion to be put to a vote

Moved: Zareh Kozanian

In Favour: 11
Against: 2

MOTION CARRIED

Jay Davis requests confirmation that the procedural motion passed by the absolute majority required by the constitution to proceed.

The Chair confirms that the procedural motion has passed, meeting the required majority for it to be valid according to the constitution.

~~Multi-member Positions & Honoraria~~

Preamble:

~~Currently only 21% of the positions on MSC are multi-member positions. This is far below many other comparable student organisations/unions:~~

- ~~● UMSU (UniMelb): 68%~~
- ~~● LTSU (La Trobe Uni): 64%~~
- ~~● SRC (USyd): 98%~~
- ~~● YouX SRC (Adelaide Uni): 31%~~
- ~~● Student Guild (UWA): 59%~~
- ~~● Arc SRC (UNSW): 46%~~

~~Historically this has led to winning tickets holding large super-majorities on the MSC, with other tickets only receiving one or two positions despite receiving substantial voter shares.~~

~~This proposal would change the number of MSC members elected through multi-member positions from five to nine, resulting in a modest increase of their proportion to 32%.~~

~~It would also allow future MSCs to consider the payment of honoraria to all members of the MSC while continuing to allow the payment of Honoraria to Officer Bearers who are not members of the MSC such as the Editors of Lot's Wife.~~

Motion #7:

~~This MSC:~~

~~1. resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2024 MSA annual elections on the proposed constitutional changes as outlined—~~

~~a. The current clause 21(20)-(24):~~

~~5 members directly elected by and from students~~

~~is to be replaced with clause 21(20)-(29):~~

~~9 Student Councillors directly elected by and from students.~~

~~b. The current clause 24(1)(c):~~

~~one member elected by and from the members of the MSC referred to in subclauses 21(20)-(24);~~

Is to be replaced with:

~~one member elected by and from the members of the MSC referred to in subclauses 21(20)-(28);~~

c. The current clause 32(8):

~~The MSC may only pay an honorarium to office-bearers directly elected by students (which includes the Women's Officer).~~

Is to be replaced with:

~~The MSC may only pay honoraria to the following:~~

d. The new clause:

~~office-bearers directly elected by students, and~~

Is to be inserted as 32(8)(a):

e. The new clause:

~~members of the MSC.~~

Is to be inserted as 32(8)(b):

2. resolves that the wording of the referendum question to be as follows:

~~**A Proposed Change:** To amend the MSA Constitution to increase the number of multi-member proportionally elected positions on the Monash Student Council from five to nine and extend the payment of honoraria to all members of the Monash Student Council.~~

~~**Do you approve of this proposed amendment?**~~

3. ~~appoints OGL Group to act as Returning Officer of the student referendum. This MSC resolves that the dates, locations and hours of polling for the student referendum shall be that of the 2024 MSA Annual Elections.~~

4. ~~directs the Returning Officer to—~~

a. ~~ensure that copies of the proposed changes are made available to all students on the MSA website and via email as part of the Election Guide.~~

b. ~~place the referendum questions on the same ballot as the annual elections.~~

~~Moved: Jay Davis~~—————~~Seconded: Dilhan Simsek~~

~~In Favour: ———~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION LAPSED~~

[Discussion during MSC:](#)

The Mover of the motion, Jay Davis, withdrew this moving of the motion

Motion lapsed due to the lack of a mover

Housing Motion

Preamble:

There is a serious, ongoing housing crisis in Australia. Last year Australia ranked the third most expensive housing market in the world, with average house rents increasing 6 times faster than wages, and unit rents 4 times faster [1] . The cost of buying property continues to soar out of reach of working class Australians [2].

For students, median uni accommodation comes to \$426 weekly, [3] which youth allowance doesn't come close to covering. This means many students have to choose between going to class or working to cover their cost of living. This pressure is multiplied for International Students on insecure Visas.

In the midst of this housing crisis, Federal and State Labor governments have responded worse than inadequately. The HAFF, for example, was a neoliberal non-solution, and will not scratch the surface of the demand for public housing.

Labor has ended spending on new public housing projects, while demolishing existing public housing. The residents of the last public housing standing in Victoria have launched a class action lawsuit against the Allan Government, but expect eviction. To add insult to injury, land which the Allan government had previously promised wouldn't be sold to private developers, has been put on the market [4].

The promised replacement 'social housing', again, is a neoliberal smokescreen for injecting the profit motive into every aspect of the housing market.

The ALP is fundamentally unable to provide genuine solutions to the housing crisis, because as a party its commitment is to profit and profit making. Under Labor the rich get richer, and the rest of us are left holding the bag.

Sources:

[1]

<https://www.hotspotting.com.au/rents-rise-faster-than-wages/#:~:text=The%20speed%20of%20rental%20growth,growth%20in%20the%20March%20quarter.>

[2]

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/article/2024/jul/18/melbourne-public-housing-towers-demolition-to-go-ahead-despite-residents-class-action-ntwnfb>

[3]

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.abc.net.au/article/104117606>

[4]

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.theage.com.au/politics/victoria/land-set-aside-for-social-housing-to-be-sold-off-for-private-development-20240807-p5k0iw.html>

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/need-help/homelessness-support-services/homelessness-week/homelessness-statistics/australia-housing-crisis/>

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.abc.net.au/article/103754274>

Motion #8:

The MSC:

1. Calls for the Labor government to scrap negative gearing and Capital Gains Tax concessions, implement rent freezes and build more public housing, not private social housing.
2. Calls on monash to use some of its billions of dollars to help provide affordable housing for students.
3. Acknowledges that housing is a human right, and rejects the idea that housing should be for profit.

Moved: Beck Riches

Seconded: Madeline Curkovic

In Favour: 12

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion during MSC:

Beck Riches expresses disbelief that anyone from Change would support the motion, criticizing what they perceive as subservience to the Labor Party and its conservative politics. They accuse the MSA of being dominated by these influences throughout the semester. The participant criticizes Dilhan's recent support for the SGM, highlighting his previous opposition to the SGM and Palestine activism. They allege that Dilhan's attempted to discredit the camp by spreading false claims about violence and presented fabricated legal advice. The participant further accuses Dilhan of withholding a quorum in multiple meetings, questioning his commitment to the SGM and his concern for the 900 students who signed the petition supporting the camp's demands. Beck criticizes Dilhan, accusing him of hypocrisy for not contributing to building the SGM but now seeking to chair it. They assert that Dilhan's actions are an attempt to water down the SGM and make it as conservative and meaningless as possible. Beck specifically condemns the removal of references to the Gaza solidarity camp and the complicity of weapons companies in the genocide. They label Dilhan's actions as

hypocritical and appalling, citing his conservative stance and opposition to the camp's demands.

Dilhan Simsek expresses support for the motion, acknowledging the housing crisis and agreeing that more needs to be done. They affirm that the policies of the Labor Party, particularly those related to housing, are a step in the right direction. Dilhan notes that they had previously moved motions calling for an increase in youth allowance, which is addressed in the current motion, and highlights the importance of increasing housing supply. While they do not agree with everything the Labor Party does, they believe the government has the ability to make more substantial changes and that real action is possible within the structure of government. The participant reiterates their stance on housing, supporting the building of more housing, the scrapping of negative gearing and capital gains tax, and an increase in public housing. They conclude by stating that housing is a human right and expressing their rejection of the idea that housing should be profit-driven. The participant confirms they will be voting in favor of the motion.

Madeline Curkovic has passed her speaking rights to Connor Knight

Connor Knight (Observer) strongly critiques the approach to addressing the housing crisis, asserting that the primary issue is not the supply of housing, but the misuse of existing housing. They point to areas like Footscray, where many properties sit vacant, used as speculative investments by wealthy property developers. They argue that there is more than enough housing, but it is being hoarded by the wealthy. The participant criticizes the Labor Party's actions, particularly their policy of demolishing remaining public housing in states where they are in power, including Victoria and New South Wales. They argue that public housing, a crucial resource for working-class Australians, is being systematically destroyed. They reject the Labor Party's housing policies as neoliberal, specifically citing the government's \$10 billion investment in the stock market with the hope of funding future housing projects. The participant labels this approach as neoliberalism, accusing the government of handing public resources over to private businesses, which ultimately harms the working class. They further contend that under the Labor Party's leadership, the housing crisis has only worsened, with increasing support for property developers and the destruction of public housing. They suggest that, given the results of these policies, those within the party should reconsider their self-congratulation, as their actions are not addressing the real issues at hand.

Max Tory (Observer) agrees with Connor's points, particularly in response to Dilhan's contradictory statements regarding the motion. They express confusion over Dilhan's comment that the Labor Party has not done enough, yet also claims it is a step in the right direction. The participant argues that the problem is not that the Labor Party has done insufficiently, but that their policies have actively worsened the housing crisis, citing the

demolition of public housing in Melbourne and large handouts to private property developers. The participant emphasizes that the claim of "supply being the problem" is misleading, as the real issue is not housing supply but the disproportionate number of unoccupied homes compared to the number of homeless people. They argue that when the Labor Party talks about increasing supply, they are referring to subsidizing for-profit housing development, which contradicts the principle that housing should be provided based on need, not profit. The participant concludes by expressing confusion over Dilhan's position, stating that their statement does not make sense in the context of the housing crisis.

Malak Ababneh (Observer) argues that the MSC should take clear political positions on social issues, particularly housing and Palestine, as both are fundamental human rights concerns. They highlight the issue of the Labor Party's housing policies, where profits are prioritized over people's needs. The participant then explains their reasoning for seconding the motion at the SGM, emphasizing the significance of SGMs as a mass exercise of student democracy. They state that these SGMs are a powerful way for students to express their opposition to their universities being complicit in the genocide and supporting weapons companies. The participant criticizes the amendments made to the motion, arguing that they gutted the political content of the statement and failed to acknowledge the complicity of weapons companies in the genocide. They note that the chair, being a political position, plays a key role in shaping the meeting, including who speaks and how the meeting is run. The participant expresses frustration with the use of the excuse regarding invalid signatures to obstruct the SGM, criticizing those who have made the SGM a less impactful exercise of student democracy. They recount their involvement in various aspects of the Palestine campaign and contrast it with the watered-down version of the SGM, which they argue has been turned into a milquetoast condemnation of the university's ties to genocide. They also mention the vulnerability of the SGM to being shut down by pro-Israel students, referencing the amendment proposed by Madeline that was blocked.

Connor Knight (Observer) expresses frustration over a lack of response to their criticism of the Labor Party's housing policies, which they believe have worsened the housing crisis in Australia. They note that political arguments made by their faction have been largely ignored throughout the meeting. He urges participants to engage with the political issues being raised, emphasizing that this is student politics, not just procedural motions.

Procedural Motion:

That this MSC moves the motion to be put to a vote

Moved:Jay Davis

In Favour: 13

Against: 2

MOTION CARRIED

Motion on gender panic surrounding Algerian Olympic boxer Imane Khelif

Preamble:

The Olympic women's boxing competition has seen the whipping up of a transphobic furore against Algerian boxer Imane Khelif. She and another boxer, Lin Yu-ting had been disqualified from the 2023 boxing world championships due to not meeting certain 'gender eligibility' requirements. Both are cisgender women, whose participation in the 2024 Olympics has since been at the centre of a media storm.

The fact that right wing figures such as Elon Musk and J. K. Rowling have publicly accused Khelif of being a man shows the nature of the 'debate'. Anti-trans activists have latched onto Khelif as a means of waging a campaign against trans rights. They are using dubious claims about Khelif's testosterone levels and chromosomes to create a moral panic and claim she is a danger to other women competing, and unfairly taking their place in the competition.

It is evident that attacks on trans women's participation in sports have further opened the door to the gender policing of cisgender women as well, where they are publicly scrutinised for their adherence to narrow gender stereotypes. In sport, women have often been the target of sexist remarks for appearing too masculine, and this is even more so the case for women of colour.

The broader context for these attacks is the growth of the far right, which targets women and trans people to wage culture wars and spread their bigoted ideology. It is important that the attacks on Khelif's gender are identified as rooted in the transphobia and sexism championed by the far right.

Motion #9:

Platform:

This MSC:

1. Condemns the transphobia and sexism used to generate a moral panic around women athletes' gender.
2. Supports the rights of women and gender diverse people to participate and compete in sports at every level.
3. Recognises the need to fight against the rising far-right and their reactionary ideas on women and trans people.

Action:

1. The MSA will do a joint post on social media with MSA Queer, MSA Clayton and NUS Queer in support of Imane Khelif, making it clear that the MSA supports the rights of

women, trans people, and other gender diverse people to engage in sport without restriction or harassment.

Moved: Madeline Curkovic

Seconded: Beck Riches

In Favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion during MSC:

Zoe Binns raises a question regarding why the Women's Department was not consulted on the motion.

Madeline Curkovic responds to the question, explaining that moving a motion related to women and gender-diverse people does not require permission from everyone on the MSC. She further clarifies that the content of the motion concerns transphobia, despite the woman involved in the incident being cisgender. Madeline emphasizes that the attacks were transphobic and points out how the far-right has latched onto such issues globally, mentioning figures like Andrew Tate. A participant highlights the broader issue of how the far-right globally has latched onto transphobia as a key element of its political agenda, aiming to push back against progressive movements. They note that transphobia is used alongside other divisive tactics targeting women, transgender people, migrants, and other marginalized groups. The participant expresses surprise that anyone on the MSC would object to the motion, suggesting that if the Women's Department does have objections, they should raise them. They emphasize that the primary goal of the motion is to make a statement against the far-right, which has used gender panic politics to advance its agenda. The participant points out that this type of far-right politics is a global issue, referencing examples from Hungary, Australia, and the UK, where similar rhetoric has been used to target gender identity issues. They express support for the MSC's involvement in addressing this issue and applaud the discussion taking place.

Connor Knight (Observer) asks whether the Women's Department objects to the motion in any way, seeking clarification on their stance.

Zoe Binns responds, stating that they personally do not object to the motion but were wondering why the Women's Department was not consulted on it.

Madeline Curkovic discusses the far-right's campaign on issues like trans rights, explaining that it aims to undermine left-wing politics, the workers' movement, and various social rights movements. They emphasize that trans rights has become a focal point for the far-right to advance their agenda, noting how trans politics in Australia has become increasingly

polarized. The participant reflects on the protests against Posey Parker, a figure they argue is not a women's rights campaigner but a far-right transphobe supported by neo-Nazis. They stress that the far-right uses transphobia as a tool to undermine progress and rights movements. They also reference the rise of far-right politics in Italy, highlighting Giorgia Meloni's campaign against LGBTQ+ rights, including attempts to deny gay couples adoption rights and alter birth certificates for lesbian parents. The participant argues that these actions reflect a broader far-right attack on rights and liberties. The participant stresses the importance of the MSA and the left in general taking a strong stance on these issues, as the fight for rights is ongoing. They warn that whenever rights are won, they are also at risk of being taken away, citing examples like the rollback of Roe v. Wade. The participant calls for continued resistance against the rise of far-right politics, anti-migrant sentiment, anti-trans politics, and misogyny, framing it as an urgent and collective responsibility to fight back against these movements.

Beck Riches briefly addresses the issue of transphobia, agreeing with Madeline's point that it is a key issue, but also noting that it reflects deeper societal misogyny. They criticize the conservative right's argument that women must conform to a particular feminine standard to be considered women, labeling it as a reactionary and sexist view. The participant emphasizes that this attitude is part of a broader societal issue, also linked to the discussions around Emma Cliffe.

Paul Halliday echoes the sentiments expressed by Madeline and Beck, expressing surprise that the issue at hand gained such significant global attention. They criticize the media coverage, describing it as a week-long spectacle centered on transphobia, sexism, and racism, which they deem completely ridiculous. The participant agrees with Madeline's point about defending rights, emphasizing that pushing back on these issues is crucial to prevent the erosion of rights for queer people and other marginalized groups. They argue that failing to defend rights on issues like this leads to the loss of broader rights. They further note that issues like this embolden the far-right, using them to recruit people and normalize far-right politics, making it socially acceptable. The participant concludes by stating that this is their final point on the matter.

Charlotte Sutton echoes Zoe's point made in the chat, emphasizing that Zoe asked a perfectly respectful and genuine question. They argue that if the meeting is discussing issues like misogyny, it's important to approach discussions with respect. The participant commends Zoe and Katya for their advocacy, noting that consulting with other departments does not diminish the motion. They stress that the organization is one body and that collaborating with different perspectives strengthens the movement. The participant expresses strong support for the motion, acknowledging that Zoe was not undermining it. They call for more respectful engagement and label some of the previous remarks as unnecessary. They further

highlight the importance of addressing systemic issues and incorporating intersectional perspectives into the conversation.

Stella expresses strong support for the motion, agreeing that it is important to make a statement about the issue. They propose an amendment to include the word "intersex" in the statement, suggesting that it should also be recognized as part of the broader debate surrounding transphobia and sexism. The participant acknowledges that the athletes in question are cis women and do not identify as intersex or trans. However, they note that the right-wing reactions to this issue have also impacted larger queer and gender-diverse communities, including the intersex community. They seek guidance on whether they should formally make this suggestion as an amendment to the motion.

Motion to Amend:

Rewrite the motion line to include the term "intersex."

Moved: Stella Robinson

The Mover and Seconder consented to this amendment and so this motion did need not proceed to a vote

Connor Knight (Observer) highlights the worrying international trend of the far-right's growth, particularly around queer and women's issues. They note a significant increase in transphobic and sexist groups in Australia, including those attempting to shut down events like drag story times and holding events with anti-abortion speakers, such as the speaking tour of Posie Parker. They connect this rise to the far-right's reaction to events like the overturning of Roe v. Wade and the broader pushback against the gains made by the women's rights movement in the past 50 years. The participant expresses strong support for the motion, emphasizing the importance of the MSC being aware of and actively opposing these trends. The participant also points to the rise of anti-immigrant rhetoric as another key issue being used by the far-right to gain traction globally. They stress the MSC's responsibility to oppose any government actions or rhetoric that blame immigrants for societal problems, including the Australian government's approach to international students, which they view as a concession to far-right anti-immigrant sentiment. They conclude by reinforcing the importance of solidarity, referencing the phrase "touch one, touch all," and encouraging the MSC to take a firm stance against any measures that negatively impact marginalized groups. The participant expresses excitement about the motion and its significance, adding a celebratory note at the end.

Max Tory (Observer) addresses the broader question of how to effectively fight for trans rights, women's rights, and against the far-right, especially in light of current global issues. They reference the racist riots in the UK, the drag story time protests in Australia, and the

rise of far-right figures like Posey Parker. They also mention the Voice to Parliament referendum in Australia and the racism associated with Peter Dutton and the Liberal Party. The participant critiques the Labor Party's response to these issues, arguing that they often back down, fail to address the questions, or adopt some of the far-right's talking points. They highlight Anthony Albanese's response to Piers Morgan's question about what defines a woman, where he stated "an adult female," which they view as a dog whistle to transphobia, particularly associated with far-right figures like Posey Parker. The participant also criticizes the Labor Party for not condemning the racism involved in the Voice referendum and for failing to respond to Peter Dutton's recent comments about Palestinians. They note that when asked if Dutton's comments were racist, Albanese refused to confirm or condemn them. On the issue of drag story time protests, the participant references a debate where left-wing and socialist groups sought to mobilize the public to oppose far-right protests, contrasting this with the response from establishment politicians like Keir Starmer in the UK and Anthony Albanese in Australia, who argued that opposition to the far-right should be left to the police and government. This, the participant argues, allows the far-right to grow and thrive, as politicians normalize their rhetoric. They conclude by emphasizing the need for oppositional activism and protest to combat the far-right, stating that the Labor Party cannot be relied upon as they adopt many of the far-right's policies and rhetoric themselves.

Paul Halliday adds to Max's points, emphasizing that the issues he raised are not distant or abstract. They mention that, last year, a drag story time event in the City of Monash was canceled due to concerns over backlash. They criticize the council for giving in to this pressure, ultimately deciding to cancel the event.

Madeline Curkovic expands on the growing trend of far-right attacks on vulnerable groups and issues. They note that far-right groups often target events they view as politically objectionable but also easy targets, such as drag story times, which were targeted last year. The participant draws parallels to the lack of resistance when the Roe v. Wade decision was overturned in the US, stressing the importance of fighting for rights and opposing far-right agendas whenever they arise. The participant also highlights a refugee encampment in Port Melbourne, inspired by the Gaza Solidarity encampment, where refugees are standing up against Australia's immigration policies, including the lack of permanent visas and precarious living conditions. The encampment has been targeted multiple times by neo-Nazis, the same group that supported Posey Parker last year. The participant critiques the Labor Party's handling of anti-migrant sentiments and its ongoing policies, including the capping of international student visas. They argue that the fight against the far-right should not be left to political forces that are not genuinely committed to it, citing Albanese's controversial statement about what defines a woman as an example of how far-right politics are being normalized in mainstream discourse. They assert that the Labor Party has adopted far-right positions on various issues, including migrants, refugees, and trans rights. The

participant calls for more effective action against the far-right, urging active participation in organizing protests and fighting back politically, rather than simply campaigning for the Labor Party. They stress that this is necessary to combat the rising far-right politics and the harm it causes to marginalized communities.

Statement Regarding the Unrest in Bangladesh

Preamble:

The 2024 quota reform protests in Bangladesh, which began in June, have become one of the most significant and violent movements in the country's recent history. Initially, the protests were nonviolent movements, with students taking to the streets after the Supreme Court reinstated a controversial 56% job quota with the majority allocated to descendants of freedom fighters from Bangladesh's liberation war in 1971. This policy meant that only 44% of available government jobs would be merit-based, reversing a previous government decision to abolish the quota following protests in 2018.

The situation quickly escalated due to the government's harsh crackdown, including the use of lethal force by police and military forces. Hundreds of people were killed, and thousands were injured, with reports of arbitrary arrests and human rights violations further intensifying public outrage. A five-day internet blackout intended to prevent international media coverage created additional confusion, as those abroad were unable to contact their loved ones in Bangladesh. The government's implementation of a nationwide curfew exacerbated public anger.

Despite a subsequent Supreme Court ruling that reduced the quota to 5%, the protesters remained dissatisfied, demanding justice for those killed and further reforms to ensure fairness and meritocracy in government job allocations. The movement gained momentum as the working class joined the students, unified in their demand for the Prime Minister's resignation.

Following the intense 2024 quota reform protests, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina announced her resignation amid mounting pressure and widespread civil unrest. This resignation was seen as a significant turning point, leading to the formation of an interim government tasked with restoring order, addressing the grievances that fueled the protests, and ensuring a free and fair electoral process.

While the interim government, led by Nobel laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus, offers hope for stability, the chaos has led to a surge in violence against minority communities. Reports of targeted attacks against ethnic and religious minorities have surfaced. These attacks were allegedly carried out by extremist factions exploiting the unstable situation.

All Bangladeshi students at Monash are without a doubt distraught following the events over the last few weeks. Monash University needs to do more to support these students. While I appreciate [this statement](#) being sent out, perhaps Monash University should provide the

services other institutions in Melbourne are providing - including more lenient special consideration and financial grants to those directly affected.

Motion #10:

1. The MSC recognizes the acts of violence committed against the students and general population of Bangladesh, especially the targeted attacks against minorities that are yet to cease.
2. The MSA will release this motion as a statement, recognizing the unrest and outlining support options available to students.
3. The MSC implores Monash University to provide lenient special consideration, counselling support, and financial grants to affected students.

Moved: Nafis Ibrahim

Seconded: Chloe Ward Charlotte Sutton

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion during MSC:

Nafiz Ibrahim provides an update on the current situation in the country, highlighting that the interim government has led to some progress, although the country is still facing challenges, including a significant flood. The participant connects this context to the motion they are raising, which proposes giving extensions and grants to students affected by these disasters. They mention that University of Melbourne is already providing similar support to Bangladeshi students who have been impacted either directly or indirectly. The participant requests that Mahathir, the president of the Bangladeshi Student Association, be invited to speak further on this matter.

Madeline Curkovic expresses strong support for the motion, highlighting the ongoing situation in Bangladesh. They discuss the violent actions taken by the government against students who are protesting for economic justice and an end to the autocratic regime that has been in power for over 15 years. The participant condemns the government's attack on student movements and democracy, noting that removing access to stable jobs based on merit is an economic attack on students. The participant proposes an amendment to add a new point (Point 4) stating that the MSC supports the student movement in Bangladesh against the autocracy and for economic justice. They emphasize the bravery of the students who have taken to the streets to demand change, despite facing severe consequences such as imprisonment for speaking out against the regime. The participant commends the students for their courage in fighting for their rights and urges the MSC to recognize their actions. Madeline also proposes an additional amendment to change the wording in Point 1

from "recognizes" to "condemns." They argue that while the violence is recognized, it is crucial for the MSC to formally condemn it, particularly as it is state violence targeted at students who are peacefully protesting for democracy. The participant emphasizes the importance of condemning such actions in response to the current situation.

Motion to Amend:

Add a new point (Point 4) stating that the MSC supports the student movement in Bangladesh against the autocracy and for economic justice.

Change the wording in Point 1 the MSC condemns the acts of violence committed against the, against the students and general population of Bangladesh by the previous Hasina government, especially the targeted attacks against minorities.

Moved: Madeline Curkovic **Seconded:** Beck Riches

The Mover and Seconder consented to this amendment and so this motion did need not proceed to a vote

The Mover and Seconder didn't consented to this amendment and so this motion did proceed to a vote.

Madeline Curkovic elaborates on their proposed amendment to change the wording in Point 1 from "recognizes" to "condemns," explaining that the state violence against protesters is deeply objectionable. They argue that the fact that the violence occurred a few weeks ago does not diminish the need to condemn it, drawing a parallel to the continued condemnation of historical injustices such as Nazi actions. The participant emphasizes the bravery of the students involved in the protests, noting that their actions represent a political revolution against an autocratic state. They acknowledge the change in the political landscape with the establishment of an interim government but assert that the violent repression of students will remain a significant event in history. They stress the importance of the MSC taking a strong stand on this issue, even if it is a few weeks after the violence occurred, stating that it would be meaningful for the MSC to condemn the actions of the state against students who were demanding their rights to stable jobs and democratic representation. The participant also critiques the economic disparities in Bangladesh, highlighting the rich being beneficiaries of economic improvements while ordinary people, especially students, suffer under autocratic rule. They commend the students for their resistance and celebrate their actions, such as storming the house of Prime Minister Hasina, as a powerful symbol of protest. They conclude by reiterating the need for the MSC to oppose the violence against these students rather than merely recognizing it.

Beck Riches strongly agrees with the proposed amendment to change the wording from "recognizes" to "condemns," arguing that the justification for using "recognizes" instead is

nonsensical. They emphasize that this is a very recent movement, involving serious state violence against peaceful protesters, many of whom have been killed, with the death toll reportedly in the hundreds. The participant criticizes the notion of simply "recognizing" the violence, suggesting that it seems like a passive acknowledgment rather than a clear moral stance. They argue that saying "recognize" reads as begrudging and wishy-washy, lacking moral clarity. In contrast, they believe "condemn" better conveys the MSC's strong opposition to both the regime and the violence perpetrated against the protesters. The participant reiterates that if the MSC is truly supportive of the movement and opposed to the state violence, the language used should reflect that moral clarity and take a firm stand against the actions of the regime.

Max Tory (Observer) participant provides context for the amendment, emphasizing that while the immediate chaos and state violence of the revolution may have subsided, the demands of the movement are far from being met. They argue that the situation remains relevant and ongoing, with the movement continuing to fight for economic and social justice in Bangladesh. Max critiques how the movement has often been framed in the media as solely opposition to Hasina, the Awami League, or specific quotas, while, in reality, it has evolved into a broader political revolution against neoliberalism, imperialism, and the exploitation of Bangladesh as a "sweatshop" for global capitalism. They highlight the harsh working conditions and poverty wages faced by millions in the country, driven by large corporations and government entities profiting from the exploitation of labor. The participant further critiques the new interim government, which has brought temporary peace but has not addressed the fundamental demands for justice. They draw comparisons to past uprisings, such as the Arab Spring and Sri Lanka's recent revolution, noting that while students and demonstrators have shown remarkable courage in toppling tyrannical regimes, the interim governments or military forces that follow often fail to challenge the capitalist inequalities that sparked the revolution. The participant concludes by stressing that the revolution in Bangladesh is ongoing and that condemning the violence, even if it occurred some time ago, remains relevant. They reiterate the importance of standing in solidarity with the movement and its continued fight for justice.

Mahathir Lutfullah (Observer) suggests that the amendment to condemn state violence could be appropriate if it specifies condemning the previous government rather than the current interim government. They explain that the initial hesitation to use "condemn" was to avoid confusion, as some might mistakenly think the interim government is responsible for the violence. The participant also discusses the support provided by other institutions in Melbourne, specifically Melbourne University, which has been offering special consideration extensions to Bangladeshi students by simply attaching their Bangladeshi passport. They express disappointment that Monash has not implemented similar measures, calling for Monash to adopt such practices. Additionally, they mention that a financial grant of up to

\$1,000 has been provided to students facing financial hardship due to the situation in Bangladesh. They note that Melbourne University has also extended the fee payment deadline, something Monash has not yet done. The participant urges the MSA to advocate for similar changes to support Bangladeshi students at Monash.

Connor Knight (Observer) agrees that specifying the condemnation of Hasina and the Awami League in the motion is a reasonable and appropriate adjustment. They further discuss the heroic struggle of the students in Bangladesh, emphasizing their bravery in standing up to an autocratic regime that has been in power for decades. They highlight the significant achievements of the students, including how large sections of Bangladesh are now effectively being run by the people, with functions like traffic control and other state activities falling into their hands. The participant views this as a beautiful and inspiring moment in recent history. The participant stresses that the success of the Bangladesh students did not come from working within the system or joining the ruling party, but by being oppositional and fighting for their demands. They note that some members of the Awami League have been among the worst actors in the violence against protesters. The participant concludes by emphasizing that the actions of the students in Bangladesh offer a powerful lesson in resistance and a model for others to follow.

Max Tory (Observer) expresses support for the motion and praises the heroic nature of the movement against the autocratic government. However, they question the inclusion of language in the motion that would imply MSA acceptance of the new interim government. They acknowledge that the new leader, Mohammad Yunus, has been welcomed by the people of Bangladesh and that his rise to power is seen as a democratic victory for them. Despite this, the participant raises concerns about Yunus, describing him as a neoliberal banker who invented microloans. They argue that while the people of Bangladesh have the right to accept and welcome the new government, the MSA should not endorse Yunus due to his neoliberal capitalist background and skepticism about his ability to meet the movement's demands for economic justice. The participant suggests that the wording in the motion should be adjusted to reflect this position, expressing a desire for the MSA to take a firmer stance on the matter.

Dilhan Simsek responds to Max's comments about Mohammad Yunus, providing context for those who may not be familiar with him. They highlight that Yunus is a Nobel Peace Prize winner, credited with introducing microcredit programs in impoverished areas of Bangladesh and other countries. These microcredits, particularly targeted at unemployed women who were often single and raising households, have lifted thousands of people out of poverty, especially women. The participant acknowledges that there may be ideological disagreements with Yunus, but stresses that his efforts have had a significant positive impact in Bangladesh, particularly in improving the lives of women. They express a willingness to support the new interim government, as it aligns with the community's desires, while

advocating for more respect toward Yunus for his contributions to poverty alleviation. The participant concludes by emphasizing the importance of recognizing Yunus's achievements and providing more respect to his name in the discussion.

Financial Statement Summary April 2024

Motion #11:

This MSC moves to accept the MSA Financial Statement Summary July 2024 as detailed in the Appendix.

Moved: Chloe Ward Dilhan Simsek **Seconded:** Paul Halliday

In Favour: 12

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion during MSC:

Procedural Motion:

That this MSC moves the motion to be put to a vote

Moved: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 12

Against: 0

MOTION CARRIED

O. General Business

Angus Duske (Observer) informs the group that they will be posting a link to the report for Edition Six of Lot's Wife in the chat. They explain that, due to this being the last edition of the year, SRSU has requested that the reports be slightly longer, with a word count of 500-600 words. The reports should summarize each department's achievements over the year, giving an overview for students who may not have been following closely. The participant highlights the low completion rate in the previous editions and encourages everyone to get started on the reports. They ask members to coordinate with their co-office bearers and work together to complete the reports. The participant mentions reaching out to Chloe, Paul, Dilhan, Joshua, and Zareh to help ensure the reports are finished. The form for the report is provided in the chat, and the participant thanks everyone in advance. They also apologize for the late hour and wish everyone a good evening.

Dilhan Simsek informs the MSC that he wishes to raise two motions in general business and therefore he will move a procedural motion. They note that the request has been flagged for the secretary's attention.

Procedural Motion:

That this MSC moves to hear General Business Motion 1 and General Business Motion 2 at this meeting

Moved: Dilhan Simsek

In Favour: 12

Against: 1

MOTION CARRIED

General Business #1:

This MSC approves Haider Shah to take up to, uh, to take unpaid leave effective from the 28th of August until the 1st of December

Moved: Dilhan Simsek

Seconded: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

General Business #2:

This MSC appoints Anban Raj as caretaker to the position of creative live arts office bearer for the period of Haider Shah's leave of absent pursuant to section 32 nine B of the MSA constitution.

Moved: Dilhan Simsek

Seconded: Charlotte Sutton

In Favour: 9

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

MOTION CARRIED

Paul Halliday informs the MSC that he wishes to raise one motion in general business and therefore he will move a procedural motion. Paul Halldiay discusses the proposed

amendments that were voted on earlier in the SGM, noting that if someone refuses to leave the meeting, the meeting would be compelled to suspend. The participant emphasizes that this amendment is intended to prevent intentional obstruction by individuals who may attempt to disrupt the meeting by refusing to leave when asked.

Procedural Motion:

That this MSC moves to hear General Business Motion 3 at this meeting

Moved: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 10

Against: 0

MOTION CARRIED

General Business #3:

This MSC notes that if someone refuses to leave the SGM meeting, the SGM meeting would be compelled to suspend.

Moved: Paul Halliday

Seconded: Charlotte Sutton

In Favour: 9

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Procedural Motion:

That this MSC moves the motion to be put to a vote

Moved: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 9

Against: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting Closed at 07:58 PM

P. Appendices

MSA Student General Meeting

Preamble:

The horrors being committed by Israel in Gaza are only getting worse, with more than 40,000 confirmed dead¹ and projected death count estimates as high as 186,000². MSC has heard reports that Monash University has ~~outrageously~~ maintained its ties with arms companies like Lockheed Martin³, Textron⁴, and others, ~~which are complicit in, or profiting from, the crimes being committed in Gaza that are involved in the development and manufacturing of weapons used by the IDF against the Palestinian people.~~

Students have reported being horrified by the situation in Gaza and that they are distressed and affected by Monash University's connections to these companies.

Students should not let their universities maintain such connections unchallenged. Universities should serve the goal of human need, rather than contributing to humanitarian disaster. Over the last few months, Student General Meetings at UQ, USyd, RMIT, Adelaide Uni, QUT, Unimelb have seen thousands of students take a powerful stance against the complicity of their universities.

MSA's purposes include to:

- make representations on behalf of students to the community at large;
- otherwise protect, promote and develop the interests and welfare of students;
- make representations on matters affecting students to any member or body of the University, and in particular to the Council, the Academic Board, the Vice-Chancellor and the General Manager; and
- to be an accountable, representative and democratic body for students.

900+ students have signed ~~the a~~ petition to call a student general meeting. That petition was delivered to the MSA executive office on Monday. This overwhelming response reflects the depth of student feeling about this issue and the Student Council is concerned that students' voices are not being heard. ~~The MSC has an obligation to respond to these 900 students by calling a Student General Meeting and allowing them to put their motion in support of the people of Gaza.~~

Part 4 of the MSA Constitution provides for student general meetings and referenda.

Pursuant to rule 10 of the MSA Constitution, the MSC may convene a student general meeting by resolution, and it must convene a student general meeting if petitioned by at least 1% of students.

1: <https://apnews.com/article/israel-hamas-gaza-war-palestinians-statistics-40000-7ebec13101f6d08fe10cedbf5e172dde>

2: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(24\)01169-3/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(24)01169-3/fulltext)

3: www.monash.edu/industry/monash-technology-precinct/explore-the-precinct/real-world-impact

4: www.monash.edu/industry/monash-technology-precinct?_cf_chl_rt_tk=fG7YGz4ay9AD6eqP2uwOpJABkhmRBg6f3qXGpfE2aoc-1723784290-0.0.1.1-4286
https://www.monash.edu/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/3067465/MonashPrecinctMap22052024.pdf

Platform:

- ~~1) Students for Palestine has collected more than 900 signatures of students at Monash Clayton, and they delivered them to the MSA executive office on Monday.~~
- ~~2) The MSA constitution 10.(2) states: "The MSC must convene a student general meeting if petitioned by at least 1% of students."~~
- ~~3) The MSA constitution 10.(3) states "The MSC must by resolution set the date, place and agenda of each student general meeting."~~
- ~~4) The MSA constitution 11.(1) "Student general meetings may only be held between 1:05 p.m. and 1:55 p.m. on an academic day at the Clayton Campus."~~
- ~~5) The MSA constitution 15.(1) states "The President is entitled to chair student general meetings." 15.(2) states: "If the President is not present, or does not wish to chair the meeting (or part of the meeting), the Deputy Chair is entitled to chair." 15.(3) states "If neither the President nor the Deputy Chair is present, or if neither wishes to chair the meeting, the MSC must appoint a chair."~~
- ~~6) This resolution fulfills these constitutional obligation in its action points below~~

Action:

MSC resolves:

1. To convene a Student General Meeting.
2. That the date of the Student General Meeting will be Tuesday 3 September 2024.
3. That the place of the Student General Meeting will be the
~~1) In accordance with its constitutional obligations, this MSC calls a Student General Meeting for Tuesday the 3rd of September.~~
2) The Student General Meeting location will be the [Robert Balckwood hall if available, if not Campus Centre Dining Hall](#)~~Lemon Seented Lawns.~~
4. That (unless the MSC resolves otherwise before 12:05pm on 3 September 2024), the agenda of the Student General Meeting will be to consider, and vote on, the following resolutions:
 1. MSA, on behalf of the students at Monash University Clayton Campus, supports an immediate and just end to Israel's war on Gaza. This means stopping the bombing, a permanent withdrawal of Israeli troops, an end to the 18- year long blockade, and reparations to be paid for the reconstruction of Gaza.
 2. MSA endorses the demands of the Gaza Solidarity Encampment protests

~~calling calls up~~ on Monash University to reveal and cut all ties with companies and institutions involved in the development and manufacturing of weapons used by the IDF against the Palestinian people.

2.3. MSA will make representations on behalf of students by bringing resolutions [1] and [2] to the attention of the Vice-Chancellor and the General Manager of Monash University.

4.5. Registration for the Student General Meeting will open at 12pm on the day, to allow for those attending to be processed and verified as students before the meeting begins sharply at 1:05pm.

6. ~~As stated in the constitution, t~~The chair of this Student General Meeting ~~MSC~~ will be the President Chloe Ward. If she does not wish to chair, then deputy chair Joshua Walters will. If he does not wish to chair either, then this MSC appoints Dilhan Simsek ~~Madeline Curkovic~~ to chair the meeting.

2.

7. The SGM shall use the MSC standing orders as a guide at the chair's discretion with the following stipulations.

a. The SGM shall have 2 minute speaking times, attendees may speak twice however preference must be given to first time speakers

b. The Chair may at their discretion eject an attendee from the meeting for speaking or behaving in an intimidating manner, or behaving in anyway disruptive to the meeting, after providing them with a warning

c. If an attendee refuses to leave after being ejected by the chair the meetings shall be suspended until they have left

8. The media may attend the meeting

~~3) Registration for the Student General Meeting will open at 12pm on the day, to allow for those attending to be processed and verified as students before the meeting begins. The meeting proper will then begin sharply at 1:05pm~~

~~4) As stated in the constitution, the chair of the MSC will be the President Chloe Ward. If she does not wish to chair, then deputy chair Joshua Walters will. If he does not wish to chair either, then this MSC appoints Madeline Curkovic to chair the meeting.~~

~~5) The Agenda for the student general meeting will be a discussion of the following motion, which was attached to the petition that over 900 students signed:~~

~~1. — MSA supports an immediate and just end to Israel's war on Gaza. This means stopping the bombing, a permanent withdrawal of Israeli troops, an end to the 18-year long blockade, and reparations to be paid for the reconstruction of Gaza.~~

~~2.4. MSA endorses the demands of the Gaza Solidarity Encampment protests — calling on Monash University to reveal and cut all ties with companies and institutions involved in the development and manufacturing of weapons used by the IDF against the Palestinian people.~~

FY24 SUMMARY

	Actual	Budget	Variance	% Budget
Income	\$ 1,930,490	\$ 3,229,269	-\$ 1,298,779	59.78%
Expenditure	\$ 3,894,671	\$ 7,112,592	-\$ 3,217,921	54.76%
Net Expenditure	\$ 1,964,181	\$ 3,883,323	\$ -	50.58%
SSAF	\$ 3,974,198	\$ 3,974,198	\$ -	100.00%

BUDGET VS. ACTUAL

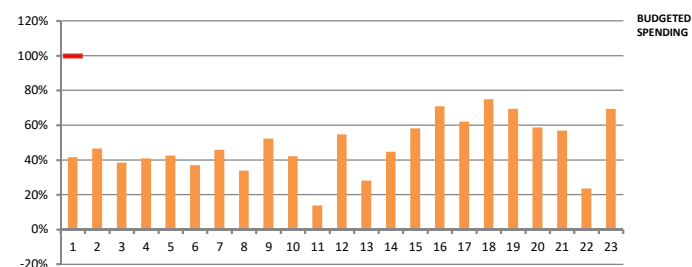


Figure 1. Percentage Variance By Department / Division

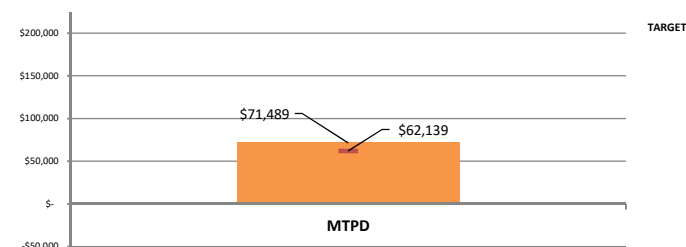


Figure 2. MSA Surplus Generating Department

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

JULY 2024 \$ -

DEPARTMENTS & DIVISIONS

1. Monash Student Council
2. Education Public
3. Education Academic
4. Women's
5. Welfare
6. Queer
7. Environment & Social Justice
8. Indigenous
9. Disabilities & Carers
10. People of Colour
11. Activities
12. Lot's Wife
13. Creative Live Arts
14. Residential Communities
15. The Bike Shop
16. Host Scheme & Volunteering
17. Student Advocacy & Support
18. MUST
19. Clubs & Societies
20. MAPS
21. MUISS
22. Radio Monash
23. SURLY

MSA+ SALES

	YTD	MONTH
2023	9,633	661
2024	9,969	751
2024 - G	568	67
2024 - S	9,401	684

Net Expenditure	\$ 1,964,181
Budget	\$ 3,883,323
% Budget	50.58%
% Expected	58.33%

INCOME

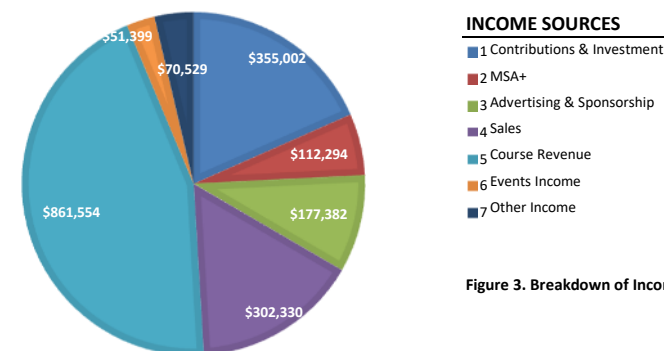


Figure 3. Breakdown of Income Sources

TOP 5 EVENTS*

*In 2024 data is incomplete as MSA Finance is not privy to non-ticketed attendance data.

VOL	Queen Victoria Night Market	458
VOL	On-Campus BBQ Lunch & Social Mixer	449
VOL	Melbourne Skydeck	254
VOL	Scavenger Hunt	246
VOL	Amazing Race	156

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS FOR THE MONTH

MSA is performing at 51% of its budgeted spending, compared to 58%, which is in line with the minimising losses strategy. MSA also has received the last 25% of its 2024 SSAF funding. The final SSAF for 2024 is forecasted more than the budgeted amount. This will assist with reducing the overall deficit for the organisation.

Semester 2 has started, Wholefoods and Sir John started trading and July represented its one week of trading results.

INCOME STATEMENT

1 January - 31 July 2024

	YEAR TO DATE			ANNUAL		
	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	Variance	2024 Budget	2023 Budget	
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	Variance (\$)	(%)
	(a)	(b)	(c) = (b) - (a)	(d)	(e) = (b) - (d)	(f) = (b) / (d)
INCOME						
Contribution	11,665	158,067	146,402	48,600	109,467	325%
Investment	158,346	196,935	38,589	225,000	-28,065	88%
MSA Rewards Sales	102,398	112,294	9,896	127,623	-15,329	88%
Advertising & Sponsorship	147,492	177,382	29,890	165,000	12,382	108%
Sales	256,222	302,330	46,108	790,714	-488,384	38%
Courses Revenue	756,790	861,554	104,764	1,629,788	-768,234	53%
Fines & Charges	29,276	21,926	-7,350	24,850	-2,924	88%
Office Supplies	1,403	1,137	-266	1,050	87	108%
Activities	1,437	0	-1,437	44,500	-44,500	0%
Functions & Productions	80,077	51,399	-28,678	109,500	-58,101	47%
Other Income	36,453	47,466	11,013	62,644	-15,178	76%
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,581,559	1,930,490	348,931	3,229,269	-1,298,779	60%
EXPENDITURE						
Salaries & On Costs	2,471,776	2,543,497	71,721	4,772,746	-2,229,249	53%
Building & Maintenance	18,234	16,476	-1,758	32,801	-16,325	50%
Equipment	144,200	200,923	56,723	24,000	176,923	837%
Software Development & Licence	218,154	167,977	-50,177	220,275	-52,298	76%
Fees & Administrative Charges	59,925	67,319	7,394	251,647	-184,328	27%
Legal & Consultancy	61,808	43,421	-18,387	65,000	-21,579	67%
Office Expenses	42,280	36,004	-6,276	88,500	-52,496	41%
Subscriptions	8,870	11,759	2,889	18,100	-6,341	65%
Training & Conference	18,723	15,185	-3,538	64,268	-49,083	24%
Grants & Donations	77,738	99,756	22,018	178,500	-78,744	56%
Projects & Campaigns	132,003	148,775	16,772	311,426	-162,651	48%
Activities	128,422	133,765	5,343	253,834	-120,069	53%
Functions & Productions	136,786	122,312	-14,474	246,800	-124,488	50%
Cost of Goods Sold	189,734	160,869	-28,865	354,674	-193,805	45%
Other Expenses	156,591	126,633	-29,958	230,021	-103,388	55%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	3,865,244	3,894,671	29,427	7,112,592	-3,217,921	55%
NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	2,283,685	1,964,181	-319,504	3,883,323	-1,919,142	51%
OPERATING MARGIN		50.43%			54.60%	

FINANCIAL STATEMENT BY DEPT

1 January - 31 July 2024

CODE DEPARTMENT/DIVISION	YEAR TO DATE			ANNUAL		
	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2022/2023	2024 Budget	2023 Budget	
	(\$)	(\$)	Variance (\$)	(\$)	Variance (\$)	(%)
	(a)	(b)	(c) = (b) - (a)	(d)	(e) = (b) - (d)	(f) = (b) / (d)
100 Monash Student Council	810,071	863,056	52,985	2,079,267	-1,216,211	42%
110 Education Public	17,037	16,333	-704	35,019	-18,686	47%
120 Education Academic	15,843	15,955	112	41,549	-25,594	38%
130 Women's	12,965	18,245	5,280	44,722	-26,477	41%
140 Welfare	19,756	22,875	3,119	53,722	-30,847	43%
150 Queer	17,202	15,329	-1,873	41,452	-26,123	37%
160 Environment & Social Justice	18,872	14,992	-3,880	32,662	-17,670	46%
170 Indigenous	14,114	12,360	-1,754	36,572	-24,212	34%
180 Disability	13,205	18,097	4,892	34,642	-16,545	52%
190 People of Colour	12,418	16,399	3,981	38,872	-22,473	42%
200 Activities	15,723	11,800	-3,923	86,107	-74,307	14%
210 Lot's Wife	36,844	39,810	2,966	72,721	-32,911	55%
220 Creative Live Arts	14,544	16,432	1,888	58,257	-41,825	28%
230 Residential Committee	19,524	19,026	-498	42,572	-23,546	45%
250 The Bike Shop	9,628	11,716	2,088	20,141	-8,425	58%
300 Wholefoods	37,577	51,421	13,844	6,753	44,668	761%
350 Sir John's Bar*	58,802	-73,920	-132,722	48,178	-122,098	-153%
400 MTPD*	-69,721	-358,967	-289,246	-143,353	-215,614	250%
500 Host Scheme & Volunteering	168,889	186,122	17,233	262,516	-76,394	71%
520 Student Advocacy & Support	272,667	227,165	-45,502	366,200	-139,035	62%
550 Student Theatre	173,999	187,830	13,831	250,641	-62,811	75%
600 Clubs & Societies	325,295	336,633	11,338	484,940	-148,307	69%
650 MAPS	13,709	15,030	1,321	25,627	-10,597	59%
700 MUISS	57,854	57,195	-659	100,712	-43,517	57%
750 Radio Monash	11,042	3,849	-7,193	16,380	-12,531	23%
800 SURLY	92,297	123,663	31,366	178,252	-54,589	69%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,190,156	1,868,446	-321,710	4,315,123	-2,446,677	43%

*Denotes MSA Surplus Generating Departments

Zareh Kozanian

Secretary

Report to MSC 9/24

GOALS

- Ensure that all meetings, decisions, attendance, and official documents within the MSA are accurately recorded.
- Ensure students are well-informed about the MSA's decisions and activities by facilitating effective communication within the MSA by sharing important information, announcements, and meeting agendas.
- Assist the president and the MSA Office Bearers and divisions by providing administrative support, coordinating logistics for initiatives, and handling correspondence.
- Ensure that students are provided with quality services and support the MSA's continued advocacy for students.
- Addressing any concerns about accessibility and transparency by fostering an inclusive and accessible environment within the MSA.
- Ensure the MSA's compliance to its constitution and relevant regulations

PROJECTS

Late Penalties Reduction:

After a year-long effort, Monash University has agreed to reduce late penalties from 10% to 5% starting in Semester 2, 2024, and continuing into the future. This marks a significant advancement for student rights at Monash, ensuring that students are not excessively penalised for submitting assignments late. We extend our gratitude to the members of the Undergraduate Academic Board who played a crucial role in making this change official university policy.

Additionally, the new Late Penalties policy includes a provision allowing Chief Examiners to waive penalties if an assignment is submitted within one hour of the deadline due to technical difficulties. However, students with a history of academic misconduct may not be eligible for this consideration. It's encouraging to see the University beginning to listen to students, though there is still much work to be done. The Monash Student Association (MSA) remains committed to advocating for further improvements on behalf of students.

Special thanks to the Undergraduate Academic Board Members for 2024 for their continued effort and success. This win eventuated to their dedication and commitment.

If you need assistance or advice regarding special consideration applications or any other academic matters, don't hesitate to reach out to Student Advocacy and Support (SAS) for help.

Transparency in Advocacy:

The MSA is deeply committed to ensuring transparency in our advocacy efforts, and we are dedicated to keeping Monash students fully informed and involved in the initiatives that affect their university experience. We recognize the importance of offering a clear and comprehensive view of our advocacy work. To this end, we will regularly share summaries of our initiatives, achievements, and challenges. Our goal is to cultivate a culture of transparency, collaboration, and active engagement, empowering students to take an active role in shaping and supporting our advocacy agenda.

Withdrawn Incomplete Changes:

Many students encounter compassionate challenges during their time at university, and Monash's policies should reflect this reality. To better address these issues, the current process for awarding Withdrawn Incomplete (WI) grades is being overhauled. The new approach extends the special circumstances process used for debt remission and fee refunds to include compassionate considerations. As a result, the standard Withdrawn (WDN) grade will now be automatically granted for approved special circumstances applications related to debt remission and fee refunds, provided the application is submitted within 10 working days of the unit's results release date.

Moreover, students who are unable to complete a rescheduled deferred assessment within the 90-day limit will also be eligible to receive a Withdrawn (WDN) grade. Importantly, the WDN grade will not affect a student's Weighted Average Mark (WAM) or GPA, and it will be excluded from the academic progress risk level calculation. These changes are already in effect for Semester 2, 2024.

Chloe Ward

President

Report to MSC 9/24

GOALS

- To continue promoting diversity on campus, in all forms
- To continue in providing free food programs to service all Clayton students and tackle food insecurity
- Continue to monitor the MSA Pantry (Foodbank) within Wholefoods to further address food insecurity and provide pantry staples to students in need
- Continue promoting the Open Letter with NTEU about the recent exploitative Parking Fee Increases and continue to work with the NTEU to find out more information regarding University profit from parking
- To continue advocating on behalf of students on issues such as the reduced Library opening hours at Matheson and Hargrave libraries, Special Consideration improvements, Unpaid Placements and Universal Submission Times
- To continue to provide and deliver safe, accessible and inclusive events for students in order to better their overall university experience

PROJECTS

MSA Pantry Launch (MSA Foodbank)

The MSA Executive, in conjunction with our Volunteering leaders, have officially launched the MSA Pantry in Week 1 of Semester 2. The initiative is currently being run out of Wholefoods Cafe and provides fresh food and groceries to hundreds of students. After many trials to investigate how the space worked with the project and explore whether further infrastructure needed, the MSA Pantry is finally up and running for students. Additionally, we have secured a new partnership with SecondBite, which allows us to increase the amount of fresh produce and food items that we can give away to students. We are providing bulk goods, such as rice, lentils and beans, so that students have access to vital pantry staples, as well as an array of fresh fruit and vegetables as well. We know and understand that food insecurity is a massive issue for students during this current cost-of-living crisis and whilst there is systemic change needed to fully solve this issue, we are committed at the MSA to ensure that students always have access to free or low-cost food. We are also continuing to have ongoing conversations with the University about food insecurity and how it continues to affect students at Monash. I have personally has

meetings with Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor Craig Jeffrey about Monash's initiatives to improve and solve food insecurity at Monash at an institutional level. Keep an eye on socials for when the MSA Pantry is running and don't forget to bring your own bag to collect your items!

Parking Fee Increases, Open Letter, and future plans

As many students are now aware, at the beginning of Semester 1, the MSA was informed that Monash University was choosing to increase the parking fees dramatically for 2024. We were angered and outraged at this decision, especially as it was made without any student or staff consultation. During a cost-of-living crisis, the University should be supporting both staff and students, not financially disadvantaging them further through a price increase of up to 106%. For many staff and students, public transport is not a viable option - lengthening travel time and possibly endangering students and staff if travelling on PTV late at night. The costs associated with attending university are already astronomical; textbooks, course fees, devices required for learning all contribute to the considerable cost of education. In light of this, I have had specific meetings with the Vice-Chancellor about this issue and how it negatively affects students. The response by the University was less than positive and again made the case of encouraging students and staff to utilise PTV on their journey to University. However, this is a clear example of greenwashing to hide the University's true intention: to increase profits. The MSA has an upcoming campaign to launch about the exploitation of parking and will be giving away bumper stickers and other stickers for students to show their outrage at these continued changes. Despite the University's stubbornness on this issue, the MSA will continue to fight on this issue and ensure that students are not negatively affected by this ongoing issue. Continue sharing the Open Letter and have these conversations with your peers - cause without collective action, the University will continue to make profit out of students. The Open Letter has now reached over 2000 signatures, which clearly shows just how angry students and staff alike are about this exploitative move.

I would like to, once again, extend a special thanks to Adam Fernandes (NTEU Victorian Branch President) who has continued to meet and fight alongside me to ensure that students and staff's voices are heard and listened to. Both myself and Adam have made separate Freedom of Information requests to the University in the hopes that we can begin to expose the true numbers behind the profit Monash is making. While the University is attempting to delay answering these as much as possible, both Adam and I will continue to fight for information and transparency from the University, something both students and staff are owed. We will hopefully have more updates in the future but stay angry because no one should have to pay for parking at an educational institution that they pay to attend in the first place.

Library Opening Hours and 24/7 Study Spaces: Update

Libraries are a necessary and integral part of studying at University and procuring your education. When the brash decision was made by Monash at the beginning of the year to slash library hours, I fought back. I have now entered many meetings with many different levels of University management to fight for both Ground and Lower Ground levels of Matheson to be open 24 hours. This would allow students to have access to vital amenities, such as WI-FI, printing and computers, that the new study space in Campus Centre or Campbell Hall's study space do not have. Many students wrote to me about these changes, some citing that they do not have internet access at home, and thus rely on the University's internet to complete and submit assignments. It's stories like these that show just how important 24 hour spaces are to students, especially during a cost of living crisis.

The MSA has created an Open Letter about library hours that is available on our website to sign and will be submitted to the University.

Myself and the rest of the MSA Advocacy team will continue to keep fighting for the library hours to be extended again and increase accessibility to students for the amenities and buildings that their course fees pay for.

Late Penalties Reduction Win:

After fighting the University all year, Monash has finally decided to reduce late penalties from 10% to 5% for Semester 2 2024 and into the future. This is an exciting step forward for student's rights at Monash, and allows students to not be unfairly punished for submitting assignments late. I would like to extend a thanks to the Undergraduate Academic Board members that were also important to getting this change through and implemented officially into University policy.

An additional change as well to the Late Penalties policy also included Chief Examiners having the opportunity to decide to waive late penalties when a submission is received within one hour of the submission time due to technical difficulties. However, if you have prior academic misconduct, you may not be eligible for this leniency.

It is exciting to see that the University is finally beginning to listen to students, but there is still much more to do and the MSA will continue fighting for improvements for students. Finally, if you ever need assistance or advice while applying for special consideration or anything else to do with your studies, please do not hesitate to reach out to Student Advocacy and Support (SAS) for help.

Withdrawn Incomplete Changes Win:

Many students face compassionate issues within their time at University and Monash's policy should reflect that. The existing process and criteria for awarding Withdrawn

Incomplete (WI) grades is being replaced with a new process. This new process extends the special circumstances process used for remission of debt and fee refunds to also include a compassionate response. This means that the standard existing Withdrawn grade (WDN) will become an automatic outcome of approved special circumstances applications for remission of debt and fee refunds, provided that the application was received within 10 working days of the results release day for the unit.

Additionally, students who are unable to complete a rescheduled deferred assessment within the 90 day time limit will be able to receive a Withdrawn grade (WDN). This means that the WDN grade will not impact a student's WAM or GPA and will be removed from their academic progress risk level calculation. These changes are already in effect for Semester 2 2024.

Bathrooms for All Campaign

The MSA is aware there have been reports of students questioning others' rights to use gendered bathrooms from other students on campus. This behaviour is unacceptable and the MSA affirms that everyone has the right to use safe and accessible bathrooms, in line with their gender identity.

Signage has been put up in the bathrooms in Campus Centre to ensure that people are reminded that there is etiquette when using the bathroom.

***Key Activities**

Outline key activities completed thus far since last report:

- Edition four released (23/7/24)
- Coverage of M.S.C.s
- Submissions closed for edition 5

Can outline work being done for upcoming events/projects

- Edition five in final stages of editing
- 60th Anniversary celebration (contacting former editors, preparing decorations etc.)
- Edition six submissions to open soon
- Election guide to be released week prior to election (9/9/24) including policy speeches, photos, and descriptions of positions per R.O.'s instructions

Department Goals

Goal	Progress (complete/ongoing/incomplete)	Comments
Slay 60 year event and edition	Ongoing	Inviting former editors and contributors Writing articles on the history of <i>Lot's Wife</i> for the edition Timeline of student publications at Monash from 1961 to 2024 complete Plans to bind remaining unbound editions for S.U.R.L.Y.
Keep submissions strong for semester 2	Ongoing	17 submissions for edition 4 14 submissions for edition 5 Submissions to open for edition 6 soon
Actually improving	Ongoing	Plans afoot to update

website		existing aspects of the website to be cleaner and more user-friendly Gradually adding photos to each article so it doesn't look so empty!!
Leaving <i>Lot's Wife</i> better than we found it	Ongoing	Significant increase in social media presence Better on-campus news and current events reporting, highlights the importance of student media

EDUCATION (ACADEMIC AFFAIRS) REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT:

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

This year our overarching goal is to achieve an equitable and accessible experience at university. We will advocate for necessary reforms to the university policy and to establish new support structures. We are determined to run an activist department where students are put first.

Last year showed that a student focused MSA and Education Academic Affairs Office can achieve real wins. This included the 5% late penalty reduction, improvements to the withdrawn incomplete process and a trial of a 24 hour Matheson Library.

This year we will continue a fight to make the academic experience at Monash better and support students. Our main initiatives include, a permanent 24/7 Matheson Library, Increased class time flexibility including options for classes both during the day and at night, a cap on assessment weighting at 50% and a simplification of the special considerations process.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

Our department's main activities thus far have been the coordination of student panel members for APC hearings. This has included training up several volunteers to ensure they are informed while participating in these hearings and can advocate for the best outcomes for students. With these committees having the power to exclude students from the university this is a very important responsibility.

We have also begun the process of forming the 2025 Academic Affairs committee. We have begun contacting clubs to ensure that this is a group of students engaged with their faculty and cohort and best positioned to advocate their interests.

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Recruit Volunteers for APC Hearings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contacting previous volunteers - Reaching out to other MSA members - Running training session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hearings started on the 22/01/2025 - Sem 1 round 1 now complete, now

Goal	Methodology	Comments
		preparing for sem 1 round 2 (week 3-5)
Formation of 2025 Academic Affairs Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consult with key stakeholders - Consult with clubs - Present to MSC for ratification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Must be formed by week 4
Plan 2025 campaign calendar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consult with other MSA/Student Organisations on key issues - Develop campaign strategies and material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial steps taken and plans drafted - Was on hold through peak APC season - several meetings scheduled with stakeholders through week 1 and 2

EDUCATION (PUBLIC) REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT:

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

Values:

The Education (Public Affairs) department of the MSA goes into 2025 with the following values and aims:

- To educate students about any changes to education policy from the government and university administration that could affect them.
- To engage students in discussions about the general direction of the state of higher education in Australia.
- To engage students in activism surrounding the quality of their education, and political changes with regard to higher education that are detrimental to students and staff.
- To establish Education (Public Affairs) as a left-wing, activist department that stands up for education, but also social justice questions important to students at Monash.
- To fight for the right to free and quality education.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

So far the department has planned and executed one event, and has other events in the works.

- Meet the Activists workshop: An event co-hosted with ESJ and Education (Public Affairs). This event, held on Friday of O-week, intended to introduce interested students to the left-wing activists elected to activist departments of the MSA in 2025. We discussed plans for activism around environment and social justice issues as well as attacks on education in the coming year, and it was an event for interested left-wing students to get to know each other. Over 20 students attended, so the meeting was a great success.
- In the works - a possible campaign surrounding education cuts at Monash University, pending details from the National Tertiary Education Union, and forums surrounding the state of higher education.

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
To educate students about any changes to education policy from the government and university administration that could affect them	Make use of MSA communications and social media to relay any changes in higher education policy, write articles for the student newspaper, and host forums regarding the matter.	Many crucial updates about higher education often go unnoticed, until they are actively put in place. It's the responsibility of EdPub to be on top of any such developments, and act when they come to light. This involves educating students in what changes are happening, and how exactly they might be affected by them. Connected to that is which ways students can push back against changes made by management and the government.
To engage students in discussions about the general direction of the state of higher education in Australia	Host discussions about the direction that higher education is going in at the moment under the current Monash administration and federal Labor government.	This is to open a dialogue of what the future of higher education should look like. There is a vision of education from management that looks like cutting staff, keeping them casualised, and running the university like a business, which is detrimental to students and staff. On the other hand, the government often wishes to prioritise skilling up sections of the workforce required for sectors like the defence industry, which equally does not contribute to social good. EdPub should push in a direction of making education for socially progressive purposes.
To engage students in activism surrounding the quality of their education, and political changes with regard to higher education that are detrimental to students and staff	Organise rallies, petitions, open letters, speakouts, forums, and other methods of activism that are aimed at defending students' rights and quality of education.	Connected to this is the state of working conditions of staff at Monash. Activism needs to be urgently brought back into the fold of what the MSA does surrounding education, especially when there are attacks on it.
To establish Education (Public Affairs) as a left-wing, activist department that stands up for	Take up issues that are pertinent and relevant to students as they come up throughout the year,	EdPub should stand up for issues that students care about, more broadly than our conditions at university.

Goal	Methodology	Comments
education, but also social justice questions important to students at Monash.	and take public stands on them.	
To fight for the right to free and quality education.	Make suggestions of what higher education could look like today, in addition to which cuts shouldn't happen in the first place. This could look like demands of a campaign being geared at cutting fees, or reducing class sizes, for example.	Rather than accepting the current HECS framework, which continues to put students in ever more debt, and is harder to pay off with declining real wages, MSA EdPub stands for free education. Rather than paying for our own training as future contributors to the workforce, our education should be subsidised fully by employers who see the largest benefit out of a tertiary educated workforce. MSA EdPub should stand for this basic principle of student unionism, as stipulated in the MSA Constitution.

WELFARE REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT:

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

- Keeping key welfare programs running while finding ways to make them even more student-friendly.
- Improving access to mental health services that understand and respect cultural backgrounds.
- Advocating for fairer university policies that address the rising cost of living for students.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

- **Free Food Mondays:** Keeping the initiative going while looking at ways to reach more students and improve the experience.
- **Welfare on Wheels:** Expanding the service to ensure students who need support can easily access it.
- **MSA Pantry:** Adjusting stock and distribution based on student needs, making it easier for students to get essentials.
- **Mental Health Support:** Working with organizations that specialize in issues affecting minority students to ensure they get the right support.
- **Cost of Living Report:** Gathering data from students to push for policy changes that better support them financially.

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Make welfare programs more accessible and engaging	Conduct student feedback surveys, improve promotion, and make adjustments based on what students need	The aim is to ensure more students benefit from these programs

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Provide better access to culturally sensitive mental health services	Partner with relevant organizations, host workshops, and push for better university support	Ensuring all students feel comfortable seeking help
Develop a Cost of Living Report to push for policy change	Survey students, analyze findings, and present recommendations to the university	The goal is to secure real financial support for students

ESJ REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT:

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

Values:

The Environment & Social Justice department of the MSA goes into 2025 with the following values and aims:

- To push to engage as many students as possible in activism and protest for social justice and in defence of progressive causes.
- To prioritise activism and mobilisation of students as a means of achieving progress.
- To defend and extend the rights of oppressed groups.
- To push back against the rise of reactionary politics which targets women, immigrants, trans people and other oppressed groups as a means to divide students and workers and prevent them from fighting back.
- To fight for radical action to address the climate crisis and its systemic roots.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

So far the department has planned and executed one event, and has other events in the works.

- Meet the Activists workshop: An event co-hosted with ESJ and Education (Public Affairs). This event, held on Friday of O-week, intended to introduce interested students to the left-wing activists elected to activist departments of the MSA in 2025. We discussed plans for activism around environment and social justice issues as well as attacks on education in the coming year, and it was an event for interested left-wing students to get to know each other. Over 20 students attended, so the meeting was a great success.
- In the works - a public forum / debate / discussion on different political issues relevant to students and contemporary Australian politics. To be hosted some time mid-semester 1.

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
To push to engage as many students as possible in activism	Organise and promote left-wing activist events, as well	Student unions have a long history of left-wing protest and activism. We want to

Goal	Methodology	Comments
and protest for social justice and in defence of progressive causes.	as public forums which invite ordinary students to engage in political life and activism on campus. Use the MSA-ESJ socials to further this aim.	have an orientation towards mobilising as many ordinary students as possible in fighting for progressive causes - both because this is the most effective way to win our struggles, and also because this is what will be necessary to rebuild the culture of progressive politics and activism needed to win the struggles of the future.
To prioritise activism and mobilisation of students as a means of achieving progress.	Focus on events which involve wide layers of students in campaigns and issues, not on secret negotiations which limit the capacity for students to be involved, and often implicate student representatives in the Universities regressive policies.	Student Unions are the peak representative bodies of students. At a time when Universities around Australia are menacing students' rights with threats to free speech, cost-saving education cuts, and partnerships with odious fossil fuel and weapons companies, we must be prepared to recognise that it is students fighting back that will win change, rather than making concessions to giant corporatised entities such as Monash University.
To defend and extend the rights of oppressed groups.	Take positions on a range of political issues, publicising them through all possible avenues. Always take stands in defence of the oppressed and organise and promote activist events in defence of their rights whenever possible.	This is an essential responsibility of all student unionists, especially those engaged in the department of Environment & Social Justice
To push back against the rise of reactionary politics which targets women, immigrants, trans people and other oppressed groups as a means to divide students and workers and prevent them from fighting back.	Same as above.	Concretely, a number of oppressed groups are under attack today in Australia and internationally. Student unions must exercise their power to fight in solidarity with the oppressed.

Goal	Methodology	Comments
To fight for radical action to address the climate crisis and its systemic roots.	Use available avenues of communication to educate students about the deep and systemic roots of the climate crisis, and the radical change necessary to address it. Organise activism to mobilise students to fight for this action where possible.	The climate crisis is one of the most urgent issues facing humanity today. Contrary to often-promoted understandings, it is a product not of individual choices, but systemic failings of the capitalist system, which lead to the top 100 companies being responsible for over 70% of global emissions. All institutions in society with a mandate to represent students or young people have an urgent responsibility to fight for serious action on this issue.

QUEER REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT:

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

Our department's core values include community, solidarity, transparency, and safety. Our aims for the coming year reflect these values. We want to broaden our community, both by welcoming new queer and questioning students, and by making our events and spaces more welcoming to existing groups of queer Monash students who we could be serving better. We want to increase transparency of department processes, making it easier for community members to get involved and make needed changes, as well as making our communications reach more of the Monash queer community, who may be less aware of what we do. We want to achieve all these aims while maintaining our department as the safe space for queer students it has been, reinstating grievance processes for the queer lounge, and addressing under-served groups within our community through the use of focus groups. We also aim to continue and expand upon department initiatives that were begun by QuAC last year, such as the T4T program. We wish to reinforce MSA Queer as a department that is explicitly invested in assisting its community with the socio-political and material concerns that are the consequence of being an LGBTQIA+ person in a queerphobic society.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

- Primary efforts thus far currently towards organising + planning + coordinating midsumma pride march + picnic (2nd Feb)
- Discuss QuAC's ambitions and goals for the year
- Queer Lounge maintenance plan
- Brainstorm + consolidate regular/semi-regular events list
- Continuation of weekly flagship events (LGBTea, Queer Beers)
- Continuation of semesterly flagship events (clothes swap, pixel bar social night)
- Additions of semesterly or semi-regular events (expand clothes swaps to include book + zine swaps, add craft nights to event rotation, discuss viabilities of queer swim event)
- Bluesky larger projects for the year
 - Continue T4T project from QuAC 2024
 - Focus groups for under-served community groups on how we can improve MSAQ environment + culture (particularly QTIPOC and transfeminine folk)
 - MSAQ archive project w/ SURLY
 - Document and expand upon MSAQ media collection + info resources

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Bring more queer students into our spaces and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysing and designing lounge signage to make the space less intimidating to new students - Running more events including a range of activities, both inside and outside of the lounge. Providing events appealing to a diverse set of community wants and needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Redesign of lounge signage is already in progress
Foster in-community trust in MSAQ leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Care for and maintain MSAQ spaces (such as the Queer Lounge, and QO office) - Run events consistently with a high degree of competence - Communicate with community members honestly and transparently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent focuses on giving detailed cleans to the Queer Lounge, and seeking out long-needed repairs has garnered strongly positive reactions from community members - Community members are very excited about flagship events resuming
Promote the voices and wellbeing of under-served community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Run focus groups to better draw out unidentified concerns within the department - Engage with other MSA autonomous departments and collaborate to promote an intersectional understanding of community issues, and encourage MSAQ community members to build stronger support networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have spoken to several other office-bearers who are also enthusiastic about collaborating with us
Encourage continuity in MSAQ leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide training for QuAC - Support QuAC members' passions and personal projects - Encourage community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current QuAC members are very enthusiastic about their role! - Many QuAC members

Goal	Methodology	Comments
	<p>involvement in departmental issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage open communication 	<p>have personal projects they aim to realise throughout the year. We are trying to help them realise these to the best of our ability, while also ensuring that they do not take on too heavy a workload and burn out early</p>
<p>Increase outreach efforts across campus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extending initiatives beyond the lounge, addressing a range of issues from harassment of trans students in gendered bathrooms to safer sex initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some attempts at posters discouraging harassment in bathrooms were made informally last year, we would like to formalise these. - We have begun designing posters for this

INDIGENOUS REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT: Indigenous

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

MSA's Indigenous Department is here to support all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students throughout their journey at university. We're passionate about representing the Indigenous student community through direct advocacy, and by creating an environment that acknowledges and celebrates Indigenous voices, perspectives and cultures throughout Monash and the wider community.

We were successfully involved in orientation events, both with the MSA O-fest, and the first year orientation festival hosted by the William Cooper Institute.

Our two key values for 2025, around which all our projects revolve, are community and safety, both of which will be enacted through cultural and social means.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

- Overview plan for the year
- Discussion of changes to plans from previous years
- O-week planning

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Grow Indigenous student community	Delivery of frequent social events and Indigenous student committee, as well as participation in orientation events.	Participation in orientation events confirmed, both with MSA and WCI.
Delivery of culturally safe, engaging events	Delivery of events, both autonomous and open to the wider Monash community, across the year.	

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Indigenous student camp	Delivery of an autonomous Indigenous student camp during semester 2.	At planning stage
Indigenous student advocacy	Advocacy for Indigenous students and our communities both within and without Monash.	

DISABILITIES & CARERS REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT: Disabilities & Carers

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

We aim to support students to be able to fully engage with the university through community building and advocacy. We value and are led by lived experience and the rights of disabled students to have equitable access. We aim to provide education to the broader university community to build better understanding and allyship. We value changes for the better at all levels and disabled voices being included in all conversations.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

Advocacy

We have identified our top ten advocacy priorities for 2025: physical accessibility, Monash Residential Services, MSA Accessibility policies and procedures, international students, support for HDR students, DSS reforms, training for staff and students, accessible teaching materials, consideration, NUS/broader campaigns and DAAP implementation plans.

Many of these projects build on work done in 2024 and will be worked on with other MSA Departments.

Events

We have scheduled six free Auslan classes for the semester, decided on community events for the semester including Neurodivergent student catch-ups, body doubling sessions and craftersnoons.

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Physical accessibility	An ongoing goal from 2024, there is more work to be done particular around lifts, BPD policies and procedures particularly those relating to evacuation, security	

Goal	Methodology	Comments
	and the creation and upgrades of new buildings.	
Promoting accessibility in the MSA	Through the creation of accessibility policies and procedures, encouraging accessibility at MSA events, C&S accessibility training, Hidden Disabilities Sunflower training for OBs and MSA staff, etc.	
Academic reforms	Reforming current policies and procedures to better allow all students to engage with them. Focusing on better support for HDR students, DSS reforms, special consideration and the updating of the materials available to staff about accessible teaching.	
Building community	Through events and social media posts with the help of our committee.	
Collaborate with other MSA departments to better engage with other communities and work on addressing accessibility issues that disproportionately impact these communities.	This will relate to several of the goals detailed above. We would like to make sure an advocacy considers the interests and experiences of students from a diverse range of backgrounds. As well as working on areas of the university that are particularly difficult for disabled students.	

POC REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT:

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

In 2025, we will work closely with cultural clubs to host both mini-events and major celebrations that may include events such as One World Festival and an Eid or Iftar project, fostering stronger cultural representation. We aim to push for Monash to cut ties with institutions complicit in oppression and advocate for a safer campus with better reporting mechanisms and protections for students facing racism. A key focus will be producing a racism report to document student experiences and hold the university accountable. We also want to expand our services and outreach, ensuring more students know about the department, our advocacy efforts, and the support available to them. Through grassroots organizing, campaigns, and direct engagement with students, we will make the POC Department a more visible and active force on campus.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

We've been working on key initiatives to strengthen advocacy and community engagement. We have begun looking into the logistics of the racism report by reaching out to UMSU to understand their process and researching how other universities have conducted similar reports. This will help us develop a strong framework for documenting student experiences and pushing for real accountability from Monash. Additionally, we are preparing to reach out to cultural clubs and will soon be inviting their representatives for a meeting to discuss collaborations and shared goals. We are also exploring potential partnerships with other MSA departments to co-host a cultural or religious event, further promoting inclusivity and representation on campus.

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Develop and publish a racism report	Contact UMSU to learn from their process, research similar reports from other universities, gather student testimonies through surveys and forums, and compile findings into a formal report so it can be published.	The report will serve as an accountability tool to highlight student experiences and push for policy changes at Monash. We are aiming to get this out by the end of S1 2025.
Strengthen collaborations with cultural clubs	Host a meeting with cultural club representatives, plan joint initiatives and events, and provide support for their advocacy efforts.	Fostering stronger relationships to amplify cultural representation on campus.
Increase department visibility and outreach	Enhance social media presence, conduct expand services, and engage more students through events and campaigns.	Ensuring students know about the POC Department and the support it offers.
Improve racism reporting and support systems for students	Review existing reporting structures, consult affected students and experts, propose reforms to Monash, and raise awareness about available support services.	Ensuring students feel safe and supported when reporting incidents of racism.
Push for greater cultural and religious leniencies at Monash	Advocate for clearer and more accessible processes for students to request cultural and religious accommodations, such as time off for celebrations and adjustments to exams and assessments.	Ensuring students from diverse backgrounds can observe important cultural and religious events without academic or institutional barriers.
Strengthen advocacy for students of colour	Engage with Monash leadership, student activists, and external organizations to push for policies that protect and uplift students of colour, ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making processes.	Aiming for long-term, systemic change to improve the experiences and rights of students of colour at Monash

WOMENS REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

DEPARTMENT: WOMENS

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

The 2025 Women's Department is committed to fostering inclusivity in our representation of women and issues related to women on campus. We aim to prioritize the intersectionality of gender, sexuality, ability, ethnicity and culture, ensuring that our events and any educational or information resources reflect the diversity of our community to the best of our ability. Our initiatives will be shaped by student feedback to create a campus environment where women's safety, health, and wellbeing are central priorities. In line with this commitment, we intend to advocate for a wider range of accessible health and safety resources across campus, ultimately aiming to ensure that every student has access to resources no matter where they are on campus.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

We have begun preparation for O-Week, which focuses on our desire to have the distribution of promotional materials to boost visibility and awareness of the Women's Lounge and its available resources. The development and planning of the yearly events timeline has begun, notably including the implementation of two 'Safe and Sexy Weeks'—one each semester—along with the associated activities and workshops within them. We have also begun strategizing on how best to sustain and build upon the success of the improved lighting campaign initiated by previous Office Bearers.

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Expand the Period Positivity Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up on previous discussions with the residence halls and Mannix college about implementing free period products there. Investigate the consistency of access to period products in bathrooms already with the program in place and advocate for increasing the program across more bathrooms on campus. 	Student feedback has suggested that STEM buildings lack period product availability
Improve Women's Safety on Campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue with the lighting campaign started last year for better and brighter lighting on campus Promote the existence of current security buses and attempt to expand these services Work with the university for an annual SASH report to illuminate the issue of sexual harassment and assault on campus Continue working with university departments and staff, particularly from Equity Diversity and Inclusion and Safer Communities Unit for development of effective policy 	
Increase sex positivity on campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include workshops and panel discussions during Safe And Sexy Week(s) that focus on consent, safe-sex and the de-stigmatisation of womens pleasure Have our social media platforms promote healthy discussion and education on safe sex Ensure the availability of information that is diverse in terms of gender, sexuality, ability and culture, while actively promoting intersectional discussions during activities and events 	

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Strengthen the knowledge of and accessibility of women's health resources on campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have workshops and activities during safe and sexy week(s) that focus on health in particular reproductive health and conditions such as PCOS and endometriosis Run an information campaign to promote what is currently available for students – such as counselling, the Safer Community Unit and the wellbeing hub 	
Enhance the awareness and usage of the women's lounge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target first years during O-week with information, including a map, of where the lounge is and what it has to offer Ensure a consistent supply of resources in the lounge, maintain cleanliness, and foster engagement and community among regular users. 	

RESCOMM REPORT AND 2025 GOALS

RESCOMM DEPARTMENT:

Outline of ResComm's Core Values and Aims for 2025:

Our main aim is to ensure students living in the Residential communities have a safe, fun and vibrant time at university. ResComm also aims to increase our activity both within the MSA and relevant external organisations for 2025. We will be seeking to support students and Residential Advisors to ensure our goals are met. ResComm will be looking to introduce and increase the number of services available to our key stakeholders to help meet these goals.

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

- Increasing the amount of Res food drops throughout the year from 8 to 10 meaning 5 food drops have been planned per semester. ResComm is also exploring making food drops into an event in which students can socialise and stay for the duration of the food drop.
- ResComm has engaged with MRS and Security to understand the feasibility of a Bus service ensure students stay safe when leaving the Notting Hill Hotel on Thursday Uni Student nights.
- We look forward to continuing collaboration with MRS and have opened discussions to continue promoting MSA events for Residential communities' students through MRS channels.

Department Goals for 2025

Goal	Methodology	Comments
8 to 10 food drops in a single year.	Select turner hall and howitt hall for organizing the event. Create a volunteering group of 5 permanent people. We can always add more but we want to have a team with whom we will always communicate our plans as we go and organize events on the decided date.	

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Collaborate with MRS to possibly run an MSA stall during the MRS food festival	We will be opening a discussion to understand the feasibility of establishing a MSA stall or vendor for the MRS food truck festival.	
Nott bus service	We are engaging with the relevant external organisations to understand how to establish a bus service that ensures students who attend the Notting Hill Hotel on Thursday Uni Student nights get home safely.	

Hi there all my name is Campbell Frost (He/Him/His) and I am your 2025 MSA Treasurer, I am looking forward to working with each and every member of this organisation to achieve our collective vision for the Monash Student Association, to serve students and advocate for greater student conditions.

My goals for 2025 are quite simple, good governance and working closely with our finance team to achieve optimal outcomes for student's whilst spending their money where they need it. Over the next year I hope to continue the trajectory of the previous Treasurer Joshua Walter in moving our union toward a sustainable Service Provisions model, investing in student resources like Free Food Monday's, Food Pantry and working towards a Welfare Hub.

MSA CONFERENCE REPORT BACK TEMPLATE

Conference Name	Student Safety Conference
Report Written By	Eloise Driver and Frances Clark
Conference Date and Location	February 5 th and 6 th , 2025 – University of Sydney, N.S.W

Post Event Summary of Conference

On February 5th and 6th 2025, the Women's Office Bearers attended the Student Safety Conference at the University of Sydney. We participated in various workshops, panels, and networking sessions focused on sexual harassment and assault (henceforth referred to as SASH) on university campuses, which included consent education, prevention and response initiatives.

What were the benefits of the conference

The conference provided valuable insights into how universities handle sexual assault and harassment across the country highlighting key areas where university policy and approaches are failing. It also incorporated international perspectives and initiatives, offering a broader understanding of how student associations across the world have responded to SASH on campus.

A major benefit was the opportunity to connect with other student representatives, particularly Women's Collective leaders and Officers from across the country. These discussions revealed there are common short fallings shared by Monash and other universities, especially regarding on-campus residences and the accessibility and visibility of response measures and bodies. Additionally, the conference facilitated the exchange of successful initiatives implemented at other universities, giving us ideas to adapt and introduce with Monash University.

Would you recommend conference to other staff to attend

Yes, I would recommend Women's Representatives attending, as it provides a unique opportunity to collaborate with other student leaders on the issue of SASH. The conference provides an environment to exchange ideas and ask experts for feedback on improving campus safety and SASH response measures.

Would you want to attend this conference again

Yes, we would attend again, as it provided information both from students and community leaders as to how to improvement the university's response to SASH. It was also a great opportunity to exchange experiences with other student representatives and identify common shortcomings across universities.

MSA CONFERENCE REPORT BACK:

Conference Name	NUS Presidents Summit
Report Written By	Sasha Braybrooke
Conference Date and Location	February 6th and 7th 2025 - RMIT University, VIC

Post Event Summary of the Conference

On February 6th and 7th, 2025, I attended the National Union of Students (NUS) Presidents Summit Conference at RMIT University. The event featured presentations from various key organizations, including NUS office bearers, the Young Workers Centre, TEQSA, NSO, CAPA, NTEU, Michele O'Neil, President of the ACTU, and Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP). The conference also provided opportunities for networking and brainstorming with fellow union office bearers.

What were the benefits of the conference

The conference was highly beneficial, offering new ideas and strategies for campaigning on a variety of issues. Additionally, it provided valuable insights into legal avenues available to unions. One of the key takeaways was the opportunity to communicate and collaborate with other unions, learning about the specific challenges they face on their campuses and the approaches they use to address them. This cross-collaboration has given me ideas that could be successfully adapted for Monash University..

Would you recommend the conference to other staff to attend

I would highly recommend this conference to future Presidents of the MSA and other student union leaders. It was insightful to learn about the common issues facing student unions across the country and the strategies used to address such challenges. It provided a great opportunity for learning and collaboration that can help strengthen our efforts at Monash.

Would you want to attend this conference again

Yes, I would attend this conference again. It would be valuable to meet with Presidents from across the country on a regular basis to reflect on what strategies have been effective and to share ideas on how to address ongoing challenges. This type of networking and knowledge-sharing is crucial for the continued growth and success of our campaigns.

Regulation

Current

14. Election of members to Executive

14.1. The election of members to the MSC Executive under sub-paragraph 23(1)(d)-(e) of the Constitution must take place at an meeting of the MSC. This election will take the form of a resolution by secret ballot in which only the members eligible for the position are allowed to vote and the Chair will act as the Returning Officer.

14.2. The resolution electing a member to the Executive must be passed by an absolute majority of all the members eligible to vote in the aforementioned election.

14.3. The voting members of the MSA eligible for the position must be given a reasonable opportunity to attend the meeting in which the aforementioned election takes place.

14.4. Before the MSC Executive is allowed to meet, there must have been an opportunity for the election of the members listed under sub-paragraph 23(1)(d)-(e) of the Constitution.

Amended

14. Election of members to Executive

14.1. The election of members to the ~~MSC~~ Executive under ~~sub-~~paragraphs ~~23~~24(1)(d)-(e) of the Constitution must take place at an meeting of the MSC. ~~This election will take the form of a resolution by secret ballot in which only the members eligible for the position are allowed to vote and the Chair will act as the Returning Officer.~~

~~14.2. The resolution electing a member to the Executive must be passed by an absolute majority of all the members eligible to vote in the aforementioned election.~~

14.2. An eligible member may nominate themselves or, with the member's consent, be nominated by another eligible member. A nomination must then be seconded by an eligible member. A person may not nominate and/or second multiple candidates.

14.3. If only one member is nominated for the position, the Chair must declare the member elected to the position.

14.4. If more than one member is nominated:

14.4.1 the election must be by secret ballot using the optional preferential method of election; and

14.4.2 the Chair must act as returning officer; and

14.4.3 only the members eligible to hold that position may vote.

14.5. In the event of a tie between 2 or more candidates, the returning officer must:

14.5.1 conduct a further election to determine which one of those candidates is to be elected or eliminated; or

14.5.2 with the agreement of those candidates, determine by lot which of them is to be elected or eliminated.

14.~~3~~.6. The voting members of the MSA eligible for the position must be given a reasonable opportunity to attend the meeting in which the aforementioned election takes place.

14.~~4~~.7. Before the **MSG** Executive is allowed to meet, there must have been an opportunity for the election of the members listed under ~~sub~~-paragraphs ~~23~~**24**(1)(d)-(e) of the Constitution.

14.8. The members listed under paragraphs 24(1)(d)-(e) of the Constitution hold office until any of the following occurs:

14.8.1. the position becomes vacant under subclauses 42(1)-(2) of the Constitution;

14.8.2. the member is removed from office under subclause 24(2) of the Constitution;

14.8.3. in the case of the Divisional representative, the member is no longer a member of the governing body of a Division;

14.8.4. the first ordinary MSC meeting of the calendar year at which a quorum is present is opened by the chair.

Motions

Motion #1 — Method of Election

That the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies* be modified as follows:

Fix references and grammar

- (1) In regulations 14.1 and 14.4, **replace** “sub-paragraph 23(1)(d)-(e)” with “paragraphs 24(1)(d)–(e)”.
- (2) In regulations 14.1 and 14.4, **replace** “MSC Executive” with “Executive”.
- (3) In regulation 14.1, **replace** “an meeting” with “a meeting”.

Delete the old election method (confirmatory voting)

- (4) In regulation 14.1, **delete** the second sentence.
- (5) **Delete** regulation 14.2.

Insert the new election method (vote only if the position is contested)

- (6) After regulation 14.1, **insert** (and renumber accordingly):
 - 14.2. An eligible member may nominate themselves or, with the member’s consent, be nominated by another eligible member. A nomination must then be seconded by an eligible member. A person may not nominate and/or second multiple candidates.
 - 14.3. If only one member is nominated for the position, the Chair must declare the member elected to the position.
 - 14.4. If more than one member is nominated:
 - 14.4.1 the election must be by secret ballot using the optional preferential method of election; and
 - 14.4.2 the Chair must act as returning officer; and
 - 14.4.3 only the members eligible to hold that position may vote.
 - 14.5. In the event of a tie between 2 or more candidates, the returning officer must:
 - 14.5.1 conduct a further election to determine which one of those candidates is to be elected or eliminated; or
 - 14.5.2 with the agreement of those candidates, determine by lot which of them is to be elected or eliminated.

Motion #2 — Term of Office

That after regulation 14.6 of the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies*, **insert:**

- 14.8. The members listed under paragraphs 24(1)(d)–(e) of the Constitution hold office until any of the following occurs:
 - 14.8.1. the position becomes vacant under subclauses 42(1)–(2) of the Constitution;
 - 14.8.2. the member is removed from office under subclause 24(2) of the Constitution;
 - 14.8.3. in the case of the Divisional representative, the member is no longer a member of the governing body of a Division;
 - 14.8.4. the first ordinary MSC meeting of the calendar year at which a quorum is present is opened by the chair.

Motion #3 — Administrative Revisions

That the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies* and *Monash Student Council Standing Orders* be modified as follows:

- (1) **Transfer** regulation 14 from the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies* to before standing order 33 in the *Monash Student Council Standing Orders*.
- (2) **Delete** regulation 15 of the *Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies*.
- (3) Renumber the above documents accordingly.

	2025 BUDGET SUBMISSION	% CHANGE
Capital Submission		-