

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.

<p>Procedural Motion: The motion be put. Moved by Jay Davis For 13 Against 9 PROCEDURAL MOTION FAILED</p>
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The motion was put and carried unanimously.

F. Secret Ballot Voting

<p>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</p>
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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

<p>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.</p>
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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.