

*Meeting opened at 11am*

Minutes

**A. Attendance**

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>
President:	Marni O'Connell	
Treasurer:	Bailey Webb	
Secretary:	Joshua Pelach	
Education (Public Affairs):	Alex Bourikas	
Education (Academic Affairs):	Charlee Hawkes	
Activities:	Sean Hanna	
CLA:	Nick Broussard	
Welfare:	Thanura Ediri	
Environment & Social Justice:	Georgia Saunders	
Women's:	Chloe Yeats	Isabella Burton
Queer:	Amber Hodgson	
Disabilities & Carers:	Tiana Sixsmith	
People of Colour:	Jersyn Doh	
Res Community Department:	Lily Van Berkel	
MUISS:	Sejuti Saha	
MAPS:	Jan Morgiewicz	
Clubs & Societies:	Francesco Barrese	
General Representative:	Eva Scopelliti	
General Representative:	Ishka de Silva	
General Representative:	Dzemal Efendic	
General Representative:	Grace Ang	
General Representative:	Lucy Bandiera	

Other Attendees

Georgia Barrass  
Renee Meaney  
Dao Hu  
Jacqueline Gazal  
Jayden Trask  
Chloe F

### B. Acknowledgment of traditional owners of land

This MSC acknowledges and pays respect to the people 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

*Marni explained that, to replicate being on campus, MSC will be voting by way of the in-built 'raise hands' function within Zoom, instead of using the chat.*

### D. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

#### Motion #1:

That this MSC confirms the [minutes of MSC 1/20](#) to be true and accurate recording of proceedings.

**Moved:** Nicholas Broussard    **Seconded:** Eva Scopelliti

**For:** 23

**Against:** 0

**Abstentions:** 1

**MOTION CARRIED**

### E. Budget

#### Motion #2:

This MSC moves to adopt the [attached budget for Wholefoods](#) in 2021.

**Moved:** Joshua Pelach    **Seconded:** Bailey Webb

**For:** 23

**Against:** 0

**Abstentions:** 1

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Bailey explained that budgets are ordinarily passed at the end of the year. Last year, the majority of budgets were passed in MSC 12/20. However, due to the pandemic, the operational capacity of Wholefoods was still in doubt at the time. Now that Wholefoods is able to operate once more, it is necessary to approve a budget. Constitutionally, Wholefoods is required to operate under a not-for-profit model, as reflected in the proposed budget.*

*Marni deferred the chair to Bailey and echoed his support for the motion. She mentioned having been at Wholefoods recently and observing that the line was out the door. She remarked that it is fantastic to see students returning to campus and enjoying the wonderful service that Wholefoods provides. She then reclaimed the chair.*

### F. General Business

*Marni noted that a motion had just been sent to the Zoom chat. She invited the person who sent that motion to speak to it.*

MSC motion for March 19

*International environment activist group School Strike 4 Climate has called a Global Strike for Climate this March 19. The Monash Student Association must be vocal and enthusiastic in its support and participation of March 19.*

*This motion contains a number of points to be passed:*

- 1) The Monash Student Association demands university management allow students to walk out of class on March 19 without any academic or disciplinary consequences.*
- 2) The Monash Student Association encourages all students, regardless of the University's position, to walk out of class on September 20 to demand climate action.*
- 3) This Monash Student Association will use all means at its disposal to publicise and promote the event, including but not limited to:*
  - a) Advertisements for the protest on the television screens around campus*
  - b) A printing budget of \$300 allocated just for posters promoting the event*
  - c) Daily postering of the event around the campus by MSA volunteers and by paid MSA office-bearers*
  - d) Promotion of the event on MSA social media, including daily posts advertising the rally on the official MSA page between now and March 19*
  - e) At least two emails per week to all MSA members promoting the climate strike and explaining the climate crisis*
  - f) Daily information stalls around the Campus for the event staffed by paid office bearers*
  - g) Announcements of the event at all MSA events around Campus (BBQs, concerts etc.)*
  - h) An official request to all clubs and societies to promote the demonstration to all their email lists and on their Facebook page*
- 4) The MSA supports the demands of the movement, namely the stopping of all future fossil fuel projects, including the Adani Coal mine; a transition to 100% renewables; and a just transition to renewable jobs for current fossil fuel workers and communities and condemns the complicity of liberal and past labour governments in the continuation of policies that have led us into the existential predicament we are facing as a species.*

*Jacqueline explained that she was at MSC on behalf of the 'Monash Students for Climate Justice' group on campus and that she was hoping that MSA would support the next climate strike organised by Greta Thunberg and the SchoolStrike4Climate organisation. She explained that climate change is an important ongoing issue in society that students really care about. She mentioned having already spoken with the NTEU and mentioned that they had voiced adamant support for this strike. In fact, at the last climate strike, the Vice*

*Chancellor had supported students to attend. She exclaimed that she would love to have the backing of the student representatives on campus.*

*Bailey raised his hand. Marni thanked Jacqueline and gave Bailey the call.*

*Bailey thanked Jacqueline for her motion. He explained that he is absolutely in favour of strong action on climate change and absolutely agrees that promoting the climate strike needs to be an absolute priority for the MSA. He mentioned that the MSA Environmental and Social Justice Department is already making inquiries about the climate strike on March 19th in the hopes of organising a Monash contingent. He also mentioned his concern that, pursuant to proper procedure, MSC had not been given enough notice or time to properly consider this motion, considering that there are a number of clauses in the motion which are not actually feasible. He explained that, as the board of directors of the MSA, all voting members of MSC have a legal obligation to ensure that their directions are reasonable. If the MSA were to put any weight behind the motion, it would require significant amendments -*

*Chloe interjected and queried what needed to be changed.*

*Marni asked that Chloe please be respectful of other attendees when they are speaking -*

*Chloe interjected again and asked what part of the motion required more thought.*

*Marni **named** Chloe and requested that she please raise her hand before speaking, and stop interjecting. Marni gave Bailey the call.*

*Bailey replied to Chloe that the MSA is obviously absolutely in support of climate action -*

*Chloe interjected again and asked why Bailey didn't support the motion.*

*Marni **named** Chloe a second time. Marni explained that she didn't want to have to remove Chloe from the MSC, and insisted that she stop interrupting when others are trying to speak. Marni gave Bailey the call.*

*Bailey continued to explain that the MSA is absolutely in favour of strong climate action, and that the MSA is already in discussions with the university regarding the climate strike in the hopes of avoiding academic penalties for students who attend. He explained that he did not believe that the MSC had been given enough time to consider the motion, as it included various action items which simply were not possible. He also noted that the group to which Chloe belongs, 'Monash Students for Climate Justice', has repeatedly been told in the past that they need to send motions through in advance for inclusion in the agenda. He stated that it is clear that the group has deliberately chosen not to do so. He suggested that if they genuinely cared about student activism, he would strongly encourage them to ensure that they submit motions for inclusion in the agenda in advance of MSC, as required -*

*Jayden interjected and stated that the next MSC meeting is after the climate strike, which is why he would like to address this motion now.*

*Bailey replied to Jayden that the MSA is already in the process of organising a Monash contingent to the climate strike, so it is not actually necessary that this motion be passed in advance.*

*Josh raised his hand. Marni gave Josh the call.*

Josh thanked Marni. He explained that he is absolutely in favour of the spirit of this motion and would hope that everyone in the meeting would absolutely agree that strong action on climate change is fundamental. He emphasised that the MSA should be unwavering in its commitment to climate activism. However, he also noted his concern that there are a number of action items within the motion which cannot feasibly be passed without further consultation. For instance:

- Showing advertisements for the protest on the television screens around campus is not actually something that MSA has control over. A conversation would have to be had with the university before a commitment could be made.
- The official MSA page is managed by the MSA's design and communications staff who are already remarkably overworked as it is. If daily posts were to be made, they would have to be consulted.
- Emailing all MSA members twice per week to promote the strike is quite possibly contrary to the MSA's social media policy and the terms and conditions under which students subscribe to MSA rewards. The MSA would need to seek legal advice.

Josh emphasised again that he absolutely supports the aims and objectives of this motion, and would happily move this motion at a future MSC with amendments after proper consultation with all relevant stakeholders. In the meantime, he encouraged the members of 'Monash Students for Climate Justice' in attendance to speak with the ESJ Department regarding the plans they already have to promote the March 19th climate strike -

Chloe interjected again, stating that this motion is very urgent, and that she doesn't appreciate these 'bullsh\*t, bureaucratic, legalistic excuses that everyone is giving'. She stated that the members of MSC are all paid student office-bearers, and insisted that it's very easy to just vote up a motion without needing time to consider it.

Marni **named** Chloe for a third time, stating that she is required under clause 13.2 of the MSC Standing Orders to ask that Chloe please remove herself from the meeting.

Chloe interjected and claimed that the aforementioned motion is simply about saving the planet and doing something with with the student union, not just talking about 'legalistic, bureaucratic bullsh\*t' -

Chloe was removed from the Zoom.

Marni explained that she was compelled under clause 13.2 of the MSC Standing Orders to remove Chloe from the Zoom, having named her for a third time. She explained that the MSC doesn't tolerate interruptions.

Jan raised his hand. Marni gave Jan the call.

Jan thanked Marni. He noted his support for any action on climate change. However, he also noted that this motion strikes him as a classic example of a politically motivated group moving a tokenistic motion without proper consultation to deliberately provoke a reaction and

*further their own political agenda. He suggested that it is a shame that supposedly progressive members of the student community such as 'Monash Students for Climate Justice' would spend their time on tokenistic point-scoring rather than genuine climate activism, knowing full well that the motion they have proposed is unfeasible.*

*Jayden interjected, stating that he thinks environmental activism in a time of global crisis is actually very supportable, and that it's 'disgraceful' that the people elected to represent students would sit idly by while the planet is burning.*

*Marni deferred the chair to Bailey very briefly. She stated that she is in accordance with what has already been said and thinks that further consideration has to be given to this motion. She also mentioned that it's inappropriate for MSC to put forward a motion about environmental issues without consulting the elected MSA environment and social justice officers, especially since they are already in discussions with the university to ensure that students can attend that strike without academic penalty. At the very least, the ESJ Officers should have been consulted in drafting this motion. She reminded the attendees from 'Monash Students for Climate Justice' that if they would like to send the motion through to any of the MSA office-bearers or the MSA Executive, they would be more than happy to organise a meeting. She reclaimed the chair.*

*Eva raised her hand. Marni gave the call to Eva.*

*Eva mentioned that she just wanted to flag the importance of etiquette in this situation. She observed that there are 26 people in the MSC and there is a lot of passionate discussion on this matter. She mentioned that no-one should really need a reminder, but interrupting one another is not acceptable. Furthermore, it is incredibly important that everybody respect what each other has to say. She noted that no-one wants to have to remove people from the Zoom, but if basic etiquette was not abided by, they wouldn't have much choice. She reminded attendees to please ensure that they are respecting and listening to each other.*

*Amber raised her hand. Marni gave the call to Amber.*

*Amber thanked Marni. She explained that she hadn't actually had an opportunity to read the motion and wasn't sure where to find it. She queried whether she was the only one.*

*A number of others in the Zoom nodded to indicate that they hadn't seen the motion either.*

*Marni explained that she believed that Jacqueline had previously sent the motion in the chat, but that it was not visible to people who had joined since. She explained that this is one of the reasons for which it is required that attendees submit their motions to the Secretary for inclusion in the agenda in advance of MSC. She went on to say that, unless any voting member of the MSC would like to move the motion, they would have to move on.*

*[No voting member offered to move the motion].*

*Marni stated that, in that case, the MSC would now be concluded.*

*Jayden interjected and queried whether it stands that the MSA does not support the climate Strike on March 19th.*

*Marni replied that it has been made abundantly clear that that is not the case. She then closed the meeting at 11:18am on the 4th of March 2021. She thanked everyone for attending and stated that she was looking forward to seeing everyone at the next MSC.*

**Meeting closed at 11:34am**