



2022 ANNUAL ELECTION REPORT

**MONASH UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
SERVICE**

1. Introduction

Monash University International Students Service (**MUISS**) is a division of the Monash University Student Association (**MSA**). Under the agreement between MSA and OGL Group (**OGL**), OGL is responsible for conducting the Annual Elections for the MSA and its divisions, including for MUISS.

Jessica Fox was the Returning Officer for the 2022 MUISS Election and is the author of this report.

This report sets out the process by which the elections were undertaken, specifically highlighting areas that required attention by the Returning Officer and electoral participants.

An overview of the results is provided, emphasising trends and other observations.

The key issues and other areas of concern experienced in the election are discussed. Finally, a set of recommendations are provided to MUISS and future Returning Officers as suggestions by which the electoral process can be improved.

2. Process

Pursuant to the Regulations, notice was given on 22 August that Annual Elections would be held from Monday 12 September to Wednesday 14 September 2022 (see **Appendix 1 – Notice of Election**). The Notice of the Election was published on the MUISS Election webpage. An email was sent to all eligible students via Global Connect advising students of the election on 29 August (see **Appendix 2 – Email to Students Notice of Election**).

Nominations for all positions were due at 5:00 pm Friday 2 September. Nomination forms and all other election paperwork were submitted via email at these elections.

Candidate Nominations

Nominations were opened at 9:00 am on Monday 29 August and closed at 5:00 pm on Friday 2 September.

The final notice of nominations received was posted on Thursday 8 September (see **Appendix 3 – Notice of Nominations Received**).

After the closing of nominations, a detailed verification process was undertaken to ensure that candidates and their nominators and seconders were eligible to participate in the election by virtue of their enrolment status as well as the international student status of nominators and seconder, as provided for in the Regulations.

During this process, one nominee was found to have incorrectly completed their nomination form and was deemed ineligible to participate in the election.

At the close of the nomination period:

- **18 nominations had been received**
 - **1 nomination was found to be invalid**
 - **0 were withdrawn**
 - **17 valid nominations received**

- **The position of Publications Officer was declared elected unopposed. All other positions were contested**

Voting

Voting took place on the BigPulse voting platform. To cast their vote, eligible voters needed click an individual ballot link emailed to their official university email address and follow the prompts to submit their vote.

Eligibility to vote was restricted to Monash Clayton international undergraduate students as per the Election Regulations and MSA Constitution.

The following table summarises the times during which students cast their votes, with the majority of voting taking place the day of the opening of polls. A reminder email was sent to students who hadn't voted yet at 9:00 am on Wednesday 22 September.

Time	Mon 12	Tues 13	Wed 14
00:00-03:00		10	4
03:00-06:00		2	1
06:00-09:00		1	6
09:00-12:00		23	130
12:00-15:00	248	19	98
15:00-18:00	96	15	
18:00-21:00	29	22	
21:00-24:00	23	7	

3. Results

Declarations

Results were declared on Wednesday 14 September, with results then immediately being sent to all candidates via email. The Notice of Results was also published on the MUISS Election website (see **Appendix 4 – Notice of Results**).

Participation

The 2022 election recorded a smaller number of students voting compared to last year's recent contested elections, with 682 voters casting their votes through the polling period, representing 6.1% of the eligible student population. This is in comparison with 820 voters and 547 voters in the 2021 and 2020 Annual Elections, respectively.

Appeals/Recounts

No appeals or recount requests were received.

4. Issues

There were no issues identified this election.

5. Conclusion

Thanks go to all the staff involved in running the elections, including MSA and University staff who assisted in various ways throughout the election. In particular, my thanks to Lowan Sist, Elizaveta Dilanyan and Sylvia Francisca.

I wish all successful candidates the very best as they undertake their responsibilities in the coming term.

Jessica Fox
Returning Officer
2022 MUISS Election

6. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Notice of Election

Appendix 2 – Email to Students Notice of Election

Appendix 3 – Notice of Nominations Received

Appendix 4 – Notice of Results

APPENDIX 1 – NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Nominations are called for the following positions:

MUISS office holders:

- President
- General Secretary
- Treasurer
- Activities Officer
- Education Officer
- Publications Officer
- Services and Welfare Office

These elections are conducted in accordance with provisions as required under the electoral regulations for MUISS.

Nominations

Please nominate using this [Google Form](#). If you are unable to complete the Google Form, you can submit a soft copy Nomination form which is provided on the MUISS elections website: msa.monash.edu/muisselections. Please note that soft copy nominations may take longer to process.

Nominations open at 9am on Monday 29 August and close 5pm Friday 2 September.

Candidates running as a group must appoint an Authorising Officer and register their ticket name with the Returning Officer before nominations close.

Copies of the regulations governing the election and all election forms are available via the MUISS website: msa.monash.edu/muisselections

Voting

Polling for the MUISS elections will be from 12pm Monday 12 September until 2pm Wednesday 14 September. You will be able to vote online via a link to your university email address. All campaigning will take place online and no in-person campaigning will be permitted on campus.

Jessica Fox

Returning Officer

22 August 2022

0417 613 866

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APPENDIX 2 – EMAIL TO STUDENTS NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE OF ELECTION

The Monash University International Students Service (MUISS) is an independent division of the Monash Student Association (MSA). It promotes and protects the interests, rights, social welfare and education of all undergraduate international students. The MUISS Annual Elections are held once a year to elect the new MUISS Executive Committee.

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Jessica Fox
Returning Officer
2022 MUISS Annual Elections
muis.returningofficer@gmail.com

APPENDIX 3 – NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED

LIST OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED

All nominations received by the deadline have been listed by position below. This list is provisional and is subject to checks by both myself and the University for eligibility according to student enrolment status.

If there have been any errors or omissions in transcription please let me know **as soon as possible** and I will amend.

The following tickets have been registered:

Ticket	Authorised Officer
United	Janhvi Poddar
One	Anas Mahmud

The following Candidate is provisionally declared elected unopposed:

First Name	Surname	Position	Ticket
Hoi Yan	Chan	Publications Officer	One

Valid Nominations Received for all other positions:

First Name	Surname	Position	Ticket
Sadman	Arafat	President	One
Anshuman	Das	President	United
Xiaoyu	Sun	President	
Nicole	Koh	General Secretary	United
Adithi	Srinivasan	General Secretary	One
Delia Jia Fei	Chen	Treasurer	One
Vedant	Gadhavi	Treasurer	United
Avvye	Nayyar	Activities Officer	
Bhumija	Sakpal	Activities Officer	United
Zareen	Subha	Activities Officer	One
Diya	Chauhan	Education Officer	
Arabella	Davies	Education Officer	United
Rachel	K Samuel	Education Officer	One
Yuen Phin	Ong	Education Officer	
Somkelechukwu	Eluagwule	Services and Welfare Officer	United
Hanyah	Hanif Abdeen	Services and Welfare Officer	One

The following nomination was not accepted:

First Name	Surname	Position	Ticket	Reason
Emily	Goh	Publications Officer	United	Nomination form not signed by Nominator or Seconder

Jessica Fox

Returning Officer

5 September 2022

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NOTICE OF RESULTS

President

Candidate	Ticket	Primary vote	Result after preferences
Anshuman Das	United	307	333
Sadman Arafat	One	226	246
Xiaoyu Sun		149	
Total		682	

Anushuman Das was declared elected.

General Secretary

Candidate	Ticket	Result
Nicole Koh	United	391
Adithi Srinivasan	One	282
Total		673

Nicole Koh was declared elected.

Treasurer

Candidate	Ticket	Result
Vedant Gadhavi	United	370
Delia Jia Fei Chen	One	289
Total		659

Vedant Gadhavi was declared elected.

Activities Officer

Candidate	Ticket	Primary votes	Results after preferences
Bhumija Sakpal	United	302	327
Zareen Subha	One	252	279
Avvye Nayyar		114	
Total		668	

Bhumija Sakpal was declared elected.

Education Officer

Candidate	Ticket	Primary votes	Results after preferences
Arabella Davies	United	278	317
Rachel K Samuel	One	207	239
Diya Chauhan		121	
Yuen Phin Ong		65	
Total		671	

Arabella Davies was declared elected.

Publication Officer

Candidate	Ticket
Hoi Yan Chan	One

Hoi Yan Chan was declared elected unopposed.

Services & Welfare Officer

Candidate	Ticket	Total
Somkelechukwu Eluagwule	United	345
Hanyah Hanif Abdeen	One	311
Total		656

Somkelechukwu Eluagwule was declared elected.

Jessica Fox

Returning Officer

14 September 2022

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