

Meeting opened at 11:05am on 24/03/2023

CONFIRMED MINUTES

A. Attendance

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>
President	Sebastian Schultz	
Treasurer:	Sidratul Ahmed	
Secretary:	Natasha Tiong	
Education (Public Affairs):	John Nguyen	
Education (Academic Affairs):	Paris Enten	
Activities:	Andrew McGaw	
CLA:	Che Kudagamage	
Welfare:	Kristalleni Lymbouris	
Indigenous:	John Sopar	
Environment & Social Justice:	Louis Walmsley	
Women's:	Victoria Kwong	
Queer:	Annabelle Lamb	
Disabilities & Carers:	Elena Ruefenacht	
People of Colour:	Susie Lei	Absent
Res Community Department:	Katya Spiller	
MUISS:	Anshuman Das	Absent
MAPS:	Vick Arjuna	Masum Bin Khalil Seyam
Clubs & Societies:	Arjun Girish	
Radio Monash:	Nick Lazzara	Sarah Stancombe
General Representative:	Isabelle Cummane	
General Representative:	Pranami Gamage	Absent
General Representative:	Sadman Arafat	
General Representative:	Tippi Morgan	Megan Kong
General Representative:	Mahzarin Katrak	
Observers:	Jessica Oats	

Oli Shemmell
Mariam Madiha
Beck Riches
Luka Kerm
Aidan Hawe (they/them)
Josiah Downey
Colton Senior (he/they)

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

Motion #1:
This MSC confirms the [minutes of the MSC 2/23](#) to be true and accurate recording of proceedings.
Moved: Natasha Tiong **Seconded:** Sidratul Ahmed
For: 20
Against:
Abstentions:
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Seb read out the motion and went directly to a vote, as it is a confirmation of minutes for MSC 2/23.

E. Office Bearer and Divisional Reports

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Creative and Live

Arts
Activities
Lot's Wife

Motion #2:
 This MSC accepts all submitted office-bearer and divisional reports en bloc.
Moved: Victoria Kwong **Seconded:** Mahzarin Katrak
For: 20
Against:
Abstentions:
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Seb read out the motion and went directly to a vote, while stating that the reports had been made accessible when the agenda was first distributed to all voting members of the MSC.

F. Motion to adopt the Education (Academic Affairs) Committee

Preamble: Section 14.2 of the MSA Committee Regulations stipulates that members of the Academic Affairs Committee are to be appointed by the MSC. In forming the committee, the Education (Academic Affairs) Office Bearers have consulted with each faculties' representative societies.

Motion #3:
 This MSC accepts the appointment of the following nominees for the Academic Affairs Committee for 2023:

Faculty of Arts (Except School of Music):	Milly Le Gear
	Eric Stone
School of Music:	Isla Hayward-Bannister
Monash Business School:	Maisha Tasnia
Faculty of Education:	Kazi Sumaiya Sazzad
Faculty of Engineering:	Sadman Arafat
Faculty of Information Technology:	Deetya Kannan
Faculty of Law:	Jesse Prior
	Joshua Chieng

Faculty of Science:	Chloe Curwen
School of Medicine:	Henry Wright Esme Muller Estelle Sultana
School of Biomedical Science:	Lucy Yao Monique Kuzmis
Department of Nutrition and Dietetics:	Benjamin Sia
MUISS:	Anshuman Das
Moved: Andrew McGaw	Seconded: Natasha Tiong
For: 20	
Against:	
Abstentions:	
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY	

Seb read out the motion and went immediately to a vote.

G. Motion regarding the issue of inadequate inter-campus shuttle buses causing delay and safety concerns

Preamble: As of semester one 2023, the university changed the timetable of the intercampus shuttle bus between Clayton and Caulfield. More specifically, the buses now come every 30 minutes, having last year been 20 and pre-COVID every 15 minutes. This has impacted the education of a plethora of students and has posed a safety risk to many. Having received an overwhelming amount of student testimonies regarding this matter, the MSA will continue to utilise these and fight for change.

Motion #3:

This MSC commits to actively fighting for an increased frequency of shuttle buses to and from Caulfield.

This MSC recognises the safety concerns associated with overcrowding as students squeeze into buses in fear of being late to classes, as well as with students waiting for the bus at the waiting bay.

This MSC acknowledges the impact this has on the quality of education students receive, as a result of the delay in buses.

Moved: Sidratul Ahmed **Seconded:** Louis Walmsley

For: 20

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Seb read out the preamble and motion, before calling for speakers.

Josiah Downey acknowledged the significance of the issue this motion addressed. He proceeded to seek clarification on what 'actively fighting' necessarily entails. Josiah stated that the MSA should work towards a solution from the perspective of a student activist and consult with students, as opposed to having talks with senior management staff of the University behind closed doors.

Sidratul Ahmed, the mover, responded to Josiah's query. He explained that the MSA have been collating testimonies and photographs from students who use the shuttle buses as their main mode of transportation to and fro university. It is also expressed that these testimonies have been presented to the University and active negotiations have been undertaken the past few weeks. Sid went on to mention that data the University has received from bus drivers themselves as to the number of students onboard is not necessarily reflective of the real situation and what they have experienced on the buses.

Seb called for more speakers, before proceeding to a vote.

H. Motion regarding Law Recordings

Preamble: The success of recording law seminars for core units, which was secured by the MSA earlier this year, has continued to assist all students, but namely those who do not speak English as a first language and those with learning difficulties. The MSA has been able to work with students who fit within these demographics to ensure that they access fair and equitable learning opportunities. As such, elective law seminars being recorded will continue to be a pressing issue for many students. Although this must be balanced with Monash's renowned approach to face-to-face learning, recordings will relieve both students and the workload placed on many educators.

Motion #4:

This MSC recognises the importance of law recordings as means for law students to facilitate alternative learning arrangements due to illness, work commitments and personal circumstances that prevent them from attending class in-person.

This MSC commits to advocating for law students for access to law recordings, regardless of whether the seminar room is equipped with the appropriate equipment and supporting technology.

Moved: Paris Enten **Seconded:** Masum Bin Khalil Seyam

For: 20

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Seb read the preamble and motion, before calling for speakers. Without any speakers, Seb went on to a vote and motion passed unanimously.

I. Motion for endorsing a Yes Vote for the Voice to Parliament

Preamble: The enshrinement of an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the constitution, with a referendum set to take place as early as August, was first introduced in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The Voice, which would function as an advisory group to the Parliament of Australia, will be designed if the referendum shows national support for alterations to the constitution.

Consultation with the Indigenous students of Monash, through the Indigenous Advisory Collective, showed unanimous support for an endorsement of a 'yes' vote, with the stipulation that the MSA commit itself to doing more than just supporting a yes vote. This would occur through informational events, resources, and continued discussion.

At this stage, MSA Indigenous, in collaboration with MSA ESJ, will be conducting a panel style event around the Voice to Parliament in week 6. Alongside this, continued informational resources, such as a reading list being produced by SURLY, will continue to be a priority for MSA at large.

Motion #5:

This MSC endorses a 'yes' vote for the upcoming referendum to enshrine a Voice to Parliament in the Constitution.

This MSC commits itself to continued education and information about the Voice, the cultural background and relevance, and uplifting the voices of Indigenous Australians.

Moved: John Sopar **Seconded:** Sadman Arafat

For: 20

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Seb read the preamble and motion, before calling for speakers.

Aidan Hawe recognised the importance of the Voice, but stated that this referendum fails to reflect and resolve the true oppression faced by Indigenous persons, such as rising rates of

incarceration in such communities and paternalistic laws by the Labor government. They expressed their frustration towards the government's role in providing fertile ground for these oppressive ways to continue. Aidan provided that the motion should reflect these discrepancies.

Colton Senior reiterated Aidan's viewpoint, that the Voice to the Parliament is not a solution to Indigenous oppression.

Beck Riches expressed his disappointment in the MSA's support for the referendum and likened the instatement of a Voice to the Parliament as the outcome of 'half-measures'. He emphasised that the Voice, should the referendum be passed, will have no legislative power. Beck raised that the blame should be attributed to the government for the oppression and paternalistic laws directed towards Indigenous persons.

Luka Kerm questioned the plans the MSA Indigenous Department has for the year and if it goes beyond campaigning for the Voice.

John Sopar reiterated that as an Indigenous person himself, he has a considerable degree of awareness as to the experience and oppression faced by Indigenous communities. He emphasised that this particular motion is relevant to only the Voice, a single project out of the many the Indigenous Department has planned for the year. He recognised the broader significance of the Voice, and thus what this motion seeks to achieve.

J. Motion in support of Trans Rights

Preamble: On the weekend of the 18th of March 2023, protestors encouraging further state protection for transgender people were countered by Nazis. The group marched along Spring street before throwing up Nazi Salutes and openly brandishing swastika tattoos on the steps of the Parliament building. It is pertinent to understand the gravity of this act, in that the making of the salute links back directly to the horrific transgressions of the Holocaust and carries with it significant cultural and symbolic power.

The queer community, and more specifically transgender people, should feel safe, welcomed and respected whether at home or in public. There is no space where Nazi rhetoric or queerphobic, transphobic or bigoted discourse will be tolerated at the MSA. Nazi sympathisers pose as threats to the peace and democracy of not only Australia, but the international community.

Motion #4:

This MSC strongly condemns the actions of persons with anti-transgender agendas and denounces the use of the Nazi salute, whether in a public or private space.

This MSC expresses its full support for law reform proposals that shall further restrain any show, manifestation and expression of neo-Nazism or Nazi glorification, in particular the banning of the Nazi salute.

Moved: Annabelle Lamb **Seconded:** Sidratul Ahmed

For: 20

Against:

Abstentions:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Seb read the preamble and motion, before calling for speakers.

Annabelle Lamb (Bella) spoke as Office Bearer of the MSA Queer Department. She acknowledged the gravity of the actions displayed at the protest and firmly stated that no tolerance shall be afforded. Bella expressed her disappointment in Victorian Police and their failure to safeguard Trans and Jewish communities in the presence of Nazis.

Colton Senior rejected the framing of the motion in failing to denounce Victoria Police, who had suppressed young Trans persons and activists at the rally.

Beck Riches stated that the MSA is disappointingly sharing Daniel Andrew's position on this matter. He labelled the motion as a 'soft motion' which failed to acknowledge and denounce Vic Pol's support for the Nazis.

Aidan Hawe concurred with the previous speakers' as a queer activist themselves who was pepper-sprayed by the police. They called for a firmer stance and movement beyond empathy, to fight for Trans rights. They raised a 'motion' they submitted prior to the MSC that is better phrased in condemning VicPol.

Josiah Downey stated that the motion failed to expressly state the person in charge of VicPol, that is Daniel Andrews, and his role is facilitating Vic Pol's actions in defence of Nazis. He went on to mention that Andrews has relentlessly approved VicPol's request for an expanded budget. He raised that VicPol comprised several fascists, white supremacists in support of Neo Nazism. Josiah called for a clearer attribution of blame to the Victorian Labor government.

Paris Enten expressed her gratitude to the MSA for including this motion and the support the Trans and/or Jewish communities have received despite differing political views, especially as a queer Jewish person herself.

Luka Kerm expressed his frustration with regards to this 'soft' motion and inferred that the MSC's endorsement for law reform essentially supports Daniel Andrew's stance. He then mentioned that the MSC was better off including Aidan's 'motion' which seeks to condemn the actions of VicPol and Daniel Andrews.

*Oli Shemmell expressed their understanding of the previous speakers' points and acknowledged the gravity of VicPol's actions. Oli reiterated that the main aim of this motion is to demonstrate the MSC's position **with** the Trans and Jewish community.*

Seb asked for more speakers, to which Bella responded.

Bella acknowledged everyone's concerns towards how 'soft' the motion is. Bella reflected upon the motion and agreed that a denunciation of VicPol's actions should have been included as well. Bella asked if an amendment can be moved but stated her concerns with respect to the time taken to phrase the motion appropriately. Seb asked Bella if she would be more comfortable with drafting a new motion for the next MSC. She expressed her preference for this option. Bella also sought to reaffirm those in attendance that MSA Queer's first priority is in ensuring that support and a safe environment is provided to the queer community internally following the rally, prior to looking at external solutions.

Seb moved to a vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

K. General Business

No general business.

Meeting Closed at 11:35pm