

MSC 5/26 CONFIRMED MINUTES

A. Attendance

Title	Name	Proxy	Attendee
President:	Leroy Van Schellebeck		Present ▾
Secretary:	Nick Fallaw		Present ▾
Treasurer:	Lana Abdelhalim		Present ▾
Education (Academic Affairs):	Remus Brasier		Present ▾
Education (Public Affairs):	Madi Curkovic	Josiah Downey	Proxy ▾
Activities:	Natneal Gebremedhin		Present ▾
Creative & Live Arts:	Linden Wareing		Present ▾
Welfare:	Rafiad Jewel		Present ▾
Indigenous:	Nanjera Pender		Absent ▾
Environment & Social Justice:	Anushka Sharma		Present ▾
Women's:	Esha Serai		Present ▾
Queer:	Ethan Imbriano		Present ▾
Disabilities & Carers:	Olivia Reid		Present ▾
People of Colour:	Rofida Arnaout		Present ▾
Residential Community:	Lily Rose		Absent ▾
MUISS:	Ishaan Puri		Proxy ▾
MAPS:	Alex Self		Present ▾
Clubs & Societies:	Jay Davis		Present ▾
Radio Monash:	Noah Martin		Present ▾
General Representative:	Monty Richardson		Present ▾
General Representative:	Dominique Amad-Corson	Sam Lincoln	Proxy ▾
General Representative:	Jorgie Rainbird		Present ▾
General Representative:	Quinney Brownfield		Present ▾
General Representative:	Diyara Jaswar		Present ▾

Observers

Tashani D, Alessandro Papaleo, Nhan Nguyen

Nick Clarifies that Tashani is attending MSC 5/26 as an observer.

Meeting opened at 5:39PM

B. Acknowledgment of Country

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 MSC [4/26](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

Moved: Nick Fallaw

Seconded: Jay Davis

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstain: 4

MOTION PASSED

Nick Fallaw (Nick) reiterates the importance of timely minute provision to the MSC.

Jay Davis (Jay) waives his speaking rights.

Nhan Nguyen enters at 5:43PM

Leroy reminds the MSC room that members must abstain from voting in line with best practice if they were not present at MSC 4/26.

E. Reports

Department	Names	Report Type	Submission Compliance
Education (Public Affairs)	Madeline Curkovic & Harleen Singh	Regular report (May)	Report submitted on time
Queer	Tyler Hollis & Ethan Imbriano	Regular report (May)	Report submitted on time
Indigenous	Nanjera Pender	Regular report (May)	No report received
Residential Community	Lily Rose & Ashley Rosewall	Regular report (May)	Report submitted on time
MAPS	Alex Self	Regular report (May)	Report submitted late

Department	Names	Report Type	Submission Compliance
President	Leroy Van Schellebeck	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026
Secretary	Nick Fallaw	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026
Treasurer	Lana Abdelhaliml	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026
Treasurer	Remus Brasier & Ruby Paul	Regular report (June)	Report submitted on time
Activities	Naty Gebremedhin & John Lavanya	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026
Creative and Live Arts	Eowyn Judge & Linden Waering	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026
Welfare	Rafiad Ruhi & Carla Hunaidi	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026
C&S	Jay Davis	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026
Radio Monash	Noah Martin	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026
Lot's Wife Editors	Josh Chuah, Tyra Jones & Alessandro Papaleo	Regular report (June)	Due 11 June 2026

Nick speaks to the motion and clarifies that the revised system of report submission in 2026. Wherein they are to be submitted monthly rather than always prior to a given MSC. Nick makes it clear that the result of this change is that some reports may not have been submitted prior to MSC 4/26 but that these same reports are also not considered late. Nick explains that this is the reason for the May reports being received at MSC 5/26 (June) and that as June reports are not due until after MSC 5/26, they will be tabled at the next MSC (MSC 6/26). Nick notes these as on time.

Jay waives his speaking rights.

Motion #2:		
This MSC accepts all submitted Office-Bearer & Division May Reports en bloc.		
Moved: Nick Fallaw	Seconded: Jay Davis	
For: 16	Against: 0	Abstain: 0
MOTION PASSED		

F. April Financial Statement Summary

Motion #3:		
This MSC accepts the Financial Statement Summary for April 2026 .		
Moved: Lana Abdelhalim	Seconded: Nick Fallaw	
For: 19	Against: 0	Abstain: 0
MOTION PASSED		

Lana Abdelhalim (Lana) waiver speaking rights.

Nick thanks the finance team for compiling the Financial Statement Summary for April 2026, noting the extensive work that goes into doing so.

Leroy notes that he will cease to read aloud the preambles from motion #4 onwards in the interests of time. Leroy clarifies that he is doing so with the understanding that MSC members have had ample time to review the agenda prior to the meeting.

G. Return of Tutorials and Improved Academic Conditions in the Faculty of Law

Preamble:

In October 2025, Professor Stephen Vaughn announced that from Semester 1, 2026, Monash Law would be trialling removing tutorials from core law units, in the name of 'enhancing active learning'. The consequential reduction in contact hours was to be counterbalanced by the introduction of 'support academics' in the six biggest units' workshops. As a final kick in the teeth, Professor Vaughn reminded students that Monash policy was that "full-time students should (work) no more than 8-10 hours per week".

What followed was a student uproar which galvanized the student population and has drawn national media attention. Over the past eight months, student representatives have worked tirelessly to draw attention to a deeply regressive policy which imperilled the reputation, value and desirability of a Monash Law degree.

The MSA, Law Students Society, University Council and Academic Board representatives collaborated on a multi-faceted campaign to restore the high standards of education at Monash Law. This included direct advocacy, meeting with senior staff, and even in national media, all to draw attention to the issue and call for a reversal in line with student sentiment.

On 18 May, the MSA and LSS announced that these efforts were successful, with tutorials restored for Semester 2 alongside the delivery of a range of other long-term student experience items, such as a cap on group assignment weighting at 30% and a new maximum number of collaborators at five.

These are big wins, with huge implications for the quality of life and education at Monash Law and its students. More importantly, it shows that student advocacy works, and that despite being told time and time again it was a futile exercise, student representatives in a range of roles have stared down University leadership and made the impossible possible.

Motion #4:

That this MSC:

1. Commends the work of the MSA, LSS and Student Representatives on University Council & Academic Board for their successful campaign to restore Monash Law tutorials, and the delivery of additional academic policy concessions including group assignment weighting and a cap on group sizes.
2. Calls on Monash University and the Faculty of Law push for full reintegration of tutorials across all units despite being 'subject to final accreditation and operational considerations, including staffing and timetabling'
3. Calls on all Monash University faculties to require genuine consultation with students and staff when considering changes to academic policy and education delivery, with requirements for genuine assent from students affected by reform

4. Calls on all Monash University faculties to implement a cap on group assignment weighting of 30% and a cap on group sizes
5. Calls on Monash University to change its student working hours policy to reflect the broad socioeconomic context of students at Monash, and to consider how such policies have made tertiary education inaccessible to those of poorer or less financially secure backgrounds in the past.

Moved: Remus Brasier

Seconded: Nick Fallaw

For: 19

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

MOTION PASSED

Remus Brasier (Remus) commends all those who have contributed to the return of law tutorials at Monash university. Remus explains that the motion recognises those within and outside the MSA who contributed to these recently announced changes, and highlights as well the push to install changes to group assignment weighting and a cap of five students per group.

He adds that the motion also sets out future priorities, including extending these reforms across the University, making the assignment-weighting policy universal, reforming or removing the student working-hours policy, and advancing NUS positions on codes of conduct, student dissent and genuine consultation. He thanks everyone involved in securing the changes.

Nick describes the reinstatement of law tutorials as a significant win for students and student advocacy. He argues that the outcome demonstrates the value of combining a strong grassroots campaign capable of challenging University decision-makers with effective student representation in senior decision-making forums, and that this “two-pronged approach” is of great use elsewhere across the advocacy space.

H. Monash’s Review of Academic Progress Policies and the APC Process

Preamble:

In late 2024, the University began the process of reviewing and reforming its Academic Progress discipline system, currently characterized primarily by the Academic Progress Committee (APC) process. The MSA has a demonstrable interest in APCs, as it provides independent student adjudicators via volunteers trained and managed by the Education (Academic Affairs) department.

The review process, which commenced with no readily accessible notice or engagement in the middle of 2025, has been managed by the Monash Student Academic Progress Administrative and Governance (SAPAG) team, a group managed under DVCE. To this date, no member of any student association - whether it’s the MSA, MONSU, or MGA - has been consulted on what we are led to believe are wide-ranging and radical changes to the academic performance assessment process.

Despite the clear impact of these changes on student welfare and procedural fairness, the relevant University departments did not respond to a formal request from the Education (Academic Affairs) Department in late March 2026 seeking a meeting to discuss these reforms.

This lack of engagement reflects a broader pattern of sidelining student voices in decision-making processes that directly affect them.

Motion #5:

That this MSC:

1. Notes that the SAPAG team has, on the evidence, failed to consult with student leaders throughout their review of APC processes, and failed to respond to subsequent constructive requests for meetings with student leaders.
2. Calls on SAPAG officials to engage in urgent and constructive dialogue with student representatives from MSOs regarding the AP Framework and mooted reforms to the APC process
3. Directs the Education (Academic Affairs) Department to campaign for improvements to the APC process, including better student education on the academic performance process, the introduction of greater welfare support throughout the process, and transparency in future student consultation

Moved: Remus Brasier

Seconded: Nick Fallaw

For: 18

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

MOTION PASSED

Remus states that Academic Progress Committees are central to EDAC's work and expresses concern that student representatives were not treated as stakeholders in proposed changes to the APC framework. He notes that EDAC only became aware of the reforms in March and says the motion records the MSA's dissatisfaction and directs representatives to seek a seat at the table through SAPAG. He argues that student representatives and volunteers play an essential role in ensuring APC panels are representative. He also notes that representatives at Monash Peninsula and Monash Caulfield were not consulted and only learned of the changes in April. He criticises the governance of SAPAG and the Vice-Chancellery, while acknowledging that more recent developments appear encouraging.

Nick Waives his speaking rights.

I. Supporting the NUS to Protest the Job Ready Graduates Scheme

Preamble:

Members of the MSA supported the National Union of Students in their fight against the Job Ready Graduates scheme which came into effect in the Morrison-era crackdown on arts degrees and students with degrees hitting 50k.

This is simply unreasonable and incredibly disappointing that the Albanese Labor government has continued to uphold this scheme since their first term and continues to support it into their second term. It is frustrating that the federal budget did not contain anything for students and failed to put students' interests ahead. Higher education must not be a privilege to get into or study, it should be accessible and a right for any student wanting to take on further education.

Motion #6:

This MSC:

1. Commends the work of the NUS and MSA in advocating against the Job Ready Graduates scheme, including their ongoing efforts to challenge inequitable fee structures and campaigning for accessible higher education for all students.
2. Condemns the Albanese government's failure to repeal Job Ready Graduates and the most recent federal budget's failure to deliver for students.
3. Reaffirms the MSA policy support for the full repeal of Job Ready Graduates and its replacement with a funding model of free education and proper funding for teaching across all disciplines.

Moved: Anushka Sharma

Seconded: Nick Fallaw

For:

Against:

Abstain:

MOTION PASSED

Anushka Sharma (Anushka) criticises the Job-ready Graduates scheme for significantly increasing student debt, particularly for students studying humanities, social sciences and arts, with some degrees costing around \$50,000. She expresses frustration that the scheme, introduced by the Morrison Government, remains in place under the Albanese Government. She says the motion supports efforts to abolish the scheme and commends the work of the NUS and MSA on the issue. Anushka commends the motion to the MSC.

Nick describes the Job-ready Graduates scheme as an anti-learning and anti-student policy that undermines the role of universities as places of education. He notes that fees for some degrees have risen by more than 100 per cent, while the intended shift in student enrolments towards designated priority courses has been far smaller than anticipated. Nick reiterates that the scheme is both ineffective and based on an overly simplistic view of future workforce needs which is unlikely to play out in actuality, all the while entrenching a two-tier system within higher education.

Tashani agrees that the Job-ready Graduates scheme is harmful and forces students to pay substantially higher fees for degrees deemed less economically valuable. However, Tashani criticises the motion as hypocritical, arguing that some of the same office bearers commending their protest against the scheme also attended a Labor Government budget event.

Tashani argues that condemning Labor's higher education policies is inconsistent with publicly associating with senior Labor figures responsible for a budget that she says fails students and includes cuts affecting the NDIS and broader living standards. Tashani maintains that effective student advocacy should be independent of personal political advancement and cannot be separated from office bearers' conduct outside the student union.

Nick responds that Tashani's comments shift the discussion away from the protest itself and towards the character and conduct of individuals who participated in it. He argues that allegations of hypocrisy do not determine whether the protest was justified, effective or worthwhile. Nick says the debate should remain focused on the merits of the action and whether it reflects the values of the student union.

Josiah Downey (Jos) argues that the action should not be characterised as a genuine protest, describing it instead as a largely symbolic event involving Labor students meeting with government ministers. Jos criticises Nick's defence therefore and argues that effective student mobilisation should involve publicly organising students in opposition to government policy rather than engaging closely with those responsible for it. Jos concludes by stating that he agrees that the scheme is harmful but argues that Labor's broader approach to tertiary education retains the same underlying logic: treating universities primarily as a means of producing skilled workers for the economy. Jos says measures such as adjusting course subsidies fail to address the poor pay and conditions driving workers from professions such as teaching and nursing. Sam concurs and argues that Tashani's comments directly question the validity of the protest. Sam reminds the MSC that the action appeared closely connected to the Labor Club and involved participants meeting and taking photographs with the same Labor politicians whose policies they claimed to oppose. Sam describes this as hypocritical and argues that it undermines the protest's credibility as a serious oppositional action.

Jay notes that Jos appears to agree with the motion's criticism of the Albanese Government's response to the Job-ready Graduates scheme, which the motion explicitly condemns as inadequate. Addressing concerns about the protest's validity, he says Greens Senator Mehreen Faruqi and possibly Senator David Pocock attended, while no Labor MPs were willing to support repealing the scheme. Jay argues that Sam and Jos broadly agree with the motion's central points and says the debate should remain focused on opposition to the Job-ready Graduates scheme, the MSA's advocacy for its repeal and the motion's condemnation of the Labor Government's failure to abolish it.

Anushka reiterates that the motion explicitly condemns the Albanese Government for failing to repeal the Job-ready Graduates scheme. She notes that Mehreen Faruqi, David Pocock and Monique Ryan attended the protest and expresses frustration that Labor MPs did not.

Responding to criticism of the protest's validity, Anushka says she actively led chants and maintains that the NUS and those who supported the action should be commended for their advocacy. She emphasises that the campaign seeks to prevent students, particularly arts students, from facing degree costs of around \$50,000, and moves that the matter proceed to a procedural vote.

Procedural motion:		
That the motion be put.		
Moved:	Anushka Sharma	Seconded: N/A
For: 19	Against: 1	Abstain: N/A
MOTION PASSED		

Jos queries whether he has a right of reply or not. Leroy confirms that he does not as once a procedural has been moved, the MSC must go to a vote on that procedural.

J. Class Size Crisis Report

Preamble:

In May 2026, the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) released its report Australia's University Class Size Crisis, based on a national survey of more than 4,400 university staff.

The report's key findings include: 62% of staff report tutorial and lab sizes have grown since 2019; the share of tutorials with the optimal 10–19 students has more than halved (21% to 9%); 83% of staff say their ability to support students individually has been impacted; 78% have observed worsening student engagement and outcomes; and staff workloads have exploded, largely unpaid and unrecognised, with women bearing a disproportionate share.

Bigger classes mean a worse education for Monash students, and staff working conditions are student learning conditions. The root cause is decades of chronic underfunding, accelerated by the Job Ready Graduates package - and the solution is properly funded, public universities, not cost-cutting at students' expense.

Motion #7:		
This MSC:		
- Endorses and commends the NTEU's Australia's University Class Size Crisis report and publicly thanks the staff who contributed. - Reaffirms MSA's support for the repeal of Job Ready Graduates and its replacement with a funding model that provides adequate per-student funding across all disciplines, lower student fees, and secure staff employment. - Commits the MSA to campaign alongside the Monash NTEU branch and NTEU as a whole on class sizes and staff workloads, including promoting the report to Monash students and standing in solidarity with staff industrial action. - Directs relevant office-bearers to advocate to Monash University management for smaller tutorial sizes and properly paid, recognised staff workloads, and raise these findings through relevant university committees.		
Moved:	Jay Davis	Seconded: Lana Abdelhalim
For: 20	Against: 0	Abstain: 0

MOTION PASSED

Jay introduces the NTEU's Australia's University Class Size Crisis report, which finds that class sizes and staff workloads are worsening across the sector. He attributes this to the continuing Job-ready Graduates scheme and the corporate management of universities, which he argues prioritises revenue and enrolment numbers over teaching quality. Jay says these pressures negatively affect both students and staff, turning universities into "degree factories" while increasing workloads and reducing the quality of education. He calls on the MSA to work with the Monash NTEU branch and the broader union movement to campaign for smaller class sizes and fairer workloads, emphasising that staff teaching conditions are student learning conditions.

Lana waives speaking rights.

Jos reiterates his criticism of the earlier protest, arguing that meeting and taking photographs with those being protested undermines its credibility, before turning to the discussion at hand. On this note of class sizes, Jos notes that he and Madi ran the Monash Education Action Group campaign as Education Officers the previous year, including a forum with the NTEU. He says other MSA office bearers were repeatedly invited to participate but did not become involved.

Jos welcomes the renewed focus on class sizes, arguing that larger classes reduce teaching quality, limit students' interaction with tutors and make students less confident contributing in class. He supports smaller tutorials and fairer staff workloads but argues that the campaign should prioritise grassroots organising involving students and staff, rather than relying mainly on private advocacy with University management. Tashani echoes Jos and notes that it is their opinion that a sustained campaign on class sizes was already run at Monash, including student surveys and forums with the NTEU. Tashani calls for public, grassroots campaigns involving students, staff and student representatives.

K. Permanent Free Public Transport

Motion #8:

This MSC:

1. Acknowledges that transport costs are a key major expense affecting all people, but particularly students.
2. Recognises the major benefits across the entire community over the previous two months due to free public transport in Victoria.
3. Calls on the Victorian State Government to abolish all public transport fares and fees in perpetuity.
4. Calls for the enshrinement of free public transport in the state constitution.
5. Calls for the expansion of all student concessions (including access to concession cards) to include graduate, part-time & international students and reaffirms support for the MSA's Travel Pass program as interim measures.

Moved: Monty Richardson

Seconded: Jay Davis

For: 21

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

MOTION PASSED

Monty Richardson (Monty) highlights the importance of public transport for university students and expresses disappointment that the two-month free public transport initiative has ended. He argues that public transport should be permanently free, rather than only during periods of cost-of-living pressure. Monty also raises concerns about inconsistent eligibility for student concessions, describing it as unfair that some students receive discounted travel while others do not. He notes that the MGA is currently campaigning on this issue. Jay agrees with Monty and argues that the recent two-month period demonstrates that free public transport is achievable and should continue permanently. He also supports entrenching public transport protections in the

Victorian Constitution to safeguard the service from future privatisation and ensure free public transport remains in place over the long term.

Jos supports free public transport but questions the practicality of entrenching it in the Victorian Constitution without bipartisan support. He argues that the motion could also call for public transport to be fully nationalised, criticising Victoria's reliance on public-private partnerships and public subsidies for private operators. He also supports equal concession access for domestic, international and part-time students, while noting that this is a distinct issue from permanent free public transport. Despite these reservations, he indicates support for the motion.

Jay clarifies that the Victorian Constitution can be amended by State Parliament without a referendum. He also agrees that public transport should be government-run rather than leased to private operators, acknowledging that its omission from the motion was a small oversight.

L. General Business

Procedural Motion:

That this MS considers Motion #9 as an urgency motion.

Moved: Ethan Imbriano

Seconded: N/A

For: 20

Against: 0

Abstain: N/A

MOTION PASSED

Motion #9:

This MSC:

1. calls on Monash to permanently fly the intersex pride progress flag at all Monash Australia campuses every day of the year.
2. recommit to the safety of LGBTQIA plus staff and students by strengthening efforts to dispel homophobia on and off campus.
3. invest in more safe spaces and resources that queer and questioning students can utilize. It's moved by Ethan and second moved by Anushka, with the move a like to speak.

Moved: Ethan Imbriano

Seconded: Anushka Sharma

For: 17

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

MOTION PASSED

Ethan Imbriano (Ethan) argues that flying the Pride flag across all Monash Australia campuses during Pride Month would be a simple, cost-free way for the University to support queer students. He expresses disappointment that the flag was not displayed on campus and notes that the University already has one for IDAHOBIT. Ethan also acknowledges the work of the Law Faculty EDI committees and staff members who have been advocating for the change. Anushka concurs and thanks Ethan and the Queer department throughout semester one. Anushka commends this motion to the MSC.

Nhan Nguyen clarifies that MSC meetings are open to all students and encourages greater attendance. He thanks Lot's Wife for live-tweeting and reporting on the meeting, and also acknowledges coverage by Socialist Alternative and the MSA Education Public Affairs Office. Nhan welcomes efforts to bring non-MSC members into the discussion and calls for broader promotion and participation in both online and in-person meetings.

Remus advises that nominations for the MSA Teaching Awards open the following day and encourages students to nominate teaching staff who have made a positive difference during the semester. He notes that all nominees will receive recognition, even if they do not win an award.

He also encourages students to complete SETU surveys, arguing that University management often relies on survey data when responding to concerns. Remus says students should use the surveys to record concerns about large class sizes, poor learning conditions and staff working conditions.

The meeting closes at 6:39PM

M. Next Meeting

The next regular MSC, 6/26 will be held on 08/07/2026 at 11:00AM in the Conference Room Floor 1, Campus Centre, Clayton and online.

Appendices:

1. April 2026 Financial Statement Summary
2. May Office Bearer Reports