

Meeting time: On 06/12/24 **Quorum was not reached, meeting was closed**

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	
Education (Academic Affairs):	Grayson Lowe Naomi Drego	
Education (Public Affairs):	Nafiz Ibrahim Sahar Farukh	
Activities:	Fatima Iqbal Reggie Noor	
CLA:	Haidar Shah Gina Ford	
Welfare:	Campbell Frost Teagan Hayward	
Indigenous:	John Sopar	
Environment & Social Justice:	Sophie Allen Aishwariya Veera	
Women's:	Katya Spiller Zoe Binns	
Queer:	Kelly Cvetkova Madeline Curkovic	
Disabilities & Carers:	Charlotte Sutton Gerardien Afifah	
People of Colour:	Anshuman Das Fooba Javed	
Residential Community:	Ariq Ilham Aylin Vahabova	
MUISS:	Bryan Law	

MAPS:	Stuart Gibson
Clubs & Societies:	Jay Davis
Radio Monash:	Georgie McColm
General Representative:	Dilhan Simsek
General Representative:	Beck Riches
General Representative:	Stella Robinson
General Representative:	Diyara Jaswar
General Representative:	Krishiraj Santchurn

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
Secretary	Report Submitted on time
President	No Submission Received
Lot's Wife Editors	No Submission Received
Treasurer	No Submission Received
Activities	No Submission Received
Creative Live Arts	No Submission Received

Motion #1:

This MSC accepts the report submitted by the Secretary as attached at the end of this document.

Moved: Joshua Walters ————— **Seconded:** Zareh Kozanian

In Favour: _____

~~Against:~~
~~Abstentions:~~
~~MOTION~~

E. Returning Officer's Reports

~~Motion #2:~~
~~This MSC accepts the 2024 MSA Election Report as prepared by the Returning Officer.~~

~~Moved: Jay Davis~~ ~~Seconded: Zareh Kozanian~~
~~In Favour: _____~~
~~Against: _____~~
~~Abstentions: _____~~
~~MOTION~~

~~Motion #3:~~
~~This MSC accepts the 2024 MSA Carer Definition Referendum Report as prepared by the Returning Officer.~~

~~Moved: Jay Davis~~ ~~Seconded: Zareh Kozanian~~
~~In Favour: _____~~
~~Against: _____~~
~~Abstentions: _____~~
~~MOTION~~

F. Amendments to Standing Orders - Photos & Videos and Automatic Adjournments

~~Motion #4:~~
~~This MSC inserts clauses 13.1.14. and 28.7 into the standing orders.~~

~~13.1.4 Taking a photo or video of an individual in attendance without their permission, this includes taking photos or video of how members of the MSC have voted.~~

~~28.7 Meetings that extend over two hours will be automatically adjourned after the completion of a motion. The period of adjournment is to be determined by the Chair.~~

Moved: Charlotte Sutton ————— **Seconded:** Georgie McColm

In Favour: _____

Against: _____

Abstentions: _____

MOTION

G. Amendments to Election Regulations – Do Not Approach Badges & Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard

Preamble:

The Do Not Approach Badges were introduced in the 2023 MSA election to support students who find the election period stressful. In this year's election the badges were fully implemented. Based on student feedback we have identified changes that should be made to the Election Regulations to further support the purpose of the badges.

Motion #5:

This MSC amends the following clauses of the Election Regulations, Regs 23.1, 23.5 and 43.4.32 to read as follows:

23.1. There must be a badge students can wear should they not want to be approached by campaigners during election week

23.4. The badges will be made available prior to election week at Student Union Recreation Library, the Disabilities and Carers lounge and office and at least 2 other locations to be determined prior to the election period, one of which must be located outside of Campus Centre.

43.4.32. Approaching a student who wears a 'Do Not Approach Badge' or Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lanyard per regulation 23 for campaigning purposes, unless that student first approaches and speaks to the campaigner themselves;

This MSC inserts clauses 23.5. and 23.6 into the election regulations

23.5. The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lanyards will have the same standing as the Do Not Approach badges.

23.6. The Returning Officer must provide a picture of the badge and sunflower lanyards to all Authorised Officers at the start of the election period.

Moved: Charlotte Sutton ————— **Seconded:** Sophie Allen

In Favour: _____

Against: _____

Abstentions: _____

MOTION

H. Amendments to Election Regulations – Do Not Approach Badges

Motion #6:

This MSC amends regulations 23.1. and 23.2. and 23.4 of the Election Regulations to read as follows:

~~23.1. There must be a badge that students can wear should they prefer not being approached by campaigners during election week.~~

~~23.2. The badge must be designed in such a way that will be visible to campaigners from a reasonable distance.~~

~~23.4. The badges will be made available at all Polling Places, the Student Union Recreation Library as well as the Disabilities and Carers lounge and office.~~

This MSC inserts regulations 23.5. and 23.6. into the Election Regulations to read as follows:

~~23.5. The badges must be available on or before the Monday 1 week before the annual elections.~~

~~23.6. The Returning Officer must provide the design of and a reminder of regulations regarding the badge to all Authorised Officers and Individual Candidates on the Monday 1 week before the annual elections.~~

This MSC inserts regulation 43.4.32. into the Election Regulations as follows and renumbers subsequent regulations accordingly:

~~43.4.32. Campaigning or soliciting votes via in person conversation while wearing a 'Do Not Approach Badge'.~~

Moved: Jay Davis _____ **Seconded:** Zareh Kozanian

In Favour: _____

Against: _____

Abstentions: _____

MOTION

I. Solidarity with Striking Woolworths Workers

Preamble:

Workers who are members of the United Workers Union (UWU) at Woolworth's warehouses have launched an indefinite strike as of Thursday 21 November. Six different sites across Eastern Australia are taking part in this action, the scale of which marks an unprecedented moment in the country's warehousing industry. The workers are striking for higher wages, better conditions and a shared enterprise agreement among Woolworths' warehouses. They are also demanding that the new draconian "productivity framework" be scrapped. This "framework" ensures workers meet 100% of their daily productivity targets, a rate that is standardised across all workers regardless of age or physical abilities. The extreme pressure imposed by the bosses has led to dangerous work practices and subsequently a serious increase in on site injuries. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics the transport, postal and warehousing industry has the third highest workplace injury rate in Australia. All of this is at the behest of Woolworths' drive for endless profits while the country suffers under the worst cost of living crisis in at least half a century.

The striking workers are incredibly brave for taking up this struggle against the rotten handling of Woolworths' management. It is an inspiring initiative that is much needed in a time where many Australian workers are suffering under the rising costs of rent, mortgages, bills, and groceries with food insecurity a growing concern for more and more Australian households. Conversely, bosses of major companies like Woolworths have increased their profits insurmountably over the years, none of which has been seen by the workers. Australia's cost of living crisis affects students as well as workers and it is the responsibility of student unions, like the MSA, to fight for and protect the interests of their peers. This means standing in solidarity with striking workers courageously fighting against attacks on their living standards.

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2024/nov/30/woolworths-blamed-for-empty-super-market-shelves-as-warehouse-workers-strike-nsw-victoria>

<https://redflag.org.au/article/labors-cost-of-living-relief-is-a-joke>

<https://redflag.org.au/article/support-striking-woolworths-warehouse-workers-this-week-and-next>

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/work-related-injuries/latest-release#occupation-and-industry>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-10-23/food-insecurity-rising-in-australia-foodbank-hunger-report-shows/103002120>

Motion #7:

Platform:

The MSA stands in solidarity with striking workers at the Woolworths distribution warehouses in their fight for decent wages and conditions. Solidarity with striking workers is a core principle of student unionism. In the context of a worsening cost of living crisis, these workers are setting an important example of how workers around Australia can fight back.

Action:

This MSC will take a solidarity photo to show support for the striking workers at the Woolworths warehouses.

~~This MSC will make an instagram post to the official MSA instagram. This post will include the following:~~

~~The solidarity photo~~

~~The statement passed in platform~~

~~Encouragement to attend the picket in support of the workers~~

~~A link to the strike fund~~

~~This MSC will send the solidarity photo along with the platform statement to UUU to express MSA support.~~

~~**Moved:** Beck Riches ————— **Seconded:** Madeline Curkovic~~

~~**In Favour:** ———~~

~~**Against:** ———~~

~~**Abstentions:** —~~

~~**MOTION**~~

~~J. The MSC opposes any university management suppression of free speech and activism~~

~~Preamble:~~

~~Across the country, universities have begun taking steps to curtail freedom of speech on campus, in the wake of a global student movement in solidarity with the people of Gaza.~~

~~Sydney University commissioned a review, the Hodgkinson review, the recommendations of which have just been made public. These include:~~

~~Threatening to withhold SSAF funds from the student union if it “breach(es) university policy” on protests~~

~~Threatening to withhold SSAF funds from the student union if it violates a new, restrictive policy on posterage~~

~~Threatening to withhold SSAF funds from the student union if any of its elected members violate policies as individuals~~

~~New prohibitions on protests and activism in or near buildings, both of which are claimed to be ‘out of step with contemporary work health and safety standards and our obligations to maintain psychosocial safety on campus’~~

~~Threatening misconduct for staff members who do not clarify the meaning of any potentially politically contentious term they use~~

~~Threatening misconduct for staff members who do not compel students in their tutorials to clarify the meaning of any potentially politically contentious term they use~~

~~Prohibition of hanging banners on campus footbridges~~

~~More police on campus~~

All of this is intended to have a chilling effect on all activism, and represent a serious infringement on the rights of staff and students to engage in free speech, academic freedom, political expression, and unionism.

As we enter a year where universities across Australia, including Monash, have flagged significant job and course cuts, it is untenable to have conditions such as these imposed on student unions. Practically, this would make it very hard for student unions to campaign against campus cuts, or campus deals with environmentally destructive companies—just to name two examples.

Motion #8:

Action:

1. This MSC opposes the USYD Hodgkinson review.
2. This MSC opposes restrictions on democratic rights to speech, academic freedom, and political expression, of both staff and students.
3. This MSC recognises that activism has historically been an important part of student unionism, and defends the right of student unions, and students generally, to engage in activism without fear of censorship or unjust repression.
4. This MSC will communicate its opposition to such policies to Monash University leadership.
5. This MSC will actively oppose any similar measures implemented at Monash University.

Moved: Beck Riches ————— **Seconded:** Madeline Curkovic

In Favour: _____

Against: _____

Abstentions: _____

MOTION

K. Disabilities & Carers Office Bearer Removal

Preamble:

Gerardien Afifah has failed to fulfill the duties and responsibilities required of her as Disabilities & Carers Co-Officer. This is a breach of section 35(2) of the MSA Constitution 'office-bearers and members of MSA bodies must exercise their powers and discharge their duties with reasonable care and diligence.'

The Disabilities and Carers Officer's duties and responsibilities are outlined in the Regulations for Office Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies, they are as follows:

- Representing the concerns of disabled students and carers

- ~~Organising meetings of the Disabilities and Carers Collective~~
- ~~Helping to coordinate or contribute to campaigns on issues that effect disabled students and carers~~
- ~~Collecting and disseminating helpful and pertinent resources~~
- ~~Organising and/or facilitating programs and projects that are relevant to and helpful towards the needs of disabled students and carers~~
- ~~Promoting education and awareness surrounding relevant issues~~
- ~~Networking and collaborating with other disabilities groups, both inter-campus and external~~
- ~~Assisting in generic MSA campaigns when required~~
- ~~Assisting in other office bearers' departments, where appropriate~~
- ~~Completing other responsibilities of the Disabilities' Officer position specified in the Constitution and the regulations~~

~~As stated in section 17.1 of the Regulations for Office Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies, it is the responsibility of the MSC to determine whether or not an office-bearer or a member of a MSA body has breached the Constitution or the regulations, and to decide on the appropriate disciplinary measure that is necessary for such a breach.~~

~~This motion seeks to remove Gerardien from the role of Disabilities & Carers Co-Office Bearer for her continued failure to perform her duties and responsibilities, including but not limited to the failure to:~~

- ~~Attend committee meetings or to make contact with the committee through official channels~~
- ~~Contribute to Lot's Wife or MSC reports~~
- ~~Assist in the cleaning and maintenance of the Disabilities & Carers~~
- ~~Contribute to or support with advocacy campaigns~~
- ~~Organize events for the Disabilities & Carers community~~
- ~~Assist in MSA campaigns~~
- ~~Work with other MSA departments~~
- ~~Respond to requests from Monash staff for support with projects~~
- ~~Represent the interests of Disabled students and carers~~
- ~~Advocate for Disabled students and carers~~

~~Due to the prolonged nature of the conduct and the failure of Gerardien to make contact with the executive or support staff, removal is the most appropriate disciplinary measure available to the MSC.~~

~~Gerardien was notified of this motion on the 29th November as required under 42 (f)(i) of the MSA Constitution.~~

Motion #9:

~~It is moved that this MSC removes Gerardien Afifah as Disabilities & Carers co-office bearer of the MSA as per section 42(1)(f) of the MSA Constitution for breaching 35(2) of the MSA~~

~~Constitution 'office-bearers and members of MSA bodies must exercise their powers and discharge their duties with reasonable care and diligence.'~~

~~**Moved:** Charlotte Sutton **Seconded:** Katya Spiller~~

~~**In Favour:** _____~~

~~**Against:** _____~~

~~**Abstentions:** _____~~

~~**MOTION**~~

~~**L. General Business**~~

~~**M. Appendices**~~

Zareh Kozanian

Secretary

Report to MSC 11/24

GOALS

- Ensure that all meetings, decisions, attendance, and official documents within the MSA are accurately recorded.
- Ensure students are well-informed about the MSA's decisions and activities by facilitating effective communication within the MSA by sharing important information, announcements, and meeting agendas.
- Assist the president and the MSA Office Bearers and divisions by providing administrative support, coordinating logistics for initiatives, and handling correspondence.
- Ensure that students are provided with quality services and support the MSA's continued advocacy for students.
- Addressing any concerns about accessibility and transparency by fostering an inclusive and accessible environment within the MSA.
- Ensure the MSA's compliance to its constitution and relevant regulations

Report for MSC 15

Serving as the Secretary of the Monash Student Association (MSA) this year has been an incredibly rewarding journey, marked by several impactful initiatives that have greatly benefited the student community. One of the standout achievements was our successful campaign to reduce the late submission penalty from 10% to 5%. This adjustment was designed to provide students with greater flexibility during challenging periods, recognizing the pressures of balancing academic and personal responsibilities. It was a meaningful step forward for student welfare.

Another accomplishment I take pride in is the expansion of 24/7 study spaces on campus. Understanding that students have diverse schedules, we advocated for increased accessibility to study areas around the clock, creating a supportive environment for flexible learning needs. This year also marked the establishment of the Monash Foodbank, a critical initiative aimed at supporting students facing financial hardships by providing essential food and supplies. In the context of rising living costs, the Foodbank has served as an invaluable resource, promoting a culture of care and support.

Our social initiatives also reached new heights, with the MSA organizing larger and more inclusive parties and events, fostering a vibrant campus culture and strengthening student connections. As Secretary, I took on the responsibility of coordinating and scheduling Monash Student Council meetings, ensuring seamless communication across the council. A key focus of my role was to enhance transparency within the MSA, keeping students well-informed about our decisions and activities to promote accountability and accessibility.

Looking back on this year, I am proud of the progress we have made. The MSA has taken significant strides in enriching the Monash student experience, and it has been a privilege to contribute to these meaningful outcomes.