

MSC 6/25 CONFIRMED MINUTES

A. Attendance

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>	<u>Attendee</u>
President:	Sasha Braybrooke		Present ▾
Secretary:	Felix Hughes		Present ▾
Treasurer:	Vacant/Tyra Jones		Present ▾
EdAc:	Naomi Drego		Present ▾
EdPub:	Madeline Curkovic		Present ▾
Activities:		Ava Howard & Alessandro Papaleo	Proxy ▾
	Reggie Noor		
CLA:	Anban Raj	Natnael Gebremedhin	Proxy ▾
Welfare:	Furqan Ahmed	Josh Chauh	Proxy ▾
Indigenous:	Caitlin Carpenter	John Sopar	Present ▾
ESJ	Remus Brasier		Present ▾
Women's:	Frances Clark		Absent ▾
Queer:	Mallory Norman		Present ▾
Disabilities & Carers:	Charlotte Sutton		Present ▾
People of Colour:	Lana Abdelhalim		Present ▾
Residential Community:	Leroy Van Schellebeck		Present ▾
MUISS:	Bryan Law		Present ▾
MAPS:	Amethyst Grayson	Alex Self	Present ▾
Clubs & Societies:	Jay Davis		Present ▾
Radio Monash:	Georgie McColm		Present ▾
General Representative:	John Lavanya		Proxy ▾
General Representative:	Diyara Jaswar		Absent ▾
General Representative:	Beck Riches	Josiah Downey	Proxy ▾
General Representative:	Jennifer Tran		Present ▾
General Representative:	Nick Fallaw	Carla Hunaidi	Proxy ▾

Meeting opened at 11:15am

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. Vacant Office Bearer Positions

Motion #1:

This MSC appoints Tyra Jones to the position of MSA Treasurer per section 42(5) of the constitution, following the vacancy created by the resignation of Campbell Frost pursuant to section 42(1)(a) of the constitution.

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Nick Fallaw Jay Davis

In Favour: 17

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Felix Hughes (Felix) speaks in favour of Tyra Jones's (Tyra) appointment and notes Tyra's prolonged involvement in the Monash Student Association.

Jay Davis (Jay) seconds the motion and speaks to the importance of appointing treasurers who are active in their roles, citing Tyra as one who will achieve this threshold.

Motion #2:

This MSC appoints Josiah Downey to the position of MSA Education (Public Affairs) Officer per section 42(5) of the constitution, following the vacancy created by the resignation of Luka Kiernan pursuant to section 42(1)(a) of the constitution.

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Madeline Curkovic

In Favour: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Felix speaks to the motion, highlighting that the transition is likely to be a smooth one seeing as Josiah Downey (Jos) has already been an active though informal contributor to MSA education (Public Affairs) business.

Madeline Curkovic (Madi) waives speaking rights

Motion #3:

This MSC appoints Ashley Rosewall to the position of MSA Creative and Live Arts Officer per section 42(5) of the constitution, following the vacancy created by the resignation of Michelle Grigorian pursuant to section 42(1)(a) of the constitution.

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Anban Raj Jay Davis

In Favour: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Felix speaks to the motion and endorses Ashley Rosewall's (Ashley) appointment to the position in question, citing Ashley's extensive involvement over numerous months leading up to MSC 6/25. Felix cites his conversations with co-OB Anban Raj (Anban) wherein Anban is purported to be in complete support also. Jay commends the work of Ashley over the preceding months and also commends the joint work of the MSA Creative and Live Arts office bearers in facilitating what he describes as enormously successful Wednesday Sessions over Semester 1.

E. Validation of amendments to the Constitution

Motion #4:

This MSC:

A. note that:

1. (a) at the 2018 annual elections a referendum was carried in accordance with clause 17 of the Constitution to amend the Constitution;
(b) those amendments ("the 2018 amendments") were passed by special resolution at a general meeting of members held on 12 August 2021 in accordance with clause 60 of the Constitution; but
(c) the 2018 amendments were not lodged with and approved by the Registrar of Incorporated Associations ("the Registrar") in accordance with section 50 of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic) ("the Act") until 30 June 2025; and
2. (a) at the 2020 annual elections 3 referendums were carried in accordance with clause 17 of the Constitution to amend the Constitution;
(b) those amendments ("the 2020 amendments") were passed by special resolution at a general meeting of members held on 12 August 2021 in accordance with clause 60 of the Constitution; but
(c) the 2020 amendments were not lodged with and approved by the Registrar in accordance with section 50 of the Act until 30 June 2025; and

B. resolve in accordance with clause 64(5) of the Constitution that, notwithstanding section 50(2) of the Act, the 2018 amendments and the 2020 amendments be taken for all purposes to have come into effect on the date the general meetings of members was held.

Moved: Jay Davis **Seconded:** Felix Hughes

In Favour: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Jay provides a background for the motion in the absence of a preamble. Jay explained that the 2018 constitutional amendments were approved in accordance with Clause 17 of the Constitution through a referendum conducted at the 2018 annual elections, and were subsequently passed by special resolution at a general meeting of members held on 12 August 2021 in accordance with Clause 60 of the Constitution. However, despite these approvals, the amendments were not lodged with or approved by the Registrar of Incorporated Associations (Consumer Affairs Victoria) as required under Section 50 of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, MSA's legal advice is that the amendments did not complete the formal statutory process required to take effect and it is explained that this motion seeks to in effect:

- remove uncertainty about the validity and operation of the amendments during the period 2021–2025;
- confirm that actions taken under those amendments are treated as valid; and
- give the amendments retrospective effect from the original approval date.

Motion #5:

This MSC:

1. Note that:

- In accordance with [Motion #3 of MSC 8/21](#) a referendum was held to amend the eligibility criteria for Queer Officer during the 2021 annual elections.
- The referendum was [declared by the Returning Officer](#) to have been carried with required quorum to be binding.
- A Special General Meeting [General Meeting of Members] was convened by [Motion #17 of MSC 8/22](#) to adopt a special resolution to amend the Constitution.
- That the amendments were not submitted to the Registrar in 2022 and the 2025 Executive and Senior Management have been unable to locate minutes of the meeting.

2. Convene a General Meeting of Members at 17:00 on Friday, 1 August 2025 for the business of considering the following special resolution:

That the Constitution be amended as follows:

Amend cl.32(3) to read: "The Queer Officer must be directly elected by and from self-identified queer students. No more than 1 cisgender man may hold the position of Queer Officer."

3. Direct the Secretary to give notice of the General Meeting of Members and proposed special resolution in accordance with clause 60 of the Constitution.

Moved: Jay Davis **Seconded:** Felix Hughes

In Favour: 19

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Jay explained that a referendum to amend the eligibility criteria for the Queer Officer position was successfully carried during the 2021 annual elections, with the required quorum achieved, and that a special general meeting was subsequently convened to adopt the constitutional amendment, however, that the amendments were never submitted to the Registrar in 2022, and the 2025 Executive and senior management have been unable to locate the meeting minutes confirming that the special resolution was formally passed.

As a result, Jay explains that motion #5 seeks to regularise and remove uncertainty around the amendment process by convening a new General Meeting of Members to reconsider and formally pass the constitutional amendment through a procedurally valid and properly documented process in accordance with clause 60 of the Constitution.

Jay states the intention to convene a second general meeting in such a time that it does not interfere with mid year festival activities at MSA, citing this as the rationale for the August 1 date and specifying that over 3 weeks notice has been given therein.

Felix waives his speaking rights.

F. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion #6:

This MSC confirms [Minutes of MSC 2/25](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

Moved: Felix Hughes **Seconded:** Jay Davis

In Favour: 16

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

MOTION CARRIED

Felix waives speaking rights.

Jay waives speaking rights.

G. Reports

Office Bearer and Divisional Reports	Submission Compliance
Education (Academic Affairs)	Report Submitted on time

Education (Public Affairs)	Report Submitted on time
Welfare	Report Submitted on time
Environment and Social Justice	Report Submitted on time
Queer	Report Submitted on time
Indigenous	Mon, June 30, 4:10pm (Late Submission)
Disabilities and Carers	Report Submitted on time
People of Colour	Report Submitted on time
Women's	Report Submitted on time
Residential Community	Report Submitted on time
Lot's Wife Editors	Report Submitted on time

Motion #7:

This MSC accepts all submitted Office Bearer and Lot's Wife Editors Reports en bloc.

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

[Felix waives speaking rights.](#)

[Jay waives speaking rights.](#)

H. 2025 MSA Annual Elections

Motion #8:

That this MSC:

1. Revokes the current [Election Regulations](#); and
2. Adopts the proposed [Election and Referendum Regulations](#).

Moved: Jay Davis

Seconded: Felix Hughes

In Favour: 13

Against: 6

Abstentions: 2

MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

Jay explained that the proposed Election and Referendum Regulations largely retained the existing substantive rules but substantially reorganised and modernised the document, which he described as outdated, poorly ordered, and containing broken cross-references. The regulations had been restructured into a more logical and sequential format, with updated numbering designed to minimise future cross-reference issues and corrections to references broken in 2022. Additional provisions had been inserted to better accommodate referenda, including a dedicated referendum section and incorporation of relevant constitutional clauses to reduce cross-referencing. Although approximately 12 pages longer, Jay noted this was primarily due to formatting changes and represented less than a 10% increase in substantive length.

Jay stated that the definitions section had been expanded and terminology updated for clarity, including renaming “individual candidates” to “unaffiliated candidates” and “unique candidates” to “distinct candidates”, alongside broader definitions relating to election officials, autonomous positions, joint candidates, and MSA spaces. He noted that proposed Interpretation Regulations had not yet been finalised and therefore would not apply to the current election cycle. Additional changes included references to NUS by-laws for delegate accreditation compliance, expanded election reporting requirements, and revised appeal timelines measured in academic days following recommendations from previous Returning Officers.

In relation to ticketing rules, Jay explained that required ticket signatures would increase from 40 to 80 to offset recent reductions in nomination requirements, including removal of the previous requirement for 220 nominators and seconders for a full ticket. Revised naming rules would prohibit use of terms such as “Monash” or “MSA”, alongside stricter regulation of references to external organisations without permission following legal advice concerning trademark risks. Publicity provisions had also been reorganised, and pre-approval requirements for physical publicity by the Returning Officer would be removed, while optional review remained available.

Jay additionally outlined operational changes, including updated election guide rules, revised polling terminology reflecting online voting practices, simplified polling time provisions, and relocation of affirmative action rules into the main body of the regulations for clarity. Rules governing candidates elected to multiple positions had been simplified so candidates would automatically be elected to the higher-ranked position. Prohibited conduct provisions had also been restructured to clearly distinguish serious and non-serious conduct and associated penalties, while validation provisions were clarified to apply only to election officials and not candidates.

Finally, Jay stated that amendments to the regulations would now require 14 days’ notice, notification to all MSA members, and publication on the MSA website to improve transparency and accessibility. He noted that transitional provisions concerning election dates were included only to facilitate consideration of the following motion and did not themselves determine the election date.

Motion #9:

This MSC:

1. Confirms the appointment of OGL Group Pty. Ltd. as Returning Officer for the 2025 MSA Elections.
2. Appoints Andrew Saunders to the Electoral Tribunal for the 2025 MSA Elections.
3. Sets the dates of polling for the 2025 MSA Annual Elections to be from Monday, 1 September to Thursday, 4 September.

Moved: Felix Hughes **Seconded:** Jay Davis
In Favour: 13
Against: 2
Abstentions: 0
MOTION CARRIED

Felix waives speaking rights.

Jay waives speaking rights.

Jos leaves the meeting.

Paul Halliday (Paul) raises his concern that ticket nominations should close during semester and proposes that an amendment to the regulations be made to reflect a scenario where registration period be wholly prior to the commencement of semester and addressed therefore by mandating that registrations close by the end of the semester's first week. Paul clarifies that he does not believe this to be an intentional mishandling of the regulations.

Sasha confirms that quorum remains.

Amendment to Motion #9:

Replace "Monday, 1 September to Thursday 4 September", with "Monday 8 September to Thursday 11 September"

Moved: Josiah Downey **Seconded:** Madeline Curkovic
In favour: 6
Against: 10
Abstentions: 4
AMENDMENT FAILED

Felix notes that he is opposed to the amendment.

Jos voices concerns as to what he describes as a last-minute attempt by the executive to mandate an election date allegedly without consultation. Jos again proposes that the election be pushed by one week. Jos speaks to the value this may have in enabling tickets of smaller size to compile the requisite ticket registration signatures.

Madi expresses a belief that the increase in required signatures to 80 per ticket should coincide with pushing back the election date. Madi states that they are intending to rectify a serious mistake in doing so.

Felix replies to highlight the need for OGL staff and returning officer to be available during the chosen election week. Felix makes it known that there has been no indication from OGL that they would be available in line with the requests of Jos and Madi. Felix finishes by contending that it would be irresponsible of the MSC to mandate an election at a later date where that date had not been cleared in such a way.

Jay speaks to the concerns raised by Jos and seconds Felix's concern that any decision made by the MSC without prior consultation with OGL would constitute an unreasonable risk to the governance of the organisation as it relates to elections. Jay notes that proper procedure would involve a vote on what has been communicated to OGL up to MSC 6/25, and that should the vote to affirm current arrangements fail, an urgent

MSC may be called the following week, prior to which, Felix would have had the opportunity to have checked the proposed alternative (and in such case preferred) date of the MSC with OGL beforehand.

Madi raises a point of clarification as to whether or not the MSC could engage OGL over the phone during MSC 6/25 for the purposes of ascertaining availability during the proposed alternative dates. Felix replies to state it would be inappropriate to call OGL staff in a public forum without advanced notice and that such an instance would be both unprecedented and highly unprofessional.

Jos raises concerns about consultation between the MSA Executive and the MSC. Jos calls on the MSC to reject the current proposal in favour of that which is amended, and in the event the latter fails, attend an emergency MSC. Jos calls for new election regulations as well as an opportunity to return to the prior requirement of 40 signatures.

Jay replies to clarify any amendments to the election regulations at an MSC would require 14 days notice, contrary to the 7 day period in which Jos seeks to reconvene. Jay notes that you cannot amend the regulations after the returning officer is appointed also, before noting that it was reasonable for the executive to assume any issues or preferences as they relate to election dates would be moved in a motion to the MSC separately, and that such a motion would have alerted the Executive to consult more broadly with OGL. Jay further notes that following the provision of a draft agenda, there was adequate visibility of the Executives' intended date and that as this was at least 48 hours prior to the MSC, any concerns should have been raised. Jay contends too that it is broadly unreasonable for the MSA Executive to without reason request OGL availability in what are effectively random weeks of the year.

Jay speaks to Madi's proposal that the MSC conduct a phone call with OGL mid-meeting, and highlights again that it is unreasonable to expect that one person on a phone call can reliably recount or have knowledge of the availability of the entire OGL team. In saying this, Jay highlights that OGL is not just one person, it is a broader team where availability is to be arranged with intention and notice, not simply on the fly.

Felix returns to the core substance of why the existing election date has been chosen, highlighting that it is to put the MSA in line with the operation of other student unions across Victoria. Jos interjects as to what the significance of this line of exploration is. Felix continues, stating that the significance lies in the assurance an aligned election period across multiple campuses provides as it relates to interference from other campuses. Felix recounts that students from other campuses infiltrate elections and that an effective way to mitigate this is to ensure they are required at their own.

Josh Chuah (Josh) queries why the Executive places significance upon homogenous campus election dates but not upon the tickets required signature count. Felix replies, contending that MSA wishes to be more resilient to the presence of feeder tickets - and that such tickets are readily found at other universities.

Madi contends that since elections are to be held at the same time, OGL may well be available the following week.

Jay again returns to the issue that OGL has not been consulted, and encourages the MSC to vote on what is proposed in the present.

Pavan contends firstly that it is irrelevant what dates other universities hold their elections, before moving to highlight his belief that the mover withdraw motion #9 and retable at a later date. Pavan raises that he believes the proposed dates may be workable in the event that parties have a longer period of time to study the election regulations. Jos speaks to Pavan's view and requests that the decision be postponed, though also notes that this would inherently mean the elections would be postponed anyway.

Sasha calls a five minute recess.
Sasha resumes the meeting at 1:47PM.

I. Student Referendum on the definition of 'carer'

Preamble:

Currently the definition of "carer" in the MSA Constitution is quite vague which has caused confusion in the past. There is a well written definition in the Federal Carer Recognition Act 2010 which is widely accepted in Australia. Changing the carer definition in the Constitution to conform with the Australian definition makes sense, especially since the definition of disability comes from legislation also.

Motion #10:

This MSC resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2025 MSA election on the proposed constitutional changes as outlined:

The current clause 64(1)(d) "carer" means a person who provides care for a person with a disability or an elderly person, is to be replaced with "carer" has the same meaning as in the Carer Recognition Act 2010 (Cth).

This MSC resolves that the wording of the referendum question to be as follows: 'The Carer Recognition Act 2010 describes a carer as an individual who provides personal care, support and assistance to another individual who needs it because that other individual:

- a. has a disability; or
- b. has a medical condition (including a terminal or chronic illness); or
- c. has a mental illness; or
- d. is frail and aged.

It states that an individual is not a carer in respect of care, support and assistance he or she provides:

- a. under a contract of service or a contract for the provision of services; or
- b. in the course of doing voluntary work for a charitable, welfare or community organisation; or
- c. as part of the requirements of a course of education or training.

It also states an individual is not a carer merely because he or she:

- a. is the spouse, de facto partner, parent, child or other relative of an individual, or is the guardian of an individual; or
- b. lives with an individual who requires care.

Do you agree that the MSA Constitution should be amended to state that a "carer" has the same meaning as in the Carer Recognition Act 2010?

This MSC appoints OGL Group to act as Returning Officer of the student referendum.

This MSC resolves that the dates, locations and hours of polling for the student referendum shall be that of the 2025 MSA Annual Elections.

This MSC directs the Returning Officer to ensure that copies of the proposed change are made available to all students on the MSA website.

Moved: Charlotte Sutton

Seconded: John Sopar

In Favour: 7

Against: 5

Abstentions: 3

MOTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

Charlotte Sutton (Charlotte) speaks to the motion and acknowledges that this is the third time that this referendum has been attempted and that previous attempts have been unsuccessful on administrative and user-interface grounds. Charlotte explains the distinction between those who are paid to be carers through another related, important but distinct role and those who are defined as carers under the Carer Recognition Act 2010.

John Sopar (John) waives speaking rights.

Paul speaks to the motion and commends the amendment as needed and overdue. Paul recounts that in previous years the overwhelming majority of respondents had voted in favour, yet that the visibility of the questions was lacking to such an extent that the required 5% response rate was not achieved.

Felix speaks and highlights that he agrees with the substance and intention of the motion as put. He raises concerns however relating to the timing of the referendum as proposed - that being again during election week. Felix notes that the failed prior iterations occurred in election periods and that it is his position that the timing be amended so as to avoid what may reasonably be billed as a foreseeable and/or avoidable expense to the sum of roughly \$6,000 in the event that it were to fail again. Felix makes it clear that his intention is to bolster the chance that the amendment succeeds and that this is the only reason he disagrees with the application of the motion as it stands and recommends an alternate date be set for semester one 2026.

Pavan concurs with Felix's stance and raises the question as to whether or not a general meeting be convened to pass the changes. Jay speaks up to clarify that while such an event would be possible, it would first require it to have been passed at a referendum or a student general meeting first. Jay also agrees that semester one 2026 is preferable.

Charlotte does not agree that holding the referendum at a separate time was useful, instead contending that the fewer elections that are forced upon students the better.

Tyra Jones (Tyra) speaks to the motion and reiterates the concerns as raised by Felix that an endorsement of prior practice in scheduling referendums at the same time as elections, is akin to an endorsement of a process likely to fail and therein a wastage of MSA funds. Tyra suggests a rescheduled referendum to week one or two semester one 2026.

Jay speaks to provide a statistical recount of student engagement across the different formats, stating that turnout during elections was 1.77% and 3.04% later in the year - although acknowledging the issues with the voting platform in 2022.

Paul states that the cost factor may be overstated in the event that the referendum and election is run concurrently, as the returning officer is already hired. Paul also raises that there may need to be a greater consideration given to referendum protocol, stating that the burden may be too high and that the threshold

may need to be lowered if they are not fit for purpose. Jay seconds this notion, proposing informally a double majority style system.

Pavan notes that it is possible that the secretary of the MSA be the returning officer for the purposes of a referendum and that this may reduce costs, however Jay counters by suggesting that the University would not provide a voter list to the MSA Secretary, in line with extant university policy.

Charlotte closes by reaffirming support for the motion and highlights the importance of resolving the issue sooner rather than later, and that there is no assurance that engagement would improve early in 2026.

Procedural Motion:

That Alessandro Papaleo be accepted as proxy for Reggie Noor.

Moved: Felix Hughes

In favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 4

PROCEDURAL MOTION PASSED

Sasha calls for a recount on the procedural motion to ensure an absolute majority of 13 or more is met.

J. Policies & Regulations

Motion #11:

This MSC approves the revised:

1. [Child Protection Policy](#)
2. [Child Protection Procedure](#)
3. [Child Safety Code of Conduct](#)
4. [Conference Policy](#)
5. [Environmental Sustainability Policy](#)
6. [Investment Policy](#)
7. [OHS Policy](#)
8. [OHS Procedure](#)
9. [Social Media Policy](#)
10. [Social Media Procedures](#)
11. [Whistleblower Procedures](#)

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED

Felix expands upon the close coordination undertaken by the finance audit and risk committee with the finance department and executive. Felix highlights the intention of the update being to ensure policy is in line with current policy and best practice.

Jay waives speaking rights.

Pavan raises multiple points, that:

- conference policy of the MS should include, under the attendance provision, wording that denotes how funding must only be allocated to an MSA representative if attendance at that conference is substantially and demonstrably in line with their role and position description.
- the MSA should reconsider its investment policy insofar as it relates to international equity. Pavan justifies such in terms of its capacity to leave the organisation vulnerable in the event of another global recession. Pavan raises that negative and positive screening guidelines be clarified furthermore, especially in its formatting on page five, to clarify what is in fact negative and positive to the layman.

Felix replies to the point regarding conference attendance and expresses a differing opinion that it is dependent on the unique budget lines of individual departments, office bearer and secretary discretion. Felix states that conferences in contemporary times that are attended are all extremely relevant. Felix replies to the profitability and ethics of international equity investment and contends that both fronts are made out adequately.

Jay replies also and indicates the proper exercising of fiduciary duties covers the risk he outlines with regard to conferences. Regarding international investments, Jay expresses his concurrence with the status quo.

Motion #12:

That this MSC adopts the [proposed amendments to the Role Outlines for all office-bearers](#).

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

Felix speaks to the motion and highlights that the changes are not absolutely perfect, but significantly more workable for given parties. Felix explains what has been altered and that overall it is semantics, grammar, and constitutionally representative.

Jay speaks to the importance of up-to-date governance documents and highlights that it is a process that will take time. Felix replies by referring to the honorarium pay fraction now being disclosed on paper and its subsequent promotion of transparency.

Motion #13:

That this MSC adopts the revised:

1. [Finance Regulations](#)
2. [Finance Policy](#)
3. [Finance Procedure](#)

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: ~~Jay Davis~~ Tyra Jones

In Favour: 16

Against: 1

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Felix outlines that the changes have been mostly raised by staff, and actioned by the executive with the most noticeable changes being that MSC must be updated with monthly updates on central funds expenditure.

Tyra waives speaking rights.

Paul raises a concern that the finance regulations are termed as regulations but that they do not have amendment provisions. Pavan raises that the finance audit risk committee should have another member elected by the MSC, commenting that it is an organisational weakness that there is not some representation beyond the executive. Pavan also raises concerns about the publishing of appreciation rates as they change, positing that a live documentation of such would be too onerous.

Felix responds to the point raised by Paul regarding amendment provisions and voices support for investigating such in future. Felix responds to Pavan and in particular the assertion that a non-executive be appointed to the finance audit risk committee, on the grounds that the numerous confidential staffing that are discussed are inappropriate to share beyond the elected executive.

Alex seeks to clarify why the finance regulations definition of executive excludes general representative and divisional representatives. Felix explains that this is the status quo and indeed not a change. Felix contends that the reason a prior MSA executive has placed this system into effect is to allow for direct accountability between students and elected representatives as to financial decision making of the sort.

Jay raises that it is a fair point to raise but that it was likely the advice of the MSA legal counsel, and that this may have something to do with the often later appointment of the two roles in the new MSA term. Paul interjects to surmise that he has been given advice which suggests a functional separate executive has been established of the same name that can only authorise financial transactions as a stop-gap in the event that the entire executive (including executive general representative and divisional representative) have not yet been elected.

Pavan again replies with the contention that as the committee is effectively a subcommittee of the MSC, it should have broader engagement and accountability to the council. Paul replies to Pavan and reminds him that it acts as a subcommittee of the executive rather than the MSC, where the staff have enshrined voting rights. Felix states that in practical effect, should a non-executive member be appointed to this position, the confidential nature of the discussions would mean that the discussions would occur anyway albeit informally.

K. Breakfast Club

Motion #14:

This MSC approves up to \$18,000 to expand the MSA Free Breakfast Program to three days per week during Semester 2, 2025.

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Mohamed Orabi Tyra Jones

In Favour: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

MOTION CARRIED

Felix commends the free breakfast initiative and explains that this is a cost-of-living measure that reflects increasing demand. Felix reiterates that these services are popular not because they are exciting, but because they provide a genuinely essential service.

Tyra waives speaking rights.

Pavan raises a point of clarification as to whether or not this constitutes additional debt or a reallocation of an existing budget line. Felix clarifies that this funding reflects an increase in funding sourced from greater SSAF funding. Paul raises a point of clarification that this is a deficit not debt, and Felix agrees. Pavan repeats his question and asks whether a budget line needs to be amended. Felix replies and contends that the MSA does not have to revise the budget line.

L. The MSA endorses the National Day of Action for Palestine on August 7

Preamble:

The destruction of Gaza is ongoing. Palestinians are being subject to mass starvation. The IDF has opened fire on innocent people in Gaza seeking aid. As of the 26th of June, more than 500 Palestinians have been killed by IDF soldiers at aid sites in the last two weeks. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has said that “any forced displacement of people is tantamount to ethnic cleansing.” Mohamed Duar of Amnesty International has said that “Israel’s plan to ‘capture Gaza’ marks a horrific acceleration in its genocidal campaign.”

Gaza is the only area on Earth where it is deemed that 100 percent of the population is at risk of famine. Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich said in April that “not even a grain of wheat” will enter Gaza.

Australian Universities, including Monash, maintain research partnerships with companies that supply weapons and military resources to Israel. Monash has an active research partnership with Boeing, who manufacture the F-15 fighter jets used by the Israeli Air Force. Monash’s industry team initiative helped to establish the research division of Lockheed Martin Australia - STELaRLab - in 2017.

~~Students for Palestine has called a National Day of Action for the 7th of August.~~ This protest has been endorsed by the National Union of Students (NUS). At the Education Conference, discussions were held where the NUS has called on all affiliated student unions to help promote the NDA.

The NDA calls for universities to cut ties with weapons companies, calls on the government to place sanctions on Israel, and calls for state and university-led repression of Palestine activism to stop.

Procedural Motion:

To conduct agenda items L through R through formal debate:

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 13

Against: 2

PROCEDURAL MOTION CARRIED

Motion #15:

1. This MSC endorses the National Day of Action called for the 7th of August by Students for Palestine and endorsed by the National Union of Students.
2. This MSC endorses the demands of the protest, which call for:
 - a. Universities to cut ties with weapons companies.
 - b. The government to place sanctions on Israel.
 - c. The end of repression of pro-Palestine activists.
3. The MSA will, according to Social Media Policy, promote the National Day of Action.

Moved: Madeline Curkovic

Seconded: Beck-Riches Josiah Downey

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

MOTION CARRIED

Madi speaks to the importance of the student union in standing up to persecution worldwide, with specific reference to the ongoing cycle of oppression in Gaza.

Sasha notes that there is no seconder, and requests that another be found. Jos assumes this role.

Jos speaks to the importance of protest and outlines the various suggestions and methods of such that were raised at the recent NUS Education Conference. Jos encourages anyone present to attend the events associated with the national day of action.

Lana speaks against the motion and moves an amendment that "Students for Palestine has called a National Day of Action for the 7th of August" is re-written as "there is a National Day of Action on the 7th of August." and move to strike "by Students for Palestine".

Amendment to motion 15:

1. Change "Students for Palestine has called a National Day of Action for the 7th of August." to "there is a National Day of Action on the 7th of August."
2. Strike "by Students for Palestine"

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 10

Against: 3

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED

Lana speaks for the amendment and highlights the role of Students For Palestine in contributing to division on university campuses while being consumed by sentiments of white-savourism. Lana speaks to numerous accounts of harassment of Palestinian students by the group and thereby her desire to avoid naming the organisation. Lana states that as a Palestinian person, she does not feel that Students For Palestine represent her or other Palestinian people.

Felix speaks to the fact that he supports the intention of motion 15 as amended as the unamended motion though sound in intention, is unfit in practice where it promotes a group actively labelled as counter-productive by the MSA POC team.

Madi replies and states that Students for Palestine was established at Monash in 2008 by Palestinian and Arab activists. She states that the motion does not endorse the organisation or claim that it represents all Palestinians and argues that removing the name of an event organiser because of disagreement with its past actions or politics is inappropriate and distracts from the purpose and spirit of the motion.

Pavan expresses concern about organisations claiming ownership over aspects of the movement and creating unnecessary political conflict for MSC. Echoing Felix, he states that the MSC should respect the position of the People of Colour Department and focus on ensuring the crisis receives appropriate recognition and attention. He calls for an end to disputes over naming and urges Council to move forward with endorsing the protest.

Procedural motion:

To move to a vote on the amendment

Moved: Madeline Curkovic

In Favour: 9

Against: 4

MOTION CARRIED

Harleen states that the student union should provide a platform and resources for students who want to take action in support of Palestine and raises concerns about starvation, malnutrition and access to aid in Gaza, as well as government and university links to weapons manufacturers. Harleen argues that the purpose of a student union includes supporting student activism and welcomes the National Union of Students' endorsement of a statewide day of action and further calls for the MSA to take a more active role in organising protests and rallies on Palestine and other left-wing issues, rather than limiting its response to online statements.

Max Tory (Max) supports the motion and raises concerns about the continuing deaths of Palestinians in Gaza and the alleged complicity of the Australian Government, Monash University and companies with which the

University has partnerships. He argues that formal endorsements alone are insufficient and welcomes the commitment to promote the National Day of Action through social media. Max also calls for a broader activist approach at the MSA including putting up posters, distributing leaflets, speaking with students and raising awareness of Monash University's ties to weapons manufacturers.

M. Monthly Financial Statements

Motion #16:

This MSC accepts the [MSA Financial Statement Summary for May](#).

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Jay Davis

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Felix waives speaking rights.

Jay highlights that the June financial statements are not yet ready.

Pavan provides an observation ahead of the June budget summary as to how much of each department's budgets are actually being used. Pavan highlights that at the half-way mark of the year, the budget should reflect that.

Felix invokes a right of reply and highlights that department spending is not uniform and often reflects the existence of infrequent large events, and in some cases one singular event which comprise the majority of the departments expenditure.

Paul speaks for the motion and adds context to Felix's reply, stating that the Education (academic affairs) budget wherein 80% of the operating budget is expended in the final weeks of the year on a single event.

N. Opposing War on Iran and Supporting Students Affected by War

Preamble

Israel has launched pre-emptive strikes on Iran, targeting civilian areas under the claim of "defence" while in reality escalating violence across the region. These strikes are immoral and unjustifiable, inflicting fear and suffering on families who have been forced to endure bombings in their homes and neighbourhoods. The deliberate targeting of civilians under the guise of "security" reflects the ongoing disregard for human life and international law that has characterised Israel's aggression toward its Neighbours.

Following these strikes, the United States joined the assault, further escalating the conflict with its military might. In a shocking move, the United States issued warnings demanding that 10 million people in Tehran evacuate—a city the size of an entire country's population—threatening unimaginable chaos and displacement. This is not

a measure of defence but a demonstration of imperial power that prioritises control and fear over human dignity and peace.

Meanwhile, the Australian Government has aligned itself with the narrative that Iran is the aggressor, parroting claims that seek to justify these attacks while ignoring the reality that Israel initiated these strikes, deliberately targeting civilian infrastructure and lives. This alignment is deeply shameful and reflects Australia's complicity in the ongoing cycles of violence that continue to destabilise the Middle East.

We have seen this script before. We saw it during the invasion of Iraq, when false claims about weapons of mass destruction were used to justify a war that destroyed a nation, killed hundreds of thousands, and left lasting instability across the region. The same narrative is now being recycled to demonise Iran while ignoring the role of foreign aggression and occupation. Students, young people, and communities across the world have not forgotten the devastation these lies have caused, and we will not stand by as history repeats itself.

Although a ceasefire has now been declared, the situation remains tense. The threat of further violence, instability, and collective punishment of the Iranian people looms, with communities continuing to live under the fear of renewed attacks at any moment. It is clear that power politics and the interests of imperial states have been prioritised over the lives of millions of people who simply wish to live in safety.

Many students have been affected by this escalation, as so many come from diverse backgrounds across the Middle East. This aggression has caused significant disruptions to their lives, from cancelled flights preventing them from returning home to being unable to see or support their families during this tense period, especially around the winter break when many planned to travel. It has been distressing for many students to navigate their studies while worrying about their loved ones, especially as airports across the Middle East have been blocked or closed, leaving students feeling helpless and anxious. These disruptions and the ongoing fear of further violence have added to the emotional burden on students who deserve understanding and support during this time

As a Student Union, we cannot turn away from these injustices. We believe in standing with people resisting war, displacement, and occupation, and we affirm our commitment to challenging narratives that justify violence under the false banner of security.

Motion #17:

This MSC:

1. condemns Israel's attacks on Iran and the US escalation, recognising the harm caused to civilians, and rejects the false narratives used to justify these attacks, as seen in the Iraq invasion.

2. Rejects the narrative pushed by the Australian Government that frames Iran as the aggressor while ignoring the reality that Israel initiated the violence by targeting civilians and critical infrastructure.
3. calls on the University to recognise that this is a tense and distressing time for people from the region, and to show understanding and flexibility for impacted students, including with deadlines and welfare support.
4. will work with the University to ensure students feel safe and supported on campus, and prevent discrimination linked to these events.

Moved: Lana Abdelhalim

Seconded: Tyra Jones

In Favour: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Lana speaks to the motion and raises concerns about the recent escalation between Israel and Iran and the continuing risk of further violence. She highlights the impact on students with family in the region, including difficulties contacting relatives, cancelled or delayed flights, closed airspace and disruption to exams. She notes that the Arab Society supports students affected by these circumstances and argues that the motion appropriately recognises their ongoing vulnerability.

Tyra speaks to the motion and commends it to the floor, highlighting the MSA's capacity to bring about real change especially as relates to academic support at this time.

Lucia speaks in support of the motion and condemns the actions of the United States and Israel in Iran and the broader Middle East. She argues that claims concerning weapons of mass destruction are being used to justify attacks on civilian infrastructure and criticises the Australian Labor Government for providing political and financial support, highlighting the loss of Iranian, Lebanese as well as Palestinian lives and calling therefore on the MSA to recognise and condemn the Government's alleged complicity and the narratives used to justify the attacks.

Jos speaks in favour of the motion and condemns the attacks on Iran as an example of imperialism. He criticises the United States and Israel for asserting the authority to determine which countries may possess nuclear weapons and argues that the strikes lack credible justification. Max then condemns the Australian Labor Government's support for militarism and Western alliances stating that the MSA should take a clear stand against the Government's role in escalating regional tensions.

Harleen supports the motion and argues that the MSA should take a strong stand against imperialism and militarism. She compares the stated justification for attacks on Iran with previous claims about weapons of mass destruction used to justify military interventions. She also raises concerns about reports that millions of people in Tehran were told to evacuate and argues that responsibility for escalating violence lies with the United States and its support for Israel. Eloise seconds this notion and speaks to the belief that AUKUS is an example of this in an Australian government context.

Jay notes that warnings about Iran developing nuclear weapons repeat the false weapons-of-mass-destruction claims used to justify the invasion of Iraq. Citing reports published decades apart, he elucidates how similar predictions have repeatedly failed to materialise and identifies Israel's nuclear program as a significant source of instability in the Middle East and indicates his support for the motion.

O. Woodside North West Shelf Project

Monash University has had ties with Woodside Energy, the nation's biggest fossil fuel company, for nearly over half a decade now, where they jointly "invested" \$40 million into research which was never disclosed.

It is horrific that Monash continues to work with a giant fossil fuel company that has been extended in Western Australia's Pilbara region until 2070. Over its extended lifetime, the North West Shelf will produce ten times more carbon dioxide emissions than the whole of Australia did in 2024. The Climate Council describes the extension as a 6 billion ton "carbon bomb".

Coal and gas are directly responsible for warming the climate. Australia's climate has warmed by 1.5 degrees since 1900 with the earth on track for 3°C of warming this century according to the Paris climate accord, making it clear that in order for human survival, we need to urgently cut coal and gas projects.

Woodside's effects have not only been limited to the environmental impacts but it's also now affecting cultural heritage sites of First Nations people in Australia. The Western Australian gas plant has been destroying Indigenous land damaging some of the 50,000 year old Indigenous rock carvings in the area and could very much wipe out all 1 million of them if the project keeps on running.

This site should be under UNESCO heritage protection for 50,000 year old rock carvings but Environmental Minister Murray Watt has continuously lobbied to national UNESCO ambassadors that rock art should not receive the heritage listings.

This is an erasure of indigenous cultural heritage sites and makes it clear that making money and driving the human population into extinction by polluting coal and gas is more important to the government than the rights of Indigenous Australians. Curtin University's Professor Adrian Baddeley also accused the WA government of altering a report summary to hide that five Murujuga rock art sites had pollution levels above the danger threshold.

It's important that students at Monash University oppose the Woodside expansion and act to condemn the ties with the destructive fossil fuel company.

Procedural motion:

That each item's speaking time be limited to 5 minutes.

Moved: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 13

Against: 3

MOTION CARRIED

Harleen condemns the extension of Woodside's North West Shelf project, arguing that it will damage the environment and Indigenous culture. She criticises the federal and Western Australian Labor governments for

facilitating the approval process and excluding climate considerations. She also points to increased fossil fuel subsidies as evidence of a gap between Labor's climate commitments and its actions, and raises concerns about Monash University's ties to the project.

Felix thanks Remus Brasier and Beck for their work and strongly endorses the motion. He argues that the University should invest in climate recovery and clean energy rather than companies contributing to environmental harm. Noting that climate change disproportionately affects students and young people, he condemns Monash University's continued investment in Woodside and expresses disappointment in both the federal and Western Australian governments for approving the project.

Eloise thanks those involved in drafting the motion and describes Woodside's presence on campus as undemocratic. She raises concerns about the North West Shelf project's impact on Indigenous cultural heritage, including ancient rock carvings, and links the project to worsening climate impacts such as floods, drought and water restrictions. She calls for the motion to pass, for Labor's role to be condemned and for Woodside to be removed from campus.

Motion #18:

This MSC:

1. Condemns Monash's ties with Woodside and calls on Monash University to cut ties with all Woodside and fossil fuel company partnerships
2. Condemns the federal Labor government for approving the extension of the Woodside North West Shelf Project, and the Western Australian Labor government for lobbying in support of the project

Moved: Beck Riches **Seconded:** Remus Brasier-Felix Hughes

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED

P. Supporting the POC Racism Survey

Preamble

The Student Union acknowledges the ongoing and systemic racism faced by students of colour on our campus. This racism appears in many forms: from the content presented in lectures and tutorials to the comments made in group work, casual conversations, and the feedback received on assignments. Students of colour often share feelings of isolation, being spoken over or tokenised, and having their concerns dismissed when they raise these issues within the university. Despite the university's claims of inclusivity, racism continues to shape the learning and social environments of many students.

To address these issues, a POC Racism Survey has been launched to document the realities of racism on campus. This survey seeks to collect clear evidence of the patterns and incidents, both large and small, that impact students of colour in their

education and daily campus life. By gathering these stories, we aim to build a strong foundation to advocate for meaningful institutional change that ensures all students are treated with dignity, respect, and fairness.

The survey is open to both staff and students, anonymous, and takes around 10 minutes to complete. Participants are encouraged to share as much or as little as they wish, whether it is a single comment they have heard, a specific experience they have faced, or broader trends they have noticed in unit materials, university policies, or campus interactions. Importantly, the survey is open to both POC and non-POC students and staff, recognising that all members of our community have a role to play in documenting and addressing racism on campus.

Now more than ever, it is vital to prioritise this work. Racism is not an abstract issue but a daily reality for many, impacting mental health, academic performance, and a sense of safety on campus. Collecting this data is a critical first step in pushing the university to take accountability and to implement changes that create a genuinely inclusive and supportive environment for all students.

The Student Union and all departments have a responsibility to support this initiative, ensuring the survey is widely shared and accessible so that every student and staff member has the opportunity to contribute to building a fairer and safer campus.

Motion #19:

This MSC:

1. endorses the POC Racism Survey as a critical tool to document and address racism on campus, supporting its goal to collect the experiences and observations of students and staff.
2. calls on the autonomous departments to actively support, share, and encourage participation in the survey to ensure broad and diverse contributions.
3. commits the MSA to sharing the survey across its social media platforms, newsletters, and networks to maximise awareness and participation.
4. encourages university staff and faculty to support the survey by sharing it with their students and, where possible, allowing time in class for students to complete it.
5. commits the MSA to using the results of the survey to advocate for meaningful change within the university, ensuring that the lived experiences of students of colour lead to concrete actions that address racism on campus.

Moved: Lana Abdelhalim

Seconded: Tyra Jones

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Lana reports that the racism survey was launched just over three weeks ago and has received over 100 accounts of racism involving both students and staff, including an allegation that a lecturer used a racial slur without consequence. She argues that Monash University has failed to adequately recognise or respond to the experiences of Arab students and other students of colour. She says the student union has a responsibility to amplify these experiences, publish the survey findings and pressure the University to take action.

Bryan Law (Bryan) explains that the racism survey is open to staff, students, people of colour and non-people of colour, including those who wish to comment on unit materials, observed incidents or Monash University's broader response to racism. He encourages autonomous departments and cultural clubs to promote the survey and help gather as many experiences as possible. He also thanks the People of Colour Office Bearers for the significant work involved in developing and promoting the initiative and expresses hope that it can continue annually.

Pavan requests that the minutes record the following statement: "Monash, You have a problem with accepting and making sure people of colour feel safe."

Q. Condemning U.S. Policies Affecting International Students and Supporting Affected Students

Preamble

The MSA expresses concern over the recent policies introduced by the United States government that have effectively shut the door on international students. These policies include widespread visa restrictions, heightened scrutiny of student applications, the revocation of existing visas, and blanket travel bans targeting entire groups based on nationality and background. As a result, international students are being turned away from pursuing their studies in the US, regardless of their academic merit or aspirations.

These measures represent a direct attack on the principles of academic freedom and global education. For decades, universities across the world, including Monash, have operated on the belief that education should transcend borders, fostering cultural exchange, collaboration, and the sharing of knowledge across nations. By closing its doors, the US is signalling that international students are not welcome, disregarding the contributions these students make to campuses, research, and wider society.

In response, Monash University has announced it will no longer send students on exchange to the United States, recognising it cannot guarantee the safety, dignity, or academic certainty of its students in a country enacting discriminatory measures against international students. This suspension has disappointed many students who had planned, worked, and saved for the chance to study abroad, stripping them of opportunities for growth, cultural exchange, and academic development. These US policies are unjust and hypocritical, undermining the values of academic collaboration and freedom that universities claim to uphold. They weaponize education for political agendas and turn students into collateral damage in power games they have no part in.

Now more than ever, it is the responsibility of student unions to take a clear stance against such actions. Student unions exist to protect the rights and welfare of students, to stand up against such absurd and dystopian regulations, and to fight for an education system that is inclusive and free from discrimination. We have a duty to speak out against policies that harm students, and to hold institutions accountable for protecting the interests of their student bodies.

The MSA must stand in solidarity with students impacted by these policies, advocate for their right to education without borders, and oppose the use of education as a political weapon.

Motion #20:

This MSC

1. condemns the recent US policies restricting international students through visa bans, revocations, and discriminatory barriers, recognising these as unjust attacks on academic freedom and student mobility.
2. calls on Monash University to provide clear support and guidance to students impacted by the suspension, including offering alternative exchange pathways, transparent communication, and welfare support.
3. reaffirms the MSA's commitment to advocating for the rights of all students, opposing the use of education as a political weapon, and supporting the principle that education should be free from discrimination and accessible across borders.

Moved: Lana Abdelhalim

Seconded: Tyra Jones

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Lana describes recent actions in the United States as dystopian and undemocratic, citing deportations, immigration measures and the detention or silencing of students. She argues that the MSA should take a stand because these actions directly affect students internationally, including members of the Monash community

Tyra shares that a unit originally scheduled to travel to Hawaii was relocated to the Cook Islands and reduced from 14 days to seven, while the unit fees remained unchanged. She argues that these policy changes have both financial and educational consequences for students, particularly in fields such as environmental science.

Pavan asks to be quoted in saying: "As international students, we are not your pawns. We are not criminals. We're students with a voice to make the world a better place. All of us sacrifice our homes, our comforts, to come here, and to study, not to engage in whatever shit, fuckery, and political maneuvering you wish to do, sir. And yes, that's being quoted. And I also join in recognizing that Australia is following this path of trying to make international students sound as criminals and public villains number one in an attempt to make peace with

their inability to create a more fair and more equitable society for all of us as international students and others to come, live, study, and make this multicultural place have more culture.”

Madi concurs with Pavan and the Trump administration for weaponising international students and migrants as political issues. Madi also argues that international students have also been scapegoated in Australia for the cost-of-living and housing crises, including by Labor, despite this not being supported by the evidence. She describes these arguments as racist and right-wing and says the MSA should condemn them when they occur in Australia.

R. 24/7 Matheson

Access to 24/7 study spaces is critical to supporting students' diverse schedules, responsibilities, and learning needs. Many Monash students juggle study with part-time work, caring duties, and other commitments that mean traditional library hours don't suit everyone. Quiet, safe, and well-resourced study environments on campus are essential, especially for students who may not have access to reliable study space at home.

In early 2024, the University worked with the MSA to open the lower ground floor of Matheson Library on a 24/7 basis - a welcome and long-overdue first step. However, since then, the space has consistently been at or near capacity, with students often struggling to find seats. This clearly shows the need to expand 24/7 access beyond just the ground floor.

Expanding 24/7 access to additional floors at Matheson will better meet student demand, support wellbeing during assessment periods, and help ensure all students, regardless of background, have equitable access to the resources they need to succeed.

Motion #21:

This MSC:

1. Commends Monash University for working with students to deliver 24/7 access to the lower ground floor of Matheson Library, recognising it as a positive first step in addressing student needs.
2. Notes that the lower ground floor is frequently full, especially during busy academic periods, and that demand for late-night study space continues to grow.
3. Calls on the University to permanently expand 24/7 access to additional floors of Matheson Library to meet ongoing student demand.

Moved: Felix Hughes

Seconded: Leroy Van Schellebeck Paul Halliday

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED

Felix states that he likes 24/7 libraries.

Paul commends that Monash has gone from functionally zero 24/7 libraries to at least some.

Pavan is to be quoted as saying: "All hail the library, all hail 24/7 study spaces." Pavan highlights the unique capacity of 24/7 study spaces to support students especially amidst their diverse schedules. Pavan goes further to note that any expansion of 24/7 study access must be equitable and fully accessible, noting issues with lighting and accessibility on the Matheson Library lower ground floor at night. He agrees that the University could quickly open additional study spaces across faculties, pointing to the Science Student Learning Lounge as an existing 24/7 model, and calls on the University to act in students' interests.

Max welcomes the opening of additional 24/7 study spaces but argues that the motion overstates the achievement by presenting it as a major union win. He says the MSA should set more ambitious goals and focus on securing substantial concessions from the University rather than celebrating changes the University is already willing to make.

Felix argues that the MSA must acknowledge when the University works constructively with the union in order to maintain credibility. He says that continually condemning the University without recognising positive cooperation may make it less willing to engage in future. He therefore supports the motion's recognition of the University's work with the MSA.

Paul clarifies that securing 24/7 study access was not easy and followed almost a year of consistently raising the issue in meetings with University executives and administrators.

Madi responds that the length of time taken may reflect the approach used to pursue the issue. She argues that commending the University for acting in its own interests amounts to praising it for doing the bare minimum, and says concessions are achieved through pressure rather than compliments.

S. General Business

Felix acknowledges that *Lot's Wife* is live reporting from the meeting for the first time in a long time and thanks Angus for live-tweeting the proceedings.

Charlotte proposes a recorded information session ahead of the elections outlining the roles and responsibilities of office bearers, with an opportunity for interested students to ask questions. She says the session would improve transparency and provide a useful resource for students considering running.

Charlotte also raises concern that an MAPS membership procedure still appears to be unavailable and requests an update on when this will be rectified.

Alex responds that Jay has been tasked with investigating the adoption of the same membership platform used by Radio Monash and Clubs. He says the MPS membership system is expected to launch at the beginning of Semester 2, when there is more capacity to coordinate its rollout. He adds that the matter is not currently considered urgent because there is no practical difference between members and non-members.

Jay explains that students will be able to join MAPS for free through the same online platform used for Clubs and Radio Monash. He says Finance is developing the system and that, while no exact date is available, the aim is to have it ready by the beginning of Semester 2.

Charlotte responds that the issue is not a “grenade” or a minor matter, arguing that students should already be able to join the division. She reiterates that she has raised the issue at several previous MSA meetings and considers it a priority. Alex retorts and characterises Charlotte's engagement with him on the issue as confrontational, voicing further that he would appreciate a longer timeframe to resolve the issue than that unto which he feels pressured to meet.

Sasha reminds the room to steer away from personal attacks or discussions about interpersonal conduct. Charlotte agrees and encourages Alex to address any extant issues through HR.

Jay provides a final point that he is ready to, as soon as is practicable, provide Charlotte with the updates sought.

Angus Duske (Angus) thanks all departments for submitting reports to Edition 4, noting that this is the first time in two years that every department has contributed. He advises that submissions for Edition 5 are now open and due by 25 July. He also notes that this is the longest MSC meeting held so far this year.

Jay requests that the following statement be recorded directly: “The former Treasurer of the MSA, Campbell Frost, during his term of office attended eight out of 31 Executive meetings, which is only slightly more than a quarter. I think that more or less speaks for itself.”

He also describes the earlier walkout aimed at breaking quorum as hypocritical, noting that some participants had previously condemned the same tactic as an affront to democracy.

T. Next Meeting

Meeting 7/25 of MSC will be held on 20/8/2025 at 11:00am in the Conference Room, Floor 1, Campus Centre, Clayton.

U. Appendices

Meeting closed at 3:05pm