

Meeting time: Opened at 05:31 PM on 26/07/2024

Meeting location: In the Banquet Hall 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	Lana Abdelhalim
Treasurer:	Joshua Walters (Chair)	
Education (Academic Affairs):	Grayson Lowe	
Education (Public Affairs):	Nafiz Ibrahim	
Activities:	Fatima Iqbal (Absent)	
CLA:	Haider Shah (Absent)	
Welfare:	Teagan Hayward	
Indigenous:	Marlley McNamara (Absent)	
Environment & Social Justice:	Thomas White	
Women's:	Zoe Binns	
Queer:	Madeline Curkovic	Luka Kiernan
Disabilities & Carers:	Charlotte Sutton	
People of Colour:	Anshuman Das (Absent)	
Residential Community:	Aylin Vahabova	
MUISS:	Vedant Gadhavi	
MAPS:	Stuart Gibson	
Clubs & Societies:	Paul Halliday	
Radio Monash:	Georgie McColm	
General Representative:	Jay Davis	
General Representative:	Dilhan Simsek	Mohammed Orabi
General Representative:	Beck Riches	
General Representative:	Stella Robinson	

General Representative: Diyara Jaswar (Absent)

Observers:

- Max Tory
- Moz
- Remus Brasier
- Connor Knight
- Naomi Drego
- Ashhar Hassan
- Josiah Hughdow
- Aishwariyalaksmi
- Subramanian
- Mandy Li
- Lorie North
- Dominique Amad
- Luccia Dary
- Amiriya Dorian
- Sophie Allen
- Garvit Madon
- Colten Senior
- Alex Self
- Caitlin Woods
- Sam Allan
- Josiah Downes
- Angus Durke
- Allesandro Papaleo
- Sasha Braybrooke
- Caleb Murphy
- Samanthan Hudson
- Leroy Van Schellebeck
- Tayla Husband

B. Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners of Land

This MSC acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong peoples of the Kulin nations as the original and ongoing owners and custodians of this land. The MSA commits itself to actively fight alongside Indigenous peoples for reconciliation and justice for all Indigenous Australians.

C. Confirmation of Agenda Order

Confirmed

D. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion #1:

This MSC confirms [Minutes 5/24](#), [Minutes 6/24](#), and [Special MSC 2 Minutes](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian

Seconded: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Office Bearer and Divisional Reports

Office Bearer and Divisional Reports	Submission Compliance
Welfare	Report Submitted on time
Disabilities and Carers	Report Submitted on time
Environment and Social Justice	Report Submitted on time
MUISS	Report Submitted on time
Clubs & Societies	Report Submitted on time
Education (Academic Affairs)	Report Submitted on time
Radio Monash	Report Submitted on time
Queer	No Submission Received
MAPS	No Submission Received
Education (Public Affairs)	No Submission Received
People of Colour	No Submission Received
Indigenous	No Submission Received
Women's	No Submission Received
Residential Community	No Submission Received

Motion #2:

This MSC accepts the reports submitted by the Welfare, Disabilities and Carers, Environment and Social Justice, MUISS, C&S, Radio Monash, and Education (Academic Affairs) en bloc, as attached at the end of this document.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian Charlotte Sutton **Seconded:** Paul Halliday

In Favour: 16

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Charlotte Sutton (D&C Office Bearer), waives her speaking rights.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday (C&S President), waives his speaking rights.

Luka Kiernan (Proxy for Madeline Curkovic) speaks to the motion and outlines that this MSC was not the reporting MSC for the Queer Office Bearers but wants to speak to some of the work that the Queer Office has been doing. Luka speaks about the previous MSC and that Palestine motions that were raised were voted down. Luka explains that he believes that it is shameful of the MSA not to have voted these motions up at the previous meeting and explains that the Queer Department will spend the rest of the semester organising a Student General Meeting, with 500 signatures already being collected and soon will be submitted to the MSA Executive. He explains that they will be pushing these issues to the forefront of campus life and force the MSA to take a strong Pro-Palestine position, outwardly oppose what Israel is doing currently and oppose Monash's ties to weapons companies and manufacturers. He outlines that the Queer Office and others will continue to put pressure on the MSA and Monash University to stand against both the University's and the Australian Government's complicity in a genocide.

Georgia McColm (Radio Monash) speaks to the motion and begins to highlight some of the events and initiatives that Radio Monash has been doing so far in the Semester. She explains that while there are often a lot of different motions presented at MSC, she also hopes that some of the events and achievements from both divisions and office bearers can also be highlighted within the meeting. Georgie outlines that Radio Monash has been having a great year so far, highlighting their expanding committee, the introductions of sub-committees, an expanded journalism department, a number of successful and sold-out events, and outlines the upcoming Radio Monash events in collaboration with the Creative & Live Arts Department and the Disability & Carers Department. So too, she outlines the success Radio Monash is having in regards to their podcast equipment and online stream. Georgie finishes by thanking her committee for their hard work in a variety of ways and is looking forward to seeing Radio Monash continue to grow in the future.

F. Welfare Office Bearer

Preamble:

Jesse Fraser resigned from their position as Welfare Officer Bearer effective on Tuesday 9th of July 2024.

Motion #3:

This MSC appoints Campbell Frost to the position of Welfare Office Bearer per section 42(5) of the constitution, following the vacancy created by the resignation of Jesse Fraser pursuant to section 42(1)(a) of the constitution.

Moved: Teagan Hayward

Seconded: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

Campbell Frost (Observer) declares a conflict of interest for this motion and leaves the room.

Aishwariyalaskmi Subramanian (Observer) also leaves the room.

The mover of the motion, Teagan Hayward (Welfare Office Bearer), speaks to the motion and outlines why Campbell has been chosen to take over in this role. She explains that Campbell has been attending all the relevant meetings and has been active in helping Teagan with Welfare related tasks and activities, especially in relation to the social media aspect of the department. Teagan ends her speaking time by explaining that Campbell is an asset to the department and is looking forward to continuing working with him.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday (C&S President), waives his speaking rights.

G. Leave of Absence Request

Motion #4:

That this MSC approves Haider Shah to take up of unpaid leave effective from the 26th of July until the 28th of August

Moved: Jay Davis

Seconded: Stuart Gibson

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Jay Davis (General Representative), waives his speaking rights.

The seconder of the motion, Stuart Gibson (MAPS President), waives his speaking rights.

Joshua Walters (Chair) moves an amendment from the Chair to fix the wording of the motion.

Motion to Amend:

That this MSC approves Haider Shah to take a period of unpaid leave effective from the 26th of July until the 28th of August.

The Mover and the Secunder consented to the amendment so this motion did not proceed to a vote.

Moved: Joshua Walters (Chair)

AMENDMENT CARRIED

H. CLA Officer Bearer Resignation

Motion #5:

This MSC appoints Anban Raj as caretaker to the position of Creative Live Arts Office Bearer for the period of Haidar Shah's leave of absence, pursuant to s.32(9)(b) of the MSA Constitution.

Moved: Zareh Kozanian Charlotte Sutton

Seconded: Aylin Vahabova

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

Joshua Walters (Chair) sets up a break-out room for Anban Raj (Observer) on Zoom to ensure that there is no conflict of interest within the motion.

Campbell Frost (Observer) re-enters the room.

Anban Raj (Observer) leaves the Zoom into a break-out room.

The mover of the motion, Charlotte Sutton (D&C Office Bearer), waives her speaking rights.

The seconder of the motion, Aylin Vahabova (Residential Community Office Bearer), waives her speaking rights.

I. ESJ Office Bearer

Preamble:

Thomas White has resigned from their position as Environment and Social Justice Officer Bearer effective on Thursday 24th of July 2024 upon accepting a place at the University of Philippines to study abroad for the remainder of the year.

Motion #6:

This MSC appoints Aishwariyalaksmi Subramanian to the position of Environmental and Social Justice Office Bearer per section 42(5) of the constitution, following the vacancy created by the resignation of Thomas White pursuant to section 42(1)(a) of the constitution.

Moved: Teagan Hayward

Seconded: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Teagan Hayward (Welfare Office Bearer), waives her speaking rights.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday (C&S President), waives his speaking rights.

Thomas White (Environment & Social Justice Office Bearer) speaks to the motion and outlines the context for his resignation from the position. He explains that he knew at the beginning of the year that he had a planned period of study abroad and informed the relevant people within the MSA of this. However, due to changes in scheduling, Thomas now has to leave earlier than expected which impacts the events that the department has planned for the rest of the semester. He believes that it best serves the department to appoint Aishwariya to the position to assist Sophie Allen in her duties as co-ESJ Office Bearer. Thomas also outlines that Aishwariya has been an important part of the ESJ Committee so far this year in helping with events and social media, and ends his speaking time recommending Aishwariya for the position.

Jay Davis (General Representative) speaks to the motion and thanks Thomas for all the work they have done this year in their capacity as Environment and Social Justice Office Bearer and wishes him luck on his time studying abroad. Jay ends his speaking time also wishing Aishwariya luck in taking over the position.

J. MSA opposes the Victorian healthcare cuts

Preamble:

Over recent months, the Victorian Labor government has told hospitals to slash spending by at least 10%, and multiple hospitals have imposed hiring freezes. The lack of government funding will mean that hospitals will begin reducing elective surgeries, closing beds, and cutting staff. Monash Health, Victoria's largest public health service, has been asked to cut \$20m from operating expenses, and leaked recordings of meetings have revealed that ward closures, cancellations of breast screenings, and closing special care cots are all on the table.

Wait times for healthcare through the public system are already unacceptable, and will be made worse if hospitals are compelled to freeze hiring, cancel training programs, and close beds.

These proposed cuts are taking place in a context in which the healthcare system is already suffocating. Ambulance's are at times dispatched unreliably, and medical advice to patients awaiting ambulances is compromised due to a shortage of clinicians.

The Committee of Chairs of Public Hospital Senior Medical Staff Associations has stated that "Service closures, reductions in staff, cancellation of planned surgery activities, increased waiting times and inability to access specialist care pose a direct threat to patient safety and will lead to preventable adverse outcomes." (1) The Committee has also raised concerns that the bed block and crowding in emergency departments will exacerbate disruptions already caused by ambulance ramping.

In light of the reality that Victoria's health system is struggling to function due to underfunding, health minister Mary-Anne Thomas's comments that the cuts are to get rid of "waste and duplication" (2) are nothing but a cover for the government's effort to make the working class, and society's most vulnerable pay for the budgetary crisis.

These cuts being imposed by the Labor party should be understood like any other attack on workers. The MSA should stand with workers employed in public hospitals who are actively having their jobs and conditions made more precious and unsafe by Jacinta Allan's Labor government.

Sources:

(1) <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/secret-recording-reveals-sense-of-budget-crisis-in-victorian-hospitals-20240628-p5jpi3.html>

(2) <https://www.theage.com.au/politics/victoria/streamline-that-spending-hospitals-told-to-cut-back-where-they-can-20240627-p5jp75.html>

Motion #7:

Platform:

This MSC condemns the Allan Government's failure to adequately fund healthcare.

Actions:

The MSC president will, within 2 weeks of this MSC meeting, write and release a press release condemning the Allan government's healthcare funding cuts, outlining their negative effect on students.

The MSC will also publish this press release on its social media platforms.

Moved: Beck Riches

Seconded: ~~Madeline Curkovic~~ Luka Kiernan

In Favour: 5

Against: 7

Abstentions: 4

MOTION FAILED

[Discussion During MSC:](#)

Aishwariya Subramanian (Observer) re-enters the room.

The mover of the motion, Beck Riches (General Representative), speaks to the motion and explains that if other bosses were to announce similar cuts then people who are left-wing and progressive would also oppose these decreased working conditions. He explains that the Labor Party should not be treated differently than other bosses. He mentions Member of Parliament Mary-Anne Thomas and her remarks within the news, mainly about wastage and duplication of medical services within the current system and how these claims are a neoliberal stance on healthcare and its provision to Australians. Beck explains that this was proven by the leaked recordings from hospital chiefs that exposed that nothing was exempt from these cuts, including employee layoffs and bed closures within hospitals. He further explains that as a student union, the MSA should be against these changes on the basis that they will affect students who are studying to go into the healthcare sector and their futures could be negatively affected by these cuts. Beck ends his statement by saying that anyone that supports unions and supports the working class should be against these changes and cuts to healthcare.

The seconder of the motion, Luka Kiernan (proxy for Madeline Curkovic), waives his speaking rights to an observer and they speak to the motion and explain that the current state of the healthcare system in Australia is appalling, highlighting the difficulty and extremely long wait times many people experience whilst accessing elective surgeries within the public system. They also reference ambulance waiting times and how they are often too long and negatively impact patients and often cause preventable deaths within the healthcare system that many healthcare professionals are actively fighting against. They also call these cuts a neoliberal attack on healthcare workers and the system and that the MSC should oppose it. They explain that they believe the healthcare system is getting worse and that these cuts are a way for the Victorian government to put their debts onto the working class, such as nurses, doctors and other healthcare professionals. They explain that it is an atrocity that healthcare funding is being cut and reduced when healthcare should be increased as it is something that the working class have a right to within society. They end their speaking time urging people

to vote up the motion as it is an issue left-wing and working class people should be fighting for.

Josiah Downey (Observer) speaks to the motion and explains that before he speaks to the motion's content specifically, he outlines that the Victorian government has increased funding for the Victorian Police Force by more than 60% over the last three terms of the Victorian Labor government. He outlines that this results in higher policing of protests, especially in relation to protests about Palestine, union picket lines and harassing homeless people and people of colour. He explains that he believes that this is a political decision by the Labor government to decide where funding should be going, highlighting that the government is choosing to fund the repressive parts of society rather than healthcare or other public services. He explains that it is anti-working class for the government to leave healthcare funding decisions to the bosses and private companies to decide what surgeries or healthcare should be funded or not. He goes on to say that it is shameful that there are people within the MSC that aim to become a part of the Labor party and campaign or work on behalf of the party. Jos ends his speaking time by once again urging people to vote in favour of the motion if they believe in working-class rights and are in favour of funding healthcare adequately.

Connor Knight (Observer) speaks to the motion and firstly points out that he feels that it's ironic that Campbell Frost, newly appointed Welfare Office Bearer, was appointed as he has been seen being involved with the Labor Party. Connor speaks to the fact that the Labor party is in control in nearly every state and territory but feels that things are getting worse or has gone backwards, not improving for the country and the working class. Connor also touches on the recent industrial action that has been taken by nurses over wages in response to the Victorian government trying to pass legislation that would mean a pay cut to nurses, due to the rise in inflation. He explains that the only reason why this legislation did not pass was due to the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) campaigning against it and advocating for a better pay deal for all nurses and midwives. He also highlights the recent pay gap report that was released and explains that part of the reasoning as to why the pay gap is so large in Australia is because occupations that are overly feminised industries, such as nursing, get sub-par pay deals. Connor finishes his speaking time by re-emphasising the importance of the motion and the fact that he believes that the Labor party is an enemy of the working class around the country.

Grayson Lowe (Education (Academic Affairs) Office Bearer) speaks to the motion and begins to explain some of the history of this issue. He begins by explaining that in 2014, when the Victorian Labor government was first voted in, they pursued an aggressive spending tactic in relation to infrastructure and this meant that they weren't overspending, but if there were to be any global economic issues, the Victorian government would struggle to keep their spending within budget. Then, the COVID-19 pandemic occurred which meant that the Victorian government accrued a lot of debt to try and keep the economy going, spending a lot of money on the healthcare systems to ensure people could access care during the pandemic. Grayson then explains that because of that spending and debt accrual, the government is now trying to repay the interest on the debt that the government built up to get through the COVID-19 pandemic, and that the government is struggling with money due

to this. This means that the government is currently looking at any and all ways to reduce spending within the state, however, Grayson highlights that the Victorian government has committed \$8.8 billion to hospitals and informed hospitals that they were unable to provide further funding so hospitals needed to find ways to cut their spending in some way.

Connor Knight (Observer) interjects whilst Grayson Lowe (Ed Ac OB) is speaking so Joshua Walters (Chair) reminds him not to interrupt whilst others are using their speaking time.

Grayson continues his speaking time by further explaining that the Premier Jacinta Allen went on radio earlier in the month and explained that if hospitals need further funding, then the State government will provide them with it. Grayson outlines that he feels that the motion is a nothing motion because there has been no funding cuts announced and that it is still currently being negotiated. Grayson ends his speaking time by saying that he will be voting against the motion as he feels it doesn't stand for anything.

Campbell Frost (Welfare Office Bearer) moves a procedural motion to put the motion to a vote immediately.

Joshua Walters (Chair) asks Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) to stop interrupting as a procedural motion must be voted on as soon as it is raised to the Chair.

Sophie Allen (Observer) leaves the room.

Joshua Walters (Chair) warns Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) and Josiah Downey (Observer) that if they do not stop interrupting they will be named.

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Josiah Downey (Observer) once.

Joshua Walters (Chair) clarifies to all members of the MSC that Campbell Frost (Welfare OB) has moved a procedural motion to move the motion to a vote and cease all further discussion about the motion. The Chair then calls for votes.

Procedural Motion

That this MSC put this item to a vote

Moved: Campbell Frost

In Favour: 13

Against: 4

MOTION CARRIED

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Grayson Lowe (Ed Ac OB). Joshua also reminds Observers not to interrupt while he is counting votes.

As the procedural motion carried, Joshua Walters (Chair) moves straight into a vote for the motion.

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Josiah Downey (Observer) a second time, and reminds him that if he is named a third time, he will be asked to leave the meeting.

K. Fatima Payman Motion

Preamble:

Last month, Labor Senator Fatima Payman made the honourable decision to cross the floor in support of a motion moved by the Greens, calling for the Senate to recognise a Palestinian State. In the following days, a surge of racist and Islamophobic vitriol circulated the media, attacking Payman's character and accusing her of being the "left analogue to [Pauline] Hanson." (1) The instigators of this rhetoric, shamefully, were seemingly Payman's ALP colleagues, who leaked rumours and slander to the press. One such example was the outrageous insinuation that Payman's status as a dual citizen of Afghanistan made dubious the legality of her position as senator. This was an intentionally deceitful move undertaken by high-ranking members of the Labor party who, aware of Payman's history as a refugee, know that revoking her Afghani citizenship is unviable.

Since crossing the floor, Fatima Payman has declared she would do it again in support of Palestine and has subsequently resigned from the party. This is a credit to the mass, pro-Palestine movement around the world, which has put real pressure on Payman and others like her. Payman partially credits her visit to the Gaza Solidarity Encampment at Curtin University, and the arguments posed by students she met with, as a key moment in which she came to terms with the serious constraints and moral problems posed by being part of the Labor party, a party that is complicit in the genocide of Palestinians.

Source:

- (1) <https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/will-fatima-payman-become-the-pauline-hanson-of-the-left-that-s-up-to-her-20240705-p5jrhd.html>

Motion #8:

Platform

1. This MSC supports Senator Payman's decision to cross the floor in Federal Parliament in support of the motion to recognise a Palestinian state.
2. This MSC condemns the Labor party's campaign of racism and Islamophobia against Payman.

Action

1. The MSA will post a tile on its instagram page congratulating and standing with Payman for her intransigent pro-Palestine stance, and condemning the ALP for its treatment of her.

Moved: Madeline Curkovic Beck Riches

Seconded: Beck Riches Luka Kiernan

In Favour: 5

Against: 0

Abstentions: 10

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Beck Riches (General Representative), speaks to the motion and begins by explaining that Fatima Payman's decision to leave the Labor Party was what real pro-Palestine activists within the Labor party should be doing. He then explains that it is telling of the Labor party that key figures in their leadership did not say anything about the situation other than stating that sometimes you must have right-wing positions when you're in the Labor party. He relates this situation to a similar one MP Penny Wong was faced with in the Marriage Equality debate where she was forced to be against it whilst being a queer woman herself. Beck explains that while the Labor party claims to put effort into being multicultural and diverse, when their only visibly Muslim member of the Senate makes a personal political choice about Palestine, they display racist and Islamophobic tactics and media smear campaigns against her. Beck then goes on to reference other pro-Palestine stances and posts made by the MSA in the past and believes that if this stance should be maintained that the MSC should vote in favour of this motion and stand in solidarity with Fatima Payman.

The seconder, Luka Kiernan, waives his speaking rights to Lucia (Observer). Lucia explains that they believe the most principled thing the MSC can do is supporting Fatima Payman crossing the floor in the Senate if the MSC is at all left-wing. They explain that they believe the Labor party is complicit in the genocide in Palestine and that the Labor party is a key force behind the devastation in Gaza and silencing people on this issue.

Grayson Lowe (Ed Ac OB) moves an amendment to the motion.

Motion to Amend:

Platform:

1. This MSC supports Senator Payman's decision to cross the floor in Federal Parliament in support of the motion to recognise the Palestinian State.
2. This MSC condemns the proliferation of racism and Islamophobia against Payman which has been fueled by the Murdoch press.

Moved: Grayson Lowe

Seconded: Campbell Frost

In Favour: 3
Against: 6
Abstentions: 8

AMENDMENT FAILED

Joshua Walters (Chair) reads out the amendment to the MSC and gives it to the mover and seconder of the motion to review.

The mover and seconder of the motion do not consent to the amendment so the amendment will proceed to discussion and then a vote.

The mover of the amendment, Grayson Lowe (Ed Ac OB), speaks to the amendment and begins by clearly outlining that using Fatima Payman's citizenship status into any discussions regarding her choice to cross the floor is wrong and he does not agree with it. He believes that Payman is entitled to leave the party and sit on the crossbench if she chooses to do so in response to the conflict in Gaza, and respects her choice to do so. Grayson then outlines that a key feature of the Labor party is party solidarity and when signing up to the party, you commit to caucusing with your colleagues and then binding on the decision that is collectively made. Grayson explains that Payman did not bring this issue up within the Labor party caucus prior to crossing the floor and was told by Labor party leadership that she could re-enter the Federal Labor caucus but would need to stay within the party bind in the future. He then highlights that Payman said no to this offer and instead went on Insiders and spoke to the 'Preference Whisper', outlining that these actions show that she had intent to leave the party and it was a political decision on her part. Grayson then goes into his reasoning for the amendments is that he believes that there hasn't been a campaign of Islamophobia or racism against Payman by the Labor party, but there has been by the Murdoch media and social media which Grayson openly condemns. In relation to his amendment to remove the action point, Grayson outlines that he feels the initial pro-Palestine motion that was passed in MSC 1/24 and subsequently posted on the MSA social media is clear enough to students at Monash what the MSA's stance on this issue is, and that posting an additional tile in relation to Payman would not materially do anything to help with the conflict in Gaza. He feels that if it was to be posted it would stoke further division between students on campus, especially for both Jewish, Palestinian and Muslim students on campus.

Joshua Walters (Chair) reminds those MSC members and observers on Zoom not to send messages in the chat whilst people are using their speaking time unless it is a point of clarification, and if it continues he will begin naming people because it is classed as interrupting.

The seconder, Campbell Frost (Welfare OB), speaks to the amendment and begins by once again talking about the history of the Labor party. He begins by saying in 1901 a group of workers came together and decided on the idea that workers should have representation in the Federal Parliament and to have the ability to govern. He describes the Labor party as the largest and most successful representation and group of working people in the parliament.

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Beck Riches (General Representative) once.

Campbell continues his speaking time by talking about the Labor party and its solidarity with the working class and that voices across the political spectrum are represented. He explains that Fatima Payman decided to cross the floor because she was aware of the potential consequences for her within the party. He says that there was an offer from the leadership within the party for her to come back to the Federal caucus but instead chose to go on Insiders and speak to the 'Preference Whisperer'. He believes that it is Payman's prerogative to leave the party

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Connor Knight (Observer) once.

Campbell says that there was an offer from the leadership within the party for her to come back to the Federal caucus but instead chose to go on Insiders and speak to the 'Preference Whisperer'. He believes that it is Payman's prerogative to leave the party and that he respects her personal choice to do so.

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) once.

Campbell says that he is not going to debate the details around Fatima Payman but instead provide some context to the situation and how the Labor party works. Campbell moves on to talk about the other statement included in the motion, particularly the part around the Labor party's campaign of racism and Islamophobia against Fatima Payman and claims that this statement is false. He references the newspapers and their attacks on Payman and goes on to describe the multitude of multicultural candidates that the Labor party is putting up at the next Federal election.

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Beck Riches (General Representative) a second time.

Campbell continues by stating that he does feel that there is a lot of merit within the motion itself and feels that Fatima's actions to cross the floor was a noble act, however, he disagrees with the action points of the motion because he feels like this motion shouldn't be able getting a 'win' but instead about Fatima's actions. He feels like it should be about stability and not having fights constantly on campus surrounding this issue, or make students feel unwelcome or uncomfortable due to posts about Palestine. He explains that when posts like these are made, that there will be consequences for it on campus.

Joshua Walters (Chair) explains prior to moving to the next person on the speaking list who has been named within the meeting and how many times each person has been named. He reminds people within the MSC that if they are named three times they must leave the meeting.

Max Tory (Observer) speaks to the amendment and explains that he vehemently disagrees, using expletives, with what both Grayson and Campbell outlined in their speaking time. He outlines that the notion that there hasn't been an Islamophobic attacks on Fatima Payman is ridiculous and proceeds to read out a quote from an article in The Conversation that outlines

that senior Labor figures are raising questions about her eligibility to sit in parliament due to her dual citizenship status to Afghanistan. Max poses a question to both Grayson and Campbell asking if it is not Islamophobic for people within the Labor party to raise questions about Senator Payman's allegiances due to her dual citizenship status to Afghanistan where her family fled as refugees. Max goes on to describe comments from Labor party MPs that suggest that Fatima is bringing religious sectarianism into Australian parliament politics, despite the Labor party allowing a conscience vote on issues such as marriage equality to appease members of the Catholic church. He explains that this is obviously Islamophobic and a tactic used to demonise a Muslim Senator for taking a stance on Palestine. He continues by saying he feels it is interesting that the amendment chooses to remove the commitment to make a public post about this motion and insinuates the motivation behind this is that it's fine for the MSC to support Payman privately but not publicly. Max asserts how he believes it is disgusting that the prospective post could sow division on campus when the post would simply be supporting and defending a Senator who has come under fire with Islamophobic attacks from within the Labor party. He goes on and says that there is already existing division between the vast majority of the student body who oppose Islamophobia and stand in solidarity with Palestine and those who are in support of Israel's genocide.

Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) speaks to the amendment and begins by talking about caucus binding and references MP Penny Wong, he describes that if people want to be a part of the ALP, then people need to be willing to support whatever atrocities are required to run the government. He once again uses MP Penny Wong as an example, saying that in her case, you have to be willing to institute homophobia and refuse to support gay marriage, with Penny being the chief spokesperson for years on why people should be against same-sex marriage or supported by the ALP. Luka describes that if people want to be a member of the Labor party today, or at the very least a parliamentarian of the Labor party, they need to be willing to get up in parliament and vote in support of relationships with a genocidal state. He believes that what Senator Fatima Payman did is the only thing that a principled person can do and resign from the ALP. He thinks that the whole idea of caucus binding is a cop-out for supporting a genocide and goes on to explain that it is shameful and anyone who represents that as an argument in favour of the working class is appalling. Luka references something Max said previously and affirms that it was indeed the Labor party that launched the campaign against Payman, saying that Anthony Albanese and others within the party have come out on a lambasting campaign against faith-based parties and that this is directly attacking Muslims. He continues by describing this argument by saying that Albanese and others are attacking Muslims who are supporting Palestine, and that the only reason someone would support Palestine is because it is a faith-based party and Albanese opposes this because it may disrupt social cohesion. He explains that there has been clear attacks on Muslims, led by the Labor party, all stemming from the idea that faith-based parties would undermine social cohesion within Australia. Luka goes on by saying that the most appalling change within this amendment is the removal of the public post in support of Fatima Payman and rejects the argument that it would cause division on campus. He asserts that if that logic was used for everything, there would be nothing for the MSC to talk about and never take left-wing positions on anything in the future just because some people within the student body may be offended by it or disagree with it. He feels that it is an cop-out to avoid taking a stance on anything, and that the MSA should always stand with oppressed peoples

and fight against a genocide. He then references other historical events, and asks if it would have been right to stand against the Holocaust because there were people at the time at University would supported it and standing against it at the time would've likely caused division, yet if he was in a student union at the time, would've stood up against it and other similar events like the apartheid in South Africa or slavery in America. He attacks those in the room that are aligning themselves with the Labor party and describes it as shameful for them to put their potential future political careers before standing with Palestine. He feels as though every time a Labor MP stands up in parliament they are choosing their career, pay and the running of Australian capitalism over standing against a genocide.

Joshua Walters (Chair) imposes a 1 minute speaking limit on the rest of the speaking list in the interest of time as they are still discussing the amendment and not the motion yet. Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) asks that the speaking time be 2 ½ minutes instead to be reasonable and Joshua concedes for the speaking limit to be 2 minutes instead.

Dominique Amad (Observer) speaks to the amendment and begins by first responding to something that Campbell said in his speaking time, attacking his claims that the Labor party's origins lie in the working class when they feel that the Labor party is so far removed from the working class at this point in time. Dom then goes on to speak about how the Labor party were the ones to introduce the Accords, which they feel were one of the worst attacks on the working class in the history of Australia. They then turn their attention back to the claims of Islamophobia against Payman and question why anyone is shocked that they are coming from the Labor party, which they highlight is the same party that introduced off-shore detention centres for refugees coming to Australia from predominantly Muslim countries. They explain that these detention centres often tortured refugees and had high rates of suicide and once again questions why anyone is shocked. They feel that the Islamophobia that is being displayed against Payman by the Labor party is nothing new, and that ultimately the Labor party is racist, Islamophobic, anti-working-class and right-wing. Dom finishes their speaking time by saying that they are in favour of party cohesion, however, if the prerequisite for that was not opposing a genocide, they would leave the party immediately.

Sam Allen (Observer) speaks to the amendment and begins by claiming that it is insane to claim that the Labor party isn't a propagator of Islamophobia and points out that at the beginning of every sitting day at parliament, the Lord's Prayer is read out and yet the Labor party does not have a problem with this, yet have an issue with Fatima Paymen's actions and her religious views, only claiming to have issue with faith-based parties when it is Islam. He says that the claim that the Labor party isn't continuing a campaign of Islamophobia or racism is completely incorrect. He then comments on statements made by Anthony Albanese about Payman's loyalties to a foreign nation simply due to the fact that she is a dual-citizen of Afghanistan. Sam comments that the Labor party only supported Payman when it was beneficial to them in getting votes, but as soon as she takes a stance against a genocide they weaponise her dual-citizenship against her. Sam feels that the Labor party is a vehemently racist party, that it was one of the strongest supporters of the White Australia Policy, invented the Indonesia Solution, and strongly supports the off-shore detention process for refugees, which he calls a massively Islamophobic policy. Sam finishes his speaking time by

calling out the hypocrisy of labelling the Labor party as non or anti-racist and that it is completely wrong and a cop-out. Sam, too, agrees with the notion that removing the action point from the motion ultimately means the MSC is fine with supporting Palestine in private but not publicly.

Amiriya Dorian (Observer) speaks to the amendment and begins by referencing a comment made by Anthony Albanese and labelling all pro-Palestine protesters as anti-semitic and terrorists, which they say show the clear links between the Labor party and Islamophobia. Amiriya then moves on to speak about the true impact a mass movement can have on those in power.

Joshua Walters (Chair) reminds Amiriya that the MSC is still speaking about the amendment and to keep comments relevant to that, with discussions around the motion to come after the amendment has been voted on.

Amiriya Dorian (Observer) continues their speaking time and references the Gaza Solidarity Encampments all across the country and that Fatima Payman visited the Curtin University encampment that was run by Students for Palestine. They mention that when Payman visited the encampment, they were questioned about her involvement in the Labor party and that if she actually stood with Palestinians and against genocide, she shouldn't be in the Labor party. They speak about the mass movements internationally and how these movements have directly impacted the government and pressuring them to do something. Amiriya ends their speaking time by saying that the only principled thing for people within the Labor party to do in relation to Palestine is for them to leave the party.

Josiah Downey (Observer) speaks to the amendment and begins by speaking about the concept of caucus bind and the fact that the Labor party does actually allow people to break bind in some instances, such as votes on abortion where the ALP allows members to cross the floor when voting on this issue. He comments on how he feels that the ALP is happy to allow right-wing members to vote against abortion who are using religious based arguments, but when it comes to voting against a genocide it's no longer okay because Jos comments that supporting the Israeli military is a key component of the Labor party and its policies. Jos references an earlier point made by Dom around off-shore detention and uses this as an example of the Labor party's history of supporting genocides and punishing those suffering from genocides. Jos explains that in 2009, when the Labor party was in Federal Government, supported the Sri Lankan government who, at the time, were committing a genocide against the Tamil people, and when they fled to Australia, they were locked up in off-shore detention centres for years and years. Jos highlights that the Labor party continues to attack Tamil refugees to this day. Jos continues by saying that the amendment hides the fact that the Labor party has been instrumental in continuing and fostering the Islamophobic racist rhetoric against Fatima Payman and instead solely put onto the Murdoch press. He questions who was feeding the Murdoch press the information regarding Fatima Payman and finishes by stating that the mover and seconder of the amendment should be ashamed for not publicly wanting to support Fatima Payman.

Joshua Walters (Chair) puts an end to the speaking list after Grayson Lowe (Ed Ac OB) has spoken due to time constraints and wanting to have time to speak on the actual motion.

Lorie North (Observer) speaks to the amendment and starts by saying that it is disgusting to say that posting a tile in support of Fatima Payman will cause division or fights on campus, and calls this a feral idea. They insinuate that this statement alludes to students not being sophisticated enough to have respectful debates instead of physically fighting. They then go on to question what the mover and seconder's idea of a debate is, when half the time a pro-Palestine motion is raised in MSC it has been shut down. Lorie questions whether they believe that the students they represent are smart enough to talk about this issue in a respectful manner and not have it turn uncivilised.

Connor Knight (Observer) speaks to the amendment and begins by saying that while he has heard Campbell say some pretty outrageous things in his time, for him to suggest that the ALP truly represents the interests of the working-class is ridiculous. Connor asks the MSC if it was in the interest of the working class when the ALP supported the massacre of 300,000 people in East Timor in the 1980s whilst the ALP leadership was having meetings with the dictatorship at the time. He also asks whether it was in the interest of the working class when the ALP smashed the BLF in the 1980s or currently destroying the last vestiges of public housing within this country. Connor asks another rhetorical question about whether it was also in the interest of the working-class for the ALP to reinstitute the Northern Territory intervention in 2007. He claims that it is outrageous to claim that any of these actions are in the interest of ordinary people in this country and begins to talk about specific MPs within the ALP. Connor mentions MP Tony Burke and says that he has made his political career by cutting wage deals with the SDA for workers in Coles and Woolworths which resulted in workers getting paid less than minimum wage. He also speaks about Anthony Albanese and points out that he owns 7 investment properties and questions whether he is a true representative of the working class in Australia. He asks another rhetorical question to the group, questioning whether it is in the interest of the ordinary Australian that nurses' pay is being cut compared to inflation, while the government is spending more money on cops. Connor ends his speaking time by saying that people who are part of the Labor party disgust him.

Thomas White (ESJ OB) speaks to the amendment and begins by speaking about the change from "Labour party" to "Murdoch media" within the amendment and feels that this is an unreasonable change to make. They feel that it is unsatisfactory to simply say that this is all just because of the Murdoch media, when he believes that a campaign of racism and Islamophobia can be reasonably levelled against the ALP given that the last time they had defections they were not treated in the same manner, these members who happened to be 2 white men in the Senate. Thomas explains that he believes that it is unreasonable to say that Fatima Payman has not been unfairly targeted because of her faith and race. Thomas then moves on to commenting on the removal of action point 1 in the amendment, commenting on the fact that the Monash ALP Labor Club co-signed a public statement defending Fatima Payman on the 3rd July 2024 and questions whether that caused division. He comments that he does not believe that it is unreasonable for the MSA to endorse some sort of defence for

Senator Payman's decision to cross the floor given that the Monash ALP Labor Club and other Labor-left clubs around the country did.

Grayson Lowe (Ed Ac OB) speaks to the amendment through his right of reply as the mover of the amendment and begins by speaking to a point Thomas raised and highlights that the MSA and its social media accounts have a much larger reach than the Monash ALP Labor Club and believes that it has a different impact on students. He reiterates that the amendment does not remove the first point of the motion and he comments once again that he respects her decision to leave the party.

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Max Tory (Observer) once for interrupting.

Grayson reads out the original motion again, specifically about the Labor party's campaign of racism and Islamophobia against Fatima Payman and claims that there isn't any, which is the reason for the amendment. He highlights that he was clear in his previous speaking time that he does not condone anyone bringing her citizenship status into the conversation and believes that people who are doing that are doing it for political reasons not as a form of racism. Grayson explains that it's many people's view that the way in which Senator Payman went about this process was intentional and political, actions such as meeting with the 'Preference Whisperer' and deciding to go onto Insiders were a planned series of events. He believes that these choices are clearly political and while bringing citizenship into the discussion, which he reiterates he does not condone, it is a political strategy to attack her and has happened to many other MPs in the past who also held dual-citizenship.

Joshua Walters (Chair) names Connor Knight (Observer) a second time for interrupting. Joshua then reads out the amendment again prior to a vote to ensure everyone is aware of what they are voting on.

Joshua Walters (Chair) informs the MSC that the amendment failed so they will be discussing the motion in its original form and calls for speakers.

Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) speaks to the motion and begins by referencing a point made by Amiriya Dorian (Observer) earlier and the nature of the ALP and how best to fight for Palestine. He explains that he believes there is an important lesson to come out of this and that talking nicely to people and attempting to persuade them politely when they are acting the way they are for a reason has never worked and will never work. Luka then talks about his own interactions with people within the Labor party around the issue of Palestine, and within these conversations, Luka outlines that when questioning why these pro-Palestine people are still in the Labor party, they claim that they are trying to change it from the inside and promote more left-wing politics within the party. He explains that what the example of Fatima Payman shows is that this technique does not work and instead, what convinced Fatima Payman to leave the party was a mass movement on the streets and the catalyst was a conversation she had at the Curtin encampment with two members of Socialist Alternative, who condemned her participation in the Labor party. Luka explains that this is what he believes is what it takes to move the Palestine movement forward, and not polite conversations or well-worded motions moved at party caucuses, but instead

confrontational protests, arguments and fighting. Luka highlights that this is why he is a proud member of Socialist Alternative and not of the Labor party.

Josiah Downey (Observer) speaks to the motion and begins by speaking about the Gaza Solidarity encampments and speaks to its relevance to the current conversation. Jos explains that the attempted amendment to the motion shows that the members of the Labor party within the MSC are happy to say that they support Palestine behind closed doors, but when it comes to any public positions they refuse to do so. Jos brings up the 'Monash 9', students who were prosecuted for protesting on campus against the genocide, and says that the MSA refused to make a statement under the guise of legal issues. Jos explains that the best way to fight against the genocide and support Palestine is to put pressure on the government and protesting loudly. He explains that Students for Palestine, all across the country, have been organising a variety of student protests, highlighting the University of Queensland and their recent Student General Meeting campaign which led to 2000 students to attend a protest at the university. Jos explains that this is how you actually fight against the genocide and not by being a member of the Labor party and talking to people.

Vanessa (Observer) speaks to the motion and begins by touching on points raised by Campbell within the amendment discussion about the Labor party being a rainbow coalition of representatives from the working class. They feel that this demonstrates a complete lack of understanding of history and class. Furthermore, Vanessa references another previous point raised about MP Penny Wong and explains that she actively voted against marriage equality and publicly spoke out against it. They relate this back to Fatima Payman and statements made by Penny Wong that said Payman needed to think about the collective rather than making individual decisions and choices. Vanessa explains that if people were to read between the lines, this encourages people to stand against the oppressed and that the Labor party has never stood on the side of the oppressed.

Charlotte Sutton (D&S OB) speaks to the motion and asks a question to both Luka and Jos. She asks that if they feel that the MSC is not the way to make change or get things done, then why put the motion up in the first place.

Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) responds to Charlotte's question and explains that they moved the motion due to there being a public part of the motion, referencing the action point within the motion. Luka explains that the way he sees the MSA is that if a motion is passed behind closed doors or a box of text on a website somewhere it doesn't mean anything and that instead the MSA should be publicly going out and campaigning. Luka highlights that the MSA is a \$6 million institution, has many paid positions for representatives, has a variety of resources, and a huge social media following, and all of these things should be thrown behind social justice campaigns. He explains that he moves motions within MSC because he believes that the MSA and all other student unions should be on the side of the oppressed and should be taking positions on the moral questions of our time. Luka believes that the MSA should not be an administrative body that occasionally hands out chocolates or does BBQs but should be a powerful tool for social justice. Luka outlines that that's why he wages this battle within the MSA consistently for it to not only take a position in support of Palestine but an active, fighting position for Palestine. He

explains that this is why the MSA should have come out in support of the encampment and organise against Monash University's ties to weapons companies, and finishes by saying that is why he moves motions such as this one.

Charlotte Sutton (D&C OB) responds to Luka's answer to her question and acknowledges that the conversation is moving slightly off topic. She explains that she views that as a very narrow view of activism and a type of activism that only works for a small group of people. Charlotte highlights that this type of activism often doesn't allow people with disabilities to be involved and reiterates that she sees it as a very limited view of activism that often cuts out a diverse array of people from being involved. Charlotte finishes her speaking time by once again saying that she feels that the MSC is getting off topic and that they should move on as they all have better things to be doing on their Friday nights.

Josiah Downey (Observer) speaks in response to Charlotte and begins by questioning how the MSC and MSA taking a public position on Palestine limits activism for disabled people, and explains that he struggles to see the connection between the two. He explains that he believes that all people, including disabled people, are capable of protesting and being involved in activism. Jos outlines that he is also a part of the Victorian Socialist party and one of the actions that they did was support a campaign initiated by wheelchair users about the lack of low floor trams on Sydney Road and that involved locking trams on Sydney Road and he feels that this is the type of activism that he finds inspiring. Jos explains that he feels that the MSA could be much more involved in this type of activism that is inclusive and tackles all issues of oppression. Jos finishes his speaking time by explaining that activism that is more public and open makes for more effective and important activism overall.

Joshua Walters (Chair) informs the MSC that he will be now closing the speaking list for this agenda item as there is still a lot for the MSC to discuss and vote on. He clarifies to the MSC that because the amendment failed, the motion will be voted on in its original form. He then calls for votes.

L. Motion to hold a Student Referendum during the 2024 MSA Elections

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 #9:

This MSC resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2023 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 2024 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: Paul Halliday

In Favour: 15

Against: 0
Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Charlotte Sutton (D&C OB), speaks to the motion and begins by amending the motion.

Motion to Amend:

Change the year from 2023 to 2024 within the motion.

“This MSC resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2024 MSA election on the proposed constitutional changes as outlined:”

Moved: Charlotte Sutton

This amendment was moved by the mover of the motion and was accepted by the seconder so no need to vote.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Joshua Walters (Chair) clarifies to the MSC that this vote is not to change the MSA Constitution but instead to vote whether a referendum should be held during the 2024 MSA Annual Elections.

Charlotte Sutton (D&C OB) speaks to the motion and begins by explaining that the MSA did run this referendum last year during the 2023 MSA Annual Elections and had over 90% of people who voted in the referendum vote yes but didn't achieve the overall 5% needed in order to make the change official in the constitution. She explains that she believes that the way in which the election ballot was set out affected the vote and its outcome. Charlotte encourages everyone to vote in favour of the motion and believes that it just makes sense and that it will overall make the disabled community stronger. She ends her speaking time by saying that she is happy to answer anyone's questions regarding the proposed change.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday (C&S President), speaks to the motion and explains that while it functionally passed last year, it simply just did not hit the threshold to become binding last year. He believes that it is a good change and it means that if someone wants to argue someone's nomination, it isn't up to an unelected Returning Officer, it is up to the clear definition within the MSA Constitution.

Chloe Ward (President) speaks to the motion and says that they want to ask a question regarding the proposed change. They ask whether people who are carers of younger siblings that don't have other legal guardians would fall under this new definition.

Charlotte Sutton (D&C OB) responds to the question and says that that falls under a different definition to her knowledge.

Joshua Walters (Chair) clarifies for Chloe by reading out a section in the motion that explains that someone is not a carer simply because they are merely the guardian of an individual, and that they would be excluded from the new definition.

Chloe Ward (President) thanks Joshua and Charlotte for their answers.

Charlotte Sutton (D&C OB) further clarifies that the definition says 'merely', so a person who is a guardian can be classed as a carer if the person they are caring for has a disability. She also explains that the purpose of this motion and new definition is to stop people who are going into professions such as nursing or volunteer work taking the role rather than people who are carers under the new definition.

Jay Davis (General Representative) speaks to the motion and begins by speaking in favour of the motion. He believes that this is a good change, and prescribing a definition is a good idea, so if there is a dispute it can be more clearly defined without personal interpretation.

Joshua Walters (Chair) asks if anyone else would like to speak to the motion. No one else does so he moves into a vote.

M. Financial Statement Summary June 2024

Motion #10:

This MSC moves to accept the MSA Financial Statement Summary June 2024 as detailed in the Appendix.

Moved: Chloe Ward **Seconded:** Zareh Kozanian Paul Halliday

In Favour: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Chloe Ward (President), waives their speaking rights.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday (C&S President), waives their speaking rights.

Mohammed Orabi (Dilhan's proxy) speaks and explains that he is trying to find the standing orders but wants the Chair to ensure that the regulations are adhered to as twice when he voted, he could see Josiah Downey (Observer) taking photos of people voting within the meeting. Mohammed requests that the Chair ask Jos to delete those photos.

Joshua Walters (Chair) explains that he will check the standing orders again and double checks what the specific rule is. Joshua explains that based on his interpretation of the standing order, there is nothing he can do about people taking photos as the clause specifically prohibits filming but clarifies that if people could please respect other people's wishes and not take photos of them it would be appreciated.

N. Appointment of Auditor

Motion #11:

This MSC moves to appoint Connect National Audit to be the MSA Auditor for the period 2024 – 2027, and for the MSC to authorise expenditure on costs pertaining to the engagement.

Moved: Chloe Ward

Seconded: Zareh Kozanian Charlotte Sutton

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

Joshua Walters (Chair) quickly explains the reasoning behind this motion as the contract with the previous auditor has expired so this motion is simply to approve a new contract with the auditors.

The mover of the motion, Chloe Ward (President), waives their speaking rights.

The seconder of the motion, Charlotte Sutton (D&C OB), waives her speaking rights.

Joshua Walters (Chair) proceeds straight to a vote as there are no other speakers.

O. Cyber Security Policy

Motion #12:

This MSC approves the Cyber Security Policy.

Moved: Chloe Ward **Seconded:** Zareh Kozanian Paul Halliday

In Favour: 16

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Chloe Ward (President), waives their speaking rights.

The seconder of the motion, Paul Halliday (C&S President), speaks to the motion and guides MSC members that the new policy is in the appendix of the agenda and explains that it is pretty straightforward as it updates the policy to be in line with updated legislation.

Joshua Walters (Chair) proceeds straight to a vote as there are no other speakers.

P. Constitution Amendments 2024 - Full Preferential Voting

Preamble:

The MSA currently uses optional preferential voting, which leads to a high number of wasted votes due to being exhausted after the first preference is eliminated as many students only submit one preference on their ballot. With recent election regulation changes lowering the required number of candidates to qualify for front page voting, this issue is likely to become more pronounced. Amending the constitution to instead require full preferential voting would mean students would have to submit all their preferences ensuring no vote is wasted. This change would come into effect following this year's elections.

Motion #13:

This MSC:

1. resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2024 MSA annual elections on the proposed constitutional changes as outlined:

a. The current clause 64(2):

All MSA elections must be conducted by secret ballot using the optional preferential proportional representation method of election,

Is to be replaced with:

All MSA elections must be conducted by secret ballot using the full preferential proportional representation method of election.

2. resolves that the wording of the referendum question to be as follows—

A Proposed Change: To amend the MSA Constitution to require full preferential voting in elections.

Do you approve of this proposed amendment?

3. 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 2024 MSA Annual Elections.

4. directs the Returning Officer to–

a. ensure that copies of the proposed changes are made available to all students on the MSA website and via email as part of the Election Guide.

b. place the referendum questions on the same ballot as the annual elections.

Moved: Jay Davis

Seconded: Stuart Gibson

In Favour: 2

Against: 10

Abstentions: 3

MOTION FAILED

Discussion During MSC:

Joshua Walters (Chair) asks the MSC if anyone would like the motion to be read out. No one wants it to be read out so Joshua summarises the motion. Joshua then passes the Chair to Paul Halliday (C&S President) as he would like to engage with debate on this agenda item.

The mover of the motion, Jay Davis (General Representative), speaks to the motion and explains the background behind this motion. He explains that, currently, the MSA operates with optional preferential voting, which ultimately means that voters can number any number of boxes during the MSA Annual Elections provided it is at least one. Jay highlights the previous MSC where the election regulations were amended and how the number of unique candidates needed to achieve front-page voting is now heavily reduced, which will likely result in a higher number of tickets on the front-page of voting. He continues by saying that this will lead to a higher level of ballot exhaustion, which he labels as a waste of votes, especially in the case of tickets only contesting autonomous positions. Jay outlines that he does not want to see a situation where a ticket can win the Presidency with less than 1000 votes, but with full preferential voting then all votes would flow and actually reflect the will of students.

The seconder of the motion, Stuart Gibson (MAPS President), waives his speaking rights.

Joshua Walters (Treasurer) speaks to the motion and outlines that personally he is against the proposed changes and believes that full preferential voting is not a good system. He explains that he thinks it will lead to voter fatigue and voter disenfranchisement, especially when it is already hard to get students to engage with student elections and student politics. Joshua highlights that we all want as many students voting in the elections as possible so that the MSA is as representative as possible and he believes that having full preferential voting will lead to less people voting. He also outlines that if people do not want to use

front-page voting and instead want to vote for specific candidates, students will have to number over 50 checkboxes which will cause less students to engage with voting overall. He feels that it is ridiculous to ask students to do this. Joshua also adds that the MSA Lawyer has advised against these changes for the same reasons as he has previously outlined. Joshua ends his speaking time by saying that this motion should be voted down.

Alex Self (Observer) asks a point of clarification about whether Section 64(2) is the correct clause from the constitution.

Paul Halliday (Chair) checks the constitution. Joshua Walters (Treasurer) informs the chair that the correct reference is Section 38(2) and Paul asks if Jay wants to amend the motion to include the correct constitution reference. Jay moves an amendment to correct the reference.

Motion to Amend:

Change the MSA Constitution reference in the motion from Section 64(2) to Section 38(2).

“a. The current clause 38(2):”

Moved: Jay Davis

This amendment was moved by the mover of the motion and was accepted by the seconder so no need to vote.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Alex Self (Observer) speaks to the motion and explains that he is pretty sure that any amendment to Section 38(2) in the Constitution is also supposed to apply to all MSA Divisions, however, the MSA Divisions are the only ones able to amend their own constitutions themselves. Alex asks whether this change would take immediate effect on the MSA divisions.

Paul Halliday (Chair) explains that he is quickly going to read those sections of the constitution to ensure that he answers the question correctly. Paul allows Jay to respond to Alex’s question but reminds him that he may make a ruling as the Chair on this.

Jay Davis (General Representative) responds to Alex’s question and explains that changes to the constitution don’t take effect after the approval of a referendum, they take effect after they go to the MSA Annual Elections and meet the requirements. He explains that from there, they are then approved at an MSC, where it then doesn’t take effect until the CAV registrar has processed it.

Joshua Walters (Treasurer) also answers Alex’s question and explains that he believes that the clause about Divisions and their autonomy says that Divisions would have to ratify those changes in the same way that they amend their own constitutions, and uses C&S as an

example, outlining that C&S would have to have an EGM to ratify the change to the MSA Constitution. Joshua explains that it would not be effective immediately on the Divisions, but explains that if it passes, they can obtain further legal advice on how it would affect the Divisions specifically.

Jay Davis (General Representative) clarifies further by saying the specific clause Alex is referring to talks about the powers of divisions and so it would be up to legal advice what sort of voting system divisions should use is classified as a 'power'.

Paul Halliday (Chair) speaks to Alex's questions and explains that Section 9(5c) explains that the MSA must not amend any other provisions of the constitution or the regulations so as to directly affect the powers able to be exercised by a Division. He references Section 37(1) and explains that it says the MSA elections means elections of all MSA bodies, including the Divisions. Paul also highlights Section 37(2) where it says this part, other than Sub-Clause 38(2) and Clause 43, which is the clause being proposed to change, does not apply to the Divisions. Paul explains that he is going to make a ruling as the Chair that he believes that this motion is out of order as it rules on Divisional powers without proper consultation or approval from the Divisions.

Jay Davis (General Representative) raises a Point of Order and explains that this isn't the MSA amending it's constitution, this motion is simply the MSC voting on whether a referendum should be held on this issue in the MSA Annual Elections. He explains that for the referendum changes to be approved there must be consultation and approval from the Divisions but that is not required to hold a referendum. Jay ends by saying that a referendum does not change the Constitution but simply enables the process to begin.

Paul Halliday (Chair) revokes his previous out of order ruling due to Jay's reasoning.

Chloe Ward (President) speaks to the motion and she begins by explaining that she has a lot of the same issues with this motion as Joshua. They explain that they also believe that this change will result in voter disenfranchisement, and that voter engagement with student politics and elections is already quite low and believes this will exacerbate the issue further. She also highlights that she doesn't like the idea of forcing students to possibly vote for tickets or people that they don't feel comfortable voting for. Chloe explains that if students don't want to vote for 50 tickets and only want to vote for 1, it should be within their right to do so. They end their speaking time by saying that they fundamentally disagree with this motion and will be voting against it.

Jay Davis (General Representative) speaks to the motion and begins by referencing the issues around accessibility and the numbering of boxes within voting. He explains that he believes that people are capable of numbering 6 or 7 boxes and doesn't feel that it will be too much of an issue. He then highlights that in State and Federal Elections, voters have to number all the boxes and he doesn't feel that it is a hard burden. Jay explains that what he thinks will impact student representation is if there are more tickets contesting and the splitting of votes and possibly end up with tickets that have 20% of the vote winning. He continues by

saying that he thinks the MSC should make it so if a ticket wins, they can demonstrate majority support through preferences.

Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) speaks to the motion and begins explaining why he thinks this change would make the MSA elections less democratic. He outlines that this is basically the abolishment of below-the-line voting, which he believes is a student's democratic right to do so. Luka explains that, secondly, this would compel people to have their vote possibly go to a candidate that they oppose, and highlights that people should have the right to say that they only want their vote to count towards a certain candidate or ticket. Luka ends his speaking time by reiterating that he feels that this will ultimately make the elections less democratic because people should be able to have their votes only count towards who they choose to vote for.

Joshua Walters (Treasurer) speaks to the motion and explains that State and Federal elections compel people to vote, which is not the case in the MSA elections. He feels that if we chose to fine students for not voting, the situation would be different, but as the MSA is not planning on doing this, it makes the example of State and Federal elections irrelevant to this specific discussion.

Campbell Frost (Welfare OB) speaks to the motion and explains that he feels this motion has come from a place of genuine love for democracy from Jay but he feels that because the MSA does not have compulsory voting, it will decrease voter turnout. He echoes what Luka said earlier about students sometimes not wanting to vote for someone and feels that it should be students right to choose that. He again reiterates that the MSA can't fine students for not voting, and comments that the University already fines students for not turning their CelLOPark on and thanks the parking inspector who gave him a fine last week. Campbell ends his speaking time by saying that he does not feel that this change would make voting anymore engaging as most students are pretty disengaged with student politics and says that he will not be voting in favour of the motion.

Chloe Ward (President) speaks to the motion and explains that if we are making the comparison to both State and Federal Senate elections, it is also important to remember that compulsory preferential voting increases the number of informal votes when talking about both State and Federal elections. They feel that if that is any indicator of whether the MSA should be implementing this motion, it shows that the MSA shouldn't be. Chloe also echoes that while this may have come out of a place of wanting to increase democracy, and whilst she respects that sentiment, any kind of forcement of students to sit there and vote for someone that they personally disagree with on any level is anti-democratic.

Jay Davis (General Representative) speaks to the motion and begins by touching on informal ballots and their possibility within the MSA elections. He explains that because BigPulse, the election platform, is used, it would prevent any issues regarding informal ballots. Jay outlines that he accepts that there is a difference of opinion between members of the MSC about whether or not it is democratic to require all boxes to be numbered, with Jay explaining that he feels that it is ultimately good for democracy because it ensures all preferences are used. He ends his speaking time by saying that he still doesn't feel that it will negatively impact

voter turnout and feels as though people are capable of numbering all boxes and suggests that unless other people have anything else to add that they put it to a vote.

Paul Halliday (Chair) proceeds straight to a vote as there are no other speakers.

Q. Constitution Amendments 2024 -Honoraria

Preamble:

This proposed amendment would allow future MSCs to consider the payment of honoraria to all members of the MSC. It would continue to allow the payment of Honoraria to Officer Bearers who are not on MSC such as the Lot's Wife editors.

Motion #14:

This MSC:

1. resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2024 MSA annual elections on the proposed constitutional changes as outlined–

a. The current clause 32(8):

The MSC may only pay an honorarium to office-bearers directly elected by students (which includes the Women's Officer).

Is to be replaced with:

The MSC may only pay an honorarium to office-bearers directly elected by students and members of the MSC.

2. resolves that the wording of the referendum question to be as follows:

A Proposed Change: To amend the MSA Constitution to allow the payment of honoraria to office bearers directly elected by students and members of the MSC.

Do you approve of this proposed amendment?

3. 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 2024 MSA Annual Elections.

4. directs the Returning Officer to–

a. ensure that copies of the proposed changes are made available to all students on the MSA website and via email as part of the Election Guide.

b. place the referendum questions on the same ballot as the annual elections.

Moved: Jay Davis

Seconded: Stuart Gibson

In Favour: 5

Against: 9

Abstentions: 1

MOTION FAILED

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Jay Davis (General Representative), speaks to the motion clarifying that the proposal seeks to change the rules regarding who can be paid an honorarium, extending this option to all members of the MSC. They emphasise that this change does not create an obligation to pay honorariums but simply provides an option for future MSCs to consider.

The seconder of the motion, Stuart Gibson (MAPS President), waives his speaking rights.

Joshua Walters (Treasurer) expresses confusion regarding the wording of the motion as it was originally sent out. They interpret the motion to mean that the MSC may only pay an honorarium to office bearers directly affected by students or those elected by members of the MSC. The speaker finds the wording unclear and suggests that obtaining legal advice to refine the language would be beneficial. They then address Jay's intention behind the motion, which is to provide the option to pay all members of the MSC, and express their opposition to this. They clarify that while they do not wish to discredit the work of general representatives, they believe their responsibilities are considerably lower than those of office bearers, who oversee committees or budgets. Thus, they feel it is not appropriate to include general representatives in the honorarium payment. The speaker also mentions that legal advice has been received, advising against the referendum related to this motion. They conclude by stating they may have more to add later once Jay speaks again.

Motion to Amend:

To amend the proposed changed wording to read the MSC may only pay an honorarium to office bearers directly elected by students and to members of the MSC.

Moved: Luka Kiernan

This amendment was accepted by the mover and the seconder so no need to vote.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Angus Durke (Lot's Wife Editor) discusses the motion as a directly elected office bearer but not as a member of the MSC, which was the proposed change in the original motion. They clarify that the motion, as it stood, would mean future editors of "Lot's Wife" would not receive payment. While they understand the reasoning behind the motion, they choose to remain impartial as a student journalist regarding whether to support the motion or not. The speaker shares their experience over the past seven months with Sam and Mandy, noting the significant effort that goes into publishing "Lot's Wife." They emphasise that the original intent was likely not to cut payment to the editors, but the wording would effectively make it a voluntary role for future editors. The speaker acknowledges Sam's extensive work, particularly with the visual formatting of the publication, describing the final editions as "works of art." They commend the efforts of Sam and Mandy while expressing their

frustration with inconsistencies in spelling among contributors. They advocate for recognizing payment for the editors of "Lot's Wife" and thank Jay for amending the motion. However, they also note that the current proposed wording could be improved for clarity, a comment that reflects their editorial perspective.

Jay Davis (General Representative) revisits Joshua Walter's earlier point, clarifying that the lawyer's advice was not that the change is invalid but rather that, in the lawyer's opinion, general representatives should not be paid. The speaker personally agrees with this view to some extent. They reference the executive general, stating that while people may not always agree with him, he consistently works very hard on MSA projects, which makes it unfair that he cannot be compensated. Although the proposed changes won't address the current executive general representative's situation, it would allow future individuals in similar roles to be paid. Regarding whether general representatives should be paid, the speaker believes that decision should be left to future MSCs. However, they express the view that general representatives would likely never be paid as much as office bearers, considering such a scenario to be unreasonable. If compensation were ever introduced, the speaker believes it would be a much smaller amount.

Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) points out that most student unions have provisions allowing them to commission general representatives (or their equivalents) for specific tasks and pay them an honorarium for those tasks. This change would bring the MSA in line with other unions. They clarify that if the motion were to mandate pay for general representatives, they would oppose it. However, they support the option of paying general representatives for particular tasks, noting that this is common practice in student unions.

Campbell Frost (Welfare OB) expresses concern about the limited funds available, stating that it's not feasible to pay every general representative or participant. They acknowledge the valuable work done by Lot's Wife that deserves payment but emphasise that there needs to be a clear mechanism for determining compensation. They mention receiving conflicting advice about whether such a mechanism currently exists. While they believe that people who contribute work should be compensated, they find the wording of the motion clunky and are inclined to trust the legal advice that opposes it.

Georgie McColm (Radio Monash) expresses agreement with Angus, highlighting the immense amount of unseen work involved in running a media division within the MSA. They describe the job as constant, involving more hours than people typically realise. Tasks include managing emails, software issues, formatting, and constant follow-ups, making it a demanding role. While not specifically addressing the motion, the speaker emphasises that those in media roles, such as the editors of "What's Wife," should be fairly compensated for their significant behind-the-scenes efforts.

Chloe Ward (President) expresses concerns and echoes points made by Josh before the quorum issue. They describe the role of general representatives (gen reps) as unique and not having a specific set of responsibilities compared to office bearers (OBs) or the editors of "Lot's Wife." They suggest that if the executive general representative (exec gen rep) should be paid, a specific motion addressing their payment should be proposed. They also emphasise the importance of considering legal advice, especially regarding setting

precedents, which could have long-term implications for the MSA. As a result, they state their intention to vote against the motion.

Jay Davis (General Representative) clarifies that they are not proposing to pay themselves, as this change would likely take effect next year, by which time they do not expect to be serving as a general representative (gen rep). They suggest that if this proposal is approved, it would be reasonable to start by paying the executive general representatives. They acknowledge that general representatives do not have specific functions that necessitate payment but argue that this proposal provides the option for future payments if deemed appropriate. The speaker addresses concerns about wording, noting that the term "executive" as used in the constitution refers to a general representative elected to the executive, and believes alternative wording would be unnecessarily complex. They also confirm that the proposal has been revised to include the "Lot's Wife" editors, following clarification from Luca, which they have accepted.

Thomas White has raised a point of clarification regarding if there is to be the system, what would be the body or who would be the individuals that would be able to approve this payment? Would it be the MSC or it would be exact or would it be the president?

Paul Halliday (Chair) responds that making regulations dictating it or or passing a motion would be best practice, and explains that the only current system in place that would allow for compensation of general reps is the volunteer point system which is a gift card based system.

Joshua Walters (Treasurer) suggests that the question of paying general representatives an honorarium may require further constitutional changes. They highlight that the current Constitution includes a clause stating that office bearers, even if paid an honorarium, are not considered employees. The speaker recommends seeking additional legal advice to ensure that any proposed changes would be valid and compliant with existing regulations.

R. Constitution Amendments 2024 - Multi-member Positions

Preamble:

Currently only 21% of the positions on MSC are multi-member positions. This is far below many other comparable student organisations/unions:

- UMSU (UniMelb): 68%
- LTSU (La Trobe Uni): 64%
- SRC (USyd): 98%
- YouX SRC (Adelaide Uni): 31%
- Student Guild (UWA): 59%
- Arc SRC (UNSW): 46%

Historically this has led to winning tickets holding large super-majorities on the MSC, with other tickets only receiving one or two positions despite receiving substantial voter shares. This proposal would double the number of MSC members elected through multi-member positions from five to ten, resulting in a modest increase of their proportion to 34%.

Motion #15:

This MSC:

1. resolves to hold a student referendum during the 2024 MSA annual elections on the proposed constitutional changes as outlined–

a. The current clause 21(20)-(24):

5 members directly elected by and from students

Is to be replaced with clause 21(20)-(29):

10 Student Councillors directly elected by and from students.

2. resolves that the wording of the referendum question to be as follows:

A Proposed Change: To amend the MSA Constitution to increase the number of multi-member proportionally elected positions on the Monash Student Council from five to ten?

Do you approve of this proposed amendment?

3. 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 2024 MSA Annual Elections.

4. directs the Returning Officer to–

a. ensure that copies of the proposed changes are made available to all students on the MSA website and via email as part of the Election Guide.

b. place the referendum questions on the same ballot as the annual elections.

Moved: Jay Davis

Seconded: Stuart Gibson

In Favour: 7

Against: 7

Abstentions: 1

MOTION

Discussion During MSC:

The mover of the motion, Jay Davis (General Representative) , addresses the disproportionate structure of the MSC, where one member controls 19 out of 24 positions. This results in a single ticket winning most seats, while others receive only a few. They compare this to other student unions such as UMSU, LTSU, and UNSW, which have more balanced systems. The proposal aims to increase the number of general representatives by renaming student

Chloe Ward (President) expresses concerns similar to those raised with previous motions. They first note that if the earlier motion to pay general representatives had passed, the addition of five more general representatives would now increase those payments. They then

emphasise that the MSC is essentially a board of directors, as outlined in the constitution, and it already has 23 members. Increasing this number could affect the board's ability to function effectively, as it may become too large to process and discuss matters efficiently. This concern is supported by legal advice from their lawyer, Tony, who also advised against these amendments. Finally, the speaker highlights the uniqueness of the MSA, which currently operates differently from other student councils, implying that it should maintain its distinct structure.

Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) expresses strong support for the motion, arguing that the MSA, as it currently stands, is one of the least democratic unions compared to other major student unions. They acknowledge that while there may be some unions that are worse, such as the Adelaide Uni Union, the main issue is the lack of proportional representation. The speaker believes that the more multi-member and proportional the system is, the more democratic it becomes. They are in favour of any change that allows smaller groups to gain representation and reduces the quotas required to join the MSA. The speaker finds it absurd that 51% of the vote can result in controlling nearly 90% of the MSA, including all office bearer positions and three out of five general representatives. They argue that this concentration of power is "totally ridiculous" and support the motion as a step in the right direction.

Joshua Walters (Treasurer) acknowledges the intent behind the motion to increase proportional representation on the council but expresses reservations. They believe that recent changes to election regulations, which aim to address the same issue, should be given time to see their impact. By allowing smaller tickets onto the front page, the speaker hopes these changes will bring more diversity to the council. However, they also point out that managing a council with 30 members is challenging. They suggest that while increasing the number of general representatives or student councillors could be beneficial, it may not be feasible at the present time, particularly with the current number of office bearers.

Luka Kiernan (Madeline Curkovic proxy) argues against the idea that adding five more general representatives would negatively affect the function of the MSA, calling that argument "ridiculous." They point out that the MSA has been operating just above quorum with low attendance, so having more people attend meetings would only improve the union's functionality. They emphasise that the main purpose of the motion is to make the student union more representative of its voters, which they view as a clear positive outcome. The speaker also challenges the claim that more smaller tickets would make elections more representative, suggesting that it would actually make it harder for smaller tickets to gain office bearer positions, which require a plurality. They assert that this motion is designed to help smaller tickets have a chance to participate.

Amendment by Mover:

To amend The current clause 2.4(1)(e) one member elected by and from the members of the MSC mentioned in subclause 21(20)(24);

Is to be replaced with:

One member elected by and from the members of the MSC mentioned in subclause 21(20)-(29)

Moved: Jay Davis

This amendment was accepted by the seconder so no need to vote.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Jay Davis (General Representative) argues that increasing the number of people on the council isn't a significant issue and won't result in additional costs. They note that other student unions have larger ticket sizes and mention that the recent election regulations have reduced ticket sizes by about 50 members. They estimate that, depending on the group, it might be closer to 40, but emphasise that the current proposal does not dramatically increase the numbers to anything unmanageable, like over 100 members. Thus, they don't see this as a problem.

As the vote in favour and against the motion are equal the motion goes to the chair for casting. Paul Halliday votes in favour of the motion; hence, the motion passed.

S. General Business

Meeting Closed at 08:10 PM

T. Appendices

FY24 SUMMARY

	Actual	Budget	Variance	% Budget
Income	\$ 1,611,633	\$ 3,229,269	-\$ 1,617,636	49.91%
Expenditure	\$ 3,293,045	\$ 7,112,592	-\$ 3,819,547	46.30%
Net Expenditure	\$ 1,681,412	\$ 3,883,323	\$ -	43.30%
SSAF	\$ 2,980,649	\$ 3,974,198	\$ 993,549	75.00%

Net Expenditure	\$	1,681,412
Budget	\$	3,883,323
% Budget		43.30%
% Expected		50.00%

BUDGET VS. ACTUAL

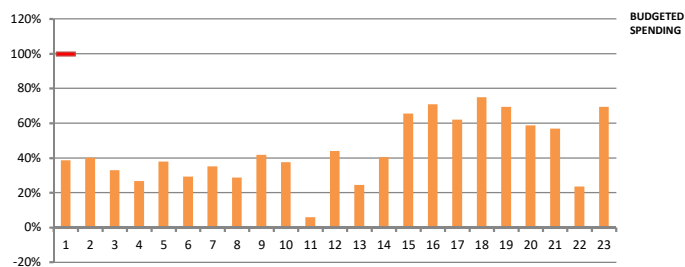


Figure 1. Percentage Variance By Department / Division

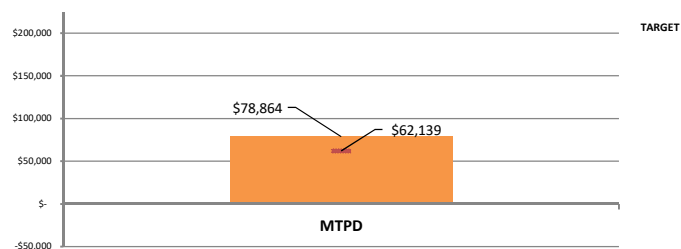


Figure 2. MSA Surplus Generating Department

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

JUNE 2024 \$ -

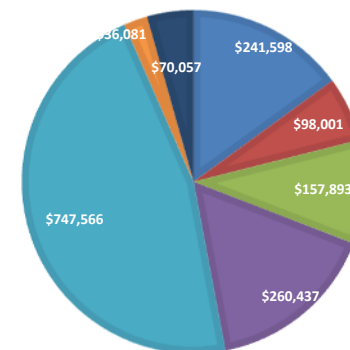
DEPARTMENTS & DIVISIONS

1. Monash Student Council
2. Education Public
3. Education Academic
4. Women's
5. Welfare
6. Queer
7. Environment & Social Justice
8. Indigenous
9. Disabilities & Carers
10. People of Colour
11. Activities
12. Lot's Wife
13. Creative Live Arts
14. Residential Communities
15. The Bike Shop
16. Host Scheme & Volunteering
17. Student Advocacy & Support
18. MUST
19. Clubs & Societies
20. MAPS
21. MUISS
22. Radio Monash
23. SURLY

MSA+ SALES

	YTD	MONTH
2023	8,967	47
2024	9,196	66
2024 - G	450	7
2024 - S	8,746	59

INCOME



INCOME SOURCES

- 1 Contributions & Investment
- 2 MSA+
- 3 Advertising & Sponsorship
- 4 Sales
- 5 Course Revenue
- 6 Events Income
- 7 Other Income

Figure 3. Breakdown of Income Sources

TOP 5 EVENTS*

*In 2024 data is incomplete as MSA Finance is not privy to non-ticketed attendance data.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS FOR THE MONTH

MSA is performing at 43% of its budgeted spending, performing better than the targeted 50%. The Finance Audit Risk committee met in June to address the performance of the MSA outlets and review will be undertaken to the outlet identity area of improvements.

MSA is expecting the 25% of the SSAF funding in July. Investment portfolio continues to deliver with January to June with the reported increase of 4.23%

INCOME STATEMENT

1 January - 30 June 2024

	YEAR TO DATE			ANNUAL		
	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	Variance	2024 Budget	2023 Budget	2023 Budget
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	Variance (\$)	(%)
	(a)	(b)	(c) = (b) - (a)	(d)	(e) = (b) - (d)	(f) = (b) / (d)
INCOME						
Contribution	5,665	123,567	117,902	48,600	74,967	254%
Investment	101,248	118,031	16,783	225,000	-106,969	52%
MSA Rewards Sales	96,027	98,001	1,974	127,623	-29,622	77%
Advertising & Sponsorship	131,229	157,893	26,664	165,000	-7,107	96%
Sales	215,725	260,437	44,712	790,714	-530,277	33%
Courses Revenue	641,280	747,566	106,286	1,629,788	-882,222	46%
Fines & Charges	29,116	21,700	-7,416	24,850	-3,150	87%
Office Supplies	1,179	901	-278	1,050	-149	86%
Activities	450	0	-450	44,500	-44,500	0%
Functions & Productions	75,414	36,081	-39,333	109,500	-73,419	33%
Other Income	24,519	47,456	22,937	62,644	-15,188	76%
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,321,852	1,611,633	289,781	3,229,269	-1,617,636	50%
EXPENDITURE						
Salaries & On Costs	2,142,189	2,184,714	42,525	4,772,746	-2,588,032	46%
Building & Maintenance	17,736	13,546	-4,190	32,801	-19,255	41%
Equipment	67,844	111,093	43,249	24,000	87,093	463%
Software Development & Licence	207,283	156,726	-50,557	220,275	-63,549	71%
Fees & Administrative Charges	44,985	36,248	-8,737	251,647	-215,399	14%
Legal & Consultancy	58,627	42,951	-15,676	65,000	-22,049	66%
Office Expenses	34,719	30,996	-3,723	88,500	-57,504	35%
Subscriptions	8,444	9,710	1,266	18,100	-8,390	54%
Training & Conference	11,739	14,543	2,804	64,268	-49,725	23%
Grants & Donations	56,646	92,779	36,133	178,500	-85,721	52%
Projects & Campaigns	125,311	133,725	8,414	311,426	-177,701	43%
Activities	117,809	117,338	-471	253,834	-136,496	46%
Functions & Productions	116,835	109,933	-6,902	246,800	-136,867	45%
Cost of Goods Sold	167,012	136,439	-30,573	354,674	-218,235	38%
Other Expenses	143,590	102,304	-41,286	230,021	-127,717	44%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	3,320,769	3,293,045	-27,724	7,112,592	-3,819,547	46%
NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	1,998,917	1,681,412	-317,505	3,883,323	-2,201,911	43%
OPERATING MARGIN		51.06%		54.60%		

FINANCIAL STATEMENT BY DEPT

1 January - 30 June 2024

	YEAR TO DATE			ANNUAL		
	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2022/2023	2024 Budget	2023 Budget	2023 Budget
	(\$)	(\$)	Variance (\$)	(\$)	Variance (\$)	(%)
	(a)	(b)	(c) = (b) - (a)	(d)	(e) = (b) - (d)	(f) = (b) / (d)
CODE DEPARTMENT/DIVISION						
100 Monash Student Council	769,097	805,508	36,411	2,079,267	-1,273,759	39%
110 Education Public	14,936	14,033	-903	35,019	-20,986	40%
120 Education Academic	13,742	13,655	-87	41,549	-27,894	33%
130 Women's	11,349	11,913	564	44,722	-32,809	27%
140 Welfare	15,736	20,402	4,666	53,722	-33,320	38%
150 Queer	15,200	12,113	-3,087	41,452	-29,339	29%
160 Environment & Social Justice	16,410	11,501	-4,909	32,662	-21,161	35%
170 Indigenous	12,465	10,504	-1,961	36,572	-26,068	29%
180 Disability	11,589	14,495	2,906	34,642	-20,147	42%
190 People of Colour	10,802	14,629	3,827	38,872	-24,243	38%
200 Activities	20,024	5,088	-14,936	86,107	-81,019	6%
210 Lot's Wife	26,978	31,958	4,980	72,721	-40,763	44%
220 Creative Live Arts	12,605	14,309	1,704	58,257	-43,948	25%
230 Residential Committee	17,908	17,256	-652	42,572	-25,316	41%
250 The Bike Shop	6,458	13,187	6,729	20,141	-6,954	65%
300 Wholefoods	38,232	44,787	6,555	6,753	38,034	663%
350 Sir John's Bar*	58,802	-73,920	-132,722	48,178	-122,098	-153%
400 MTPD*	-69,721	-358,967	-289,246	-143,353	-215,614	250%
500 Host Scheme & Volunteering	168,889	186,122	17,233	262,516	-76,394	71%
520 Student Advocacy & Support	272,667	227,165	-45,502	366,200	-139,035	62%
550 Student Theatre	173,999	187,830	13,831	250,641	-62,811	75%
600 Clubs & Societies	325,295	336,633	11,338	484,940	-148,307	69%
650 MAPS	13,709	15,030	1,321	25,627	-10,597	59%
700 MUISS	57,854	57,195	-659	100,712	-43,517	57%
750 Radio Monash	11,042	3,849	-7,193	16,380	-12,531	23%
800 SURLY	92,297	123,663	31,366	178,252	-54,589	69%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,118,364	1,759,938	-358,426	4,315,123	-2,555,185	41%

*Denotes MSA Surplus Generating Departments

CYBER SECURITY POLICY

Version	1	Approved by MSC on	
Responsible person	Executive Officer	Scheduled review date	06/2027

Introduction

This Cyber Security Policy outlines the principles and practices that Monash Student Association (Clayton) Inc. will adhere to in order to protect its digital assets, data, and operations from cyber threats. The policy is designed to comply with Australian laws and regulations pertaining to cyber security.

Purpose

This document will provide a framework for MSA in dealing with privacy considerations.

Application of this policy

This policy applies to all aspects of MSA's operations. It covers all devices, including but not limited to computers, mobile devices, servers, and network infrastructure.

This policy applies to the following persons, collectively referred to in this policy as 'workplace participants':

- a. all prospective and current full-time, part-time and casual employees of MSA;
- b. all volunteers engaged by MSA;
- c. all agents and contractors engaged from time to time by MSA; and
- d. all office bearers and members of MSA bodies

The obligations in this policy are not restricted to the workplace or work hours, they are also applicable to any work related events or functions and workplace participants are expected to comply with this policy at these events or functions. A "work related event or function" means any event or function connected to MSA. These may include, for example:

- a. MSA events,
- b. conferences,
- c. work lunches,
- d. Parties.

Policy

While MSA wishes to provide a reasonable level of personal privacy, users should be aware that the data they create on the organisation's systems remains the property of MSA. Because of the need to protect MSA's network, the confidentiality of information stored on any network device belonging to MSA cannot be guaranteed, and MSA reserves the right to audit networks and systems periodically to ensure compliance with this policy.



Information in the possession of the organisation shall be classified into different grades depending on its degree of confidentiality. Particularly sensitive information will receive special protection.

Workplace participants will take all necessary measures to maintain the necessary cyber security procedures, including protecting passwords, securing access to computers, and maintaining protective software.

Breach of this policy by any employee may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

Version History

Name of Policy	MSC Approval
Cyber Security Policy	

Governance and Authorisation

Parent policy	N/A
Parent policy owner	Executive Officer
Associated policies and procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MSA Constitution ● MSA Committee Regulations ● MSA Corporate Governance Statement ● MSA Data Protection Procedures ● MSA Cyber Security Procedures ● MSA Privacy Policy ● MSA Privacy Procedures
Monash University associated policy and procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monash University Cyber Security Policy
Legislation mandating compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Privacy Act 1988 (Commonwealth) ● Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 ● Health Records Act 2001 (Vic)
MSC Approval	
Executive Committee Endorsement	
Date effective	
Review date	01/06/2027
Version	1
Content enquiries	Finance Director - sylvia.francisca@monash.edu

***Key Activities**

Outline key activities completed thus far since last report

Since the last report we have used a lot of our time to get ready for the new semester. We have met with the people in charge of the Welfare Hub to better understand the programs offered within Monash Health so that we can promote them and also possibly do collaboration in conjunction with them. We finished out the semester with another few successful Free Food Mondays and have planned and booked everything so that we can have another successful semester.

Can outline work being done for upcoming events/projects

We have planned Free Food Mondays and Welfare on Wheels for the next semester, recipes have been decided, venues are being booked and food is being ordered. We have also put a lot of planning into Welfare Week. We have booked venues for that, are deciding food and have secured activities for Monday through Thursday of Week 5.

Department Goal

Goal	Progress (complete/ongoing/incomplete)	Comments
Expand Free Food Mondays	Ongoing	We are running free food Mondays at more people currently.
Research into Student Welfare	Ongoing	We have been liaising with other departments regarding issues that they have found students facing.
Work with Monash Health Services	Ongoing	Social media campaign being planned and we have met with Monash Health Services
Contribute to MSA student advocacy campaigns	Ongoing	Have attended meetings and am researching regarding some of the campaigns.
Run Welfare Week	Ongoing	Planned for Week 5.

*Key Activities

Outline key activities completed thus far since last report

Met with DSS to discuss new and existing issues, general advocacy, completed access guide.

Can outline work being done for upcoming events/projects

Planning events for semester 2, including 6 sessions of Auslan, weekly morning teas, silent disco and giveaways.

Department Goals

Goal	Progress (complete/ongoing/incomplete)	Comments
To improve MSA accessibility	Ongoing	Contacted organisation about an access assessment waiting for a response

To begin discussions with Monash Residential Services	Ongoing	
To promote accountability and transparency of Disability Support Services	Ongoing	Meet with DSS again and received further information and furthe
To provide sunflower training and to develop broader disability trainings	Ongoing	Sunflower training is now available to all student representatives
Increase engagement	Ongoing	

DIVISION: Radio Monash

Outline of Division’s Core Values and Aims for 2024:

- To provide students the opportunity to host radio shows and podcasts.
- To provide students the space, expertise, and experience of working in a broadcast and/or a recording studio.
- For students to be able to produce and release music.
- For students artists to have more opportunities to play gigs on campus.
- For our journalism department to release 6 articles a fortnight.
- To release our first print edition.
- To give students the experience of working in a media organisation, and gain skills and knowledge.
- For tech/engineering/computer science students to be given the place to learn about radio/studio technology.

Division Goals for 2024

Goal	Methodology	Comments
To increase the number of student hosted radio shows. Ideally, more than 20 a week.	For semester two, we have opened show applications and are already at 15 shows and counting! We expect more after O-week and Open Night	
To have a reliable stream on our website, that will be easy to handover to future committees.	We have switched from using Radio King in semester one, and are using azura cast with a server provided by e solutions.	This has taken a lot of time and effort from the tech team in the radio monash committee.
For our Journalism department to flourish, publishing at least 6 articles per fortnight, doing interviews with local talent and	Our journalism department is expanding! It’s so fantastic to see. Articles took a break over the winter break, but they are looking to go ahead again as the semester starts.	We are branching out to the Caulfield campus to find more students, especially journalism students.

people.		
For Radio Monash as a whole to be worked in deeper with the Monash Uni faculties and clubs.	We are interviewing clubs for O-day again on the Wednesday! We will be inviting them in and blasting it on the main screen in campus centre.	We have also had our journalism department run campus clubhouse
For students to record music in the space.	We had a large roadblock in semester one in that the studio was down due to OH&S as well as a faulty MAC. But we are getting a new MAC in week ½, and the OH&S is practically complete.	We just need to make an after hours access form and rules regarding that

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

O-WEEK:

By the time of this meeting, we would have had this week go ahead for us. For the first time we are expanding to Caulfield! This is super exciting and we are having two days there, and one day at clayton. We plan to interview clubs as well as hand out goodies at our stall.

TRAINING NIGHT/OPEN NIGHT:

Our first event of the semester is planned for week 2 Tuesday night. We have decided to rename it open night for people to come and try out our stuff and have a look at our space.

BATTLE OF THE BANDS:

In collaboration with CLA, in week 8 we are running a battle of the bands! This is a massive project but we are looking forward to it. It will involved having student bands compete with each other for a prize and recognition. Whilst we thought this was going to be the first battle of the bands at monash, CLA and radmon (know by different names at the time), was run in the early 2000’s, so we may not be the first but we are bringing it back!

JOURNALISM:

It’s growing! We are expanding to Caulfield so we are expecting to see an increase in writers. But our subcommittee has been pumping out fantastic material all semester which I expect to see continue.

Back on the waves:

We are going back to our roots and finally doing an off campus event for the first time in 3 years! Radmon's VP Sarah Stancombe has been planning and running the event, and has done a lot of work to get this off the ground. So on October 3rd at the Burgy Bandroom we will have 3 live acts, all of which have monash students in them.

OTHER:

We have had over 15 shows apply this semester to run a show so far, but as O-day and open night approach, we are expecting a jump in this.

DEPARTMENT: Education (Academic Affairs)

Outline of Department's Core Values and Aims for 2024:

Advocacy

Integrity

Visibility

Transparency

Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:

Academic Affairs are still pushing for reform to academic processes, particularly around special consideration.

A key win from the union has been the reduction in late penalties - from 10% to 5%. If a submission is submitted late due to technical difficulties, the chief examiner now also has the power to waive any late fee that may apply. These are huge changes, and makes the assessment submission process much fairer for students.

The University administration is proving incredibly stubborn regarding the re-introduction for 5 day short extensions. We have tried many internal advocacy strategies but they have so far fallen on deaf ears.

We are assessing our options in relation to this change. We are also looking at other options of reform that we can introduce to still improve the process, even if 5 day short extensions cannot be achieved.

Discussions about universal submission times and an alternative form of special consideration evidence (student declarations) are progressing solidly, and we will keep you updated on their progress.

Department Goals for 2024

Goal	Methodology	Comments
5 day short extensions	<p>Engaging with the education committee and academic board.</p> <p>Running a campaign on campus to amplify student voices, and to place pressure on the University.</p> <p>Utilising support from the NTEU.</p>	
Universal Submission Times	<p>Meet with relevant decision makers to raise this idea, and ask for their support in education committee</p>	
Improving the special consideration process	<p>Engage with the student population, SAS, and DNC to first identify the key detriments of the process.</p> <p>Use feedback to inform decisions, and plan how to implement the most important reforms.</p> <p>Make special consideration a fair and stress-free process for students.</p>	
Be a strong representative for students	<p>Promote our department contact details to the student population.</p> <p>Respond to, and action requests from, students in a swift manner.</p> <p>Advocate for students effectively.</p>	<p>We want to be a point of call for students, and for them to trust us to help when they are experiencing difficulties within the academic process.</p> <p>This is less of a tangible goal and more of a broad aim</p>



Naomi Drego and Grayson Lowe
Dept REPORT
[Report to MSC 26/07/24]

		<p>about how we want to conduct ourselves, and how we seek to position the value of our department.</p> <p>We are here to help, and we want students to know that</p>

***Key Activities**

Outline key activities completed thus far since last report

- International Student Day stall

Can outline work being done for upcoming events/projects

- Working on planning events for the next semester with SRSU
- Working for the One world fest
- Planning on the Career and Resume Workshop Event
- Planning for the Speed friending event for new international and exchange students

Department Goals

Goal	Progress (complete/ongoing/incomplete)	Comments
Increase community outreach and exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newsletters (ongoing) - Frequent posting and stories (ongoing) 	We are planning to post weekly stories about events and giving a chance for students to ask questions to make it interactive.

Advocating quality education for all international students and making their transition smooth for first- year students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Guide to Melbourne event (completed) - Seminars and events from Service Melbourne and Monash community for Exam info session (Completed) - International Student Day 	We had a stall on 15th July and interacted with new international students. We told them about upcoming events and helped them with their questions.
Cater welfare of all International students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welfare Wednesday (4 completed) - Welfare Day (incomplete) - R U Ok Day (incomplete) 	Planning on the welfare lunch in Week 3 and working with SRSU on the Welfare Day.
To organise social and culturally diverse events for all International students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Student Ball (completed) - MUISS Olympics (completed) - One world Fest (incomplete) - Day trip (completed) - Trivia night (incomplete) - Speed friending event (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Successfully completed the MUISS Ball at the Sea life aquarium along with 75 students having a good experience. - Had great turn out of students who enjoyed playing games and vibing to music and had good food.
To organise academic and informative events for all international students and help them with job opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Weekly group Study sessions (ongoing) - Career and Resume building workshop (ongoing) 	Reaching out to Career Connect for a resume building session for students and promotion MSA Volunteering to boost their resume experience.

***Key Activities**

Outline key activities completed thus far since last report

- Planning for ESJ DAY/ Sustain Festival
- Committee meeting
- Been contacted for an Oxfam Monash Panel
- Involved in other student research projects

Can outline work being done for upcoming events/projects

Upcoming events:

ESJ DAY - Semester 2

We're in full swing planning our ESJ festival for week 4 semester 2. This will have lots of free food, sustainable goodies, prizes games, activities and entertainment for students. The aim is to promote sustainability in various aspects of life.

Department Goals

Goal	Progress (complete/ongoing/incomplete)	Comments
Protest Contingents	Ongoing	Want to support student protests on campus and their right to protest
Releasing emissions data/making it available for students	Mostly complete	Hit a natural end in terms of releasing data - Monash won't be releasing any more data until next year
Creating spaces for student discourse on sustainability	ongoing	Hopefully we'll be able to continue this with our podcasts and share the panel with Oxfam as well
Practically implementing the sustainability guidelines	ongoing	Practically implementing these for our ESJ day festival. Using reusable plates etc, trying to minimise waste with our own collection
Campaigns	ongoing	

DIVISION: Clubs & Societies

Outline key activities completed thus far:

1. Mid-Year Orientation festival

C&S was heavily involved in MSA activities at the Mid-year Orientation festival on the 23rd of July. C&S worked to facilitate and support the involvement of 56 clubs including Academic, Cultural, Performing Arts, Political, Social Welfare, Special Interest and Spiritual clubs.

2. C&S Awards Night

C&S is well underway in planning the annual Clubs Awards Night. This event run in collaboration with Team Monash and is C&S's premier event. Awards Night gives the Division a chance to celebrate the hard work of club leaders, foster a community for student volunteers and recognize clubs and club leaders who have gone above and beyond in the last year. We have a new award with the Most Outstanding Accessibility and Inclusion Program category making its debut in collaboration with MSA D&C. This year's C&S awards night is scheduled for the 21st of August.

3. Grants Program

As detailed in previous reports C&S has been overhauling the Grants Process for affiliated clubs. Thus far, C&S has distributed over \$90,000 in grants to clubs. At the end of June the Division's non-salary expenditure was over \$30,000 higher than in 2023, indicating the greatly increased efficiency of the overhauled grant system where clubs are having their grants paid out faster.

4. Returning Officer Training

C&S has already held one Returning Officer training session with over ten club leaders registered. This training run by the C&S Executive serves to equip club leaders with the knowledge needed to elect their new committees and run smooth General Meetings. These sessions are particularly important as we enter what C&S terms "AGM season" when over 80% of clubs hold their General Meetings to elect their committees for the next year

5. Club ACNC Registrations

As previously reported, recent changes in legislation mean affiliated clubs may now be liable to pay income tax. To avoid this, C&S is supporting them to register as charities by the October deadline. C&S ran several sessions in late Semester 1 to help clubs with their applications and prepared materials to assist clubs with the application process. Currently many clubs have submitted their applications and are waiting for them to be assessed by the ACNC and C&S is supporting the clubs still yet to lodge their applications in finalising them. Some clubs are beginning to have their applications accepted.

Outline of Departmental planning and upcoming events/projects

Regular Events

This year C&S has been working to hold more regular events for club office bearers. Semester 1 saw over a dozen events held and semester 2 will be just as busy with Clubs Awards night along with events for Wear it Purple Day and National Student Volunteer Week upcoming.

Club Governance Overhauls

Many C&S policies are in need of updating. C&S is now taking steps to refresh these regulations. In doing this C&S hopes to be in line with current best practice, improve efficiency and provide advice and support to clubs to make any transitions as seamless as possible.

Club ACNC Registrations

As detailed above recent changes have resulted in many clubs needing to register as charities to remain tax exempt. C&S will continue to support clubs in this transition with the goal of having as many as possible by the end of October.

C&S Grants Program

The new C&S grants process continues to be rolled out. Jay Davis (C&S Treasurer) is meeting regularly with C&S and MSA Finance Staff to ensure the smooth functioning of the new process. Further changes have been drafted and are being considered for feasibility going into the new semester.

Division Goals for 2024

Goal	Progress	Comments
Regulations update/refresh	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed for Finance Regs - Completed for club model rules - Partially completed for Affiliation Regs with further changes drafted

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planned for Complaints and IT policy
Regular club office bearer events	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calendar planned for the whole year - over a dozen events held in Semester 1 - Planning for Awards Night started and Semester 2 events underway
Encouraging greater use of the C&S Grants Program	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New grants process launched for some Grant Types. - Increased benefits for MSA facilities and MSA+ members. - Over \$85,000 distributed to clubs this year - Faster processing and payout time for clubs this year with new system - Further changes drafted and being considered
Club ACNC applications	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Materials disseminated to clubs - Presentation delivered to club OBs - Several working groups held - Clubs beginning to

		<p>apply for registration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Clubs beginning to have applications accepted
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