

**Meeting time:** On 16/08/2024 **Quorum was not reached, meeting was adjourned**

**Meeting location:** In the Banquet Hall at the Campus Centre of Monash University and Zoom (Hybrid)

**Meeting Minutes**

**A. Attendance**

Quorum was not reached

**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 7/24](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

**Moved:** Zareh Kozanian      **Seconded:** Paul Halliday  
**In Favour:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Against:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Abstentions:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION**

**E. Office Bearer and Divisional Reports**

Office Bearer and Divisional Reports	Submission Compliance
President	Report Submitted on time
Secretary	Report Submitted on time
Lot's Wife Editors	Report Submitted on time
Treasurer	<b>No Submission Received</b>
Activities	<b>No Submission Received</b>
Creative Live Arts	<b>No Submission Received</b>

**Motion #2:**

~~This MSC accepts the reports submitted by the President, Secretary, Lot's Wife en bloc, as attached at the end of this document.~~

~~Moved: Zarch Kozanian~~ ————— ~~Seconded: Paul Halliday~~

~~In Favour: \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

**F. Leave of Absence Request**

**Motion #3:**

~~This MSC approves unpaid leave of absence for Joshua Walters for the 16th of August 2024~~

~~Moved: Chloe Ward~~ ————— ~~Seconded: Paul Halliday~~

~~In Favour: \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

**G. Indigenous Office Bearer**

**Motion #4:**

~~It is moved that this MSC removes Marley McNamara as Indigenous Officer of the MSA, as per Section 42(1)(e)(i) of the MSA Constitution, due to failing to attend three consecutive MSCs, namely Special MSC 2, MSC 7 and MSC 8.~~

~~Moved: Chloe Ward~~ ————— ~~Seconded: Paul Halliday~~

~~In Favour: \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

**Motion #5:**

~~That the MSC appoints John Sopar to fill the vacancy in the position of Indigenous Office Bearer~~

~~Moved: Chloe Ward~~ — ~~Seconded: Paul Halliday~~

~~In Favour: —~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

## ~~H. Election of ResComm Office Bearer~~

### ~~Preamble:~~

~~As it stands the MSA constitution requires candidates for Women's Officer, Disability and Carers Officer, Indigenous Officer, Queer Officer and People of Colour Officer to be a member of their respective autonomous group. However the same requirement does not apply to the Residential Community Officer; although this requirement has recently been introduced via the election regulations, it would be desirable to also have it in the constitution.~~

### **~~Motion #6:~~**

~~This MSC:~~

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

~~The new clause:~~

~~*a. The Residential Community Officer must be directly elected by and from students who reside in on-campus accommodation.*~~

~~Is to be inserted as 32(7) and subsequent clauses be renumbered accordingly.~~

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

~~**A Proposed Change:** To amend the MSA Constitution to require that the Residential Community Officer live in on-campus accommodation.~~

~~**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: Dilhan Simsek~~

~~In Favour: —~~

Against:  
Abstentions:  
**MOTION**

## I. Multi-member Positions & Honoraria

### 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 change the number of MSC members elected through multi-member positions from five to nine, resulting in a modest increase of their proportion to 32%. It would also allow future MSCs to consider the payment of honoraria to all members of the MSC while continuing to allow the payment of Honoraria to Officer Bearers who are not members of the MSC such as the Editors of Lot's Wife.

### **Motion #7:**

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):

*9 Student Councillors directly elected by and from students.*

b. The current clause 24(1)(e):

*one member elected by and from the members of the MSC referred to in subclauses 21(20) (24);*

Is to be replaced with:

*one member elected by and from the members of the MSC referred to in subclauses 21(20)-(28);*

c. 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 honoraria to the following:~~

d. The new clause:

~~office bearers directly elected by students, and~~

Is to be inserted as 32(8)(a):

e. The new clause:

~~members of the MSC:~~

Is to be inserted as 32(8)(b):

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 nine and extend the payment of honoraria to all members of the Monash Student Council.~~

~~**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:** Dilhan Simsek~~

~~**In Favour:** —————~~

~~**Against:**~~

~~**Abstentions:**~~

~~**MOTION**~~

## ~~J. Housing Motion~~

~~Preamble:~~

~~There is a serious, ongoing housing crisis in Australia. Last year Australia ranked the third most expensive housing market in the world, with average house rents increasing 6 times~~

faster than wages, and unit rents 4 times faster [1]. The cost of buying property continues to soar out of reach of working-class Australians [2].

For students, median uni accommodation comes to \$426 weekly, [3] which youth allowance doesn't come close to covering. This means many students have to choose between going to class or working to cover their cost of living. This pressure is multiplied for International Students on insecure Visas.

In the midst of this housing crisis, Federal and State Labor governments have responded worse than inadequately. The HAFF, for example, was a neoliberal non-solution, and will not scratch the surface of the demand for public housing.

Labor has ended spending on new public housing projects, while demolishing existing public housing. The residents of the last public housing standing in Victoria have launched a class action lawsuit against the Alban Government, but expect eviction. To add insult to injury, land which the Alban government had previously promised wouldn't be sold to private developers, has been put on the market [4].

The promised replacement 'social housing', again, is a neoliberal smokescreen for injecting the profit motive into every aspect of the housing market.

The ALP is fundamentally unable to provide genuine solutions to the housing crisis, because as a party its commitment is to profit and profit making. Under Labor the rich get richer, and the rest of us are left holding the bag.

Sources:

[1]

<https://www.hotspotting.com.au/rents-rise-faster-than-wages/#:~:text=The%20speed%20of%20rental%20growth,growth%20in%20the%20March%20quarter.>

[2]

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/article/2024/jul/18/melbourne-public-housing-towers-demolition-to-go-ahead-despite-residents-class-action-ntwnfb>

[3]

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.abc.net.au/article/104117606>

[4]

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.theage.com.au/politics/victoria/land-set-aside-for-social-housing-to-be-sold-off-for-private-development-20240807-p5k0iw.html>

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/need-help/homelessness-support-services/homelessness-week/homelessness-statistics/australia-housing-crisis/>

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.abc.net.au/article/103754274>

**Motion #8:**

The MSC:

- ~~1. Calls for the Labor government to scrap negative gearing and Capital Gains Tax concessions, implement rent freezes and build more public housing, not private social housing.~~
- ~~2. Calls on monash to use some of its billions of dollars to help provide affordable housing for students.~~
- ~~3. Acknowledges that housing is a human right, and rejects the idea that housing should be for profit.~~

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

~~In Favour:~~ \_\_\_\_\_

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

**K. Motion on gender panic surrounding Algerian Olympic boxer Imane Khelif**

Preamble:

~~The Olympic women's boxing competition has seen the whipping up of a transphobic furor against Algerian boxer Imane Khelif. She and another boxer, Lin Yu-ting had been disqualified from the 2023 boxing world championships due to not meeting certain 'gender eligibility' requirements. Both are cisgender women, whose participation in the 2024 Olympics has since been at the centre of a media storm.~~

~~The fact that right wing figures such as Elon Musk and J. K. Rowling have publicly accused Khelif of being a man shows the nature of the 'debate'. Anti-trans activists have latched onto Khelif as a means of waging a campaign against trans rights. They are using dubious claims about Khelif's testosterone levels and chromosomes to create a moral panic and claim she is a danger to other women competing, and unfairly taking their place in the competition.~~

~~It is evident that attacks on trans women's participation in sports have further opened the door to the gender policing of cisgender women as well, where they are publicly scrutinised for their adherence to narrow gender stereotypes. In sport, women have often been the target of sexist remarks for appearing too masculine, and this is even more so the case for women of colour.~~

~~The broader context for these attacks is the growth of the far right, which targets women and trans people to wage culture wars and spread their bigoted ideology. It is~~

important that the attacks on Khelif's gender are identified as rooted in the transphobia and sexism championed by the far right.

**Motion #9:**

Platform:

This MSC:

- ~~1. Condemns the transphobia and sexism used to generate a moral panic around women athletes' gender.~~
- ~~2. Supports the rights of women and gender diverse people to participate and compete in sports at every level.~~
- ~~3. Recognises the need to fight against the rising far-right and their reactionary ideas on women and trans people.~~

Action:

- ~~1. The MSA will do a joint post on social media with MSA Queer, MSA Clayton and NUS Queer in support of Imane Khelif, making it clear that the MSA supports the rights of women, trans people, and other gender diverse people to engage in sport without restriction or harassment.~~

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

~~In Favour: —~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

## **L. MSA Student General Meeting**

### Preamble:

~~The horrors being committed by Israel in Gaza are only getting worse, with more than 40,000 confirmed dead and projected death count estimates as high as 186,000. Monash University has outrageously maintained its ties with arms companies like Lockheed Martin, Textron, and others, which are complicit in, or profiting from, the crimes being committed in Gaza.~~

~~Students should not let their universities maintain such connections unchallenged. Universities should serve the goal of human need, rather than contributing to humanitarian disaster. Over the last few months, Student General Meetings at UQ, USyd, RMIT, Adelaide Uni, QUT, Unimelb have seen thousands of students take a powerful stance against the complicity of their universities.~~



900+ students have signed the petition to call a student general meeting. This overwhelming response reflects the depth of student feeling about this issue. The MSC has an obligation to respond to these 900 students by calling a Student General Meeting and allowing them to put their motion in support of the people of Gaza.

**Motion #10:**

Platform

- 1) Students for Palestine has collected more than 900 signatures of students at Monash Clayton, and they delivered them to the MSA executive office on Monday.
- 2) The MSA constitution 10.(2) states: "The MSC **must** convene a student general meeting if petitioned by at least 1% of students."
- 3) The MSA constitution 10.(3) states "The MSC must by resolution set the date, place and agenda of each student general meeting."
- 4) The MSA constitution 11.(1) "Student general meetings may only be held between 1:05 p.m. and 1:55 p.m. on an academic day at the Clayton Campus."
- 5) The MSA constitution 15.(1) states "The President is entitled to chair student general meetings." 15.(2) states: "If the President is not present, or does not wish to chair the meeting (or part of the meeting), the Deputy Chair is entitled to chair." 15.(3) states "If neither the President nor the Deputy Chair is present, or if neither wishes to chair the meeting, the MSC must appoint a chair."
- 6) This resolution fulfills these constitutional obligation in its action points below

Action

- 1) In accordance with its constitutional obligations, this MSC calls a Student General Meeting for Tuesday the 3rd of September.
- 2) The Student General Meeting location will be the Lemon Scented Lawns
- 3) Registration for the Student General Meeting will open at 12pm on the day, to allow for those attending to be processed and verified as students before the meeting begins. The meeting proper will then begin sharply at 1:05pm
- 4) As stated in the constitution, the chair of the MSC will be the President Chloe Ward. If she does not wish to chair, then deputy chair Joshua Walters will. If he does not wish to chair either, then this MSC appoints Madeline Curkovic to chair the meeting.
- 5) The Agenda for the student general meeting will be a discussion of the following motion, which was attached to the petition that over 900 students signed:
  1. MSA supports an immediate and just end to Israel's war on Gaza. This means stopping the bombing, a permanent withdrawal of Israeli troops, an end to the 18-year long blockade, and reparations to be paid for the reconstruction of Gaza.
  2. MSA endorses the demands of the Gaza Solidarity Encampment protests – calling on Monash University to reveal and cut all ties with companies and institutions involved in the development and manufacturing of weapons used by the IDF against the Palestinian people.

~~Moved: Luka Kiernan~~

~~Seconded: Malak Ababneh~~

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

~~In Favour: \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

### **M. Statement Regarding the Unrest in Bangladesh**

#### Preamble:

~~The 2024 quota reform protests in Bangladesh, which began in June, have become one of the most significant and violent movements in the country's recent history. Initially, the protests were nonviolent movements, with students taking to the streets after the Supreme Court reinstated a controversial 56% job quota with the majority allocated to descendants of freedom fighters from Bangladesh's liberation war in 1971. This policy meant that only 44% of available government jobs would be merit based, reversing a previous government decision to abolish the quota following protests in 2018.~~

~~The situation quickly escalated due to the government's harsh crackdown, including the use of lethal force by police and military forces. Hundreds of people were killed, and thousands were injured, with reports of arbitrary arrests and human rights violations further intensifying public outrage. A five-day internet blackout intended to prevent international media coverage created additional confusion, as those abroad were unable to contact their loved ones in Bangladesh. The government's implementation of a nationwide curfew exacerbated public anger.~~

~~Despite a subsequent Supreme Court ruling that reduced the quota to 5%, the protesters remained dissatisfied, demanding justice for those killed and further reforms to ensure fairness and meritocracy in government job allocations. The movement gained momentum as the working class joined the students, unified in their demand for the Prime Minister's resignation.~~

~~Following the intense 2024 quota reform protests, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina announced her resignation amid mounting pressure and widespread civil unrest. This resignation was seen as a significant turning point, leading to the formation of an interim government tasked with restoring order, addressing the grievances that fueled the protests, and ensuring a free and fair electoral process.~~

~~While the interim government, led by Nobel laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus, offers hope for stability, the chaos has led to a surge in violence against minority communities. Reports of~~

~~targeted attacks against ethnic and religious minorities have surfaced. These attacks were allegedly carried out by extremist factions exploiting the unstable situation.~~

~~All Bangladeshi students at Monash are without a doubt distraught following the events over the last few weeks. Monash University needs to do more to support these students. While I appreciate [this statement](#) being sent out, perhaps Monash University should provide the services other institutions in Melbourne are providing - including more lenient special consideration and financial grants to those directly affected.~~

**Motion #11:**

- ~~1. The MSC recognizes the acts of violence committed against the students and general population of Bangladesh, especially the targeted attacks against minorities that are yet to cease.~~
- ~~2. The MSA will release this motion as a statement, recognizing the unrest and outlining support options available to students.~~
- ~~3. The MSC implores Monash University to provide lenient special consideration, counselling support, and financial grants to affected students.~~

~~Moved: Nafis Ibrahim ——— Seconded: Chloe Ward~~

~~In Favour: ———~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

**N. Financial Statement Summary April 2024**

**Motion #12:**

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

~~Moved: Chloe Ward ——— Seconded: Paul Halliday~~

~~In Favour: ———~~

~~Against:~~

~~Abstentions:~~

~~MOTION~~

**O. General Business**

**P. Appendices**



**FY24 SUMMARY**

	Actual	Budget	Variance	% Budget
Income	\$ 1,930,490	\$ 3,229,269	-\$ 1,298,779	59.78%
Expenditure	\$ 3,894,671	\$ 7,112,592	-\$ 3,217,921	54.76%
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 1,964,181</b>	<b>\$ 3,883,323</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>50.58%</b>
<b>SSAF</b>	<b>\$ 3,974,198</b>	<b>\$ 3,974,198</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Net Expenditure	\$	<b>1,964,181</b>
Budget	\$	3,883,323
<b>% Budget</b>		<b>50.58%</b>
% Expected		58.33%

**BUDGET VS. ACTUAL**

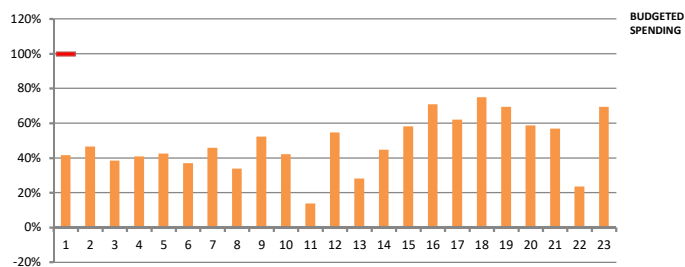


Figure 1. Percentage Variance By Department / Division

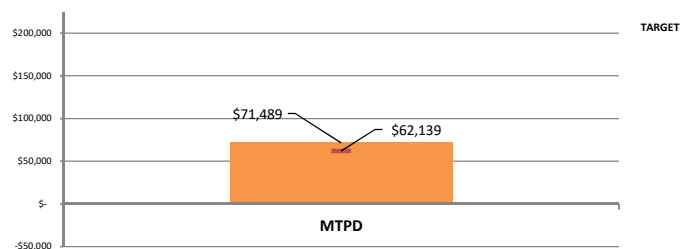


Figure 2. MSA Surplus Generating Department

**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

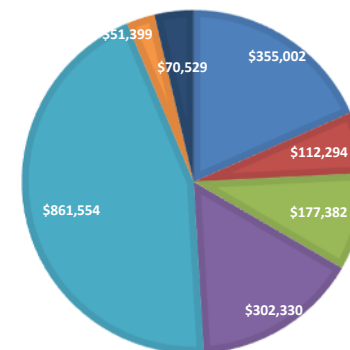
**MSA+ SALES**

	YTD	MONTH
<b>2023</b>	<b>9,633</b>	<b>661</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>9,969</b>	<b>751</b>
2024 - G	568	67
2024 - S	9,401	684

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

JULY 2024 \$ -

**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.

<b>VOL</b>	Queen Victoria Night Market	<b>458</b>
<b>VOL</b>	On-Campus BBQ Lunch & Social Mixer	<b>449</b>
<b>VOL</b>	Melbourne Skydeck	<b>254</b>
<b>VOL</b>	Scavenger Hunt	<b>246</b>
<b>VOL</b>	Amazing Race	<b>156</b>

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS FOR THE MONTH**

MSA is performing at 51% of its budgeted spending, compared to 58%, which is in line with the minimising losses strategy. MSA also has received the last 25% of its 2024 SSAF funding. The final SSAF for 2024 is forecasted more than the budgeted amount. This will assist with reducing the overall deficit for the organisation.

Semester 2 has started, Wholefoods and Sir John started trading and July represented its one week of trading results.

**INCOME STATEMENT**

1 January - 31 July 2024

	YEAR TO DATE			ANNUAL		
	2023 Actual (\$) (a)	2024 Actual (\$) (b)	Variance (\$) (c) = (b) - (a)	2024 Budget (\$) (d)	2023 Budget Variance (\$) (e) = (b) - (d)	2023 Budget (%) (f) = (b) / (d)
<b>INCOME</b>						
Contribution	11,665	158,067	146,402	48,600	109,467	325%
Investment	158,346	196,935	38,589	225,000	-28,065	88%
MSA Rewards Sales	102,398	112,294	9,896	127,623	-15,329	88%
Advertising & Sponsorship	147,492	177,382	29,890	165,000	12,382	108%
Sales	256,222	302,330	46,108	790,714	-488,384	38%
Courses Revenue	756,790	861,554	104,764	1,629,788	-768,234	53%
Fines & Charges	29,276	21,926	-7,350	24,850	-2,924	88%
Office Supplies	1,403	1,137	-266	1,050	87	108%
Activities	1,437	0	-1,437	44,500	-44,500	0%
Functions & Productions	80,077	51,399	-28,678	109,500	-58,101	47%
Other Income	36,453	47,466	11,013	62,644	-15,178	76%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>1,581,559</b>	<b>1,930,490</b>	<b>348,931</b>	<b>3,229,269</b>	<b>-1,298,779</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Salaries & On Costs	2,471,776	2,543,497	71,721	4,772,746	-2,229,249	53%
Building & Maintenance	18,234	16,476	-1,758	32,801	-16,325	50%
Equipment	144,200	200,923	56,723	24,000	176,923	837%
Software Development & Licence	218,154	167,977	-50,177	220,275	-52,298	76%
Fees & Administrative Charges	59,925	67,319	7,394	251,647	-184,328	27%
Legal & Consultancy	61,808	43,421	-18,387	65,000	-21,579	67%
Office Expenses	42,280	36,004	-6,276	88,500	-52,496	41%
Subscriptions	8,870	11,759	2,889	18,100	-6,341	65%
Training & Conference	18,723	15,185	-3,538	64,268	-49,083	24%
Grants & Donations	77,738	99,756	22,018	178,500	-78,744	56%
Projects & Campaigns	132,003	148,775	16,772	311,426	-162,651	48%
Activities	128,422	133,765	5,343	253,834	-120,069	53%
Functions & Productions	136,786	122,312	-14,474	246,800	-124,488	50%
Cost of Goods Sold	189,734	160,869	-28,865	354,674	-193,805	45%
Other Expenses	156,591	126,633	-29,958	230,021	-103,388	55%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,865,244</b>	<b>3,894,671</b>	<b>29,427</b>	<b>7,112,592</b>	<b>-3,217,921</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2,283,685</b>	<b>1,964,181</b>	<b>-319,504</b>	<b>3,883,323</b>	<b>-1,919,142</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>OPERATING MARGIN</b>		<b>50.43%</b>		<b>54.60%</b>		

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT BY DEPT**

1 January - 31 July 2024

	YEAR TO DATE			ANNUAL		
	2023 Actual (\$) (a)	2024 Actual (\$) (b)	2022/2023 Variance (\$) (c) = (b) - (a)	2024 Budget (\$) (d)	2023 Budget Variance (\$) (e) = (b) - (d)	2023 Budget (%) (f) = (b) / (d)
<b>CODE DEPARTMENT/DIVISION</b>						
100 Monash Student Council	810,071	863,056	52,985	2,079,267	-1,216,211	42%
110 Education Public	17,037	16,333	-704	35,019	-18,686	47%
120 Education Academic	15,843	15,955	112	41,549	-25,594	38%
130 Women's	12,965	18,245	5,280	44,722	-26,477	41%
140 Welfare	19,756	22,875	3,119	53,722	-30,847	43%
150 Queer	17,202	15,329	-1,873	41,452	-26,123	37%
160 Environment & Social Justice	18,872	14,992	-3,880	32,662	-17,670	46%
170 Indigenous	14,114	12,360	-1,754	36,572	-24,212	34%
180 Disability	13,205	18,097	4,892	34,642	-16,545	52%
190 People of Colour	12,418	16,399	3,981	38,872	-22,473	42%
200 Activities	15,723	11,800	-3,923	86,107	-74,307	14%
210 Lot's Wife	36,844	39,810	2,966	72,721	-32,911	55%
220 Creative Live Arts	14,544	16,432	1,888	58,257	-41,825	28%
230 Residential Committee	19,524	19,026	-498	42,572	-23,546	45%
250 The Bike Shop	9,628	11,716	2,088	20,141	-8,425	58%
300 Wholefoods	37,577	51,421	13,844	6,753	44,668	761%
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%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,190,156</b>	<b>1,868,446</b>	<b>-321,710</b>	<b>4,315,123</b>	<b>-2,446,677</b>	<b>43%</b>

\*Denotes MSA Surplus Generating Departments

**Zareh Kozanian**

**Secretary**

*Report to MSC 9/24*

---

**GOALS**

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

**PROJECTS**

Late Penalties Reduction:

After a year-long effort, Monash University has agreed to reduce late penalties from 10% to 5% starting in Semester 2, 2024, and continuing into the future. This marks a significant advancement for student rights at Monash, ensuring that students are not excessively penalised for submitting assignments late. We extend our gratitude to the members of the Undergraduate Academic Board who played a crucial role in making this change official university policy.

Additionally, the new Late Penalties policy includes a provision allowing Chief Examiners to waive penalties if an assignment is submitted within one hour of the deadline due to technical difficulties. However, students with a history of academic misconduct may not be eligible for this consideration. It's encouraging to see the University beginning to listen to students, though there is still much work to be done. The Monash Student Association (MSA) remains committed to advocating for further improvements on behalf of students.

Special thanks to the Undergraduate Academic Board Members for 2024 for their continued effort and success. This win eventuated to their dedication and commitment.

If you need assistance or advice regarding special consideration applications or any other academic matters, don't hesitate to reach out to Student Advocacy and Support (SAS) for help.

Transparency in Advocacy:

The MSA is deeply committed to ensuring transparency in our advocacy efforts, and we are dedicated to keeping Monash students fully informed and involved in the initiatives that affect their university experience. We recognize the importance of offering a clear and comprehensive view of our advocacy work. To this end, we will regularly share summaries of our initiatives, achievements, and challenges. Our goal is to cultivate a culture of transparency, collaboration, and active engagement, empowering students to take an active role in shaping and supporting our advocacy agenda.

Withdrawn Incomplete Changes:

Many students encounter compassionate challenges during their time at university, and Monash's policies should reflect this reality. To better address these issues, the current process for awarding Withdrawn Incomplete (WI) grades is being overhauled. The new approach extends the special circumstances process used for debt remission and fee refunds to include compassionate considerations. As a result, the standard Withdrawn (WDN) grade will now be automatically granted for approved special circumstances applications related to debt remission and fee refunds, provided the application is submitted within 10 working days of the unit's results release date.

Moreover, students who are unable to complete a rescheduled deferred assessment within the 90-day limit will also be eligible to receive a Withdrawn (WDN) grade. Importantly, the WDN grade will not affect a student's Weighted Average Mark (WAM) or GPA, and it will be excluded from the academic progress risk level calculation. These changes are already in effect for Semester 2, 2024.



**Chloe Ward**

**President**

*Report to MSC 9/24*

---

**GOALS**

- To continue promoting diversity on campus, in all forms
- To continue in providing free food programs to service all Clayton students and tackle food insecurity
- Continue to monitor the MSA Pantry (Foodbank) within Wholefoods to further address food insecurity and provide pantry staples to students in need
- Continue promoting the Open Letter with NTEU about the recent exploitative Parking Fee Increases and continue to work with the NTEU to find out more information regarding University profit from parking
- To continue advocating on behalf of students on issues such as the reduced Library opening hours at Matheson and Hargrave libraries, Special Consideration improvements, Unpaid Placements and Universal Submission Times
- To continue to provide and deliver safe, accessible and inclusive events for students in order to better their overall university experience

**PROJECTS**

MSA Pantry Launch (MSA Foodbank)

The MSA Executive, in conjunction with our Volunteering leaders, have officially launched the MSA Pantry in Week 1 of Semester 2. The initiative is currently being run out of Wholefoods Cafe and provides fresh food and groceries to hundreds of students. After many trials to investigate how the space worked with the project and explore whether further infrastructure needed, the MSA Pantry is finally up and running for students. Additionally, we have secured a new partnership with SecondBite, which allows us to increase the amount of fresh produce and food items that we can give away to students. We are providing bulk goods, such as rice, lentils and beans, so that students have access to vital pantry staples, as well as an array of fresh fruit and vegetables as well. We know and understand that food insecurity is a massive issue for students during this current cost-of-living crisis and whilst there is systemic change needed to fully solve this issue, we are committed at the MSA to ensure that students always have access to free or low-cost food. We are also continuing to have ongoing conversations with the University about food insecurity and how it continues to affect students at Monash. I have personally has

meetings with Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor Craig Jeffrey about Monash's initiatives to improve and solve food insecurity at Monash at an institutional level. Keep an eye on socials for when the MSA Pantry is running and don't forget to bring your own bag to collect your items!

#### Parking Fee Increases, Open Letter, and future plans

As many students are now aware, at the beginning of Semester 1, the MSA was informed that Monash University was choosing to increase the parking fees dramatically for 2024. We were angered and outraged at this decision, especially as it was made without any student or staff consultation. During a cost-of-living crisis, the University should be supporting both staff and students, not financially disadvantaging them further through a price increase of up to 106%. For many staff and students, public transport is not a viable option - lengthening travel time and possibly endangering students and staff if travelling on PTV late at night. The costs associated with attending university are already astronomical; textbooks, course fees, devices required for learning all contribute to the considerable cost of education. In light of this, I have had specific meetings with the Vice-Chancellor about this issue and how it negatively affects students. The response by the University was less than positive and again made the case of encouraging students and staff to utilise PTV on their journey to University. However, this is a clear example of greenwashing to hide the University's true intention: to increase profits. The MSA has an upcoming campaign to launch about the exploitation of parking and will be giving away bumper stickers and other stickers for students to show their outrage at these continued changes. Despite the University's stubbornness on this issue, the MSA will continue to fight on this issue and ensure that students are not negatively affected by this ongoing issue. Continue sharing the Open Letter and have these conversations with your peers - cause without collective action, the University will continue to make profit out of students. The Open Letter has now reached over 2000 signatures, which clearly shows just how angry students and staff alike are about this exploitative move.

I would like to, once again, extend a special thanks to Adam Fernandes (NTEU Victorian Branch President) who has continued to meet and fight alongside me to ensure that students and staff's voices are heard and listened to. Both myself and Adam have made separate Freedom of Information requests to the University in the hopes that we can begin to expose the true numbers behind the profit Monash is making. While the University is attempting to delay answering these as much as possible, both Adam and I will continue to fight for information and transparency from the University, something both students and staff are owed. We will hopefully have more updates in the future but stay angry because no one should have to pay for parking at an educational institution that they pay to attend in the first place.

#### Library Opening Hours and 24/7 Study Spaces: Update

Libraries are a necessary and integral part of studying at University and procuring your education. When the rash decision was made by Monash at the beginning of the year to slash library hours, I fought back. I have now entered many meetings with many different levels of University management to fight for both Ground and Lower Ground levels of Matheson to be open 24 hours. This would allow students to have access to vital amenities, such as WI-FI, printing and computers, that the new study space in Campus Centre or Campbell Hall's study space do not have. Many students wrote to me about these changes, some citing that they do not have internet access at home, and thus rely on the University's internet to complete and submit assignments. It's stories like these that show just how important 24 hour spaces are to students, especially during a cost of living crisis.

The MSA has created an Open Letter about library hours that is available on our website to sign and will be submitted to the University.

Myself and the rest of the MSA Advocacy team will continue to keep fighting for the library hours to be extended again and increase accessibility to students for the amenities and buildings that their course fees pay for.

#### Late Penalties Reduction Win:

After fighting the University all year, Monash has finally decided to reduce late penalties from 10% to 5% for Semester 2 2024 and into the future. This is an exciting step forward for student's rights at Monash, and allows students to not be unfairly punished for submitting assignments late. I would like to extend a thanks to the Undergraduate Academic Board members that were also important to getting this change through and implemented officially into University policy.

An additional change as well to the Late Penalties policy also included Chief Examiners having the opportunity to decide to waive late penalties when a submission is received within one hour of the submission time due to technical difficulties. However, if you have prior academic misconduct, you may not be eligible for this leniency.

It is exciting to see that the University is finally beginning to listen to students, but there is still much more to do and the MSA will continue fighting for improvements for students. Finally, if you ever need assistance or advice while applying for special consideration or anything else to do with your studies, please do not hesitate to reach out to Student Advocacy and Support (SAS) for help.

#### Withdrawn Incomplete Changes Win:

Many students face compassionate issues within their time at University and Monash's policy should reflect that. The existing process and criteria for awarding Withdrawn

Incomplete (WI) grades is being replaced with a new process. This new process extends the special circumstances process used for remission of debt and fee refunds to also include a compassionate response. This means that the standard existing Withdrawn grade (WDN) will become an automatic outcome of approved special circumstances applications for remission of debt and fee refunds, provided that the application was received within 10 working days of the results release day for the unit.

Additionally, students who are unable to complete a rescheduled deferred assessment within the 90 day time limit will be able to receive a Withdrawn grade (WDN). This means that the WDN grade will not impact a student's WAM or GPA and will be removed from their academic progress risk level calculation. These changes are already in effect for Semester 2 2024.

#### Bathrooms for All Campaign

The MSA is aware there have been reports of students questioning others' rights to use gendered bathrooms from other students on campus. This behaviour is unacceptable and the MSA affirms that everyone has the right to use safe and accessible bathrooms, in line with their gender identity.

Signage has been put up in the bathrooms in Campus Centre to ensure that people are reminded that there is etiquette when using the bathroom.

## \*Key Activities

### Outline key activities completed thus far since last report:

- Edition four released (23/7/24)
- Coverage of M.S.C.s
- Submissions closed for edition 5

### Can outline work being done for upcoming events/projects

- Edition five in final stages of editing
- 60th Anniversary celebration (contacting former editors, preparing decorations etc.)
- Edition six submissions to open soon
- Election guide to be released week prior to election (9/9/24) including policy speeches, photos, and descriptions of positions per R.O.'s instructions

## Department Goals

Goal	Progress (complete/ongoing/incomplete)	Comments
Slay 60 year event and edition	Ongoing	Inviting former editors and contributors Writing articles on the history of <i>Lot's Wife</i> for the edition Timeline of student publications at Monash from 1961 to 2024 complete Plans to bind remaining unbound editions for S.U.R.L.Y.
Keep submissions strong for semester 2	Ongoing	17 submissions for edition 4 14 submissions for edition 5 Submissions to open for edition 6 soon
Actually improving	Ongoing	Plans afoot to update



**Sam Hudson, Mandy Li, & Angus Duske**  
 Lot's Wife *REPORT* and 2024 Goals  
 [Report to MSC 09/24]

website		existing aspects of the website to be cleaner and more user-friendly Gradually adding photos to each article so it doesn't look so empty!!
Leaving <i>Lot's Wife</i> better than we found it	Ongoing	Significant increase in social media presence Better on-campus news and current events reporting, highlights the importance of student media