

## Monash Student Council

# Confirmed Non-Confidential Minutes

Meeting 16/08 of the Monash Student Council held at 2pm on Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2008 in Short Courses.

*Meeting opened at 2:39.*

### 1. Attendance:

President:	Mat Hilakari	(chair)
Secretary:	Julian Campbell	(minutes)
Treasurer:	Yuliya Mik	Absent
Education (Public):	Mark Baker	
Education (Academic):	Dash Jayasuriya	Apology
Activities:	Sarah Cousins	
Welfare:	Adam Taranto	Proxy to Luke Thompson
Environment:	Lana Kagan	
Women's:	Ephiny Gale	
Female Queer:	Allegra Lofgren	Absent
Male Queer:	Owen Smith	
C&S:	Ryan Alexander	Absent
MUISS:	E-Thing Gee	
MAPS:	Jessica Michaelides	Apology
General Representative:	Tegan Dobbie	
General Representative:	Simon Singer	
General Representative:	Maeva Veerapen	
General Representative:	Jeremy Healsmith	Apology
General Representative:	Dara Conduit	Apology
Indigenous:	Billy Gray	Absent
Observers:	Michael Keane Chris Li	

### 2. Acknowledgment of traditional owners of land

This MSC acknowledges and pays respect to the people 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.

### 3. Confirmation of agenda order

### 4. Summary of exec financial motions

Attachment: 01/16

### 5. Confirmation of previous minutes

#### 5.1 MSC 15/08

Attachment: 02/16

#### Motion #1:

"That this MSC accepts the minutes of MSC 15/08 as a true and accurate record."

Moved through the chair.

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED.

**6. Matters arising from previous minutes**

None arising.

**7. Reports**

Reports due from previous meetings:

**7.1** Treasurer's Report **Attachment: 03/16**

No questions arising.

**7.2** Activities Report **Attachment: 04/16**

It is noted that contrary to this report, only one person has actually been declared elected as yet following the annual elections, and Ms Cousins has assumed the election of Hayley Svenson and Chris Salmon.

Reports due at this meeting:

**7.3** Education Public Affairs Report **Attachment: 05/16**

No questions.

**7.4** Education Academic Affairs Report **Attachment: 06/16**

No questions.

**7.5** Women's Report **Attachment: 07/16**

No questions.

**7.6** Welfare Report **Attachment: 08/16**

Not submitted

**7.7** Male Queer Report **Attachment: 09/16**

No questions.

**7.8** Female Queer Report **Attachment: 10/16**

No questions.

**7.9** Environment Report **Attachment: 11/16**

Not submitted.

**7.10** Student Development Manager's Report **Attachment: 12/16**

No questions.

**Motion #2:**

"That this MSC accepts all submitted reports on block, excluding the Treasurer, Welfare and Environment reports."

Moved through the chair.

For: 10

Against: 0  
Abstentions: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Motion #3:**

“That this MSC accepts the Treasurer’s report.”

Moved: Simon Singer

Seconded: Maeva Veerapen

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstentions: 4

MOTION CARRIED.

**Motion #4:**

“That this MSC resolves to suspend the pay of the Welfare and Environment officers should reports not be received for MSC 17/08.”

Moved through the chair.

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED.

## 8. Funding Agreement

**Procedural Motion:**

“That this MSC moves in camera.”

Moved through the chair.

For: 10

Against: 0

Procedural failed (requires absolute majority)

Mr Hilakari explains that he has a commercial in confidence document, that he is not prepared to publicly spread around.

*Ms Kagan enters at 2:48pm.*

**Procedural Motion:**

“That this MSC moves in camera.”

Moved through the chair.

For: 12

Against: 0

Procedural carried.

*\*\*Confidential\*\**

*Observers plus Ms Veerapen leave at 2:50pm.*

Mr Hilakari explains that he is seeking authority to sign the funding agreement. He notes that negotiation may continue surrounding section 12, and may include the addition of a non-competition agreement. This second aspect is particularly pertinent for MUISS with its competition with HWD.

This wouldn't prevent the MSA working with HWD, it would just stop them taking over our stuff.

Item 17 is queried, but it is no huge threat to our autonomy – it's when we break from our funding agreement that this can happen, which is difficult to define.

Noting some clauses, council members are concerned as to whether honoraria be increased under this agreement. This is unlikely to be a problem – the MSA's overall budget for officebearers is pretty large, but individual pay rates of officebearers are quite low, as we have a lot of them. The uni may be upset about pay rates, but most likely they'll crack it with other Monash unions, not Clayton. When we're questioned, we would simply point to universities of similar size as Clayton, such as Sydney University, ANU, University of Queensland and Melbourne University.

The agreement is largely based on the funding agreement of 2007. This new agreement will cross over the vice-Chancellor's changeover period, which is important as Professor Larkins has looked after us, but the next vice-Chancellor may not be so positive. This deal comes at a time when lots of other budgets in the university are being slashed, indeed the Student Services Centre is considering being shut for one day a week to cope with reduced funding. The uni lost a great deal of money from VSU. The MSA continues having the argument about carparking fees, but it is very difficult in this climate.

Council members ask whether the "rent-free" occupation aspect of the agreement will apply to the bar? This is possible, but still a point of negotiation.

Mr Keane points out a spelling mistake in section 25. Mr Campbell promises to consult the vice-Chancellor on his spelling.

**Motion #5:**

"That this MSC endorses the 2008-2010 funding agreement and empowers Mathew Hilakari to negotiate on non-substantive sections other than sections noted at MSC 16/08, and sign it on the MSA's behalf."

Moved: Simon Singer

Seconded: Tegan Dobbie

For: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

---

*\*\*End Confidentiality\*\**

---

**9. University Council Endorsement**

**Attachment: 13/16**

It is very important that the MSA have a representative on the University Council, it was a major part in securing the original funding agreement, and it is hoped that this continues into the future.

**Motion #6:**

"That this MSC endorses and supports Clayton candidates for Academic Board and University Council elections."

Moved through the chair.

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION CARRIED.

**10. MSA Financial Procedures**

The MSA needs to have a full review of its financial procedures. There are several areas which may not be formally authorised by students. The MSA needs to consider how its internal financial procedures match up with the constitution. Multiple quotes were sought for this consultancy but this was the only one which came back.

**Motion #7:**

“That this MSC authorises up to \$9000 for financial consultancy in the MSA.”

Moved: Simon Singer

Seconded: Lana Kagan

For: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

**11. General Business**

Oktoberfest is next week.

**12. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at 11am on Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, 2008 in Short Courses.

*Meeting closed at 3:20pm.*

**Summary of Executive Financial Motions**

**Attachment 01/16**

**Minutes of Monash Student Council 15/08**

**Attachment 02/16**



MSC 15/08

**Treasurer's Report**

**Attachment 05/16**

*Yuliya Mik*

I have been on sick leave for the last 4 weeks and have provided all medical certificates to the finance manager.

**Activities Report**

**Attachment 06/01**

*Sarah Cousins*

FINALLY everything is back to normal. I have begun work on AXP and am teeing up meetings with some of the contacts I have developed over the year with the incoming Activities chairs. Congratulations Chris Salmon and Hayley Svenson!

In terms of what I have been doing previous to last MSC.

Band Comp:

After Green Week, I was working with Rachael from MONSU, on putting together a huge battle of the bands which would span all Monash campus's and possibly include a third. We had everything lined up, posters, everything and all went silent. Ends up, a few weeks later that their staff member went on holiday, and Caulfield exec ruled against having a joint regional battle of the bands.

I ended up booking it in for the first clubs night, which ended up being a huge success. Slow at first, but we had 3 out of 8 bands show up, which was awesome! The winner automatically went through to the state final due to an error at Caulfield and Peninsula which is brilliant! I wish them the best of luck.

Green Week:

Shortly after Green Week Mat and I sat down and put together a report for the Occupational Health and Safety Policy Committee, which can be viewed online on the Activities website. We had such a positive response from the university which was really exciting! OHSPC voiced their support for us to continue to develop Green Week in a new direction! The committee asked that we publish the report online, and that they would ask the Vice Chancellor to send out congratulations in his global email. AWESOME!

Prosh Week:

As you may remember in my verbal report, I had been down at Prosh week running the Monash team. It was an amazing week, and the number of things I learned about how we can better run Green Week (structurally, but also the types of events), how to run events and BBQs that benefit Union members, and ways in which we could structure the bar to encourage more people to use the space! It was a great week, and have developed a few new contacts who are eager to work with us in events next year. We may well see Melbourne and Monash work together alot more! In a competitive manner of course...

I will write this in my report, but I strongly advise our incoming Activities chairs to send at least one representative (one of the Activities chairs) up to Melbourne Uni to run the Monash team. It was a great opportunity to learn new ways of doing things, and to network; effectively an events conference.

*Michael Keane*

What I have been doing post Green Week.

#### Oktoberfest

This is the last major event that Activities is running this semester, and I have been busy making this weeklong celebration a reality. In between regular meetings with the Monash German Club I have been contacting performers, suppliers, representatives and potential sponsors. Thanks to Lion-Nathan we have some great looking merchandise to help boost the radness levels of the week. The steins they have supplied us with have meant a large reduction in the costs normally associated with buying and printing enough steins for everyone. This means we are able to offer better food in the form of traditional German sausages, and also a wider variety of drinks for the non beer-drinking patron (cider and Jager).

As of writing this, almost everything for the Thursday night (Sep 25<sup>th</sup>) has been organised. The only thing left to finalise is the exact quantities of foods and the allocation of tasks for volunteers. The rest of the week will include German movies on Monday, the Schnitzel challenge on Tuesday followed by the Tuesday bar night (free live German Oompa band and cheap German beer), a Jagermeister trivia challenge Wednesday lunch time (Host scheme night is at night time). The Stem Cell Awareness Day (SCAD) is being held on the Menzies lawn Thursday (25<sup>th</sup> Sep) lunchtime. Thanks to the Monash Immunology and Stem Cell Laboratories department, the bands 'Jackson Jackson' and 'The Politics' are playing from 12.30-2. Activities will be helping cook sausages, setting up the stage and sound equipment, and promoting the event through Oktoberfest week posters.

The Oktoberfest ticket launch BBQ (Tuesday Sep 9<sup>th</sup>) was really successful thanks to the sharply dressed German Club committee. We sold 50 tickets and served 300 German sausages (weisswurts and frankfurts) to the hungry eager crowd. I now have withdrawal symptoms from all the German folk music. I can't wait for my Oktoberfest fix, and if you can't either I suggest you get some tickets soon because they will not last long.

#### Purchases

After a long process, I can say with 80% certainty that the new sound equipment that was passed through capital works back in first semester will arrive within a week. I am just waiting on a phone call to let me know when all the stock is available. Capital works trolleys will not be purchased until the Activities spaces have been properly organised. They will most definitely be needed once the new sound equipment arrives.

The next item of importance that I am tracking down is a set of LED par 64 lights. These lights would have saved a lot of hire costs over the year, as well as having the potential to make money by hiring them out. Less important but also an item that may be of value to the MSA is a hotdog warmer. These are much more convenient than a BBQ and can be operated inside.

I have also purchased new BBQ equipment that is explained in the hire section. It will soon be necessary to buy new power cables and power boards for the new P.A. system. A lot of leads and boards have gone missing over the semester which I am combating with the new hiring system (below).

#### Hire

I have written a formal hire form that I have required anyone hiring out equipment to sign before they hire the equipment. This has made it easier to track items that have been hired out and enforce

penalties such as making sure the equipment has been cleaned before being returned. Along with the hire forms I have also created BBQ boxes that include all the equipment necessary to run a successful BBQ. The boxes include things like tongs, flippers, and scrapers, as well as consumables such as disposable gloves, cloths and scourers.

I have helped out many clubs with the hiring and setup of their equipment. I hope to create a document detailing how to operate and setup the equipment so as to cut down on my involvement. I have completed some minor repairs on the BBQs and will focus on the major repair issues outside of this semester (i.e. for next year).

**General**

The MSA has seemed a rather lonely place over the last few weeks. While this has not affected my ability to do Activities duties, I have found that people who would usually be helping me put up Oktoberfest posters, setting up BBQs and generally promoting Activities have been swept away in a blue sea. I enjoy the taste of Mauritian beer and will be making attempts to get the bar to import it.

Respectfully, Keano



**Education Academic Affairs**

**Attachment 07/16**

*Dash Jayasuriya*

spent a week backpacking around israel, a few nights in cairo, a week camping in various parts of the sahara with a bedouin tribe, will spend next week floating down the Nile on a boat with no facilities and a nubian tribe. will be back at work on the 23rd. sent off a few work related emails, including this one.

Salaam,

Dash

No seriously, do i need to hand in a report?

**Education Public Affairs Report**

**Attachment 07/16**

*Mark Baker*

This is currently my third straight week of leave. Apart from election week, I am enjoying having a relatively more normal life. It feels a little weird to be studying for essays, presentations and exams though.

I handed in my last report two weeks ago and because I have been on leave for the last two I have not achieved much. I refer you to James' report to see what the Education (Public) Affairs Department has been busy doing while I have been away. Unless he too has taken leave, in which case the Department has stalled.

That said, I am looking forward to returning to work next week and I am excited by the fresh ideas I plan to initiate and achieve. Firstly, the EdPub Activists and I will finally have the time needed to focus on the Illegal Course Costs Campaign. I have been discussing with fellow activists the idea of a 'tollway' and even an 'arrest the VC' day stunt. We have been thinking of placing a tollbooth at the campus libraries as well as at exam entrances.

I am also aware that the Liberal Club ran an anti-USU BBQ the other day and I think it would be appropriate for the EdPub Department to collaborate with some of the major clubs on campus to respond with a VSU: The Awful Truth BBQ. This action will hopefully create greater awareness on campus about the damaging effects VSU has had on this campus, as well as the malicious intent behind the VSU legislation.

I have also discussed with Alex Phelan, a former MSA OB, the possibility of getting the EdPub Dept involved in any anti-plagiarism register campaigns.

In union,

Mark B

*James Mentor*

Since my last OB Report (September 1), I, like most MSA Office Bearers, have taken a week annual leave due to the MSA elections. While not quite the exotic holiday or relaxing downtime that some are enjoying/have enjoyed with their annual leave, it is something that I think is worth taking the time off for. On that note, I would like to congratulate those that have been elected, particularly to the position of Education (Public Affairs) Officer(s) in 2009

Around the elections, I have spent time planning for the remainder of the year, including putting together a timeline for the remaining weeks. In the short term, we were planning on holding the Activist Plenary this Thursday at 5pm at Theatre s3/25 in conjunction with other activist departments, including the Women's Department. However, as a third department could not get on board in providing a speaker, this event has been cancelled. A special thank you should go to Ephie for the work she did in attempting to get this event off the ground. I have also been attempting to follow up a complaint that was made against a faculty regarding their delivery of subjects. This appears to be an ongoing matter.

Over the next few weeks I intend to spend time doing preparation work for the campaign on ancillary course fees. While this is likely to be an ongoing campaign, continuing next year, it is something that we should be doing the groundwork for now. This includes finding out exactly what is being charged,

in what way, and for what courses. A survey will be going out soon so hopefully we will receive enough feedback to base a substantial campaign on for next year. On a side, if you do know of any ancillary course fees that are being charged and that you suspect of being in any way dodgy, please notify the Education (PA) Department with your concerns.

One last reminder is that the next SAC meeting will be held this coming Monday at 3pm in the Airport Lounge.

<b>Women's Report</b>	<b>Attachment 07/16</b>
-----------------------	-------------------------

*Ephiny Gale*

I have been away for almost 2 weeks out of the last month, so this report will be significantly shorter than most.

The Women's Leadership Forum has finished with 8 speakers in total presenting. We filmed all of them and I am in the middle of organizing with various university staff in order to get the Women's Leadership Forum website up by the start of next year. A significant amount of money has been authorized by the Vice Chancellor for this, which is a big success, and I look forward to having the entire website up soon with health information, video, blogs and general informative resources for women at uni.

A number of Women's Groups in the Lounge have been successfully started up after a few bumps in the road. The Ethnocultural and Feminist Reading groups both saw good attendance at the last meetings and some very interesting discussion was had. The Informal Muslim Group is also up and running thanks to Keshia's work.

The Women's Lounge itself has undergone cleaning, restocking and slight upgrades in the form of new wall adorning and a huge amount of UHT milk in the fridge. Unfortunately we've had some issues with men entering the Lounge again and ripping down the sign which asked men not to come in. New signs were made and WAC members are in the middle of writing an article for the next edition of Lot's to try and bring more attention to the issue. I've raised the issue with Campus Watch in the mean time and have gotten the uni to agree to install security cameras in the hallway outside the Lounge. There was discussion over getting a panic button installed in the Lounge but ultimately security said this was impossible as everyone who used the Lounge was required to have training in how to use the button.

'Who Is Lindsay Boag,' a theatre production that the Women's Department is supporting, opens soon and I have been doing some publicity for this. After a long process of trying to find a women's play for Midsumma, it seems as if the department is also loosely (not financially) supporting a piece submitted to us by Clara Pagone, and I have been helping Clara with some of the organization surrounding getting the piece of the ground – organizing the auditions, advertising etc.

I have also been organizing the Activist Plenary which was originally a cross-departmental initiative involving Women's, Queer, Enviro, Ed Pub and Indig. I've organized the venue, catering, and speaker for the Women's department, but am still unsure of exactly where the other departments are in terms of organizing things for themselves, or who exactly is still involved. Hopefully this can all be ironed out by the actual event. In any case, please do come; it's this Thursday night 5-6 pm with free food and drinks afterwards!

In other news, I would like to express my joy that it now Week 10 of semester 2 at Monash; may we all live long and work together with great enthusiasm for many months to come.

<b>Welfare Report</b>	<b>Attachment 07/16</b>
-----------------------	-------------------------

Not submitted.

<b>Male Queer Report</b>	<b>Attachment 07/16</b>
--------------------------	-------------------------

*Owen Smith*

With more than the usual number of troubled queer students coming in to talk to us about various issues, Allegra and I have really been focussing on the behind the scenes aspects of the queer department this period. I must say that we're all stoked about our scheduled space change into the current MAPS lounge, as we were in desperate need of a larger room. We've already discussed loads of ideas for ways we'll be able to utilise the partition, and other fun things the new space has going for it. Lastly, congratulations to all who did well at the recent elections, particularly the new Queer Officers, who I'm confident will do a brilliant job next year. Lots of fuzzy queer love, - Owen.

<b>Female Queer Report</b>	<b>Attachment 07/16</b>
----------------------------	-------------------------

*Allegra Lofgren*

Since my last submission, I have had the worst strain of the flu I have ever experienced so I have spent the entire week shuttling between home and the doctor and taking what I assume to be dangerous amounts of panadol. When I get back we'll be discussing logistics for the room change and end of the year events.

<b>Environment Report</b>	<b>Attachment 07/16</b>
---------------------------	-------------------------

Not submitted.

<b>Student Development Manager's Report</b>	<b>Attachment 07/16</b>
---	-------------------------

*Robert Main*

It continues to be a busy time for myself and particularly so in recent weeks. The activities and developments have included:

**C & S**

- Dealing with the resignation of Sharon Nevin as 'head' auditor and appointing Ravi Dutta as a new auditor (until the end of the year). Ravi, and the other two auditors in Sashi Balaraman and Alex Liu, are on track with the audit reviews and at this stage should meet the required deadlines
- Beginning to undertake a benchmarking exercise of the C & S Support Officer and Development Officer positions, which will involve looking at similar positions at other student unions.
- Organising the installation of new shelving in the auditors' office
- Resolving the outstanding issues regarding clubs and societies and the ATO. Also further investigation of the possible tax liability of some clubs.

**Host Scheme**

- Updated Host Scheme Coordinator PD / advertised position / interviews held
- Host Scheme Coordinator – Phil Rouse – has been appointed

- Host Scheme Sub-Coordinators – Lori Turner, Stephen Dougherty, Nicholas Rowan and Joshua Porter – have been appointed
- Planning of events and training is under development and appointment of Mega Hosts is about to occur
- Discussions planned with MUISS re developing range of shared activities (including camps)
- Discussions with Gail & team re sponsorship arrangements, Orientation Week activities and Host web-site changes

#### *MAPS*

- Informal discussions with Maps personnel regarding future directions and role of MAPS staff member
- Held discussions re OHS problems with computer room

#### *MUISS*

- Discussions with MUISS staff member re role and future directions
- MUISS election has been held and new Executive in place.
- MUISS officer attended inert-campus meeting by international students which identified a number of issues of concern to them
- Attended *Mid-Autumn Festival Dinner* and also held initial discussion re possibility of holding International Host Scheme camps (in 2010).

#### *MUST*

- Storage facilities and limited office space continue to be a problem – will be meeting with Diana Vivian upon her return from leave to further discuss options
- Planning of next season shows under development
- Program this year has proved to be very successful both artistically and financially
- Looking at possible options for improved external foyer or waiting area, and also new signage on outside wall.

#### *Student Rights*

- Following the resignation of Yvonne Joyce to take up a position in the Arts Faculty (at Monash), advertisements for a replacement have been undertaken and it's hoped that a suitable appointment can be confirmed by mid-October.
- Extensive planning re forthcoming Exclusion rounds and the appointment of Student Rights Advisors has been undertaken
- Data from the MSA Planning Day has been collated and an initial report is imminent
- Recognition needs to be given to the input of the Student Rights staff, who along with myself and May Garcia, provided input into the MSA response to the Commonwealth Government's review of Higher Education.
- Discussions have been held with Security re the installation of 'Alert' buttons in the SRO offices in case of emergency situation – awaiting quotes
- Discussions have been held with F & S personnel (after much frustrating delay!) regarding installation of skylights in suite of offices in SR and in Wholefoods restaurant and office – awaiting quotes

#### *MSA Election*

- Have provided operational support for election process, including the securing of new voting booth and ballot boxes from Victorian Electoral Commission. Secured suitable space (after much difficulty) for election counting purposes.

#### *Management & Administration*

- Introduced fortnightly progress reports for staff
- Reviewed several draft policies (including OHS)

- Formal appointment of First Aiders has been made and steps will be taken to better integrate the processes.
- Clarification has been made with the Monash OHS office that MSA will not be providing an OHS Representative (only Safety Officers)
- Development of budget submissions for 2009 has been a priority across all the departments with some intense work being undertaken, but all should be ready by the due date