

**Meeting time:** *Opened at 05:21 PM on 15/03/2024*

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

**Confirmed Meeting Minutes**

**A. Attendance**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>
President:	Chloe Ward (Absent)	
Secretary:	Zareh Kozanian	
Treasurer:	Joshua Walters ( Chair)	
Education (Academic Affairs):	Grayson Lowe	
Education (Public Affairs):	Nafiz Ibrahim	
Activities:	Fatima Iqbal (Apology)	
CLA:	Haidar Shah	
Welfare:	Teagan Hayward	
Indigenous:	Marlley McNamara (Absent)	
Environment & Social Justice:	Sophie Allen	
Women's:	Zoe Binns	
Queer:	Madeline Curkovic	
Disabilities & Carers:	Charlotte Sutton	
People of Colour:	Tooba Javed	
Residential Community:	Aylin Vahabova	
MUISS:	Vedant Gadhavi	
MAPS:	Stuart Gibson	
Clubs & Societies:	Paul Halliday	
Radio Monash:	Georgie McColm	Sarah Stancombe
General Representative:	Jay Davis	
General Representative:	Dilhan Simsek	
General Representative:	Beck Riches	
General Representative:	Stella Robinson	

General Representative: Paris Enten

Observers: Haidar Shah  
Angus Duske  
Mandy Li  
Connor Knight  
Thomas White  
Colton Senior  
Joshua Strauss  
Harvey Theva  
Riley Vago  
Dylan Kumar  
SQ  
Le  
Sam

### **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 2/24](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

**Moved:** Zareh Kozanian

**Seconded:** Joshua Walters

**For:**

**Against:**

**Abstentions:**

**MOTION LAPSED**

#### **Discussion during MSC:**

*Joshua Walters informs the meeting attendees both in-person and on Zoom that Dilhan Simsek is the appointed General Representative for the MSA by the authorised officer of the ticket "CHANGE!". Joshua Walters has also requested if the MSA Secretary, Zareh Kozanian, could potentially present the resignation and appointment in regards to the General Representative in the general business of the MSC, for reference.*

*The mover of the motion, Zareh Kozanian, speaks to the motion elaborating that there was a statement in the minutes that was missing as identified by Jay Davis; as a result, he withdrew from moving the motion.*

*As Joshua Walters was chairing the meeting in the absence of the MSA President, Chloe Ward. As a result, he called for a new mover and a seconder to the motion.*

*Joshua Walters declares the motion lapsed due to lack of a mover and the seconder to the motion.*

**E. Office Bearer and Divisional Reports**

Office Bearer and Divisional Reports	Submission Compliance
President	Report Submitted on time
Secretary	Report Submitted on time
Treasurer	Report Submitted on time
Activities	Report Submitted on time
Creative and Live Arts	Report Submitted on time
Clubs & Societies	Report Submitted on time
Radio Monash	Report Submitted on time
MAPS	Report Submitted on time
MUISS	Report Submitted on time

**Motion #2:**  
 This MSC accepts the reports submitted by the President, Treasurer, Secretary, Activities, Creative and Live Arts, Clubs & Societies, Radio Monash, MAPS, and MUISS en bloc, as attached at the end of this document.

**Moved:** Zareh Kozanian                      **Seconded:** ~~Joshua Walters~~ Jay Davis

**In Favour:**     17

**Against:**        0

**Abstentions:**   0

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

[Discussion during MSC:](#)

*The chair, Joshua Walters, calls for a new seconder for the motion, as he cannot second a motion as chair.*

*Jay Davis seconds the motions.*

*The mover of the motion, Zareh Kozanian, waives his right of speaking.*

*The seconder of the motion, Jay Davis, waives his right of speaking.*

## **F. Indigenous Office Bearer**

### Preamble:

All office-Bearers and Divisions must submit regular reports to the MSC. All office-bearers and members of MSA bodies required to submit reports to the MSC must have their reports submitted and accepted by the MSC no later than one meeting after it was due. All office-bearers, excluding Lot's Wife Editors, are required to submit reports to every edition of Lot's Wife. Office-bearers are required to attend office-bearer meetings. All office-bearers and the Divisions are required to submit to the MSC a list of yearly goals for themselves and their department, which shall act as guidelines. These yearly goals will be in line with their constitutional duties; and are to be submitted no later than the second meeting of the MSC of the year for office bearers.

Regrettably, despite the entrusted responsibilities, there has been a noticeable lack of engagement and fulfilment of duties by the Indigenous Office Bearer Marley McNamara. Numerous attempts over a significant period of time by both staff and Executive members to establish communication and collaboration have been met with no response. This has serious implications for the effective representation of Indigenous Students on campus. Marley was given a warning that this motion may be raised from the MSA Secretary

The MSC has the power to impose disciplinary measures upon an Office Bearer upon passing a resolution determining that the Office Bearer is in breach of the regulations. The possible measures that the MSC can impose, as detailed in section 17.3 of the Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies, are:

A warning;  
Direction to complete certain tasks;  
Censure;  
Suspension, docking, reduction or removal of honoraria; and/or  
Removal from office in line with 46(1)(f) of the Constitution.

This motion seeks to direct Marley to complete certain tasks, namely submission of yearly goals and submission of an apology to the MSA by MSC 4/24 and to censure her for the following reasons:

- Failure to have their yearly goals submitted and accepted by the MSC by the second MSC meeting of the year as per Section 8.10.2 of the Regulations for Office-Bearers

and Members of MSA Bodies

- Failure to submit a report to Lot's Wife as per Section 8.8 Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies
- Failure to be accessible to students as per Section 10.2 of the Regulations for Office-Bearers and Members of MSA Bodies
- Lack of performing duties and responsibilities as detailed in relevant regulations
- Failure to attend MSC 2

**Motion #3:**

This MSC imposes the following disciplinary measures on Marley McNamara:

1. This MSC formally censures Marley McNamara for breaches of the Regulations as detailed in the Preamble
2. This MSC directs Marley McNamara to submit their yearly goals to MSA Secretary by 5 pm of 29/03/2024 so they can be presented to MSC 4/24
3. This MSC directs Marley to write a letter of apology to the MSA to be sent to the MSA Secretary by 5pm on 29/03/2024 to be presented to the MSC at MSC 4/24
4. Suspend Marley McNamara's honorarium for one week

**Moved:** Zareh Kozanian

**Seconded:** Nafiz Ibrahim

**In Favour:**

**Against:**

**Abstentions:**

**MOTION LAPSED**

**Discussion during MSC:**

**Procedural Motion:**

That this MSC moves to motion to an in-camera proceeding.

**Moved:** Paul Halliday

**In Favour:** 12

**Against:** 3

**Abstentions:** 0

**MOTION FAILED**

*The mover of the motion, Zareh Kozanian, speaks to the motion mentioning that he wishes to withdraw from moving the motion upon being aware of welfare concerns, indicating he*

*doesn't feel comfortable moving the motion without further investigation. He also requested all attendees to abstain from voting on the motion, if the motion carried.*

*The seconder of the motion withdrew his seconding to the motion.*

*Due to the lack of mover or a seconder to the motion, Joshua Walters declared that the motion lapsed.*

## **G. The MSA Opposes Changes to Library Opening Hours**

### Preamble:

Libraries are a vital resource and amenity for students whilst attending University and receiving their education. They are inclusive spaces where students can learn, study and collaborate with other students to ensure that they are getting the most out of their educational experience.

However, Monash University has, once again, made significant operational changes that greatly disadvantaged students, without consulting the MSA.

While the justification is a 'lack of usage', the University has greatly reduced the operating hours of both the Matheson and Hargreaves-Andrew Libraries. It is important to note that the usage figures used in this justification include COVID-19 affected years, and are not wholly representative of regular demand periods prior.

Matheson and Hargreaves-Andrew are now closed two hours earlier, at 10pm and 6pm respectively, while Hargreaves-Andrew is no longer open on weekends. This change was made without any consultation with the MSA or any student representative body, and when the MSA opposed these changes, the University cited that they would continue to monitor feedback moving forward. The feedback is clear: students should have access to these spaces that they pay for when they need them.

Providing a safe space for students to study should be one of Monash University's top priorities. Instead, the University, time and time again, continues to prioritise cost-saving measures over the wellbeing of students.

This is just further evidence that management sees and operates the University like a business, instead of an academic institution. It is shameful.

This change disproportionately affects already disadvantaged students, who may not have a safe space at home to study. It also poses a degradation of safety on campus, by limiting the availability of well-lit and accessible places at night.

It is clear that the University sees students not as people, but as numbers and dollars on a spreadsheet. We are simply conduits for their profit, and they continually demonstrate an utter disregard for our wellbeing. There is also no room for the University's excuse of limited

staff hours or resources. With over \$1.2 Billion in reserves, Monash University is more than capable of paying extra staff a liveable wage to keep the library open longer.

University management needs to start putting people before profit, and students before their salaries.

If the University holds any goodwill towards students, they will reverse these changes immediately.

**Motion #4:**

This MSC:

1. Strongly opposes the changes to library operating hours under the excuse of “reduced usage”.
2. Condemns Monash University for continuing to demonstrate a lack of regard for its students.
3. Condemns Monash University for failing to consult with the MSA about these changes prior to them coming into effect.
4. Demands that Monash University restore the previous operating hours (12AM for Matheson and 8PM for Hargreaves-Andrew) for the Matheson and Hargreaves-Andrew Libraries immediately.

**Moved:** Grayson Lowe

**Seconded:** ~~Joshua Walters~~ Jay Davis

**In Favour:** 19

**Against:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Discussion during MSC:**

*The chair, Joshua Walters, calls for a new seconder for the motion, as he cannot second a motion as chair.*

*Jay Davis seconds the motion.*

**Amendment by Secunder:**

That the motion be amended by adding:

5. Commits the MSA to advocating for more 24/7 study spaces for students

**The Mover consented to the Secunder’s amendment and so this motion did need not proceed to a vote**

## MOTION CARRIED

*The mover of the motion, Grayson Lowe, waives his right of speaking.*

*The seconder of the motion, Jay Davis, waives his right of speaking.*

*Connor Knight (Observer) speaks to the motion agreeing to the substance of the motion and he showcased his disagreement with the university accord, indicating it is an argument by the university and the government to increase the profitability of Australian capitalism.*

*Stuart Gibson speaks to the motion that the reduction of hours will adversely affect the students in MAPS as they will not have access to study spaces when it would be important to them. He also showcased his support for the amendment.*

*Haidar Shah speaks to the motion highlighting the importance of study space to all students including graduate students. He also demonstrated that the available study spaces are very limited and highlighted that the increase in student enrollment will trigger a greater need for 24/7 study spaces. In addition, he mentioned the importance of having study spaces with greater capacity rather than minimising the limited available study spaces on campus.*

*Connor Knight (Observer) speaks to the motion and opens the floor to all the attendees to comment on his previous comment on the university accords. Also, he emphasised that the university should not be for profit.*

*Jay Davis speaks to the motion mentioning that it is a mischaracterisation of motion to say it is supporting the accords as it is in relation to both positives and negatives of the accords. He also encouraged all attendees to focus on the subject of the motion being raised which is positive.*

*Thomas White (Observer) speaks to the motion as a mover of the university accord motion that was brought forward in the previous MSC, highlighting that the motion didn't support the accord as a whole but identified the aspects which could have a positive impact on students. The recommendations to increase access were crucial and the MSC endorsement is important. He also showcased his willingness to work with anyone to enhance the motion and bring up further aspects of the accord.*

*Dilhan Simsek showcased that the accords weren't perfect and agrees that university shouldn't be for profit. He showcased his support to take actions to benefit the students and encouraged everyone to be more involved in raising their thoughts about the accords as they will be looked at by the Ministry of Education. He also highlights the importance of indicating the aspects where the MSC agrees with the accords and recommends enhancements to the considerations where it doesn't support. Also, he highlights that equity is maintained and enhanced in universities across Australia. He emphasises that education is not a privilege, but it is a right for all students.*



## H. Falling wages in Australia

### Preamble:

Despite celebrating the first real wage growth seen by workers since March 2021, the Labor government bears partial responsibility for falling wages of workers in Australia.

This quarter's 4.2% growth in real wages (which is only 0.1% above the headline inflation rate), is negligible by itself, and amounts to about \$2 per week extra for most workers. In addition to that, wages are still approximately 5% below pre-pandemic levels. In fact, the 4.2% growth brings the average wage to levels seen in September 2011.

Even more revealing of the limited scope of this 'real wage growth' is that only 4 industries' wages increased to levels above inflation. This puts to shame Chalmer's declaration that generally, "Australians are earning more." It is clear that the majority of Australians are not feeling the positive effect on wages that the government claims their new regulations have created. Over the June quarter, all other industries' wages did not keep up with prices.

In Victoria, the ~~Labor Government~~ Labor, Liberal, National, and Greens governments has imposed a 1.5% wage cap on workers in the public sector, following similar agreements in other states in Australia.

Throughout the recent inflationary crisis, Labor refused to intervene while the RBA used the blunt instrument of successive interest rate raises to force the cost of falling profitability onto the working class. In light of this, it is a sick joke that the government is celebrating 'real wage growth', which in reality is a slight creeping of wages over the headline inflation rate in just four sectors, which doesn't have quite the same ring.

The recent Workplace Equality Agency's (WGEA) report on the wage gap between Australian men and women revealed an earnings discrepancy of 21.7%. Given this already existing systemic disadvantage to working women due to their concentration in underpaid areas of work, further blows to the average Australian's income leaves women disproportionately affected.

### Sources:

- 1) <https://amp.abc.net.au/article/103493098>
- 2) <https://www.theage.com.au/politics/federal/real-wages-grow-for-first-time-in-nearly-three-years-20240221-p5f6ka.html>

### **Motion #5:**

1. This MSC condemns the role of State and Federal ~~Labor~~ Labor, Liberal, National, and Greens governments in holding down wages of workers in Australia.
2. This MSC supports workers fighting for pay agreements that match or are above inflation.

3. This MSC does not think the ~~Labor Party~~ Labor, Liberal, National, and Greens governments is a solution to the wage crisis but is part of the problem.

4. The MSC recognises state ~~Labor government~~ Labor, Liberal, National, and Greens governments pay caps on public sector workers as a contributor to the gender pay gap.

**Moved:** Beck Riches

**Seconded:** Madeline Curkovic

**In Favour:** 14

**Against:** 0

**Abstentions:** 4

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

### Discussion during MSC:

*The mover of the motion, Beck Riches, speaks to the motion mentioning that the Labor government is congratulating themselves on wage growth but in reality he indicates the growth is very minimal. Moreover, he emphasises the cost of living crisis, especially for residents that have mortgages. Furthermore, he mentions that the workers in the public sector often when females are concentrated in are subject to pay gaps at a state level.*

*The seconder of the motion, Madeline Curkovic, passes her speaking rights to Colton Senior.*

*Colton Senior (Observer) speaks to the motion highlighting data on gender pay gap. Capitalists make more money from public sector workers and it was demonstrated that it disproportionately affects women.*

*Dilhan Simsek speaks to motion and agrees with Colton and emphasises that the report made it clear that there is in fact a disproportionate impact on women, which is unacceptable. He mentioned that it is important to stand in solidarity. He also highlighted that the Labor government announced that women will be paid super on their Parental Leave which is a great step forward as it is evident that women retire with lower super compared to men. He agrees that the current situation is far from ideal but indicates that there have been positive steps toward equal pay and he encourages further efforts into achieving it. There should be no difference in how much employees get paid or be treated based on their gender. He also mentions that the motion falls that to address the citation we should ourselves in is due to 10 years of Liberal national government. He demonstrates that he is willing to engage in respectful conversation with regards to the topic, and he illustrates that the way the Labor government has inherited the economy adversely impacted their ability to conduct these positive changes towards equal pay. He also demonstrates that there is more to be done but he acknowledges the effort that has been imputed as well.*

*Jay Davis speaks to the motion and acknowledges the important topics this motion brings in relation with gender pay gap; however, he indicates that the motion is being used to criticise the Labor Party only and he suggested that the fault must be on all the members that are involved in the decision making not only one party.*

**Motion to Amend:**

Preamble be removed and the motion be amended to read:

1. This MSC condemns the role of State and Federal governments in holding down wages of workers in Australia.
2. This MSC supports workers fighting for pay agreements that match or are above inflation.
3. The MSC recognises state government pay caps on public sector workers as a contributor to the gender pay gap.

**Moved:** Jay Davis      **Seconded:** Haidar Shah

**The Mover and Seconder withdraw their moving and seconding to this amendment due to submission of another amendment which they are in favour of.**

**AMENDMENT LAPSED**

*The mover of the motion, Jay Davis, waives his right of speaking on the amendment.*

*The seconder of the motion, Haidar Shah, waives his right of speaking on the amendment.*

*Madeline Curkovic speaks to the motion requesting members in the room that work in the offices of the Labor Party members to tell them to stop signing deals with public service members. She highlights that it is the fault of the Labor government that is why the Labor government is constantly mentioned. Also, it is highlighted that the amendment seeks to remove the mentioning of the Labor government to remove their role and fault in the situation. Further recommendations were illustrated by Madeline which the Labor government could take. She acknowledges that the business owners are responsible but that the primary fault is on the government. Monash is a training ground for employers and there is no justification for this situation. There are no measures presented on how the gender pay gap could be resolved. A massive restructuring is needed in the government to increase wages much beyond inflation. The losses made under the Labor government will take years to be recovered and sufficient time was provided to all government members to resolve the situation and the actions taken were not enough.*

*Thomas White (Observer) speaks to the motions and clarifies that he is speaking for himself only not representing the ESJ department or the members of the ESJ Department. He agrees with Madeline that removing the word of Labor in the motion is silly as it is going against the idea brought by the motion mover and seconder which he believes is fair to judge members of an organisation. He agrees that there were other parties at stake but removing the*

*mention of the Labor government doesn't resolve the matter. He encourages to name more people which include members involved in the process rather than making it ambiguous.*

*Jay Davis speaks to the motion to address Thomas's comment, indicating that the motion wasn't in fact specific to the Victorian Labor government rather than the Labor Party as a whole. For example, the NSW Labor Party has abolished the wage gap. This is not a genuine motion but used as a political attack, where he recommends limiting the political attack and making it a motion of substance.*

*The chair clarifies for the MSC, that the motion does in fact mention the Victorian Labor Government, in the preamble.*

*Beck Riches speaks to the motion highlighting that the amendment is not justifiable as the motion should be specific and it cannot be arbitrary. The motion should mention the political party that is in charge which are responsible for the occurrences the public sector workers are facing. The amendment is unsatisfactory and is absurd.*

*Jay Davis speaks to the motion and notes that the motion is not criticising the Victorian Labor government only but it is mentioning the Labor government and if an amendment to the motion was submitted to specific the Victorian Labor government then he would withdraw his amendment to the motion.*

*Dilhan Simsek speaks to the motion agreeing with Jay Davis and confirming that the actions taken by the Labor government is not ideal there are areas of enhancement. He recommends including all the parties that are involved and responsible for the situation that is impacting the public sector workers rather than only pointing fingers at one political party. He is not denying the responsibility that the Labor government is in charge for but he confirms that there must be recognition of the positive steps being taken by the government.*

*Madeline Curkovic speaks to the motion indicating that the Labor government is in government in charge now highlighting that it is not logical to keep on blaming previous political parties that were in charge, indicating that the Labor government must take responsibility. The logic of not moving a motion as it doesn't include all the members involved is not reasonable.*

*Jay withdrew his amendment, in favour of one proposed by Dilhan.*

**Motion to Amend:**

Replace all mentions of Labor and/or Labor Government with Labor, Liberal, National, and Greens governments

**Moved:** Dilhan Simsek

**Seconded:** Haidar Shah

**The Mover and Seconder did not consent to this amendment and so this motion proceeded to a vote**

**In Favour:** 11  
**Against:** 3  
**Abstentions:** 4  
**MOTION FAILED**

*Dilhan Simsek speaks to the motion demonstrating that by the mover and seconder not giving consent to proposed amendment moved by him and seconded by Haidar, he asked the mover and the seconder of the amendment to elaborate whether they think the fault is only on the Labor government. As by disagreeing with the proposed amendment it is clear to him that they are failing to acknowledge the fault of all the members' involved in the government which includes the Labor government.*

*Beck Riches speaks to the motion disagreeing with Dilhan Simsek as the amendment has political content demonstrating that the intention of the amendment is to remove the heat from the Labor government by not holding them directly responsible for the issue. It was justified that if the Liberal government was in charge both state and federal, the Labor government members would not request the Labor government to be mentioned alongside the other political parties for completeness.*

**Procedural Motion:**

To put the amendment to a vote

**Moved:** Dilhan Simsek

**In Favour:** 13 (including Jay Davis)

**Against:** 4

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Dilhan Simsek requested if the discussions could be moved into formal debate which Joshua Walters clarifies that he has already moved a procedural motion for this agenda item, limiting him from raising another procedural motion on the same agenda item.*

**Procedural Motion:**

To move the discussion into a formal debate

**Moved:** Grayson Lowe

**MOTION STRIKED OUT BY CHAIR**

*Given the discussion has been commencing for more than 30 mins at this point and moving to formal debate will result in restarting the discussion; Joshua Walters strikes the motion as out of order.*

**Procedural Motion:**

Calling for dissent in the chair.

**Moved:** Jay Davis

**MOTION LAPSED**

*Jay Davis challenges the chair with a ruling of accepting the procedural motion by Grayson Lowe.*

*As the Deputy Chair is currently chairing, they may choose a member present for whom to pass the Chair, so long as the member chosen did not move the procedural motion.*

*The mover of the procedural motion, Jay Davis, withdraws the procedural motion and the procedural motion lapses.*

*Sam (Observer) informs the MSC that it is his first time attending the MSC, demonstrating dissatisfaction with the procedural motion raised by Grayson Lowe, noting that he believes it to be an attempt to silence discussion. He encouraged the MSC to condemn the people that are responsible and push them to take actions rather than excuse them. Also, the attempt to redirect the motion is unacceptable and deliberate given they are the government of the time, elaborating that pointing them out is acceptable. The references to past Liberal governments is a deliberate action to redirect. Additionally, he claims the Labor government has done much worse than the Liberal government. Moreover, the Labor government has refused to revoke the adverse policies they put forward which negatively impact all students. He mentioned that the majority of students are women and they are being adversely impacted by these policies. The original motion didn't remove the responsibility from other political parties but it ensured the Labor Party is highlighted to be responsible.*

*Dilhan Simsek demonstrates that the first action point directly condemns the state and federal Labor government, indicating that the state liberal party in Tasmania are not responsible as well. He confirms that all members involved in the government are responsible, elaborating that the Labor government must not be put in the middle by itself as that is absurd. He restates that further actions must be taken by all governments.*

*Madeline Curkovic yields her speaking rights to Grayson Lowe to hear his perspective on the agenda item.*

*Grayson Lowe demonstrates that these conversations are important and the aim is to look at what could be done to enhance the working conditions of the working class. He demonstrates that there might be disagreements on the approach taken which is fine and encouraged for better strategies. He also notes that the Labor government has been taking actions to enhance the working conditions and he is uncertain on what would potentially please the opposing side of the argument. He encourages targeted reviews such as the ones into huge companies like Coles and Woolworths which are taking place and are important. Moderation in the approach taken is critical in the middle of the cost of living crisis.*

**Procedural Motion:**

Finish discussion on the agenda item by 6:40 PM

**Moved:** Joshua Walters (the Chair)

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Connor Knight (Observer) demonstrates that there are further parties worth addressing in the motion if the aim is to make it inclusive of all groups that led to the situation. He also responds to Grayson recommending to raise wages and confirms that it was part of the motion put forward to the MSC. The Labor government could increase wages not only the minimal tax cuts but they are not putting their effort sufficiently into it but focusing primarily on elections. The content of the amendment is deliberately aiming to cover the unacceptable actions by the Labor government.*

*The chair names both Connor Knight (Observer) and Dilhan Simsek for interrupting another speaker and he elaborates on the meaning of members and observers being named and the consequences for being named three times.*

*Dilhan Simsek speaks to the motion showcasing that the Labor government has taken great steps forward.*

*Connor Knight (Observer) interrupts the speaker and the chair names him a second time*

*Dilhan Simsek continues to elaborate that he wishes to contribute to Connor Knight's input on tax cuts and elaborated further on the benefits of the tax cuts introduced by the Labor government, demonstrating how that has a real benefit to working class australians.*

*Jay Davis recommends raising a very specific amendment if needed to specify the scope and the members that have been unsatisfactory. Condemning a political party for the sake of scoring political points must not be the intention of the motion.*

*Sam (Observer) speaks that the aim of redirecting the motion is unacceptable.*

*The chair names Jay Davis for interrupting a speaker.*

*Sam (Observer) mentions that the adverse impact of pay increase is exaggerated. He emphasised the motion's aim was to be specific against the Labor government.*

*Jay Davis highlights once more that the motion was very broad and it was not specific and he again stated that he is willing to support specific amendment against the Victorian Labor government in regards to wage gap but the aim of the motion kept to include the Labor Party as a whole. He showcases that he is disappointed that gender pay gap was an important aspect to be discussed further and throughout the discussion certain speakers tried to score political points minimising the focus on the issue.*

*Madeline Curkovic read the motion again mentioning that it was a specific motion.*

*Joshua Walters names Dilhan Simsek a second time for interrupting, however withdraws this as Dilhan Simsek was interrupting to raise a point of clarification.*

*The point of clarification was directed to the Chair to be asked to Madeline Curkovic as the motion referred to by Madeline Curkovic was amended and Dilhan Simsek wanted to confirm that the correct motion was being presented.*

*Madeline Curkovic continues to elaborate that the Labor government has contributed to the cost of living crisis, questioning the effectiveness of the expenditure conducted by the Labor Party.*

*Jay Davis raises a point of clarification to ensure if Madeline Cukovic was referring to the information mentioned in the preamble or the action points in the motion*

*Madeline Curkovic responds highlighting that the motion prior to the amendment considered the Labor government actions which were unacceptable. Moreover, the demonstration of dissatisfaction has occurred around Australia, noting that further occurrences must happen to keep the Labor government responsible for their actions.*

*The chair names Jay Davis a second time, for for misusing a point of clarification.*

*Madeline Curkovic responds to Grayson Lowe's previous comments, highlighting that increase of wages does not contribute to inflation, it is a multifactorial issue. It was also pointed out that it has been ignored that the Labor government has control over a lot of unions which could directly assist in resolving the pay gap issue but there were minimal actions taken.*



*Joshua Walters raises a point of clarification about the factuality of action point 4 in which Jay Davis briefly replied with his knowledge and the amendment was accepted by Joshua Walters, the Chair.*

## **I. Woodside Motion**

### Preamble:

The Woodside Monash Energy Partnership (WMEP) is a formal relationship that Monash University formed with what was previously known as Woodside Petroleum in July of 2019. Woodside Petroleum, an oil company, became Woodside Energy in mid-2022 with the acquisition of BHP's gas assets, putting it in the top 10 fossil fuel companies globally. The WMEP built on the existing Woodside-Monash Partnership through what was then known as the Woodside FutureLab, which began as an operation on Monash Clayton Campus in 2016. The WMEP and the Woodside-Monash Partnership represents a collaboration between Monash University and Woodside, whose main operations at Monash are in research, student recruitment, engineering teams, and more.

Woodside is a particularly insidious company in Australia, and the country's largest fossil fuel corporation. Despite its claims of sustainable actions, Woodside is building the Burrup Hub, a 50 billion AUD megaproject off the coast of Western Australia. Burrup Hub will be the most climate polluting project currently planned in Australia, with projected lifetime emissions of 6.1 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. (Greenpeace, 2022). Despite its net-zero commitments, Woodside has doubled the amount of emissions it is responsible for in Australia (Keane, 2024), and is currently in court for allegedly not adequately consulting with Aboriginal communities that could be impacted by its operations, namely the Mardudhunera people and other Traditional owners in Murujuga (the Burrup peninsula). (Cox, 2023). Furthermore, Woodside is engaged in bringing forward several legal cases against activists, which experts such as Bond University Professor Nicole Rojers, were attempts 'designed with an end goal, and that is to silence activists' and 'curbing public participation' (Cohen et al., 2023). Human Rights Law Centre Australia called these cases "far beyond what can possibly be justified in a democracy". Greenpeace has brought forward further legal action alleging that Woodside is engaging in greenwashing (Jackson, 2023). Woodside are notoriously politically calculating and have been known to engage in highly unethical operations in order to benefit their interests in fossil fuel exploration, such as their role in the 2004 wiretapping of the East Timorese government (the 'Witness K scandal'). They are undeniably a strategic corporation, well aware that their presence and association with Monash, a prestigious university, gives them social licence and adds greenwashing value to their PR branding.

Woodside's ties with Monash are a fundamental part of their greenwashing operations. The Monash Student Association has consistently stated that it is against the Woodside-Monash Partnership, including the minutes from 3/22 (Monash Student Council, 2022), and the minutes from 10/16 (Monash Student Council, 2017). The MSA committed to 'standing

against this partnership and opposing and disrupting the activities of Woodside Petroleum at this university' (Monash Student Council, 2016, 8).

The 'Stop Woodside Monash' collective is a group of students, staff and alumni who are active around the abolition of the Woodside-Monash Partnership and expelling Woodside Energy's presence from Monash University. They are engaged in political action, including protesting, to make students and the wider community aware of this partnership and put pressure on the university to abolish it. They are not affiliated with any political party, and were started late last year as an independent grassroots activist group on Clayton campus. So far they have received campaign material from Greenpeace, and have been supported by the Monash branch of the NTEU.

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<https://www.hrlc.org.au/news/2023/8/23/criticise-restraining-orders-silence-activists>

**Motion #6:**

This MSC;

1. Supports the 'Stop Woodside Monash' campaign and their actions to oppose and disrupt Woodside Energy,
2. Endorses several goals of 'Stop Woodside Monash' campaign, namely abolishing the Woodside-Monash Partnership (including research, Woodside events on campus, and leadership summits), getting rid of Woodside branding on the Monash University Clayton campus, and preventing future collaborations between Monash University and Woodside Energy,
3. Authorises the MSA to organise official MSA contingents to attend 'Stop Woodside Monash' rallies,
4. Commits to sharing information and material from the 'Stop Woodside Monash' campaign across relevant social media platforms, and encouraging student involvement in the 'Stop Woodside Monash' campaign,

5. Commits to informing the student body about the Woodside-Monash Partnership and its impacts on university operations through the Environment and Social Justice Department,
6. Calls on the university to totally abolish the Woodside-Monash Partnership, including the WMEP,
7. Further calls on the university to commit to not accepting funds, donations, and in-kind contributions from fossil fuel companies,
8. Commits the departments of the MSA to not hold events that it organises itself in the Woodside Building for Technology and Design.

**Moved:** Sophie Allen                      **Seconded:** Teagan Hayward

**In Favour:**     18

**Against:**        0

**Abstentions:**   1

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

[Discussion during MSC:](#)

*The mover of the motion, Sophie Allen, waives her right of speaking.*

*The seconder of the motion, Teagan Hayward, waives her right of speaking.*

**J. ESJ Committee Vacancy Appointment**

Preamble:

Alanah Alsop resigned from the Environmental and Social Justice Committee (ESJC) on the 5th of February 2024. Alanah Alsop was elected as a member of the CHANGE! Ticket, and therefore a process to fill Alanah's vacancy with someone commenced. Aaron had previously expressed wanting to fulfil a role on the ESJ 2024 Committee, whilst Olivia has been enthusiastic about the ESJ 2024 activities. The Authorised Officer of the ticket was contacted as per Section 49.2 of the Election Regulations however they did not respond within the requisite time and so this appointment falls to the MSC

**Motion #7:**

This MSC appoints Olivia Aju to the position of Environment and Social Justice Committee Member per section 42(4)(b) of the Constitution, following the vacancy created by the resignation of Alanah Alsop pursuant to section 41(1) of the Constitution and section 48 49 (2) (2) of the election regulations

**Moved:** Sophie Allen                      **Seconded:** Zareh Kozanian

**In Favour:**     18

**Against:**        0

**Abstentions:**   0

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion to Amend:**

The reference to the election regulation to reference 49(2)(2)

**Moved:** Paul Haulliday

**Seconded:** Teagan Hayward

**The Mover and Seconder consented to this amendment and so this motion did need not proceed to a vote**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**K. MSA Executive General Representative**

Each year one of the General Representatives is elected to sit on the Executive. This motion will open nominations for that position. Only General Representatives may nominate or vote in this election.

**Motion #8:**

This MSC opens nominations for the election of MSA Executive General Representative for 2024, pursuant to s24.1(e) of the MSA Constitution.

**Moved:** Zareh Kozanian

**Seconded:** ~~Joshua Walters~~ Teagan Hayward

**In Favour:** 17

**Against:** 0

**Abstentions:** 1

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Discussion during MSC:**

*Joshua Walters requested if the MSA Secretary could potentially showcase the resignation and appointment of the General Representative at this stage rather than General Business prior to nomination.*

*Zareh Kozanian, MSA Secretary, shared his screen on Zoom showcasing all attendees who are attending in-person in the room as well as on Zoom.*

*The chair, Joshua Walters, calls for a new seconder for the motion as he cannot second a motion while presiding as chair.*

*Teagan Hayward seconds the motions.*

*The mover of the motion, Zareh Kozanian, waives his right of speaking.*

*The seconder of the motion, Teagan Hayward, waives her right of speaking.*

*Joshua Walters calls for nominations for the role of General Representative Executive.*

*Joshua Walters declares that he will be the Returning Officer for this election, reminding the MSC that only General Representatives can vote or nominate for the MSA Executive General Representative and explains the election process.*

*Joshua Walters elaborates that the election will be carried out by secret ballot with one minute speeches and with one question from the floor.*

*Dilhan Simsek nominates Dilhan Simsek, seconded by Jay Davis.*

*Paris Enten nominates Paris Enten, seconded by Stella Robinson.*

*Paris Enten uses her speech time informing the MSC that she has been a General Representative previously as well as an Education (Academic Affairs) Office Bearer and she is proud of her achievements. She also demonstrated that she is not politically affiliated with any political party, she noted that she brings an impartial personality running on logic and merit of argument.*

*Dilhan Simsek showcases his excitement for this year with the success that the MSA had accomplished thus far. He demonstrated his profound experience in organising and running clubs and societies in Monash and his involvement in the Labor movement. He highlights the importance of the union and he shared his desire to continue fighting for student rights on campus against the university management during his university life and beyond.*

#### **L. MSA General Representative Election Result**

This motion confirms the election of a General Representative to the Executive. Only General Representatives may vote for this motion.

**Motion #9:**

This MSC confirms the election of Dilhan Simsek as Executive General Representative

**Moved:** Dilhan Simsek

**Seconded:** Jay Davis

**In Favour:** 3

**Against:** 2

**Abstentions:** 12

**MOTION PASSED**

#### **M. General Business**

**Meeting Closed at 07:08 PM**

**N. Appendices**

*Executive Expenditure Summary*

Department	Type	Cost	Date Approved
500 - Volunteering	Training & Conferences	\$2716.34	06/03/2024
100 - Human Resources	MSA HR Use Only	\$0	06/03/2024
500 - Volunteering	Training & Conferences	\$660	06/03/2024
100 - MSC (Central)	Special Projects	\$1080	06/03/2024
100 - Human Resources	MSA HR Use Only	\$0	06/03/2024
300 - Wholefoods	Capital Works	\$1646.07	06/03/2024
100 - MSC (Central)	Training & Conferences	\$660	06/03/2024

**Chloe Ward**

**President**

*Report to MSC 3/24*

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**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.
- To establish an MSA Foodbank within the MSA 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
- To advocate on behalf of students on issues such as fixing the N1 Elevator, the reduced Library opening hours at Matheson and Hargrave libraries, Residential Village cooling, and Unpaid Placements
- To continue to build a strong and beneficial relationship with the NTEU Monash Branch to benefit both students and staff.

**PROJECTS**

MSA Foodbank Project

The MSA Executive, Welfare OBs and Environmental & Social Justice OBs have worked tirelessly to continue to establish a Foodbank within the MSA. The initial proposal has been completed and will be submitted to the University for collaboration moving forward. The aim of the Foodbank is to establish consistent and stable pantry items for students, in conjunction with the variety of food welfare initiatives that the MSA already provides to students. We are aiming for an opening soon and will continue to keep students updated on the ongoing progress of the project.

O-Week 2024

O-Week for 2024 was a success! With over 100 clubs and societies, many different sponsors and MSA representatives, the week was filled with activities, music and free food. I would like to extend a special thanks to all the MSA staff who made O-Week 2024 possible, and congratulate them on an amazing week that was filled with fun and excitement. I am looking forward to seeing what clubs and societies will continue to achieve in the rest of the academic year!



### The Muslim Prayer Space Celebration and Opening

After five years of tireless work and advocacy, the Muslim Prayer Space is finally open and available to all students and staff. I would like to again acknowledge the hard work of all past MSA Presidents, Monash University Islamic Society (MUIS), and those hard-working students who fought to advocate for this space to be built and improved upon. The location of the new Muslim Prayer Space is the Krongold Centre for Worshippers, located next to Matheson Library on the Clayton Campus. The grand-opening event was a great success and the event was truly a celebration of faith and student advocacy. With Ramadan coming up, we hope the new space will ensure students feel proud and welcome to celebrate their faith in peace. I would again like to extend my thanks to MUIS, Tooba Javed and Anshuman Das (POC OBs) and Fatima Ramtoola for their hard work to set up the event on such short notice, and make the opening a night to remember for many years to come.

### Parking Fee Increases and Open Letter

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.

These new parking fee increases disregard this fact and put unnecessary financial burden on students and staff. These pricing increases *must* be rolled back to previous years. Teaching weeks of semester are not “peak periods” - they are necessary periods in which the University performs its purpose: to educate. Peak pricing hurts both students and staff that have no alternative but to drive to University to complete either their education or job. The MSA and NTEU have co-signed an Open Letter to the Vice-Chancellor Sharon Pickering opposing the increases and demanding a roll back to previous year’s rates. The MSA will continue to fight on this issue and ensure that students are not negatively affected by these changes. We have also been putting up posters around campus and in the MSA newsletter to ensure that the student body is informed of the letter and signs it to continue the collective action. 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.

### N1 Elevator

There has been a long history of the University not acting quick enough in making the Clayton campus accessible. The N1 elevator has been broken for long periods of time, disadvantaging students and making Monash University inaccessible to D/disabled students. Not only this, but it is disgraceful that there has been a direct lack of notification about the N1 elevator being broken - leaving students and staff to find out after already parking on higher levels of N1. Accessibility should never be an afterthought. This issue is only exacerbated by the lack of elevator at S1 carpark, which currently leaves no Blue Permit Parking with a working and accessible lift option. Monash University must fix the list and make accessibility a priority to be in line with its own values of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. I have continually reached out to the Buildings and Property Division (BPD) with no response. I am calling on students to email BPD to complain about these shameful accessibility issues. These accessibility issues are even more shocking after the dramatic price increases for parking. Students and staff alike are paying for parking and services that they cannot fully use or have access to. I will continue to fight the University alongside our Disabilities & Carers OBs to ensure that students and staff that require these accommodations are represented and listened to.

### Residential Villages Fan Renovations

After countless years of advocacy, the University is finally listening. For years, Residential students have suffered through hot days and nights only to be told that they are not allowed to purchase their own evaporative coolers or air conditioning units. After a long fight, we can now confirm that all 158 Deakin Hall rooms are now fitted with wall-mounted fans! This new feature will be implemented in all Residential Villages via renovation within the next 5 years. This is an exciting step forward for Residential students in ensuring that the residential accommodation is a safe, comfortable social and learning environment during their time at Monash University. In the meantime, students are permitted to use portable fans in their residential halls until the upgrades are made to all residential accommodation. These new installations are planned for other Residential Village Halls (Roberts, Richardson Farrer and Howitt).

### The University Accords Final Report

Recently the Federal Government released the Universities Accord Final Report (the Report) was released, and outlined a variety of suggested changes and improvements to address the challenges within the tertiary education sector. It is an important step in the right direction for improvements in student poverty, SSAF, and many other issues currently facing higher education students.

The MSA was pleased to read about the accommodation for compulsory placements to be financially supported (Recommendation 14). This is an important and vital provision for students who undertake courses which require placements to graduate, such as teaching

and nursing courses - courses and industries which are currently suffering from retention of students and new graduates. In addition, the recommendation from the Accords to implement a National Student Charter and National Student Ombudsman (Recommendation 18) are important steps in ensuring and preserving student's voice's and right to act within University systems and processes and their current action and inaction, especially within complaint processes. So too, the MSA hopes that the Accords highlights vital insight for the University about SSAF distribution and how important it is for student unions to be funded appropriately and effectively in order to represent students within University campuses.

Many of the Accords findings are in line with the University's existing policies created to support students with under-represented backgrounds, such as First Nations students, low SES background students and students with disabilities. However, it is important that these students and policies are implemented in every facet of the University, including parking fees, accessibility to extensions and special consideration, as well as many other aspects of students' academic and social experience on campus. As the MSA continues to consider and analyse the actionability of the Accords in the coming weeks, our hope is that the University will be open to changes that respond to the recommendations outlined, especially in relation to learning and teaching quality. These core facets directly impact students' experience on campus and their likelihood to recommend Monash University to incoming students, both domestically and abroad.

The MSA will continue to analyse the Accords to ensure that the relevant sections are adopted and implemented with the student voice engaged. The MSA is excited to see how Monash University will continue to display its innovation and leadership in the sector, through collaboration with the report and continue to strive for excellence by implementing and adopting actionable and vital recommendations from the report.

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

Following a recent meeting with Kaye Sullivan, Director, Operations and Management Services, I was informed that Library hours across all campuses would be decreased under the guise of lower usage. There are a variety of issues that I foresee with this change, particularly with Matheson Library being now closed at 10PM instead of 12AM, Hargrave-Andrew Library being closed at 6PM instead of 8PM, and the complete closing of Hargrave-Andrew Library on the weekends.

Whilst it is important to acknowledge that there are other spaces on campus that are open until 12AM, such as the Learning and Teaching Building and Woodside, it is also important to recognise that this change decreases the accessibility that students have to physical books and library services - facets used particularly by disadvantaged students. In addition, in light of the recent changes to late-night classes now running until 9PM, it does not allow those students finishing their classes to use those spaces to complete their

academic commitments after class. Considering that the total fees of international students in 2022 were approximately \$843 million, the university should be providing services that are available to all students on campus.

There are other 24/7 study spaces on campus, however, the majority of these are exclusive to certain students, such as the Science Student 24/7 study space and MGA Postgraduate Lounge, with the Campbell Hall 24/7 study space being the only one accessible to all students. In addition to this, the Campbell Hall space can only accommodate 25 students in total, and whilst swipe data shows a peak of 8 unique swipes in one night, it is important to note that multiple students can enter under one swipe. It is vital to acknowledge that students who use the space can enter prior to 12AM, and therefore the swipe data can sometimes not accurately reflect the usage, specifically the duration of usage, of the space. Student testimonials and experiences that have been communicated to me stating that the space is busiest after 12AM, following the closing of libraries on campus, and during exam periods. In lieu of the increased enrolment numbers now replicating those of pre-COVID, it is impossible to expect the Campbell Hall space to accommodate the entirety of the campus population.

This regression of library hours has had a negative reaction from students so far, with myself and other Office Bearers receiving emails and messages explaining their dissatisfaction and stories of increased challenges in response to this change, especially since there was no consultation from students prior to the change. I will continue to liaise with Library management to ensure that this issue gets resolved in a manner that is beneficial to students' academic success.

#### Period Positivity Campaign

The Period Positivity Campaign is an initiative that the MSA has historically done a variety of work on and in 2024, our plan is no different. We want to continue to enhance the University's current approach in providing period products, which, while commendable in intention, falls short in accessibility and inclusiveness. The Period Positivity Project, aimed at ensuring all students have access to essential period products, has illuminated significant gaps in our provision strategy.

As it stands, period products that are available within Monash University Residential spaces, are limited to shared bathrooms and a central stash for those with private accommodations, predicated on the notion these are for 'emergency use' only, a stance that inadvertently places undue burden and shame on our students. This approach, championed by the Monash Residential Services (MRS), not only limits accessibility but also suggests a reliance on these emergency provisions is somehow unwarranted. Compounding this issue is the exclusion of gender-neutral bathrooms from receiving these vital products, a glaring oversight that undermines our University's commitment to inclusivity and equality.

Furthermore, the distribution of period products within the Learning and Teaching Building and Campus Centre is restricted to specific areas, which significantly limits student access to, and awareness of these products. In response to MRS's financial concerns regarding this initiative, the MSA proposes that we seek sponsorship from external organisations to ensure the sustainability of this project. While it is hopeful that this would provide ongoing supply, it could in the short term provide time for the University to organise ongoing funding for the project. Given the University's known empathy and support for women's issues, we are optimistic about your support for this cause. I, alongside the Women's and Residential Communities Office Bearers, will ensure that the MSA and University collaborate passionately on potential solutions that align with our shared values of inclusivity and student welfare.

Expanding the availability of period products to include all bathrooms, ensuring they are accessible in both shared and private living spaces, and securing sponsorship to address financial constraints, are steps that will not only alleviate the immediate challenges, but also reaffirm our commitment to creating a supportive and equitable environment for all students.

**Zareh Kozanian**

**Secretary**

*Report to MSC 3/24*

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**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.
- Promote the Open Letter with NTEU about the Parking Fee Increases
- 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

### O-Week 2024 and OFAD

There were approximately 100 clubs and organisations, numerous sponsors, and MSA representatives present throughout the week-long events, which included free food, music, and entertainment. I want to express my gratitude to every member of the MSA staff who helped make O-Week 2024 a success and to congratulate them on a fantastic week full of excitement and pleasure. The 2024 O-Week was a huge success!

In addition, I want to express my gratitude to the MSA Volunteers, who worked so hard setting up the barbecues, giving out free drinks, etc. Nearly 7,000 MSA+ memberships were sold. MSA's O-Fest After Dark party (OFAD) was a major success, the attendees were very glad and had a lot of fun during the event.

### MSA EXPO

I am enthusiastic about launching the MSA Expo in Semester 2, 2024. This initiative aims to unite departments and divisions, creating a major event to benefit all Monash students. The expo will serve as a comprehensive platform, offering students insights into various aspects of university life. Additionally, we plan to invite industry partners to engage with Monash students, fostering valuable connections. Through ongoing collaboration and innovative initiatives, the MSA Expo aims to enrich the overall student experience and provide meaningful support to all students at Monash.

### MSA DAY

I'm exploring the possibility of introducing the MSA Day during Semester 2 of 2024 is an exciting venture aimed at fostering a stronger sense of community and connection among Monash University students. The envisioned event seeks to unite the diverse student body under a common platform, offering a day filled with engaging activities and memorable experiences.

The primary goal of MSA Day is to create an inclusive and enjoyable environment where Monash students can actively participate in a variety of activities, promoting not only fun and entertainment but also a sense of unity. By bringing together students from different disciplines and backgrounds, this initiative aims to enhance the overall student experience at Monash.

The collaborative efforts of the Monash Student Association (MSA) will play a pivotal role in the success of MSA Day. Through continuous teamwork and creative innovation, we aspire to organise an event that goes beyond the conventional, reflecting the dynamic and vibrant spirit of the Monash community.

In summary, the exploration of MSA Day is a testament to our commitment to continually enhance the Monash student experience. Through innovative and collaborative efforts, we aspire to create a day where students can come together, celebrate their diversity, and collectively contribute to building a stronger sense of community within the Monash University family. All monash students deserve to experience a very memorable and enjoyable day to remember the unique university experience Monash offers.

#### MSA Constitution and Standing Orders Revision

I'm investigating strategic initiatives to enhance and adapt the governance framework governing the Monash Student Association (MSA) through revising the MSA Constitution and Standing Orders. Moreover, it is critical to ensure that these foundational documents accurately reflect the evolving values, needs, and aspirations of the MSA. I seek to enhance the clarity, transparency, and relevance of our operational guidelines.

The executive team will be seeking legal advice and input and feedback from the student body to incorporate diverse perspectives. This project is a proactive step towards fostering a more inclusive, responsive, and effective student union to adeptly navigate the challenges and opportunities of the present and future.

#### Transparency in Advocacy

Ensuring transparency in advocacy is a paramount commitment for the MSA, and we are dedicated to keeping Monash students fully informed and engaged in the advocacy initiatives that directly impact their university experience. We understand the importance of providing comprehensive insight into our advocacy work, and, as such, we will share advocacy summary of our initiatives, achievements, and challenges. We seek to foster a culture of transparency detailing ency, collaboration, and active engagement, empowering students to play an integral role in shaping and supporting our advocacy agenda.





**Joshua Walters**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
Report to MSC 03/24]

**Joshua Walters**

**Treasurer**

*Report to MSC 3/24*

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**GOALS**

- To further reduce the MSA's deficit and achieve a surplus
- To improve the financial transparency of the MSA
- To work with OB's to develop realistic budgets
- To support the MSA's continued advocacy for students
- To work on implementing an MSA Foodbank to help combat food insecurity on campus

**PROJECTS**

MSA O-Fest and OFAD

O-Fest this year was a great success with almost 7000 MSA+ memberships sold. I spent a lot of O-Week this year helping clubs get their stalls set up and wandering around making sure everyone running stalls was hydrated and had sunscreen. It was a great opportunity to interact with clubs, volunteers and partners. I would like to give a massive thank you to all the MSA Staff who put in many hours not just during O-Week but in the lead up getting everything prepared. I also want to thank the MSA Volunteers who put in an incredible effort running the bbqs, handing out free drinks and many other things.

I also helped out with MSA's O-Fest After Dark party (OFAD) as an event manager. It was a great event with an amazing turnout. Attendees seemed to have a lot of fun and I want to give special thanks to Reggie and Fatima, the Activities OBs, for their work in organising the event, as well as the SRSU department for their support of the OB's.

2023 Audit



**Joshua Walters**

***TREASURER'S REPORT***  
Report to MSC 03/24]

The audit for the previous financial year is almost complete, and when it is completed I will be reviewing the MSA's financial position. Provisional reports on last year's finances indicate we are in a much better place than we were previously. I intend to work closely with the Office Bearers to ensure they have an understanding of the MSA finances and I will work with each OB department to see how they are going with their own budgeting for the year.

Additionally, with the audit almost being completed, the MSA will need to have its AGM shortly so I will be working closely with Zareh to ensure everything is in order for AGM 2024.

I have also been working on new sources of income, including looking into Government Grants that the MSA may be eligible for.

Advocacy and Activism

I have been working closely with the rest of the Executive as well as relevant OB's to advocate for and implement necessary changes to help students. Lately this has included work surrounding Monash's parking fee increases, including posterizing car parks and promoting the NTEU's Open Letter (linked below). I am also looking into further activism that the MSA can do to help our fight for student rights

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6wSrnOwyDVwo03dmSvDE3xX8xUvv4V2NqhAG56SHjVE6xgg/viewform>

## **DEPARTMENT: ACTIVITES**

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

Inclusivity, productiveness, event planning, communication

**Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:**

O-Fest After Dark 2024, MSA OLYMPICS, MSA EXPO, REWIND, Free Food Fair

## **Department Goals for 2024**

Goal	Methodology	Comments
Plannings	to be successfully able to plan MSA olympics for semester one and MSA Exhibition for semester two	
Contributions	To be a team player, showing how valuable we are to our committee peers	
Trainings	To be up to date and competent with trainings	
Creativity	To be creative and insightful when planning events throughout the semester	
Weekly check ins	To check in with SRSU support group and inform them on how things are going, receive help when necessary	

## **DEPARTMENT: Creative and Live Arts**

### **Outline of Department’s Core Values and Aims for 2024:**

Foster an environment that celebrates diversity, embracing multiculturalism in every aspect of Wednesday sessions - from artists and food to the audience.

### **Outline of Departmental planning so far in elected term:**

Following the success of our initial Wednesday sessions featuring performances by Babba in the first week and Aleksiah in the second, we are committed to fostering a multicultural atmosphere. In alignment with this commitment, we are excited to announce "Desi Week" as an expansion of our program. We aim to collaborate with various cultural clubs to ensure these sessions are more inclusive and engaging for students from diverse backgrounds. Our objective is to celebrate cultural richness and create an environment where all students feel represented.

## **Department Goals for 2024**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Methodology</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Goal 1: Multicultural Wednesday Sessions	Introduce diverse cultures through artists and food to engage a variety of audiences	Making them Research and identify artists from different cultural backgrounds. Collaborate with local food vendors representing various cuisines. Evaluate audience feedback to ensure cultural representation aligns with preferences.
Goal 2: Exciting Challenges on Wednesday Sessions	Implement engaging challenges for student participation with prize money or coupons	Develop a variety of challenges suitable for campus culture. Collaborate with campus facilities for potential partnerships.

		Evaluate participation rates and feedback to adjust future challenges and incentives.
Goal 3: More Wednesday Merch	Create additional promotional Wednesday merch like umbrellas, fans, hoodies, plushies, stickers, and hair clips.	Collaborate with designers and manufacturers to expand the merchandise line. Monitor sales and gather feedback to refine and improve the merch selection. Organize merch-focused events to boost sales and brand visibility.
Goal 4: More Brand Engagement	Involve popular brands to promote and sponsor Wednesday sessions, potentially sponsoring bigger artists.	Identify potential brand partners and sponsors. Develop sponsorship proposals outlining mutual benefits. Track brand engagement metrics and audience response to measure the effectiveness of brand collaborations.
Goal 5: Bigger Wednesday Sessions	Turn Wednesday sessions into larger events by upscaling stages, decorations, and venues	Assess potential venues for capacity, accessibility, and scalability. Develop a budget for enhanced staging, decorations, and logistics. Regularly monitor attendance and feedback to gauge the success of the upscaled events.

## **DIVISION: Clubs & Societies**

### **Outline key activities completed thus far:**

#### **1. Training Day**

On February 13th C&S held a Club Office Bearer Training Day covering in depth the intricacies of running a club and good governance practices. The event also provided club leaders with the opportunity to network with one another in the lead up to O-Week. This event was attended by approximately 100 club office bearers.

Training sessions run:

- Financial Motions Workshop
- Clubs Governance Responsibilities
- Off Campus Events Training
- Financial Review Training
- Returning Officer Training
- 2024 Grants Manual Launch
- Inclusive and Accessible Events
- Orientation Briefing

#### **2. Orientation Festival**

C&S worked with the wider MSA to coordinate the involvement of clubs in this year's Orientation Festival. In total 103 clubs participated in the festival from all club categories in four zones around the university. Throughout the week C&S staff and office bearers worked to support clubs and ensure they got the most out of their involvement. In total during the Festival (Mon-Thurs) 15,997 club memberships were sold.

On February 21 we held an O-Week celebration for club office bearers at Sir John's to thank them for the work they put into the festival and the importance of their involvement. At this event we handed out awards to clubs for their participation in the festival. This event was attended by 64 club office bearers from across 32 clubs.

Award Winners:

#### **Best Merchandise**

Category A - Monash Arab Society

Category B - Monash Medieval Club

Category C - Australia-China Youth Association Monash

Category D - Monash Indian Cultural Society

### Best Decorations

Category A - Monash Nutrition and Dietetics Society

Category B - Spanish and Latin American Club

Category C - Monash Accounting Students Association

Category D - Monash Association of Coding

### Best Entertainment

Category A - Monash Club of Juggling and Fire Twirling

Category B - Monash Creative Writers

Category C - Vietnamese Students Association

Category D - Monash Cyber Security Club

## 3. Grants Program

For the last few months a considerable amount of work has been put into some major overhauls in the club's grant program affecting both the submissions and processing of grants. These changes have been finalised and tested and are beginning to be implemented. The changes should result in faster payment times, less staff time required and an overall clearer and more streamlined grants system. These changes also coincided with the launch of the 2024 Grants Manual, the document that dictates grant processing and payouts. These changes should also help to streamline and simplify the system both for clubs applying for grants and those processing them.

## **Outline of Departmental planning and upcoming events/projects**

### Regular Events

This year C&S is looking to run more regular events for club office bearers, this semester C&S is planning to run three more events in addition to the two we have already hosted.

### Club Governance Overhauls

Many of the 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 and provide advice and support to clubs to make any transitions as seamless as possible.

### OGM

The C&S OGM is upcoming and has been provisionally scheduled for week three pending room availability. This General Meeting will hear reports from the C&S office bearers, hold any required elections and allow clubs an opportunity to ask questions of the C&S Executive.

## Division Goals for 2024

Goal	Progress	Comments
Regulations update/refresh	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drafted for Finance Regs</li> <li>- Partially completed for Affiliation Regs</li> <li>- Planned for Complaints and IT policy</li> </ul>
Regular club office bearer events	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Calendar planed for the whole year</li> <li>- Steps taken for next planned event IWD speed friending</li> <li>- Two events have been already hosted</li> </ul>
Encouraging greater use of the C&S Grants Program	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Launched 2024 Grants Manual</li> <li>- New grants process launched for some Grant Types.</li> <li>- Looking at further changes to the Grants Manual make it easier to access grants for multi-club events.</li> </ul>



# MSA MAPS Division Report to the MSC

## Orientation Week

At the end of o-week, the MAPS Division has hosted its first event since 2021, hosting a social night for students that fall under the MAPS Division jurisdiction. The Division also provided orientation care packages that were available within the Lounge for the duration of o-week.

## Constitutional Changes

The MAPS Executive are currently undertaking changes to the current Constitution. The drive behind the change is to make the Constitution more effective at dealing with possibilities that might occur with membership, streamline positions to make them more dedicated to their respective roles and to provide clarity in dealing with the processes associated with the Division.

## MAPS Lounge

Prior to the commencement of Orientation Week, furniture upgrades were conducted within the lounge. The purchases saw acquisitions of new furniture, clean-up of existing areas and resumption of supply of consumables.

## Ordinary General Meeting

The Ordinary General Meeting in line with the Constitutional requirements is expected to be conducted in March of this year.

## Support for Distance Educational Regional Students

Discussions between the University and the MAPS Division have ensued to provide support through MAPS to students who live in regional areas and study via a distance education format.

## MAPS Lounge Mural

MAPS is currently exploring having a mural painted on the white wall currently in the MAPS Lounge.

## MAPS Lounge ventilation

MAPS is looking at lobbying the University for increased ventilation or air conditioning within the MAPS Lounge owing to its poor ventilation and often high temperatures.

## \*Key Activities

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

The first welfare lunch completed  
 Guide to Melbourne event successfully completed  
 Tickets sold out for the day trip  
 Motion passed to roll down the parking fees at Monash in MGM

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

Ordering snacks from Costco for day trip  
 Planning games for the day trip  
 Planning the menu for the second welfare lunch  
 Planning MUISS Olympics along with MSA activities  
 Working on the MSA expo fair

## Department Goals

Goal	Progress (complete/ongoing/incomplete)	Comments
Increase community outreach and exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Newsletters (ongoing)</li> <li>- Frequent posting and stories (ongoing)</li> </ul>	We have increased our reach as 80-day trip tickets got sold out within a day

<p>Advocating quality education for all international students and making their transition smooth for first-year students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guide to Melbourne event (completed)</li> <li>- Seminars and events from Service Melbourne and Monash community</li> </ul>	<p>We had a good turn up around 40 people came and speakers also like the execution of the event.</p>
<p>Cater welfare of all international students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welfare Wednesday (1 completed)</li> <li>- Welfare Day (incomplete)</li> <li>- R U Ok Day (incomplete)</li> </ul>	<p>Adequate food order from John Bar and 150 people came for the event and well organised.</p>
<p>To organise social and culturally diverse events for all international students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International Student Ball (incomplete)</li> <li>- One world Fest (incomplete)</li> <li>- Day trip (ongoing)</li> <li>- Trivia night (incomplete)</li> </ul>	<p>Sold 80 tickets within two day. Planning to add more 25 tickets and take more gen com members.</p>
<p>To organise academic and informative events for all international students and help them with job opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MSA expo</li> <li>- Career Industry night</li> </ul>	<p>Vanessa attended the expo meeting and will update the team about the ongoing discussion.</p>

## **DIVISION: Radio Monash**

### **DIVISION REPORT**

#### TRAINING NIGHT:

- We held a very successful training last Tuesday on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March! We had over 40 people come through our doors, where we educated students on what it would be like to run a radio show/podcast, record a song in our recording studio, writing for us for our journalism department and what it takes to use our broadcast studio.
- This was a great night for us, and this was a massive increase in attendance from last year. Last year we held two training nights that had 20-30 people in attendance, so for us to have more than 40+ people shows that we are in a growing stage.

#### BROADCAST:

- We have had over 15+ show applications this semester, with more coming in daily. Our shows were set to start in week 3, but this is being delayed to week 4 due to OH&S/induction issues that we are resolving with the SRSU team.
- We bought a new desk to assist in radio and podcasting that will help immensely. It is more user friendly, with plenty of YouTube tutorials for future committees to use.

#### JOURNALISM:

- Since last report we have published over 6 articles on our website.
- We have also interviewed 3 artists from the On Demand show that is airing on C31.
- We have uploaded these interviews on our YouTube channel.
- We have expanded our subcommittee of regular writers and we are expanding from our regular content.
- Radmon CC (campus club house) is also starting to interview more club committees.

#### RECORDING STUDIO:

- We are also down for a week until the OH&S stuff is sorted with SRSU.
- Prior to being down, this space has been actively used, and the subcommittee has expanded.

#### EVENTS:

- Neurodiversity week with D&C is coming along well. We have 3 interviews planned for the week to go live to air.
- We are also going to have a band match making event that will occur in week 6. Our OGM will also be happening around the same time to elect first year reps as well as fill in a few of the vacant committee positions.



**Georgie McColm**  
*DIV REPORT and 2024 Goals*  
[Report to MSC 15/03/24]