

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING





# Agenda

Annual General Meeting 2023 – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023

- 1. Attendance and Official Welcome of AGM
- 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
  - 2.1. UMSU International Annual General Meeting 2022
- 3. Executive Committee Final Reports
  - 3.1. President's Annual Report
  - 3.2. Education and Welfare Vice-President's Annual Report
  - 3.3. Cultural and Social Vice-President's Annual Report
  - 3.4. Media and Marketing Vice-President's Annual Report
  - 3.5. Secretary's Annual Report
  - 3.6. Treasurer's Annual Report
- 4. Amendment's to UMSU International Regulation
- 5. Other Business
  - 4.1. Melbourne Plus Program
- 6. AGM Adjourns



#### **UMSU International President's Annual Report**

Annual General Meeting 2023 – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023

## Introduction

This annual report covers to period from August 25<sup>th</sup> 2022 to August 24th 2023 outlining the achievements of UMSU International, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(a) of the UMSU International Regulations.

It has been the greatest privilege to be the President of UMSU International, this role is very dynamic and comes with a wide array of responsibilities. There is no possible way to document everything undertaken in my time at UMSU International. However, I will aim to summarize my work under three categories: Stakeholder Relations, University Representation and Other Notable Work.

## **Stakeholder Relations:**

## **Relationship with University Executive**

At the start of my term, I noticed that the relationship between the University and UMSU International was not at par when compared to their relationship with UMSU and GSA. We lacked membership in many key committees and were seen as a department of UMSU given similar status and membership. I worked on strengthening our relationship with key stakeholders in the University including but not limited to the Provost, Deputy-Vice Chancellor (People and Community), Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Academic), Academic Registrar and Director (Student Success) as well as taking steps to communicate our autonomous status. This helped UMSU International gain membership in many key University Governance bodies namely Student Campus Experience Steering Committee, Food Security Working Group, Student Wellbeing Reference Group, Respect Reference Group, Health Promotion Program, and the Health Promotion Grants Steering group. I was

also able to increase our representation in Elected Representative Meeting and Student Life Consultative Committee. This meant our executive was better able to represent the needs of international students to the University administration and gain many key outcomes that will be highlighted later in my report.

# **Relationship with UMSU**

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The relationship between UMSU International and UMSU was particularly bad at the start of my term. When MUOSS integrated into MUSU, which were the predecessors to UMSUI and UMSU, several conditions were put in place to ensure UMSU International's autonomy, budgetary allocation, and status were protected. However, since the integration UMSU has continuously violated the agreement and worked to reduce UMSU International's status within the University and Internally. While UMSU OBs are paid an honorarium to serve the student community, UMSU International OBs are treated as volunteers and asked to work without renumeration. The relationship became particularly sour in 2020 when the UMSU CEO tried to reduce UMSU International to a department having a President, two vice presidents and a small committee of 7. Successive UMSU International Presidents worked tirelessly to oppose and ultimately overturn this decision with a resignation from the UMSU CEO in 2022.

I started engaging in regular bi-weekly catchups with the UMSU Interim-CEO along with UMSU International's Project Coordinator for the duration of my term to find solutions for UMSU International's structural representation within UMSU and payment of Honoraria for UMSU International executive. These meetings were very beneficial, although usually heated, as we were both looking out for the best interest of our organizations. I managed to increase UMSU International's budget significantly in 2023, submitted a legally and financially viable solution to UMSU International's Honoraria as well as a recommended structural representative document to UMSU Students' council which has been approved by UMSU's legal advisor Moores and is with an independent consultation firm NFP Success for WUMSUNTL Care for, Act for, Stand for International Students

implementation. I am hopeful the incoming executive will be paid an honorarium backdated to the start of their term and UMSU International will have enhanced representation within UMSU.

# **Relationship with GSA**

The Graduate Student Association is a very important stakeholder, GSA sends their representatives parallel to UMSU and UMSU International to represent the specialized needs of graduate students. In my term I worked closely with the GSA President, both of us supported each other's initiatives and advocacy campaigns and were able to display a united front which aided our stands. This was a very strategically important relationship as UMSU was particularly weak in its advocacy in 2023 and we jointly prevented the University from establishing an alternate student representative forum which would significantly weaken all 3 organizations representative capabilities.

## **Relationship with CISA and AISA**

Council of International Students Australia (CISA) is a representative body for international students across Australia. However, in 2022 UMSU International officially disaffiliated itself from CISA after years of complaints of improper representation and corruption went unanswered. This decision was followed by many other student unions including the ones at University of Sydney, Monash and Deakin and many others. UMSU International along with other unions has paid the National Union of Students an affiliation fees to establish a subsidiary AISA (Australian International Student Association) to serve as an alternate forum for international student representation across Australia. Though there have been delays, AISA is expected to roll out by 2024, In my term I engaged with the National Union of Students to overlook the development of AISA and lobbied against CISA along with other student unions across Australia.



#### **University Representation:**

## **Elected Representative Meeting**

The most important meeting I attended, these used to happen monthly for an hour at the start of my term but have changed to 1.5 hours every 1.5 months with more senior members from chancellery regularly attending these.

The point of these meetings is for student representatives to bring any issues to senior decision makers in the university that need addressing and for elected representatives to provide feedback on any proposed changes the University has planned. These are chaired by Deputy-Vice Chancellor (People and Community) Pip Nicholson and has membership of Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education), President/Vice-President Academic Board, Director SASS and any members from the office of Provost called in as guests.

Most outcomes we got had a greenlight from this meeting from where we were connected to relevant people within the University who assisted us in achieving said outcomes. Personally, I found the people here to be very keen on working with student representatives and hearing our voice, Pip agreed to have chancellery co-design our ISS 2023 which enhanced its credibility and relevance.

Key outcomes we achieved included opening of journey café an affordable food vendor on campus, initial approval for a canteen with more affordable food vendors on campus, free period products to end period poverty on campus, revamps for CoE and scholarship extensions for Iranian Students who were unable to return to campus due to Visa issues.



## **Academic Board**

The Academic Board is one of the most senior decision-making bodies in the Universities Governance Structure and has membership including Vice-Chancellor, Provost, all Deputy Vice- Chancellors (4), Pro-Vice Chancellors (3) and all Faculty Deans. I was the third UMSU International President to sit on the board ,the first to formally be recognised and the first to petition the board.

The Board is relatively rigid with change in Policy and should be used as a last resort to fight against a change. In Semester 2 2022, the University announced a full return to offline learning for 2023 with no online support, this was being opposed by UMSU International, UMSU and GSA at all University forums but we were simply being ignored. When this decision was formally announced in November 2022, we received an inundation of emails from concerned international students specifically from China which was still in lockdown, these students were unsure of what this would mean for them along with students with disabilities, chronic illnesses and other health related concerns who had reasonable demands for continued online support. The Universities response was to offer these students a leave of absence which was seen as by us as wholly inadequate.

I worked closely with our VP(Educations and Welfare) and VP(Media and Marketing ) to launch the Dual Delivery petition with 2 weeks to go for the last Academic Board of 2022, we managed to gain 2700 signatures in 5 days and formally petitioned the Board. I then negotiated with DVC(Academic), DVC(International) and Academic Registrar to continue to provide online classes to students with reasonable conditions preventing them from coming to campus. This was seen as a major victory with support from many University staff who didn't realise the potential trouble it could have caused students with special conditions.



Throughout my term I continued to participate actively in the Academic Board which enhanced the status of UMSU International as a peak representative body within the University. I would encourage the incoming President to continue to actively attend and participate in the Academic Board meetings.

## **New Student Precinct Steering Committee**

I was the last UMSUI President to sit on this committee as the project was nearly completed when my term had started. This committee was a crucial governance body where Presidents of UMSU, UMSUI and GSA oversaw the design of the Student Precinct and ensured student interests were kept at heart for all decisions taken. I thank previous UMSU International Presidents for fighting for an office as we were initially only being given a lounge and also to work towards getting a prime location in Building 168 which will enhance our visibility to our constituents. I did provide feedback that the planned vendors had great diversity but lacked affordability, since the project was nearly complete, we couldn't get much done to replace existing vendors but the University did action opening of Journey Café, an affordable food vendor to tackle this issue. This was seen as a welcome but not completely adequate response by me and affordable food on campus became the biggest issue during my term.

## **Student Campus Experience Committee**

This committee was formed at the end of 2022 as a successor to the New Student Precent Consultative Committee and has all 3 Presidents (UMSUI, UMSU and GSA) as representatives. It is chaired by DVC(Academic) and has PVC(Education) and Academic Registrar along with other University staff. This along with Elected Representatives and Academic Board form the three most important meetings I attended. It also has the DVC(People and Community) come from time to time to report on the working of the Food Security Working Group(FSWG).

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I worked to gain membership for the SCES and FSWG as UMSU International was initially not given memberships to these groups and worked closely with UMSUI's VP(Education and Welfare) who was nominated by me to sit on the FSWG to raise concerns around affordable food, our advocacy along with data from ISS 2022 and ISS 2023 helped bring to the University's attention how big the concern around affordable food on campus was. Here we were able the get the University to commit to a Canteen to provide more affordable food options on campus, a competitor driven approach to reduce prices for existing vendors on campus and provision of student discounts. These decisions have been endorsed and will be workshopped in the Food Security Working Group and endorsed in the Student Campus Experience Steering Committee, I recommend the incoming representatives from UMSU International to collaboratively work towards proper and timely implementation of these decisions and ensure UMSU doesn't take credit for our work as they have actively tried to do so in my term.

## **Student Life Consultative Committee**

A very large group of people sat on this committee, by nature SLCC is a consultative committee, so it takes no action on its own but serves as a connector between many different University bodies to take feedback and advise. It is good to gauge what is happening in the wider University committee. I also offered to collaborate on issues I wanted UMSUI to be involved in. Through this committee we were able to connect with the Health Promotion Team and gain membership into the HPP Healthier Minds and Healthier Relationship committees as well as gaining a seat in the health advisory grants committee. The SLCC was discontinued at the end of 2022 as its chair Pro-Vice Chancellor(Student Life) had reached the end of her tenure



## **Student Wellbeing Reference Group**

To be very honest I don't understand the point of this working group, it was mostly repetition of SLCC but we did work on making the well-being hub which the University is keen to promote as the one stop shop for all wellbeing needs. It's live now and I did talk about UMSUI events such as the breakfast, buddy up etc. which are now all on this hub. This has also concluded due to the end of PVC(Student Life)'s tenure ending.

#### STEFF

Earlier this year Jamie Evans (PVC Education) started STEFF to have an informal forum to discuss educations issues, we meet every now and then. Membership is given to 5 students from each organization (UMSU, UMSUI,GSA) and lots of teaching staff. It'll be a very informal conference type forum with canapes and drinks served in the end. I've had two STEFF's happen in my tenure, and you can expect at least two more till the end of the year. I didn't find this to be particularly useful but its important for UMSUI to keep attending these.

## **Health Promotion Program : Healthier Minds**

I was the only student representative invited to sit on the Healthier Minds pillar of the HPP program, though membership was not very senior, I managed to get a lot done to bring to the Universities attention specialised needs of international students and the need to provide additional mental health support as we don't have a traditional support system of family and school friends when we relocate to Australia. This has led to the University increasing international caps councillors and providing specialised workshops to support international students. I would recommend the incoming representative to this committee to continue advocating for more events catered to providing long lasting friendships such as Buddy Up Program.



#### **Other Notable Work**

#### Affordable Food Campaign

The move to the New Student Precinct saw the University take control of food vendors away from the Union which use to house food vendors in the Union House to itself in the Student Pavilion, this along with the increased tenancy charges lead to the new vendors doubling food costs for students who could earlier get a full meal in the Union House for \$10 to a new food cost averaging around \$20. Most students live below the poverty line and must stay on campus 9-5 as opposed to working full time, this along with a cost-of-living crisis meant affordable food became the biggest concern of my tenure.

On our part we collaborated with UMSU Welfare to start a breakfast on Monday, Wednesday and Friday supplemented by their brunch programs on Tuesdays and Thursdays to provide immediate relief to many students who were now struggling to feed themselves. Our breakfast has become hugely popular and I would like to thank the Welfare team of UMSU International for doing a commendable job in delivering this program.

I also used ISS 2022 data in the New Student Precinct Steering group to get Asylum Seeker Resource to open Journey Café an affordable food vendor. However, more work was needed and I worked closely with Shea Law who sat on the Food Security Working Group to continuously raise affordable food concerns in many university forums including the Student Campus Experience Steering Committee, Food Security Working Group, Melbourne Student Forum, and Elected Representatives meeting to get more done in this space. I am proud to announce that a Food Security Strategy has been endorsed which references the ISS 2022 and ISS 2023 as guiding resources to get a canteen on campus which more affordable food vendors, a competitor driven approach to bring down food prices and student discounts to support students facing food security as well as a social munch WUMSUNTL Care for, Act for, Stand for International Students

program being run by the University to provide lunch to the 200 most food insecure students on campus.

I look forward to seeing these initiatives being implemented by the University and urge the incoming committee to continue offering our breakfasts and advocating on this issue.

# Period Poverty and Safe Sex Campaign

UMSU departments provide free condoms, lubes, dental dams, and period products to students. However, due to limited reach and budgetary constraints these facilities are not properly promoted and availed by only a select few students most of whom are actively involved in the Union.

It was my firm belief that these are basic amenities and should be provided by the University for free as opposed to the union footing these from the limited SAFF allocations we get. We included the need for these services in ISS 2023 and were able to demonstrate the need and demand for these products. As a result, the University agreed to fund vending machines with free period products on several strategic locations on campus and double supply of their safe sex packages which give our safe sex products to all students free of cost.

# **Melbourne Student Forum**

The forum was initially being designed as an alternate representative body in 2022 to recruit students and form a parallel working body to take actionable decisions on university governance, this was opposed by all three presidents. Due to strong opposition from the Unions the University redesigned this forum in 2023 with significantly lesser powers as a means to get student opinion from a diverse range of students to supplement work from the Unions.

I attended the first two forums in my term and the issues that were brought up were already present in the ISS 2022 namely affordable food, rental crisis, and loneliness on

campus. I used data collected here to supplement our own findings and aide our own advocacy campaign.

I recommend the incoming president to keep attending the forums and being involved with the agenda setting and to pay special attention to see the University not use this as a decision-making group but simply to gauge student opinion.

# **Concluding Words**

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The strength of UMSU International lies in each individual member of this committee. You inspired me to do better and supported me when I needed it. I am truly honored to be your President.

During our time in UMSU International, we sought to create change, to inspire innovation, to not only look for consensus but also actively oppose it when needed. Looking back to where we started its unbelievable how far we've come and how much each one of you has contributed to this growth. Our engagement is stronger than ever, we've nearly doubled our Instagram following from 4,500 to 8,400, over 8,000 students ie 14.5% of the University attended our Night Market inaugurated by almost all members of chancellery. Our international student survey(ISS) was co-designed with Chancellery and has become one of the most respected pieces of work in university governance. The outcomes we have gotten have truly been insane. I am truly honored to have led this special group of students and thank you all for accepting me as your president.

A special thanks to my executive team, who contributed so much to this vision that we held as a community. To Shea Law, the best support system and Vice President anyone could have asked for, none of these outcomes could have come without you. To Chris Prawira(Aka Chrispy), I have never met a more dedicated individual who hated the color purple as much as me, thank you so much for protecting our brand and identity. To Trinh Nguyen, girl the amount of stuff you do is crazy, managing this role with 3 days of work surely took its toll

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but you did such a lovely job. To Angeline, our crying secretary, thank you so much for always being there and tolerating me, you kept the group together. To Jaqueline, you are both bold and kind (never change), you seamlessly handled our finances and were never afraid to call me out when needed. To Aviya Bavati, our beloved project manager, you've seen it all, my best days and my worst, thanks for tolerating me and providing sane advice. You were a source of great composure to us all.

But most importantly I would like to thank the international student community for giving me this opportunity. I was humbled when I became president, just as I am now with the end of my term. It was a privilege to be the representative of such a strong and diverse community.

I joined UMSU International as an ISA in August 2021, I just wanted to volunteer and make some friends, what I found was a second home- so I decided to stay on, to take on a bigger role, to serve the international students. I have learnt so much in the past two years, but now it is time to move on. With a heavy heart, like all UMSU International Presidents must, I submit this annual report as my final official submission. I welcome the incoming committee with excitement and pride. I hope you take UMSU International to even greater heights.

#### Prepared by,

Sanskar Agarwal President 2022/23 UMSU International

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# **UMSU International Education & Welfare Vice-President** Annual General Meeting 2023 – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023

# 1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from 25th August 2022 until 24th August 2023, outlining the achievements of the Education and Welfare portfolio in UMSU International, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(b) of the UMSU International Regulations.

# 2. Internal Projects

The following outlines all the events and projects that were carried out by the Education and the Welfare Departments throughout the term of 2022/23.

# 2.1 Education and Welfare Departments

2.1.1 International Student Survey 2022 and 2023

The International Student Survey (ISS) is an annual survey conducted by both the Education and Welfare departments with the aim of understanding international students' opinions and improving their experience at the University of Melbourne. The data collected in this survey are used for advocacy, reference, and guideline purposes for UMSU International, the University of Melbourne, and other student unions.

Two International Student Surveys were conducted in the term of 2022/23. The ISS 2022 was conducted from August 31st to October 2nd, 2022, with a total of 1026 responses and 947 valid responses. It focused on 9 different aspects: UMSU International Awareness and Perception, Accommodation, University Experience, Academic Experience, Graduate Experience, Health and Safety, Work and Employment, Financial Situation, and COVID-19 and Post-COVID-19 Impact.

The ISS 2023 was run from March 27th to April 30th, 2023, and collected a total of 1666 responses, with 1569 identified as valid responses. There were some slight changes in the focus of this ISS; this time, it centres around UMSU International Awareness and Perception, Accommodation, University Experience, Academic Experience, Graduate Experience, Health, Safety, and Inclusivity, Work and Employment, and Financial Situation.



Many issues were highlighted and raised in the report.

- 1. Discrimination and Racism on Campus,
- 2. Affordable Food and Beverage Options on Campus
- 3. Accommodation Crisis and Affordability
- 4. Inability to Meet Basic Necessities due to Financial Constraints

2.1.2 Exam Pack Giveaway 2022 Semester 2 and 2023 Semester 1

The Exam Pack Giveaway (EPG) aims to provide physical and mental support to students with food and stationery during the final exam period in each semester. In the term of 2022/23, we conducted 2 EPGs with support from the Partnership and Sponsorship Department. As students were committed to being fully back on campus, the participation rates and feedback for both EPGs were fantastic. During EPG 2022 Semester 2, there were 600 attendees, with many of them walking in, and only a small number of items were left after the event finished. For EPG 2023 Semester 1, we received sponsorship from Red Bull. Despite some miscommunication issues among all the parties, we successfully distributed 1500+ cans of Red Bull to students during the event.

2.1.3 Dual Delivery Petition 2022

Many overseas international students and students who were unable to attend on-campus classes raised concerns about the University's commitment to require students to return to campus in the 2022/23 Academic year. Therefore, UMSU International and UMSU Education (Academic) initiated a petition that ran from November 15th to November 25th, 2022, providing all students with a platform to voice their concerns and requests. We received 2570 signatures, with many issues highlighted by the students. These included challenges faced by overseas international students who were trapped in their home countries due to COVID-19 lockdowns and the high cost of travel to Melbourne, students with disability conditions, chronic and short-term illnesses, and students who were financially disadvantaged and required to work. In response, the University has chosen to handle students' dual delivery applications on a case-by-case basis and has committed to offering increased support to students.

# 2.1.4 Summerfest Giveaway 2023

An information and giveaway booth was set up in front of the Student Pavilion during this year's SummerFest to introduce and promote UMSU International and our events to both



domestic and international students. We distributed the existing UMSU International merchandise and brochures at this event, including items like paper folders, pens, and string bags. Through this initiative, we engaged with numerous students and effectively promoted our social media channels and upcoming events. The booth's strategic location was advantageous, especially given the return of many students to campus following the COVID-19 pandemic.

# 2.2 Education Department

# 2.2.1 PR/VISA Workshop 2022 Semester 2 and 2023 Semester 1

To enhance international students' comprehension of Permanent Residency, Australian migration policies and mechanisms, as well as other types of visas. both online and offline PR/VISA Workshops were conducted in Semester 2, 2022, and Semester 1, 2023, respectively. The education department decided to feature external speakers with expertise in the field and held the PR/VISA Workshops, one online in Semester 2 2022 and one offline workshop in Semester 1 2023, attracted total of 130 students.

# 2.2.2 SwotSnacc 2022 Semester 2 and 2023 Semester 1

The purpose of SwotSnacc is to provide students with a study space along with refreshments during the stressful SWOTVAC period, when finding a suitable place to study becomes challenging due to crowded libraries and a lack of appropriate study areas. Two SwotSnacc were organized during the term of 2022/23, each consisting of three 10 hours of study sessions spread across three days during each SWOTVAC. Both sessions were deemed successful.

# 2.2.3 Financial Workshop 2023

In Semester 1 of 2023, a Finance Workshop was organised by the Education Department, featuring an external expert speaker, aimed at enhancing financial literacy and basic investment knowledge for international students. The workshop consisted of three sessions: Personal Finance Session, Investment Session and Q&A Session, which provided valuable insights to equip students with the necessary skills to make informed financial decisions and promote their overall financial well-being.

# 2.2.4 Academic Skills Workshop 2023 Semester 2

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The Academic Skills workshop has a primary objective of introducing students to the range of services offered by the University. It is a collaboration with University's Academic Skills Department at the start of Semester 2, 2023, which is tailored for students who may not have English as their first language and/or are new to the University environment. The workshops encompass a diverse array of advices, covering topics such as effective class participation, strategies for handling assessments, establishing social connections, general study skills, time management techniques, and insights into post-graduate studies and related events.

# 2.2.5 International Student Career Networking 2023

The internship/employment opportunities for International Students are always sparsed, due to many different factors. In order provide more networking opportunity and insight of the Australian working industry, International Student Career Networking was held in Semester 2 2023. It is a collaboration event with the University and Stint, which consisted of a panel talk and a networking session. The event was beautifully held, at least 100 students attended the event, and many students strongly recommended to have similar event in the future.

# 2.3 Welfare Department

# 2.3.1 Union Mart 2022 Semester 2 (Collaboration with UMSU Welfare)

The issue of food security on campus was notable at the beginning of the term of 2022/23. To gain insight into the food support mechanisms offered by the University and UMSU Welfare, we initiated a Union Mart collaboration with UMSU Welfare at the beginning of Semester 2 2022. This involved organizing the Union Mart event and offering assistance. Despite we encountered challenges with the timetabling and poor management of the event by UMSU Welfare and its staff, the experience granted us a valuable understanding of the operations of food security initiatives by the University and other student unions.

# 2.3.2 International Queer Film Night 2022 Semester 2

To cater to the needs of the LGBTQIA+ demographic, particularly international queer individuals who identify as people of colour (POC) and their allies, an International Queer Film Night took place in Semester 2, 2022. The event aimed to create a safe space and platform for socializing and enjoyment. A full-length movie and a selection of short films





were featured along with a variety of freshments accompanied. With over 300 attendees, this event was a great success.

2.3.3 Welfare Brekkie 2023 Semester 1 and International Brekkie 2023 Semester 2

To tackle the challenge of food security on campus, a complimentary breakfast initiative was launched in Semester 1, 2023. This initiative aims to offer a range of nutritious breakfast options, fulfilling students' essential daily nutritional requirements while alleviating their financial strain. The event is scheduled every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during teaching weeks, offering breakfast to 120 to 200 students. Beyond addressing food security, this initiative serves as a platform to amplify UMSU International's exposure and promote our events. Remarkable success and outcomes from the event have significantly enhanced our influence in advocating various concerns to the University, notably food security and well-being issues. Additionally, we actively contribute as members of the University's Food Security Working Group, participating in co-designing the community canteen and offering insightful suggestions before the rollout of significant initiatives.

# 2.3.4 SummerFest Welfare Brekkie Promotion 2023

The objective of the SummerFest Welfare Brekkie Promotion is to enhance the visibility of the new initiative, Welfare Brekkie, thereby attracting a greater number of students to attend the event. This approach helps prevent any surplus breakfast items from going to waste and aligns with our commitment to reduce food wastage.

# 2.3.5 Buddy Up Program 2023 Semester 1

Starting from Semester 1, 2023, students were required to resume attending classes on campus. But due to the impact of COVID-19, this transition posed challenges for students seeking to establish new friendships within the campus community. After evaluating previous social events organized by the Welfare Department, the Welfare Department initiated the Buddy Up Program in Semester 1 2023. This program was designed to support students in adapting to the university environment by fostering enduring friendships through participation in fortnightly events and an online community channel. Over 280 students applied, which doubled the expected number of participants. Despite relatively low utilization of the online channel, the in-person fortnightly events experienced great participation rates.





# 2.3.6 Earth Week 2023

Earth Week is an innovative endeavour aimed at fostering awareness about environmental concerns and advocating sustainability within our University communities. Throughout Week 8 of Semester 1 2023, we organized three events and a collaboration, Bouquet Making, Sustainable Movie Screening, Sustainable Design Competition, and Welfare Brekkie Collaboration. While some events did not yield the desired outcomes due to inadequate preparation and promotion, it is strongly recommended to continue Earth Week in the future.

# 2.3.7 Mental Health Week 2023

Mental Health Week 2023 marked one of the most significant events in Semester 1 2023, with a range of impactful sub-events that were held in conjunction with activities organized by other departments. These included yoga and meditation classes, a friendship bracelet-making session, a wellness dogs session, a paint and sip night, Welfare Brekkie x Mental Health Week, the Meat and Greet event by the Human Resources department, and the International Hangout arranged by the Partnership and Sponsorship department. The core objective of Mental Health Week was to elevate awareness about mental health and enhance well-being among University of Melbourne students. The outcomes across all events were superior, enhancing the collaboration with the University, such as Health Promotion Program and CAPS is highly recommended, to provide students with more mental health resources and support.

# 3. Representation

# 3.1 Elected Representatives Group

As an office bearer, we have the responsibility to advocate for International students, and represent them to voice out their views and demands to the University. In the term of 2022/23, the President, the Education and Welfare Vice President and the Secretary were sitting for the Elected Representatives Group meeting, a monthly meeting with University Chancelleries, staff and students unions representatives.

Throughout these meetings, UMSU International has consistently addressed and deliberated upon crucial matters, generating valuable ideas and achieving significant outcomes. Some notable achievements include the introduction of vending machines

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containing Women's Hygiene Products and Safe Sex Products. Additionally, efforts have been directed towards advocating for more affordable food options on campus, with the University inviting affordable food vendors like Journey Cafe to campus. Furthermore, approval has been obtained for the construction of a community canteen on campus, aimed at providing affordable food and beverage choices.

# 3.2 Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance Committee (TALQAC)

TALQAC serves as a committee gathering that includes teaching faculty, University staff, and student representatives from student unions. Its purpose is to engage in discussions about strategies, advancements, and challenges concerning the quality of teaching and learning within the University. In the 2022/23 term, the UMSU International representative at TALQAC was nominated by the President to be the Education and Welfare Vice President. This representative attended the meetings on behalf of UMSU International.

During these meetings, UMSU International strongly emphasized topics related to online delivery and the concerns highlighted in the ISS 2022. The substantial responses received from the ISS 2022 garnered significant interest from the committees. This interest led to discussions about potential collaboration with UMSU International for future ISS survey drafting and an eagerness to gain a deeper understanding of student opinions through the ISS.

# 3.3 Food Security Working Group

As previously mentioned, Food security remains a pivotal concern on campus, influenced by various contributing factors. To address this, the University has initiated a working group dedicated to aiding the development of the Food Security strategy through a collaborative student co-design process. This working group encompasses the Chancellery, the Office of the Provost, field experts, and student representatives.

The Education and Welfare Vice President from UMSU International was invited to serve as the representative within this working group. Our participation and significant outcomes from the ISS 2022, ISS 2023, and the Welfare Brekkie initiative have instrumentally shaped and influenced the critical suggestions and actionable items of the working group and the University's plan. Our active engagement in these efforts has forged a positive reputation and strong connection with the University staff in the working group.

# 3.4 Student Wellbeing Reference Group



3.5 Advancing Student and Education Strategy

TALQAC Student representatives were invited to join the working group to provide students' point of view and discuss topic that mainly regarding to Academic Strategy and course planning.

3.6 Melbourne Student Forum

The Melbourne Student Forum serves as a platform for students, University staff, and field experts to convene, allowing everyone to have a chance to discuss, express their viewpoints and reflect on various aspects of school life. This initiative aims to enhance the students' University experiences by incorporating student-generated ideas and reflections. The forum attracted over one hundred attendees, including students, staff, and student representatives.

The Education and Welfare Vice President received an invitation to participate as a panel talk speaker for one of the forum, addressing the concept of an ideal Wellbeing supportive community. During the talk, the highlighted key concepts such as easy access to resources, the importance of a peer support system, and the significance of raising awareness about mental health was raised.

3.7 Student and Education Forum

In contrast to the Melbourne Student Forum, the Students and Education Forum is specifically dedicated to facilitating discussions between staff and students, primarily centered around various aspects, particularly academic and teaching approaches. It is highly advisable to attend these forums, as they provide a crucial opportunity for staff to actively listen to and address students' opinions and concerns.

## 4. Concluding Words

It is been a tough year for us and UMSU International. As I stepping down from my role, I would like to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude.

To my directors and officers in Education and Welfare departments. I can't thank you enough for your incredible contributions to the success of our departments and UMSU

# UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION INTERNATIONAL



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International. We've been through quite a lot – chasing Ubers, Sunday morning Costco runs, clothes covered in cotton candy, and pushing ourselves to fight against bad guys for our goals, all while carrying the weight of your academic and stuff you would want to accomplish. I hope this journey has brought both enjoyment and valuable learning for each of you. I know I was harsh to you all when we work, please know that deep down my heart I'm genuinely proud of all of you and deeply grateful for the privilege of working alongside each and every one of you.

Dani and Ojas, da Brekkie team, no doubt the most hardworking team in Semester 1.

Tarish, Rio, Ethan and Zina, the smarties that I dont have to worry about at all, they know what their jobs are.

Amanda, Fela and Audrey, cute girls that make cute events, always giving me big surprises.

Elsa and Rob, the best directors that always have good ideas and always here for you when you need them. You all just make my life easier, everything is under control and never getting me into trouble, cause usually I am the one who getting everyone into troubles.

To Aviya. Thank you so much for the support that you provided. Whenever I've faced urgent issues, you always answered my calls and collaborated with me to resolve the problems.

To my lovely EXCOs, the people who always have my back. I would like to say, I love you all. I could not image life without you all.

Trinh, crazy girls who has most accomplishments I have ever met. Thank you for doing so much for UMSU International, especially Night Market, despite you did not clean all the water bottles, I still love you.

Jaq Jaq, you always protect and covered me up everytime when I got into trouble with purchasing stuff and reimbursement for Welfare Brekkie. You never say no when I have weird request, you only say, "I will try my best", and never disappoint me. I love you, Jaq Jaq.

Chrispy, the superhero who stay with me until midnight, just to finish the ISS reports. He never complains what I requested, no matter how weird, how urgent the stuff are. I love staying next to you, cause vibe good. I love you, Chris.

# UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION INTERNATIONAL



Gel, my big tree hole. We are whatever duo, deadline fighter duo, gossip duo, dumb duo, you name it. You know me well, you support me when I need someone around, despite I did not say it out loud, I am just so grateful to have you in my life. I love you, Gel.

Last but not least, my boss. He is has good sense of humor, always have fun jokes and stories. We argued, we work, we fight against vallains for UMSU International, but he never mad at me. I learnt a lot from him, he is just the best President I have ever seen. I love you, Sans.

To the incoming Education and Welfare Vice President, Robertus Indradjaja, I hold great expectations and hopes for you as you step into this role. I understand that this position is not an easy role. It is challenging, demanding and tough. As I transition, I'm not only passing on the Education and Welfare Department but also a legacy. Hope you find enjoyment from your journey ahead.

Prepared by, Shea Law Education and Welfare Vice President 2022/2023 UMSU International

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# **UMSU International Cultural & Social Vice-President Annual Report** Annual General Meeting 2023 – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023

# 1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from August 25th 2022 to August 24th 2023, outlining achievements of the Cultural and Social portfolio in UMSU International, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(c) of UMSU International Regulations.

# 2. Internal Event Portfolio

With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions and the university's encouragement to return to campus, our department took the initiative to organise a series of engaging in-person events only, during our term. This section offers a concise overview of these projects, aimed at fostering cultural awareness and appreciation while embracing our diverse student body.

## 2.1. Semester 2 2022

# Haunted House & Hangout (Winterfest 2022)

As part of Winterfest 2022, the Haunted House offered students the chance to participate as a group and explore four distinct rooms designed with thrilling themes. Additionally, attendees had the opportunity to socialise with fellow students and committee members in the hangout area (with food/drink). This initiative aimed to facilitate connections among students and foster a welcoming atmosphere at the beginning of the university year.

The event's turnout exceeded our expectations, resulting in unexpectedly long queues and a shortage of food. Nevertheless, a significant number of participants still enjoyed themselves, with the food aspect being viewed as an added bonus. Moving forward, there's potential to consider extending the duration of the Haunted House and expanding the route to accommodate larger crowds, if feasible.



#### Food Adventure (Orientation Semester 2, 2022)

Food Adventure stands as a renowned event within UMSU International, offering students the chance to immerse themselves in Melbourne's foodie landscape while fostering connections with other participants and ISAs. We organised students into 3 separate routes (with South Yarra being a vegan route) — enabling them to sample various cuisines that highlight Melbourne's rich diversity in culinary traditions.

Overall, the event received overwhelmingly positive feedback; however there is some room for improvement in terms of the organisation and logistics, especially the group formation & portion consistency between routes and restaurants. Taking small deposits was a good way to encourage people who signed to actually come and participate, given this is a preplanned free food event.

# Meat & Greet Carnival (Collaboration with HR department)

The "Meat & Greet Carnival" event holds significance as a promotional occasion designed to introduce UMSU International to University of Melbourne students. This event is a collaborative effort to provide complimentary barbeques and beverages. Given that there was only one instance of the "Meat and Greet" planned, it had been decided by the Human Resources (HR) and Partnership & Sponsorship (P&S) Departments, in conjunction with our Cultural & Social Department, to incorporate mini carnival games into the event's framework. This decision aims to augment students' university experiences through added engagement and enjoyment.

Generally, most participants enjoyed the event and squishmallows were in high demand as prizes. One improvement that could be made is setting rules beforehand for how many times someone can attempt a game to ensure everyone else can have a chance to play/prize distribution.



# Cultural Parade

The Cultural Parade serves as a platform for students/student clubs to exhibit their own cultures through various traditional games and participants to discover the richness of various cultures. Additionally, it offers an avenue for students to unveil their hidden talents to a wider audience through live performances as part of our talent shows.

The event kicked off with a respectable audience, and as the performances began, the crowd size continued to swell. This positive momentum highlighted students' interest to take part in carnival-type events and therefore, it is worth considering expanding the event to include more clubs, performance and food options.

# Diwali - Lights & Chai (Collaboration with University event)

Diwali symbolises the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance, making it a universally celebrated festival. In the spirit of fostering inclusiveness and highlighting the significance of building a strong community, the Cultural & Social Department engaged in the Diwali Festival through a variety of enjoyable activities and Diwali-themed giveaways.

Overall, participants had a great time with the games and giveaways, showing enthusiasm. However, there was feedback on game setup and the desire for more food and drinks. Some attendees were uncertain about the chai station's location, hence could be better communicated in case of change.

## 2.2. Semester 1 2023

## Amazing Race (Summerfest 2023)

The Amazing Race serves as a distinctive orientation event that we organise to assist new international students in discovering the city of Melbourne through enjoyable activities and the chance to win prizes. This event creates a platform for students to engage with their peers and establish a positive beginning for the semester.



Overall, the event was well-received from participants although the weather condition was not ideal. In case this event is held again in the future, one should select a date when the campus is bustling or opt for locations with significant foot traffic to maximise walk-in attendees in case of no-shows from registered participants and prepare for situations where MYKIs are needed (for participants).

# Food Adventure (Summerfest 2023)

Food Adventure in Summerfest 2023 was another iteration of our orientation flagship event.

With the experienced team members, this time, we were able to run the event much smoother regarding timeliness, group organisation and attendance taking. Given its popularity, I strongly suggest maintaining Food Adventure as a prominent fixture within the orientation portfolio. Additionally, expanding the event's capacity for registrations and attendees could enhance its impact further.

## Blast from the past - Night Market 2023

The Night Market is an annual event organised by UMSU International, uniting students in a shared space to partake in diverse culinary delights, performances, and cultural activities, thereby celebrating the university's multicultural essence and bolstering community inclusivity. Under the captivating theme "Blast from the past," our aim was to rekindle the lively yet nostalgic ambiance that echoes our collective childhood memories. Additionally, we intend to infuse the Night Market with cultural facets reminiscent of our early years, amplifying our commitment to embracing the diverse dimensions of university life. The attendance went beyond our planning number, with over 8000 people.

Given the substantial scope of this event, it is advisable to commence preparations several months ahead to allow ample time for all involved parties/functions to fulfil their



respective tasks. While the event demanded considerable time and effort, it yielded numerous enjoyable moments once it was successfully executed and, significantly, fostered a strong sense of belonging among a substantial portion of the international student community.

# 3. External Representation

Regarding external representation, our endeavours have been dedicated to fostering constructive dialogue and collaboration with external stakeholders, focusing on matters that hold the potential to impact not only our organisation but also the wider community.

External representation encapsulates our engagement with key external parties, with particular emphasis on our involvement in critical discussions through various initiatives. This term, we have seen engagement within:

- 3.1. UMSU strategic planning working group
- 3.2. Anti-racism working group
- 3.3. Winterfest/Summerfest steering committee

Where possible, I encourage future committee members to continue to play an active role in these activities as it can drive a more meaningful strategic direction as per where the Cultural & Social department of UMSU International can create a deeper impact for international students and by and large, all University of Melbourne students.

# 4. Future Recommendations

# 4.1. More collaboration in our event portfolio

There is an untapped potential of UMSU International for synergistic collaborations with UMSU Affiliated Clubs and participation in University-wide events. Our previous collaborative events have revealed immense potential for creating innovative and captivating experiences that can genuinely benefit students. Therefore, this holds promise for collective growth and impact; not only fostering robust beneficial relationships, but also



amplifying UMSU International visibility and influence.

# 4.2. Impact maximisation through choice of scale and format

To further enhance our initiatives' reach and impact, I recommend assessing the scale and format of our events. By tailoring the size and structure of each event to its specific goals, we can create more focused and immersive cultural experiences for participants. Specifically,

- **Diverse Formats:** Experiment with different event formats, such as smaller intimate gathering/showcase series for more hands-on activities, larger festivals for broader cultural exposure, and online interactions for remote participation.
- **Targeted Scaling:** Choose the scale of each event based on its objectives. A larger scale (e.g. bigger events, longer timeframe...) might be preferred given our organisation goal and budget which allows us to host high-impact events as value differentiation.

Additionally, feedback can be collected regularly from attendees to assess the impact of different event scales and formats, and make adjustments accordingly.

# 4.3. Activation in universally-celebrated cultural events

As we set our sights on the future, I propose an enriched avenue for cultural impact – an expansion of our heritage celebrations to encompass a more diverse array of culturally significant events. This recommendation aligned highly with our overarching mission to celebrate diversity and cultivate inclusivity.

By leveraging universally recognized events, we can infuse our student community with an even greater appreciation for the richness of cultures that enrich our campus. This approach not only embraces our commitment to fostering understanding but also empowers students to engage with, embrace, and deepen their knowledge of a wider spectrum of cultural traditions.



## **5. Concluding Words**

In conclusion, as I reach the end of my journey with UMSU International, I want to express my deep gratitude for the privilege of having this experience. From my beginnings as an ISA to my role as Cultural & Social Vice President, I've been fortunate to be surrounded by a network of supportive committee and friends along the way.

I am truly thankful for the opportunity to lead and work alongside Sanskar, Shea, Angeline, Chris and Jaqueline as fellow EXCOs. The united efforts have weathered challenges and yielded solutions that have made achievements possible, making UMSU International as strong as it can ever be. A special acknowledgment goes to Aviya, whose knowledge behind the scenes has been our anchor. You've been an integral part of our Cultural & Social portfolio accomplishments.

To my remarkable C&S Department, witnessing your growth from the start of the term to the Night Market has been immensely fulfilling. I appreciate your trust and support in me as your leader and want you to know that your dedication, support and sacrifices have not gone unnoticed.

I extend my gratitude to HR, P&S, and M&M for collaborating with us to bring our events to life. Your patience and hard work have been pivotal, and I apologise for any last-minute challenges I may have presented. Nothing would be possible without your tremendous support.

To the incoming committee, stepping into this role speaks volumes about your commitment. I wish you all the best and hope to see your great work soon in the near future.

Signing off for now. Thank you!



UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION INTERNATIONAL

WUMSUNTL Care for, Act for, Stand for International Students

Prepared by,

Thi Ngoc Trinh Nguyen Vice President (Cultural & Social) 2022/2023 UMSU International



# **UMSU International Vice President (Media & Marketing) Annual Report** Annual General Meeting 2023 – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023

## 1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from August 25th 2022 to August 24th 2023, outlining the performance and achievements of UMSU International's Media and Marketing (M&M) department, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(d) of UMSU International Regulations.

This boring report cannot possibly encompass all the emotions, memories (both good and bad), happiness, and struggles of being the M&M VP. However, I strongly recommend that the incoming committee listen carefully to what I'm about to say if you want to do a good job. Being in UMSU International is overwhelming at times, but listening to the fulfilling experiences of my predecessors made it much easier.

# 2. Projects and Key Milestones

# 2.1. UMSU International Branding

Branding is one of the most crucial functions of the Media & Marketing team. Thus, I aimed to further distinguish UMSU International as semi-autonomous through branding elements including our mascot, logo, and colour scheme. These elements were prioritised when designing all our assets, merchandise, and brochures.

# 2.2. Launch of UMSU International website

We formally launched UMSU International's website on the 15th of September, 2022. This is a huge milestone considering that it was a handover project from the 2020/21 Committee. This website solidifies our status as semi-autonomous, as we have our own standing now.

The website has since been used to upload UMSU International's events and projects, as



well as to relay all key information (e.g. food relief and Covid support) to international students.

# 2.3. Social media (Instagram) engagement

Another key milestone is the increased engagement we saw on our main social media platform, Instagram. There was an 80.2% increase in our follower count from August 25 2022 to August 23 2023. We went from 4,671 to 8,423 followers within a year, which is the biggest increase that has been observed since we first opened our Instagram account in 2013.

# 2.4. Social media reach

Overall, our social media reach has increased over the past year. As a result of the pandemic, our reach with international students has decreased a lot. However, now that international students are mostly back in Melbourne, we have pushed to engage with as many international students as possible through social media promotions.

As a result of stronger social media reach, a lot of our events and projects have seen increased turnout. For example, the International Student Survey which went from roughly 400 (2021) to 1600 responses (2023).

## 2.5. Bi-weekly newsletter

Continuing the newsletter that was launched by the 2021/22 Committee, we endeavoured to send out our newsletter once every two weeks. We removed all inactive accounts (i.e. people who graduated) from our mailing list, resulting in over 1,400 subscribers from the initial 2,000.

When we first began sending out the newsletter, there were roughly 700 people who opened the newsletter. Now, we receive an average of 1,200 opens. This increase can be attributed to consistency and the strategic management of all content.



Currently, we include internal promotion (i.e. from UMSU International departments), and external promotions (e.g. from clubs/ the University) in our newsletter. This has helped to better relations with external parties.

# 2.6. Collaborations with the UniMelb and Student Life media teams

One of my main goals as VP was to improve the relations between UMSU International and the University's media team. This was thoroughly achieved, as I have worked closely with the UniMelb and Student Life media teams for several collaboration projects including Night Market 2023, International Brekkie, and our upcoming vending machine project.

## 3. Future Recommendations

# 3.1. UMSU International branding

We face a lot of pressure to conform to established branding guidelines. I have worked very hard to ensure that our branding system is followed and respected as valid, so I highly suggest that we stick to our current branding system in order to continue solidifying our status as semi-autonomous.

If faced with a situation where our branding is not respected, I suggest the next M&M VP to step in and explain the importance of recognising the UMSU International brand.

## 3.2. Collaborations with external parties

The University's media teams have been very proactive in collaborating with UMSU International. They are more than happy to promote our events, so we should invite them to promote our flagship events such as Night Market 2024.

I also recommend that M&M reach out to clubs to help promote key projects including Night Market and the International Student Survey. Most clubs are more than happy to promote our projects.



#### 3.3. Physical promotion

For large-scale events and projects, I would strongly recommend doing physical promotion. Printing and sticking posters around campus seems to be a very effective method to promote events (e.g. Night Market), whilst in-person promotion helps a lot with projects like the International Student Survey.

## 3.4. Better engaging with Chinese international students

After speaking with a Chinese professor from the Faculty of Arts who reached out to me to discuss UMSU International's engagement with the Chinese demographic, I would advise that our promotional material be better pushed towards said demographic.

This professor recommends that we translate our promotional materials to Chinese, as people are more intrigued when they see content in their mother tongue, which is a good idea. However, this might be met with concerns of exclusivity as we are an international student body. Another suggestion is to upload promotional materials on Chinese social media platforms like Xiaohongshu.

## 3.5. Optimising UMSU International's newsletter

The newsletter is a huge area of opportunity for us. It would be great to push students to subscribe to our newsletter, as this would increase awareness about us and our events. We currently push students to follow and interact with us on social media, as social media engagement has been my primary goal. However, focusing on getting more students to subscribe to our newsletter can be very beneficial.

It is also crucial to get more internal promotion on the newsletter. Departments and event PIC's should contact M&M to get their events and projects onto the newsletter, as you can potentially gain an additional thousand views on your event page if you do so.



#### 3.6. Changes to the UMSU International website

The first recommendation I have in regards to the website is to understand its value. The website provides us with a lot of opportunity, and is a defining feature of our semi-autonomy. We are able to make changes at will and at any time we would like to, so it is very important to maintain the website.

There are a lot of details that need to be fixed (e.g. UI for mobile viewing), but is difficult because our website provider is located in the UK. Hence, the time difference impedes on our ability to communicate, so all changes take time unless you are able to edit them yourself.

Second, our website's link is currently <u>www.umsuinternational.com</u> and I have been trying to change that to <u>www.umsuinternational.unimelb.edu.au</u> for a very long time (more than half a year). Getting the UniMelb domain will give our website higher credibility, but the process is very complex. For that reason, this process is mainly being handled by CME, but is nearly complete according to the last update I received (August 16). The necessary certification has been provided to MSL, so we should be getting the domain name very soon. I recommend the next M&M VP to push for the domain name again if it is not completed by the end of this month.

My last recommendation is to keep all website copy as succinct as possible. Statistics show that the average time spent on our webpage is 1 minute, so keeping information to a minimum is crucial.

#### 4. Representation

#### 4.1. Wellbeing Literacy Working Group

The Wellbeing Literacy Working Group aimed to tackle issues of wellbeing throughout the University's campuses. The physical and mental wellbeing of students is a very crucial consideration, particularly for international students who move away from their home

countries and families to pursue an education. Hence, UMSU International should attend to represent the perspectives of international students in this sense.

# 4.2 Winterfest and Summerfest Working Groups

The Winterfest and Summerfest Working Groups are our opportunity to ensure that UMSU International is included in UMSU's Winter/Summerfest events. It is important that UMSU International representatives attend each meeting to ensure that we are included in all aspects of planning and execution.

## 4.3 Strategic Planning Working Group

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UMSU invited us to their Strategic Working Group, which aimed to develop a new Vision and Mission for UMSU. An external consultant was invited to actually create the statements, while we were consulted to ensure that UMSU International's values were represented.

# 4.4 Occupational, Health, and Safety Committee (OHSC) Working Group

The OHSC Working Group put into question the established safety protocols of the University, specifically in the Faculty of Architecture, Building, and Planning. Safety is a key component that the University must ensure to its students and staff, so it is essential that safety standards are upheld.

#### 6. Concluding Words

It has been my greatest honour to have been part of the Media & Marketing team for the past two years. UMSU International means a lot to me because it was the first real thing I have been part of since Covid so I hold it very near and dear to my heart.

As only the second Media & Marketing Vice President, I spent the entire year learning how to be better at my role. Hence, I have a lot of people to thank for helping me get here.

Let me begin by thanking all of you who are here today for coming to our AGM. My final task

as the Media and Marketing Vice President is to make sure that we all get a group photo before ending the night, so please do not leave straight away.

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Next, I would like to thank the Central Committee for all their hard work. It's been a really fun year with each and every one of you. I apologise if I have ever come across as cold or distant. I know that more than a few of you are scared of me, but I love you all a lot. Thank you for all the work you have done to help international students in Melbourne.

I would also like to express my sincerest gratitude to our International Student Ambassadors for all the help that you have given us. I may not know you personally, but I am still so grateful to you. Especially my ISA Photographers who have helped the M&M team so much, it is so good to see that you are all part of the next committee.

Moving on, I would like to thank our Project Manager Aviya for all the guidance and assistance that you have provided me. Your help is wholeheartedly appreciated.

Now, on to my emotional goodbyes. First, my dearest M&M team, who never fail to make me smile. To Aldy, who I have known since we were children, thank you for always having my back. To Samson, who's one of the most hardworking and dedicated people I have had the pleasure of working with, thank you for your endless passion. To Chi, someone I know I can count on, thank you for always helping me out even when I gave you work on your birthday. To Sophie, who always takes the greatest pictures (even right now), thank you for exceeding my very high expectations and being the best co-opt I could have asked for.

And of course, to my Director Noa, who's been with me these past two years, thank you for always being there whenever I needed your help. We decided to run for Director and Vice President together after having so much fun as officers, and I am so grateful that we did.

It's been my greatest privilege to have grown so much alongside all of you. Thank you for

being the best team I could have asked for.

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Now... there are only 5 other people who truly understand what I have gone through the past year, and that is my fellow Exco. The people who have shared in my pain and struggle, my happiness and joy, my wins and losses, thank you all for your unwavering support.

To Sans, who was born for the role of President, thank you for always sticking up for us whenever we needed you. To Shea, who is the kindest, most gentle soul I have ever encountered, thank you for making me want to be a better person. To Trinh, thank you for all the good times and fun events. To my fellow Indonesian Exco, Jaq and Gel, thank you for always listening to me and validating my feelings, I truly don't know what I'd do without all of you.

Even though we are all headed towards different paths in life, we share an unshakeable bond formed on mutual respect and a genuine understanding of each other. Our time as Exco was far from easy, but having you guys there made it so much easier. For that, I am so grateful to have gone through this with all of you. Thank you to each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for being my very, very necessary support system.

That was enough feelings for a lifetime, so I would now like to thank Maddy for taking over as M&M VP. I am very thankful that you decided to run for the position. You are only the third M&M VP, so the journey ahead will be confusing but extremely fruitful. I wish you, M&M, Richard, and the whole 23/24 Committee all the best.

Once again, thank you to everyone who has helped me on this very chaotic but very fulfilling journey. I apologise if I have ever hurt any of you, and I hope for nothing but the best for everyone here. And don't forget we want to take a group picture at the end so don't go anywhere. Thank you!



WUMSUNTL Care for, Act for, Stand for International Students

Prepared by,

**Christopher Prawira** 

Vice President (Media & Marketing) 2022/23

**UMSU International** 



# **UMSU International Secretary Annual Report** Annual General Meeting 2023 – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023

# 1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from August 25th 2022 to August 24th 2023, outlining the performance and achievements of UMSU International's Secretary, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(e) of UMSU International Regulations.

# 2. Aims and Objectives of UMSU International

The aims and objectives of UMSU International shall be to:

- ★ Represent all international students in all matters arising in the University and in any matters as deemed necessary or desirable by UMSU International;
- ★ Promote, protect, develop, and assist the interests of International Students with regards to financial, social, educational, professional, cultural and welfare matters and to encourage interest groups and clubs and societies for International Students on campus;
- ★ Foster a common bond amongst all International Students in the University;
- ★ Work towards the goal of fostering goodwill between International Students and Non-International Students;
- ★ Implement all such activities as may deemed conducive to any of the objectives of UMSU International;
- ★ Assume responsibilities to organise and direct activities as may deemed appropriate for furthering the aims and objectives of UMSU International aforementioned;
- ★ Be represented within UMSU, cooperate with Departments of UMSU, contribute to the specified aims and objectives of UMSU; and
- ★ Afford a recognised means of communication between International Students, Non-International Students, and authorities of the campus, the University, the community at large and other organizations of students.



# 3. UMSU International Membership

In accordance with sub-section 6.1 and 6.3 of UMSU International Regulations, the Members of UMSU International shall be:

- a) International students enrolled in a higher education course at the University; and
- b) Any student granted Honorary Life Membership of UMSU International under section 7 of the UMSU International regulations.

# 4. UMSU International Committee 2022/2023

The official date that the UMSU International Central Committee 2022/2023 started their office term was on Thursday, 25th August 2022.

# 4.1 Co-option 2023

Co-Option serves as a pathway for University of Melbourne students to become a part of the UMSU International family by joining the committee. There was only one recruitment session in selecting co-opted officers for this committee. The interviews were conducted by the Executive Committee Members, Directors and Officers of the respective department. Successful candidates were selected based on the list of criteria and skill sets that were predetermined by the department.

# 4.1.1 Timeline

1) Application Submission duration:

Friday, 26 August 2022 - Monday, 12 September 2022 (week 5-8 Semester 2 2022) 2) Shortlisting of Candidates:

Monday, 12 September 2022 - Friday, 16 September 2022 (week 8 Semester 2 2022) 3) Interview period:

Friday, 23 September 2022 - Sunday, 25 September 2022 (Mid-Semester Break)

4) Announcement of results:

Friday, 7 October 2022 (Week 10)

5) Official commencement date of officers: Monday, 10 October 2022 (Week 11)

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# 4.1.2 Number of Co-opted Positions per Department

Two (2) Education Officer, Two (2) Welfare Officer, Two (2) Cultural and Social Officers, One (1) Media and Marketing Officers, Two (2) Human Resources Officer, One (1) Partnership and Sponsorship Officers and One (1) Graduate Officer were recruited. A total of 11 co-opted officers were appointed.

# 4.2 Members of UMSU International 2022/2023

Preceding the process of co-option, there occurred voluntary resignations of 2 officers from the UMSU International Committee. Subsequent to the co-option period, there also occurred a voluntary resignation of 1 director, and 1 other director was dismissed from the committee via vote of no confidence during a Central Committee Meeting.

Below is the final members of the UMSU International 2022/23 committee per the AGM 2023:

# President

#### Sanskar AGARWAL

# Education & Welfare Vice-President

Yee Hang Shea LAW

# Cultural & Social Vice-President Thi Ngoc Trinh NGUYEN

## Media & Marketing Vice-President Christopher PRAWIRA

**General Secretary** Angeline Cassie GANILY

## **Treasurer** Jaqueline MARSHIELA



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**Education Director** Robertus Jonathan INDRAJAJA

> Welfare Director Elsa DAI

Media & Marketing Director Noa LEE

Human Resources Director Ella LEE

Partnership & Sponsorship Director Richard HA

#### **Education Officers**

Rio FIERIS Tarish KADAM Yhi Zhen (Ethan) LIM \* Sina (Zina) MAIZA \*

#### Welfare Officers

Audrey CHEUNG Felice ALEXANDRA Ojas CHOPRA Chien CHEN \* Ying Yu (Danielle) CHEN \*

#### **Graduate Officers**

Allan THOMAS \*

#### **Cultural and Social Officers**

Aurelia ISKANDAR Stephanie Daniella HARTONO Jodis TJUNTORO Hien Tam LUONG \* Man Yan (Jessica) LAU \*



#### Media and Marketing Officers Khanh Chi LE

Samson CHEUNG Geraldy CHANDRADINATA A Sophia De Alwis \*

Human Resources Officers Jeslyn TANDYAJAYA Michelle Avalo DJAP \* Wun Tung (Cherry) LAM \*

Partnership and Sponsorship Officers Alison TRAN Xinyuan (Cynthia) WANG \*

[\*] indicates a member of UMSU International who holds a position as a co-opted officer.

# 4.3. Structure of UMSU International 2022/2023

The UMSU International Central Committee consists of 6 Executive Committee Members, 5 Directors and 24 Officers. These 35 Central Committee members who are part of UMSU International 2022/2023 (either elected through the Annual General Elections 2022 or recruited through Co-Option) are required to attend the Central Committee Meeting held fortnightly, are given voting rights during the meetings and work towards the aims and objectives of UMSU International.

# 5. Administration for Meetings

#### 5.1. Central Committee Meetings

Central Committee Meetings (CCMs) are formal meetings that are held every fortnight for all Central Committee Members. Central Committee members are required to submit any proposals of events and budgets to be approved, and reports of undertaken events. During the meeting, discussions are carried out in order to raise concerns or objections, and potential recommendations are carried forward for



the event to be more successful the next time. The Central Committee also approves changes in the internal procedures and raises issues concerning international students. Additionally, Grant Applications assessment and the approval of the Grant Applications from clubs and societies are carried out during the CCM.

A total of 12 CCMs and 4 Emergency CCMs (eCCMs) were held, all of which met the quorum of at least half the voting Central Committee Members. All motions passed in the CCMs are detailed in the meeting minutes, together with the proposals, reports and other businesses discussed. All proposals, reports, meeting minutes of the CCMs are recorded as electronic copies on the UMSU International electronic database and online on the website (https://www.umsuinternational.com/about/meetingminutesandreports/).

With the University's complete return-to-campus policy in effect, Zoom meetings are solely available to committee members who have been granted excusal starting from Semester 1, 2023.

The dates for the CCMs conducted with only members of the UMSU International Committee 2022/2023 are as follows:

# Semester 2 2022

Location: PAR-Old Geology-B25 (Theatre 2) & Zoom Meeting, unless specified otherwise

- 1) CCM#3: Monday, 29 August 2022
- 2) eCCM #1: Monday, 5th September 2022 Zoom Meeting
- 3) CCM#4: Monday, 12th September 2022
- 4) CCM#5: Monday, 3rd October 2022
- 5) CCM#6: Monday, 17th October 2022
- 6) eCCM #2: Friday, 13th January 2023 Zoom Meeting

# Semester 1 2023

Location: PAR-Building 168-416 (Steve Howard Theatre) & Zoom Meeting,

unless specified otherwise



- 12) GGM#12. Monualy, 22 May 2023
- 13) eCCM#3: Monday, 26 June 2023 Zoom Meeting
- 14) eCCM#4: Saturday, 14 July 2023 Zoom Meeting

The dates for the CCMs conducted with only members of the UMSU International Committee 2022/2023 and the newly elected Committee 2023/2024 are as follows: <u>Semester 2 2023</u>

Location: PAR-Arts West North Wing-556 (Lectorial Room II) & Zoom Meeting

- 15) CCM#1: Monday, 31 July 2023
- 16) CCM#2: Monday, 14 August 2023

# 5.2. Executive Committee Meetings

The UMSU International Executive Committee had weekly meetings to examine and discuss the direction of UMSU International, to ensure that performances and operations of UMSU International across the departments are well aligned to UMSU International's aims and objectives. The Executive Committee also discussed issues concerning the education, welfare, and social matters of international students at the University, including internal and external matters. Meetings also focused on the wellbeing of the Committee members as a whole, department events and the work ethic of the department. The Executive Committee put emphasis on working with their department team to assist the interests of international students and to foster a positive working relationship within the Central Committee Members.



## **<u>6. Amendments to Infringement Policy</u>**

The Infringement Policy of UMSUi aims to provide transparency and consistency to UMSU International's disciplinary process as there are circumstances where disciplinary action needs to be taken against members within the UMSU International Central Committee. Such circumstances may arise where a Committee Member fails to perform their duties adequately, in accordance with the expectations of their role.

Amendments to the UMSU International Infringement policy aims to complement the Central Committee and enhance the policy by giving more specificity for the sake of precision and clarity.

Full document on UMSU International Infringement Policy can be found in our website here: <u>https://www.umsuinternational.com/about/regulationsandpolicies/</u>

A detailed summary is elaborated as below:

#### 2.2.1 Central Committee Meeting Strike System

(a) Attendance

(a) Altendance	
Absent from Central Committee Meeting with apology	2
Absent from Central Committee Meeting without apology	4
Late to Central Committee Meeting with apology	1
Late to Central Committee Meeting without apology (time when standing orders be adopted to 20 minutes after)	2
Late to Central Committee Meeting without apology (4:50 - 15 minutes before the meeting adjourned)	3
Leave Central Committee Meeting before end with apology	1
Leave Central Committee Meeting before end without apology	2

(b) Proposal and Report



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Failure to prepare an Event Proposal before the event is held	5
Failure to present a Final report before the next 2 Central Committee Meeting	5

#### 2.2.2 Sub-Committee Strike System

(a) Attendance

Details	Apology not Valid	Without Apology
Reported Absence from Executive Committee Meeting	2	4
Reported Absence from Directors' Meeting	2	4
Reported Absence from Departmental/ Project Committee Meeting	2	4
Reported Absence for a second time from Executive Committee Meeting (Twice in a row)	3	4
Reported Absence for a second time from Directors Meeting (Twice in a row)	3	5
Reported Absence for a second time from Departmental/ Project Committee Meeting (Twice in a row)	3	5
Reported Absence for more than twice in a row from Executive Committee Meeting	4	6
Reported Absence for more than twice in a row from Directors Meeting	4	6
Reported Absence for more than twice in a row from Departmental/ Project Committee Meeting	4	6
Late to an Executive Committee Meeting (10 minutes after the meeting commenced)	1	3
Late to a Director's Meeting (10 minutes after the meeting commenced)	1	3
Late to a Departmental/ Project Committee Meeting - including cross departmental, (10 minutes after the meeting commenced)	1	3



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(b) Communication & Participation	
Failure to responds to emails from other Committee Members or from Project Coordinator within 2 working days	2
Failure to respond to any other form of communications (e.g. SMS, texts, Whatsapp messages, Facebook Messenger messages) from other Committee Members or from Project Coordinator within 2 working days	2
Inform in failing to attend event last minute after sign-up without finding a replacement (OBs are also required to debrief their replacement)	3
Failure to attend event without informing after sign-up and without finding a replacement (OBs are also required to debrief their replacement)	5
Late for more than 10 minutes to the event they sign-up	2
Not fulfilling duties as an Event/ Activity/ Program/ Campaign Coordinator/Person in charged	3
Failure to volunteer to be an Event/ Activity/ Program/ Campaign Coordinator at least twice per semester	3

2.3 The list of penalty thresholds and corresponding penalties are as follows

First Warning Email from the Secretary	6
Official Reprimand in a Central Committee Meeting	10
Second Warning Email from the Secretary or First Vote of No Confidence	14
Second Vote of No Confidence	18
Unconditional Termination of Office Bearer Position	36

This latest amendment were passed by UMSU International 2022/23 at Central Committee Meeting #5 on Monday, 3 October 2022.



# 7. Annual General Election (AGE) 2023

The Annual General Election 2023 was held from Sunday, 17 April 2023 to Sunday, 22 May 2023 to elect the 2023/2024 UMSU International Central Committee. Despite the University's anticipation of a substantial return of international students to campus, the election was carried out through both online and in-person methods to cater to students with requirements who are unable to attend in person.

For most of the electoral process, the AGE was operated by external returning officers from Above Quota. The appointed Returning Officer of UMSU International Annual General Elections 2023 was Stephen Luntz and the appointed Deputy Returning Officer was Patrick Clearwater.

## 7.1. Nominations Period

Nominations Open: 9AM Monday, 17 April 2023 Notice of Provisional Nominations: 9AM Thursday, 28 April 2023 Final close of Nominations: 5PM Tuesday, 2 May 2023

# 7.2. Candidate Information Session

A Candidate Information Session was held on Monday, 24 April 2023 from 3PM. to 5PM through a Zoom Meeting. This session is to obtain a better understanding of the roles and duties of a Central Committee Member, as well as the timeline and regulations of the election. The Executive Committee and Directors of the Committee 2022/2023 were required to give a short presentation of their role and their responsibilities, where candidates were also able to gain more insight and ask questions. The session was also recorded and subsequently uploaded to the election page on our website, making it accessible to all.



#### 7.3. Policy Speech Session

A Policy Speech session was held on Thursday, 11 May 2023 from 3:30PM to 7:30PM both on campus and through a Zoom Meeting. This setup catered to election candidates who were unable to be present on campus, allowing them to present their candidacy for the positions they sought. Executive Committee and Director candidates were required to present their policy speeches followed by a short Q&A session, and officers were given a Q&A session. The Policy Speech Session was hosted by the external returning officers and the recording of the session was later made available to all international students online via website.

#### 7.4. Campaigning Materials

All candidates were provided with the opportunity to provide their own campaigning material to the Returning Officer to be approved, for it to be uploaded to social media as a publicity and promotion material.

#### 7.5. Voting System

All International students of the University of Melbourne were eligible to vote by using a unique voting link via email received from their student email account. In case a student did not receive the link or encountered an error, they were advised to contact the returning officers via email. The votes were counted using the preferential voting system, and this was monitored by the external returning officer. The results of the UMSU International Annual General Elections 2023 were released at the discretion of the external returning officer.

#### 7.6. Results

The conclusive election results were declared and confirmed at 2:30 PM on Monday, 23 May 2023.



#### 8. UMSU International Central Committee 2023/2024

Below are the combined results of the UMSU International Annual General Elections 2023. The Central Committee members will formally take office as the UMSU International Central Committee 2023/2024 on Friday, 25 August 2023:

**President** Richard HA

**Education & Welfare Vice-President** Robertus Jonathan INDRADJAJA

Cultural & Social Vice-President Christian VALERIAN

Media & Marketing Vice-President Madeline SUTANTO

> **General Secretary** Ethan Yhi Zhen LIM

> **Treasurer** Jeslyn TANDYAJAYA

**Education Director** Andrea MAKATITA

Welfare Director Ying Yu (Danielle) CHEN

**Graduate Director** Hiranmayi RAMESH

Cultural & Social Director Aksh BATRA

Media & Marketing Director Tanveen KAUR



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#### Human Resources Director Wun Tung LAM

### **Partnership & Sponsorship Director** Cynthia WANG

#### **Education Officers**

Natasya Jestine WIRAATMAJA Rachel ZHOU Zijia ZHOU

## Welfare Officers

Yuxuan LIU Planet SITTHIXAY Nikita GOYAL

#### **Graduate Officer**

Asawari Sahebrao SIRSAT

#### **Cultural and Social Officers**

Yashvi NARULA Chenxi SONG Sol KWON Jason Yuen Jie NG Christopher MINN Shifa NATHANI

#### **Media and Marketing Officers**

Coby CHEUNG Christie DEANDRIA Jesslyn ANDRIONO

Human Resources Officers Angelina PENG

## Partnership and Sponsorship Officers Tam LUONG



#### 9. Committee Bonding Activities

#### 9.1. Bonding Camp

Along with the Treasurer and Media & Marketing Vice President, the camp was planned and arranged two months prior to the scheduled trip. As the trip is prior to the appointment of co-opted officers, a total of 23 out of 27 committee members participated in the camp.

The 3 Days and 2 Nights Committee Bonding Camp took place from Friday, 30th September 2022 to Sunday, 2nd October 2022 during the Mid-Semester Break. The committee traveled to Phillip Island and took part in multiple activities to develop bonds and foster teamwork within UMSU International. Activities included Cooking Competition, Scavenger Hunts, Secret Santa, Penguin Parade, sightseeing at Churchill Island and many more.

Booked the Island Accommodation which is located at the entry to Phillip Island and it is convenient to travel around the island. The Island Accommodation can provide us with their Wing of Level 2 along with the exclusive use of Kitchen Dining Lounge which can accommodate approximately 30 people.

Chartered a 45-seater bus and a driver from Extragreen Holidays as it is more convenient to have everyone on the same vehicle. The bus and driver does not go back to melbourne during our stay and is always available anytime we want to use it around Phillip Island. Driver has separate accommodation provided during the stay.

For the upcoming committee with any future plans of visiting Phillip Island, here is a compilation of the feedback and suggestions provided by the committee members.

- 1. Opting for an Airbnb accommodation might mitigate noise complaints and kitchen accessibility issues at night in the future.
- 2. More variety in activities as most of the trip was photo centric and not much in the form of entertainment like go karting, karaoke, etc.



- 3. The Penguin Parade was a bit too cold (chaotic); remind people that it would be really cold and wear more.
- 4. Incorporate more vegetables into meals and make selections from the menus when choosing food options.
- 5. Organize a visit to a supermarket to get water and other essential items for both the participants and the coach.

# 9.2. Bonding Dinners

The Central Committee Bonding Dinner is set as a bonding event for all Committee Members to meet and strengthen their connections after Central Committee Meetings. A total of three bonding dinners were held for this committee, and the particulars are outlined below.

Bonding Dinner #	Venue	Date	Number of People
1	NIÜBI	Monday, 29 August 2022 (CCM #3)	24/26
2	Surasang Melbourne	Monday, 20 March 2023 (CCM #8)	24/35
3	Pizza Monster	Monday, 22 May 2023 (CCM #12)	27/35

#### 9.3. Appreciation Event

The Committee Member Appreciation Event is an annual event for UMSU International to celebrate and acknowledge the exceptional hard work, time, and effort that the Committee Members have invested in advancing the mission of UMSU International throughout their term. This event is dedicated to expressing sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions made by the Committee Members, recognizing their significant role in driving the organisation's success.



The Appreciation Event is scheduled to take place on the forthcoming date (tomorrow) on Friday, 25 August 2023.

The event will be held on a cruise (Citrus Lady) provided by Party Boat Cruises. It is their newly renovated floating oasis, featuring the only complete open air rooftop in Melbourne. The cruise will pick up and drop off from Harbour Esplanade Docklands, then head downstream of the Yarra River taking in the views under the Bolte Bridge through the Ports of Melbourne and under the Westgate Bridge to Hobson's Bay-Williamstown. The returning trip to Docklands capturing Melbourne's stunning city views.

# 9. Human Resource Department

The following outlines all the events and projects that were carried out by the Human Resources Department throughout the term of 2022/23.

#### 9.1. International Student Ambassador (ISA) Program

#### 9.1.1 Overview

The International Student Ambassador (ISA) Program is a volunteer initiative that supports UMSU International's events and activities with dedicated volunteers. IIt allows University of Melbourne's international students to grasp UMSU International's organisational practices, while contributing to their peers' welfare and experiences. Student volunteers could also gain valuable skills like networking, leadership, and project management, fostering new friendships and enhancing their university involvement.

The ISA program runs per semester, open to all University of Melbourne students. Selection involves an initial questionnaire and informal group interviews with representatives from Human Resources, the Executive Committee, and Directors. Volunteers are expected to complete 30 hours of volunteer service to fulfill the ISA Program. An approximate of 60 to



75 students are accepted for the program per semester. Below show the number of ISAs intake for UMSU International 2022/23:

Semester 1 2022

- February intake  $\rightarrow$  36 ISAs
- March intake  $\rightarrow$  39 ISAs

#### Semester 2 2023:

- July intake  $\rightarrow$  40 ISAs
- August intake  $\rightarrow$  On-going

#### 9.1.2 ISA Strikes System

This year, the HR Department also introduced the ISA Strikes system to enhance transparency and consistency within UMSU International's disciplinary procedures.

#### 9.1.3 ISA Appreciation Night and Winning House Dinners

The International Student Ambassador (ISA) Appreciation Night and Winning House Dinner were the events to celebrate graduating ISAs (those who has fulfilled the 30 hour requirement) by inviting them to dinner, as a reward and appreciation from the Human Resources (HR) department for their help and volunteer effort throughout their terms.

Below are the summary of ISA Appreciation Night and Winning House Dinner for ISAs graduating within UMSU International 2022/23 period:

	ISA Appreciation Night	ISA Winning House Dinner
Date	Tuesday, 22 November 2022	Wednesday, 23 November 2022
Venue	Yums Sing House	Rice Paper Scissor
Number of Attendees	37	11

February & March 2022 Intake:

## July & August 2022 Intake:

	ISA Appreciation Night	ISA Winning House Dinner
Date	Wednesday, 2 August 2023	Thursday, 3 August 2023
Venue	Oriental Teahouse	Straight Outta Saigon
Number of Attendees	42	11

# 9.1.4 Words for ISA from UMSU International 2022/23

The International Student Ambassadors form a vital part of the community at UMSU International through their effort, creativity, and diverse personalities. Not only have they contributed their time and wonderful ideas at UMSU International, but they have also helped UMSU International reach where we are today. The UMSU International Committee 2022/23 would like to say thank you to our ISAs for their contribution, and we hope you had and continue having a wonderful journey together with UMSU International.

# 9.2. Meat and Greets

The Meat and Greet aims to provide UMSU International with a platform to showcase our identity, activities, and the ways in which we support University of Melbourne students.

# 9.2.1 Meat and Greet Carnival 2022

One Meat and Greet was conducted in the Semester 2 2022 and it was a collaboration with the Partnership & Sponsorship (P&S) Department and the Cultural & Social Department. Held on Wednesday, 21 September 2022 at the North Court, the event consisted of the Barbeques and Mini Carnival games. The HR Department was mainly in charge of the Barbeques and reached a total number of 482 attendees (232 walk-ins and 250 registered) for the day. This event gave students the chance to socialise and make new connections, providing a safe, engaging platform for students to enjoy fun games, food release stress.



## 9.2.2 Mental Health Week x Meat and Greet 2023

Held in Semester 1, 2023, HR, P&S and Welfare worked alongside to bring the Meat and Greet together. As part of the Mental Health Week, the event took place on Wednesday, 10 May 2023, attracting 533 attendees at the Amphitheatre. The event consisted of BBQ, Popcorn and Cotton Candy, providing a range of different food options for students to engage in.

## **10. Graduate Department**

## 10.1. International HangOut Semester 2 2022

International Hangout is a publicity event held by Graduate and P&S departments for committee members and ISAs to engage with international students of the University of Melbourne. Held on Friday, 14 October 2022. The event serves donuts and coffees at 1888 Lawn West where graduate students often pass by and there were about 300 attendees.

## **<u>11. Representation</u>**

# **11.1 Student Elected Representative**

The 2022/23 Secretary was nominated by the President to attend the Student Elected Representative together with the President and Education & Welfare VP on behalf of UMSU International. These meetings serve as a platform to escalate university-related concerns requiring attention from senior decision-makers and for elected representatives to offer input on forthcoming university modifications. The sessions are presided over by Deputy-Vice Chancellor Pip Nicholson, responsible for People and Community, and include members such as Pro-Vice Chancellor for Education, the President or Vice-President of the Academic Board, the Director of SASS, and occasionally, guests from the office of the Provost.

# 11.2 Respect at Melbourne Reference Group

In the 2022/23 term, the Secretary, along with the Treasurer, was appointed by the President to represent UMSU International at the Respect at Melbourne Reference Group.

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This collaborative team includes Tim Brabazon, the director of student success, Pip Nicholson, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and a diverse array of academic experts, staff members, and student representatives from the University of Melbourne. As active participants within this reference group, we engage in discussions centred around the University's strategies regarding Sexual Misconduct, its procedures, and related materials.

#### **12. Concluding Words**

MSUINTL

As we approach the conclusion of my journey with UMSU International, I want to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly express my profound gratitude to what I can only describe as my second home. Serving in this role has been a privilege and an honour that I will always cherish. The past one year has been filled with ups and downs but nevertheless, I am grateful for the experience, challenges and triumphs we have overcome. Filled with a mix of emotions, it has been a pleasure to work alongside individuals who have consistently supported me till today.

I would first like to thank my beloved HR Department; my best Ella Jie, cutest Jeslyn, amazing Cherry and the friendliest Michelle. I am aware that this past year has been quite challenging for everyone, and I wanted to express my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible effort each of you has poured in.

To Ella jie, I genuinely thank you for managing the department so effectively that I do not have to worry about anything. You are the true star! Thank you for always treating me like a little sister, comforting me when I am down, and being there when I need you.Don't stress too much on yourself, I hope that you always know that you are special and you can always achieve anything you want!

To Jes Jes, Thank you so much for being there from the very beginning of the HR Department in the term, I really appreciate you and your support for us and look at you

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now! Really glad that you made it to the next committee as the Treasurer and I know that you will achieve so much more. Always stay cheerful, stay humble and most importantly stay cute! All the best for you Jes, and remember that I will be there rooting for you!

MSUINTL

To Cherry, our beloved and amazing incoming HR director. I am really proud of you for making it till this far! I hope that you can overcome any obstacles in your way and learn as much as you go along the journey. I know this will not be an easy role but I am sure in Ella's jie guidance, you will be able to make the HR Department big as well! Again, always remember that you can always approach me if you need any help and all the best love!

To Chelle, the most cheerful girl I have ever met. Although your journey in UMSU International has also come to an end, I am so grateful that you decided to join co-option and still make it here. Thank you for all your hard work in the HR Department. It may only be less than a year but your efforts are recognised and appreciated. All the best for your future as the smartie in everywhere and will always be there when you need me!

Next, I would like to say a few words for the Graduate Department. To the director that has resigned due to personal reasons. I really appreciate your effort for initiating the graduate department with International Hangout, aiming to cater the Graduate students and cater their needs. To our graduate officer Allan, thank you so much for joining UMSU International and staying till the end of this term. I apologise if I may not have been able to help out a lot, but I hope that your upcoming ventures are filled with success, growth, and all the wonderful experiences that life has to offer.

I would then like to thank the Central Committee for enduring all my endless chasings and those long messages that I kept on dropping in our group chats to get things done by the deadline. Yes I will probably do it the very last time again tomorrow for the Cruise but please please please read the group chat!! Also thank you for enduring all the long CCMs that can reach about 3 hours but..The past year has been an absolute blast with all of you. I

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really hope you all enjoy the ride in this committee, and you learn as much as you'd have fun. Special shoutout to Rel and Steph, the two people that ran for the election because I convinced you guys to. Thank you for being there for me through the ups and downs, and I hope that you guys had fun joining UMSU International. All the best for everyone here and your future endeavors, see you all on the top!

MSUINTL

To Aviya, Thank you so much for your hard work, along with your invaluable inputs that have made a significant impact in assisting everyone in the committee. Your efforts are truly appreciated and admired.

And we're coming to an end.. to the best EXCOs team that I could not ask for more.

To Sanskar, the best president I have ever worked with my whole life. The amount of work you have put for our committee has never failed to leave me in awe. Your tireless commitment to our goals, your ability to rally the team even in the face of challenges, and your unwavering support have truly set a remarkable standard. UMSU International would not have been the same without you and will have not achieved this far. Thank you for being great and thank you for being you.

To Shea, my happy pill in the committee. Thank you for always being there for me despite all the stress and more stress I always share with you. I hope you are not tired of my nagging and complaining, and I hope that we will always be supporting each other even though our term has ended. I am really grateful for you and thank you for coming into my life.

To Trinh, thank you for all your work, especially for the Night Market. I know that you have been very busy but you are still able to achieve a lot of things. All the best for your plans in the future and I hope that you can achieve anything you want.

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To Chrispy, the most hardworking man in the committee. UMSU International may not have reached this many followers if it weren't for you. Thank you so much for your dedication and all the designs you manage to make despite my last minute requests. Thank you too for dealing with UMSU for me and I do not have to go to teamwork to deal with the stress. There's so many more to thank you but I just want to mention that you are the best the best.

To Jaq, my best partner in crime in UMSU International. Thank you so much for being there for me inside and outside UMSU International. You have been a great pillar for the year in university and a role model as well. I am very proud of all the things you have achieved and I know you will be able to achieve even more in the future. Here's to the memories we've created, the challenges we've conquered, and the achievements that lie ahead.

And last one to Ethan, who will soon take on the role of UMSU International Incoming Secretary, I trust that the guidance I've provided thus far will serve you well in steering your committee members. If not, please let me know :D I have every confidence in your ability to lead with integrity and enthusiasm. I am aware that this role is far from easy but you will always find support from people nearby, just like how I did. I leave this role to you and wish you all the best!

Thank you UMSU International. I, Angeline, UMSU International Secretary 2022/2023 signing off.

Prepared by,

Angeline Cassie Ganily Secretary 2023/24 UMSU International

MSUINTE



# **UMSU International Treasurer Annual Report** Annual General Meeting 2023 – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023

#### 1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from August 25th 2022 to August 24th 2023, outlining the financial performance and expenditure of UMSU International and the achievements of the Partnership and Sponsorship portfolio, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(x) of UMSU International Regulations

# 2. Fund Allocation for 2022 and 2023

UMSU International gains funds as a department of the Student Union, which gains funds from the University of Melbourne. A portion of which is derived from the Student Services & Amenities Fee (SSAF).

UMSU International was budgeted by the Student Council to receive \$290,193.00 and \$305,404.00 in the 2022 and 2023 calendar year respectively.

# 3. Partnership and Sponsorship Department Portfolio

# 3.1. Heads of Clubs

The Partnership and Sponsorship Department has successfully hosted the Heads of Clubs event, to which 50 executives from different clubs and societies had attended. Through this, we were able to onboard clubs to partake in the Night Market for our food stalls and performances. We also provided branded pins for the attendees.

#### 3.2. International Hangout

In collaboration with the Graduate Department, the Partnership and Sponsorship Department has successfully hosted the International Hangout, to which more than 300 students had attended. The event encompasses food giveaway; mainly coffee and sweets.



Through this, we were able to gain more traction and publication, together with providing support for international students during the busy weeks.

#### 4. Representation

# 4.1. Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Consultative Committee

The 2022/23 Treasurer was nominated by the President to attend the Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Consultative Committee on behalf of UMSU International. This committee meeting is attended by the academic and professional staff of both the Faculty of Business and Economics and Melbourne Business School, and three students from those faculties. In those meetings, we discuss the faculty's key strategic projects, which tackles the issues within the faculty. Meetings occur bi-yearly and are ongoing.

# 4.2. Sexual Assault and Sexual Harrassment Working Group (UMSU Womens)

The 2022/23 Treasurer was nominated by the President to attend the Sexual Assault and Sexual Harrassment Working Group (SASH WG) on behalf of UMSU International. This working group is attended by staff from different UMSU Departments, together with the SASH officers. As part of the working group, we discuss UMSU's approach on the pressing issue, attend bystander training, and brainstorm future workshops. Meetings occur weekly and are ongoing.

#### 4.3. Respect at Melbourne Reference Group

The 2022/23 Treasurer was nominated by the President to attend the Respect at Melbourne Reference Group together with the Secretary on behalf of UMSU International. This working group is attended by Tim Brabazon, the director of student success, Pip Nicholson, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and various academic professionals, staff and student representatives from the University of Melbourne. As part of the reference group, we discuss the University's approach on Sexual Misconduct, its processes and publications. Meetings occur quarterly and more if required and are ongoing.



#### 4.4. Health Promotion Grant Panel

The 2022/23 Treasurer was nominated by the President to be included in the Health Promotion Grant Panel on behalf of UMSU International. This panel consisted of the Health Promotion Coordinator, Associate Director of Wellbeing Services, Student Participation Manager, Associate Professors, Associate from Sponsor (Bupa), and several student representatives from the University of Melbourne. As part of the panel, we evaluate the grant applications based on the agreed guidelines and make a decision on whether to accept or reject. Meeting only occurred once, and won't be recurring.

#### **5. Grants Received**

Over the course of the 2022/23 term, UMSU International has received several grants for our events, amounting to \$48,000:

Events	Grant Amount
Night Market	\$20,000
Welfare Breakfast (Food Security Initiative)	\$15,000
Queer Film Night	\$3,000
Vending Machines (Period Poverty Initiative - Health Promotion)	\$10,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$48,000

# 6. Grant Applications

UMSU International has allocated a fixed budget of \$4,400.00 for the 2022/23 term for grants to be awarded to UMSU affiliated and non-affiliated clubs, societies, and organisations within the University of Melbourne, of which they will be eligible for up to \$1,200 per application.

The aim of the grant is to benefit organisations within the University of Melbourne and enable them to conduct and carry out events and services which benefit international students on a larger scale.

For Tier 1 Grants, the final decision of approval or rejection of the applications is carried out by the Executive Committee. For Tier 2 Grants, Approval or rejection of grant applications is carried out by the Executive Committee in a preliminary examination and a final decision would be made during the Central Committee Meeting by all UMSU International Committee Members.

There were no grant applications received for events during 2023 Semester 1 due to the limited time period that has passed since the start of the semester.

During the 2022/23 term, UMSU International has received and approved grants for events in 2022 Semester 2. Below are the approved and processed grants to the following clubs, societies, and organisations:

Club/Societies	Events	Amount
MoMU	Chariti Sukan	\$499.00
	TOTAL	\$499.00

#### 7. Financial Statements

#### 7.1. Expenditure in Semester 2 2022

MSUINTE

Expenditure	Amount
Training and Development	\$8,783.19
Orientation Expenses	\$8,456.14



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General Publicity	-
International Week & Festival of Nations	\$6,785.90
Grants (UMSU Affiliated and Non-Affiliated)	-
Special Projects/Events	\$14,338.22
Election Expenses	-
Annual General Meeting Expenses	-
Education & Welfare Events	\$13,047.26
Furnishing Building 168	\$60,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$111,410.71

The following is the breakdown of the relevant accounts:

Code	Event	Amount
3161	Bonding Camp/Trip	\$8,783.19
3163	Haunted House	\$8,456.14
3243	Cultural Parade	\$5,708.02
	Diwali Lights and Chai	\$745.37
	Cultural Parade Advertising	\$332.51
3839	Committee Appreciation Night	\$227.27
	CCM Bonding Dinner	\$771.88
	Outgoing Committee Certificates	\$13.62
	Food Adventure	\$4,485.90
	Meat & Greet Carnival	\$848.71



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	Heads of Clubs	\$523.33
	Meat & Greet Carnival	\$217.04
	Meat & Greet Carnival	\$703.20
	ISA Appreciation Night Dinner	\$2,287.27
	ISA Winning House Dinner	\$490.00
	International Hangout	\$3,770.00
	International Student Survey	\$5,357.09
3857	PR/Visa Workshop	\$136.36
	Queer Film Night	\$6,367.00
	Exam Pack Giveaway	\$779.84
	SWOTSNACC	\$406.97
Furnishing Building 168		\$60,000.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$111,410.71

# 7.2. Expenditure in Semester 1 2023

Expenditure	Amount
Permanent Salary/Wages & On-Costs	\$50,542.79
Superannuation	\$5,311.92
Merchandise - Orientation	\$3,067.27
Website	\$683.77
Photography	-
Promotions - All Org	\$602.79
Committee	-
Merchandise - All Org	\$1,840.00



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Periodicals	-
Publications	-
Maintenance	\$72.00
Programs - Exam Support	\$6,381.68
Programs - Access & Inclusion	-
Events - General	\$72,565.37
Events - Campaign	\$29,045.55
Events - Activity weeks	\$2,327.00
Events - Orientation	-
Events - Food & Beverage	\$3,743.71
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$176,183.85

\*Salary figure is up to June 2023

The following is the breakdown of the relevant accounts:

Code	Event	Amount
Salary	Permanent Salary/Wages & On-Costs	\$50,542.79
	Superannuation	\$5,311.92
3231	Merch giveaway	\$3,067.27
	Website maintenance	\$683.77
	Event advertisements	\$239.79
	ISA Recruitment Advertising (Sem 1 and Sem 2 Intake)	\$363.00
3713	OB Merchandise	\$1,840.00
3801	Lounge Furnishing	\$72.00
3839	SWOTSNACC	\$6,381.68
3839	ISA Appreciation Night & Winning House Dinner	\$5,242.73
	ISS	\$5,903.85
3840	Educational Workshop	\$120.00
	Buddy-Up Program	\$602.55

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#### UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION INTERNATIONAL

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Food Adventure	\$3,685.59
Night Market	\$44,549.25
Amazing Race	\$1,016.21
Meat and Greet	\$3,450.35
Survey Monkey Subscription	\$349.09
Heads of Clubs	\$1,251.98
Bonding Dinners, Committee Appreciation, AGM	\$6,393.77
Food Security Event (ongoing) - Welfare Breakfast	\$29,045.55
Mental Health Week	\$1,986.09
Earth Week (Sustainability)	\$340.91
International Hangout	\$3,743.71
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$176,183.85

\*Salary up to June 2023

#### 8. Concluding Words

Ultimately, my journey in UMSU International has been totally rewarding with its ups and downs. I want to close the report with expressing my gratitude for being able to be a part of what I call family for the past year. To be able to stand here is such an honour. I still vividly remember the first meetings I had together with my department and also with the EXCOs, and now we're here together to conclude our term.

Firstly, I would like to thank my department, the Partnership and Sponsorship department; Richard, Alison and Cynthia. Our department is not the biggest, nor the one with the most events, but I am proud of what we have accomplished working together. Richard, you always had the first initiative and made things easier for everyone. Alison, you always have the best ideas and are always ready to help. And Cynthia, we haven't worked together for long, but from the time I met you at the interview, I can see so much potential in you. Each one of you has made things possible and I would never ask for a better team. Thank you for trusting me to be your leader, and it has been a pleasure to see how each one of you

uniquely grow throughout the term. Here's to your future successes; Richard as the incoming President, Cynthia as the incoming Partnership and Sponsorship Director and Alison in your career.

MSUINTL

Second, to my fellow EXCOs; Sanskar, Shea, Trinh, Chris and Angeline, thank you from the bottom of my heart. I might have actually used up my whole life's luck for scoring a team like ours. I am pretty sure we all know how UMSU International has grown for the past year. However, seeing it as a part of the Executive Committee makes it different. Being able to work closely with you allows me to have a better insight of your hard work and every ounce of effort you put in.

Sanskar, the amount of hours and dedication you put into UMSU International is beyond what I can comprehend as a full-time student, you always put UMSU International at the top of your list. Please know that all the stress and the sleepless nights never go unnoticed. UMSU International would not have gone this far without your lead, and for that, I am very thankful.

Shea, you are the most caring person I have ever met, you care about everyone and everything and it is very visible that serving the international student community is in your blood. The fruits of your work have served hundreds, if not thousands of international students, and this is what we stand for. Thank you for your ongoing effort and hard work.

Trinh, I can't imagine another person juggling as many things as you. It must be hard but you did a tremendously good job. The Night Market was the best! Keep girl-bossing. Thank you for your work.

Chris, your passion and consistency has brought UMSU International's name soar higher than ever before. I would say you're the perfect standard for an M&M VP, I don't

think it will ever get better than this. Thank you for accommodating all of our events. None of it could happen without you.

MSUINTL

Angeline, the one I work very closely with, thank you for meeting all of our needs as the secretary. We wouldn't get this close nor bond with each other as a committee if you hadn't taken the proper steps, and you always do. Thank you for all the help, you're an amazing person to work with.

Of course, on top of the responsibilities carried in our roles, I would like to thank the emotional support the five of you have given me. I truly have the EXCOs as my backbone for the past year. Will definitely be missing our laughs and cries.

Third, to Aviya, thank you for assisting us with your best, especially during the Night Market. All of this would not happen without your guidance and support. Also, I would like to thank the whole committee for making things come to life, thank you for making the necessary sacrifices and being great workmates.

Fourth, I would like to thank and apologise to everyone for putting up with any of my shortcomings that you may experience working with me; it might be my slow responses, my lack of initiative, my hurtful comments, or the stress and pressure I may have put you in, whatever it is, thank you and sorry.

Lastly, to the upcoming Tresurer, Jeslyn, I hope you will find the experience as rewarding as I did and to also accomplish greater things. The future of UMSU International is now in your hands, wishing you the best wishes and best wishes only. Goodluck!

Thank you very much, UMSU International. Your Treasurer signing off.

# Prepared by,



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Jaqueline Marshiela Treasurer 2023/24 UMSU International





# **Amendment's to UMSU International Regulation** Annual General Meeting 2023 – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023

UMSU International Secretary's title be changed to UMSU International General Secretary in the UMSU International Regulations

14.5 The approval of UMSU International Central Committee is required for any expenditure exceeding the amount of seven hundred and fifty dollars (>\$750.00) or deemed to be extraordinary and which is not included in the approved UMSU International Annual Budget.

12.1 The UMSU International President, UMSU International Vice-President (Education and Welfare), UMSU International Vice-President (Cultural and Social), UMSU International Vice-President (Media and Communications), UMSU International Secretary, and UMSU International Treasurer shall form the Executive Committee.

10.15 Students going on exchange during their full term as an UMSU International Central Committee member are not eligible to run in any UMSU International Annual General Election or By-Election.

10.16 When an UMSU International Central Committee decided to go for exchange during their term, they will be subjected to the termination clause under subsection 22.5.

22.5 UMSU International Central Committee may vote by simple majority to remove a committee member who is on exchange should they be deemed to not fulfill their role adequately.

11.2 The UMSU International Central Committee shall at least consists of:

One (1) UMSU International President

One (1) UMSU International Vice-President (Education and Welfare)

One (1) UMSU International Vice-President (Cultural and Social)

One (1) UMSU International Vice-President (Media and Marketing)

One (1) UMSU International General Secretary

One (1) UMSU International Treasurer

- One (1) UMSU International Education Director
- One (1) UMSU International Welfare Director

One (1) UMSU International Graduate Director

One (1) UMSU International Cultural and Social Director

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One (1) UMSU International Media & Marketing Director One (1) UMSU International Human Resource Director One (1) UMSU International Partnership and Sponsorship Director Three (3) UMSU International Education Officers Five (5) UMSU International Welfare Officers One (1) UMSU International Graduate Officer Five (5) UMSU International Cultural and Social Officers Three (3) UMSU International Media & Marketing Officers One (1) UMSU International Partnership and Sponsorship Officer Two (2) UMSU International Human Resource Officer

Prepared by Executive Committee 2022/23 & Executive Committee 2023/24 UMSU International



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- 4. Other Business
  - 4.1. Melbourne Plus Program
- 5. AGM Adjourns