

La Trobe Student Union Council Meeting Agenda

Council Meeting:

The *sixth* meeting of the La Trobe Student Union (LTSU) will be held on Thursday 30th July 2020 at 1:30pm via Zoom link online.

Meeting opened by the chair at: 1:40pm

The Chair noted in the minutes: Due to the hostile behaviour of persons during these meetings and for the health and safety of staff, students representatives, council members and students in attendance, the June LTSU council meeting will be recorded. If you do not wish to be recorded or object to the recording of council, you may leave. Everyone has been put on notice.

The Chair noted in the minutes: OBs are not required to answer questions. There is nothing in the LTSU Standing Orders which requires anyone to answer any questions. Everyone has been put on notice.

The Chair noted in the minutes: Under Section 4.4 of the LTSU Standing Orders members (meaning student members) shall address remarks to the chairperson in a restrained and courteous language, relevant to the matter under discussion, not use offensive or objectional language, not behave in a disorderly manner and respect the authority of the chairperson. Annabelle (the Chairperson) has asked everyone be respectful of others during this meeting whether or not you agree with their opinion. Everyone here, including staff are held responsible for their actions. Everyone has been put on notice.

The Chair noted in the minutes: Under Section 2.4 of the Standing Orders the chairperson shall maintain order at any time; adjourn a meeting which in their opinion has become disorderly for such period as they thinks fit. Annabelle (the Chairperson) will adjourn council if it becomes disorderly and Abhishek (General Secretary) will call it for a later date. Everyone has been put on notice..

Meeting Agenda:

Acknowledgement of Country

1. Procedural Matters
2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

3. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Office Bearer's Reports
6. Other Standing Committee Reports
7. Other Reports
8. LTSU Policy
9. Other Business
10. Next Meeting

Acknowledgement of Country

On behalf of the LTSU Student Council members and staff present, we would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today. We pay our respects to the Wurundjeri people, the Elders past and present. It always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Attendance: Annabelle Romano (President), Abhishek Madan (General Secretary), Ashraf Imam (Ed-Vice President), Warsan Tubea (Executive General Member), Arun ParvathyrajS. (General Member), Christopher Graham (Rabelais Editor), Clodie Veyrac (Rabelais Editor), Stephanie Briese (Ed-Public Affairs officer), Jake McGuinness (Environment Officer), Cooper Dickson (Welfare Officer), Jasmine Kinderis (Welfare Officer), Kate Benesovsky (Queer Office), Sumiyah Adnan (Women's officer), Roja Mudundi (Women's Officer), Lewis Kimpton-Drake (Environment Officer), Brody Tanner (MSA President), Areesha Nazeer (General Member), Ahsanul Karim Fayaz (General Member), Thomas Balakas (General Member), Chloe Andrews (General member), Akshat Bodele (ISA President), Elissa Khourry (General Manager), Kylie D'Aloia (SSA Staff), Anushi Goyal (City Campus), Warsan Tubea (Executive General member).

Students: Jesse Felsing (19948919), Will Devine (20360605), Andrea (19946760), Ben Murphy (18115784), Charlotte (20707664), Isabelle Currie (18077767), Leah Holden (20349839), Imogen (20377362), Joel Blanch (20368682), Jonah Allen (20762551), Samuel (19937100), Bhavya Sharma (20295247), Georgie Beatty (20770777), Student ID (19951910), Student ID (20783990), Andy Tuano, Nahui (20282130), Pam (20347668), Taksh Nanda (20185852), Samara (19368760), Susannah Ostojic, Habib, Yisu (2025171)

1.2 Apologies: Prajuli Maharjan (General Member), Olga Novak (SSA President), Pooja Ganesh (City Campus Officer), Shehbaz Singh Sandhu (Ethno-Cultural Officer)

1.3 Not in Attendance without Apology: Musa Qamar (Post Graduate Officer), Robert Campbell (Ed-Public Affairs Officer), Sayed Durraiz (Ethno-Cultural Officer),

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes:

Moved: Abhishek Madan

Seconded: Warsan Tubea

Motion put to vote and passed. Thomas chose to Abstain from Voting.

3. Matters Arising from previous minutes:

Nil

4. Correspondence:

Nil

5. Office Bearer's Reports

5.1 Position: President – Annabelle Romano

All Student Forum with other student association Presidents, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Jessica Vanderlelie, Vice Chancellor John Dewar.

- Attended National Union of Students' (NUS) National Education Conference 2020 online.
- Regular Project Team meetings regarding the amalgamation.
- Regular Office Bearer meetings.
- Monthly finance meeting with Executive and General Members.
- Bi-weekly Presidents meeting with Deputy Vice Chancellor Jessica Vanderlelie.
- Monthly meeting with Vice Chancellor John.
- Co-ords meeting with staff and General Manager.
- Individual OB department meetings for semester 2 and progress updates on new initiatives.
- Be A Better Human campaign meeting with involved office bearers
- Mildura Student Association team meetings – helping with semester 2.
- Weekly executive and General Manager meetings.
- Daily meetings with General Manager.
- Office Bearer and Staff meetings regarding Fighting the cuts campaigns.
- General correspondence with students.
- Attended all-staff forums held by Vice Chancellor John Dewar and Senior Executive Group.
- Attended meetings and special meetings of Academic Board.
- Helping ISA transition into semester 2 with General Manager and events staff.
- Meetings with Student Health and Wellbeing.
- Involved with VEAN (Victorian Education Action Network) and Students Against Cuts group regarding fee hikes at La Trobe.
- NUS Presidents campaign meeting regarding fee hikes campaign – featured in a video against the cuts, released a statement with posts to be continually uploaded by Student Engagement Coordinator.
- Working with Abhishek to ensure clubs are being supported

5.2 Position: General Secretary – Abhishek Madan

The month of July was a start to the new semester. Have been working on supporting clubs and helping them out with their problems.

There weren't many AGMs held this month.

Attended the all student forum held by the university and regularly attending the weekly OB and executive meetings to discuss on several prevailing issues and campaigns that are in place.

Mostly general correspondence with students have kept me busy during the month. I have reached out to some organisations for providing and arranging some support for students. Waiting for their response. If they are willing, will be working on it in August by trying to get that support made available to them and reaches in time.

Created a google doc for international students to express what would they want us to do, many seem to want a migration seminar, which Musa is working on already.

5.3 Position: Education/Vice President – Ashraf Imam

The month of July has been a fruitful month, as the executive team and I delved into various areas and concerns through semester break. I was studying a winter unit, so I was quite focused and occupied with that. However, the executive and I maintained consistency, having ob meetings, organising the grievance officers and also organising and discussing some key areas with the advocacy and finance team.

There was also no education committee this month, which has given me more of an opportunity to prepare and plan for the next meeting and what is being tabled, to where I can benefit and represent the student body through all their concerns and worries.

5.4 Position: Postgraduate Officer – Musa Qamar

The planned events in July which included the Migration seminar could not happen due to exams and dates not matching up. The seminar dates were decided to be moved to August after discussing with Helen as it will give us more time frame to find the right speakers too. In August, I have planned to host the Migration Seminar near mid of the month. By the end of the month, I will also be hosting a Post Graduate catch up session and if it goes successful, it will become a monthly catch up for post graduate students. Each month will be a different theme where topics will be discussed.

5.5 Position: Education & Public Affairs Officers – Stephanie Briese & Robert Campbell

This month saw Federal Education Minister Dan Tehan launch a disgusting attack on the Higher Education sector. Tehan has offered a budget-neutral solution to a problem of the Liberal Government's own creation. Hiking the fees of select degrees by as much as 113% does not redistribute students into market-driven courses; it cuts lower SES students out from enrolling in the very degrees that Liberal MP's themselves hold. Because of these new attacks, July became a busy month for Education Officers around Australia. Stephanie would like to note that she was on medical/mental health leave from the LTSU for the month of July.

In July, we:

- Attended – and have been active contributors in – every Victorian Education Action Network (VEAN) meeting. This is an NUS-adjacent body that aids in organising campaign cohesion between Victorian Student Unions.
 - Attended the NUS' midyear Education Conference (EdCon). This was an insightful three day Zoom conference, attended by education activists from around the country.
 - Stephanie – along with LTSU General Member, Thomas – ran a workshop at EdCon surrounding the pitfalls of online education. For those interested, a transcript of this is available on the EdPub blog. The workshop detailed the ways in which online learning can disproportionately impact negatively upon the academic success of international students, students with English as a second language, those from low SES areas, and those with a disability.
 - Answered many student queries surrounding WAM, fee hikes, class cuts and more.
 - Have continued working closely with student-led activist groups at La Trobe, such as Students Against Cuts and Stand Up for Students. We would like to thank these groups for being consistent activists on campus. They spearheaded the WAM campaign, stood up against staff cuts, applied pressure for a student assembly, and are now at the forefront of all campaigning around Dan Tehan's latest attacks.
 - Attended the Student Assembly with the Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor. Stephanie is disappointed that several student questions addressing the panel were deleted for seemingly no reason. It is strange to market an event as answering student questions, only to delete student questions.
 - Stephanie had the opportunity to virtually meet with local MP Kate Thwaites, as well as Tanya Plibersek, to ask questions surrounding Tehan's attacks, as well as ask questions around online campaigning against them.
 - Attended LTSU meetings surrounding a potential WAM campaign, and the 'Your Education. Your Voice' campaign.
- In August, we'd like to:
- Set up the Education Network. We are constitutionally bound to do this. Stephanie wrote in Microsoft Teams on May 18 asking for help setting this up – and then mentioned in the May council that she had done so, in front of everyone – and received no response. She asked again on July 29.
 - Continue to attend VEAN and NUS meetings, as well as LTU-specific activist meetings.
 - Work towards the August 28 Day of Action against Dan Tehan's fee hikes. This should be the majority of our work for August. During EdCon, each affiliated Victorian campus committed to running smaller activities each Friday in the lead up to August 28. We will platform and actively engage in these, outside of simply sharing NUS graphics or petitions. Activism is active participation.
- Lastly, the LTSU has begun discussing a potential WAM campaign to be run for Semester 2. Stephanie would personally like to raise several points on this matter.
- Firstly, it is wholly disappointing that the LTSU are only taking supposed action on WAM in Semester 2. Countless OB's tirelessly asked for a campaign last Semester and were repeatedly shut down or ignored. That was unacceptable.
 - Secondly, the Deputy Vice Chancellor has repeatedly stated in past weeks that changes to the WAM calculation system are impossible at La Trobe. If we are to now commit to a WAM campaign, what is our tangible end goal? How are we tangibly going to get change? The LTSU have very little resources and money, and I will not support them being utilised unless

we plan to actively engage with – and lobby – the Deputy Vice Chancellor, and to actually call them out when necessary

5.6 Position: Welfare Officers – Cooper Dickson & Jasmine Kinderis

We have been squirrelling away very busily the last few weeks planning some huge things for semester two. Here's an extensive list of what we're hoping to do. Firstly however a note, if everyone would be able to mark themselves as going or interested in the LTSU online events that would be amazing, Freyja has requested this in order to build engagement with out social media campaigns.

1- the design of a mandatory mental health module on LMS, with the potential to be tied in with Consent Matters. The module will be very significant in size, covering topics such as,

- a) Recognition of mental health
- b) approaching mental health (Is there something wrong/ Checking in with yourself or others
- c) external factors of mental health (environmental stressors and other risk factors to mental health)
- d) coping (how to cope, good methods of coping ect)
- e) links back to our resource list, and further resources that are available.

2- Weekly video and online content production (With a BBQ themed video on the way lol) Each week covering a new aspect of welfare from isolation, depression, anxiety. These videos will be on 'Wellbeing Wednesdays', and will continue for the majority of the semester, with other online resources used as well.

3- reorganisation and reformatting of the LTSU website, We're hoping to create a permanent welfare tab on the site, which is easily visible

4- on the topic of web design, creating the regional support documentation plan. I will attach a policy explaining this later, but essentially it provides information for relocated regional students on how to get Centrelink, find housing / apply for rental assistance, how to access public transport and other notable things about moving to a metro area.

5- this one doesn't need a huge explanation, but Stress Less Week semester 2! **We have selected 7th-11th of September in order to tie in with R U OK day 2020.** We will be researching mental health resources created by R U OK, Beyond Blue, Reach out and more in order to design our ideas. We're meeting tomorrow to further discuss our ideas, and are hoping to engage with the University mental health board/group to try and get them on board with us this semester. We are really hoping to involve more clubs this semester in stress less week.

6. Development of two LTSU Facebook groups. The results of Freyja's engagement survey have concluded that there is a desire for students to use a first year facebook group. Along with Helen and Freyja we will be designing what this looks like. The second facebook group will be based off a La Trobe version of the Kindness Pandemic (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/515507852491119/>), inspired by the University of Melbourne's similar facebook group. These groups are a work in progress



The Kindness Pandemic Public Group | Facebook

The Kindness Pandemic has 566,157 members. We set up #TheKindnessPandemic because so many people need acts of kindness right now; and so many others want...
www.facebook.com

5.7 Position: Environment Officers – Lewis Kimpton-Drake & Jake McGuinness

No report was submitted to the General Secretary

5.8 Position: Women's Officers – Sumiyah Aziz & Roja Mudundi

We are going to promote introduce women's department, what we do and how we can help to newcomers by recording a video talking about it.

Summi and I are co-ordinating with Kate about 'Be a Better Human' campaign and domestic violence articles.

We are also planning to hold zoom sessions with female or female identifying students to know their issue and act on it

Besides that we are giving General correspondence to female students and students in general who are approaching us with the their hardships during these times.

- Elissa Khoury, General Manager for LTSU pointed out targeted questioning, vilification, slanderous accusations and repetitive use of inappropriate language by one of the office bearers (Jake McGuinness) resulting in the recommendation to adjourn council.
- The Chair acted on the recommendation and adjourned the council at 3:08pm to which there was further descent and disorderly behaviour.

Council Reconvened on 21st August 2020, at 11am. Venue being online Via Zoom link.

- President steps down from the chair, and under section 2.1 of the LTSU standing orders, "Subject to the regulations, at every meeting of LTSU after attendance and Apologies, the President will be the chairperson of the meeting. In the event that the President is not present or decides to vacate the chair the Education Vice-President will take up the role of the chair. If neither the President nor Education Vice-President is available to take up the role of chair the LTSU council will elect a chair from General Members"

The Education Vice-President did not want to take the chair. It was put to General members who, out of the General Members, they want to be the new Chair for the Council.

- Areesha Nazeer was elected as the Chair

Meeting opened by Chairperson at: 11:11am

The Chair read a statement before the council began and it was to be noted in the minutes:

LTSU Council Meetings – Preamble and Reminders for Student Behaviour

Due to a preliminary investigation which includes but is not limited to the conduct of student behaviour at LTSU council and student meetings, LTSU has received a list of recommendations and directives that we will be working to implement today and over the coming weeks to ensure these meetings are a safe space for all, and that they are productive and conducive to the work undertaken at LTSU for all.

All students and staff present must conduct themselves with the upmost of professionalism and refrain from making any slanderous or defamatory comments. You are expected to be respectful and considerate at all times.

All questions must be relevant to the reports being given and all office bearers and executives can choose whether they will allow questions or not

All meeting will be taped from this point forward and made available to the university as part of the complaints process only

All minutes from the meeting will be provided via the LTSU website at the earliest opportunity

A staff member will be present at every meeting moving forward and will assist the chair in ensuring that any conduct that occurs is in line with all OHS requirements and that a duty of care is exercised as required. Any conduct that is considered to be harmful or inappropriate will result in the removal of the offending student immediately.

LTSU Code of Conduct

The LTSU Code of Conduct has been attached for your reference and the chair takes this opportunity to highlight **clause 3.7**

LTSU members shall not engage in discrimination, sexual harassment or intimidation against another LTSU member, prospective member, member of LTSU staff or La Trobe University students or staff. For the purposes of the last sentence, “discrimination” is taken to mean direct or indirect discrimination on the grounds of nationality, race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, disability, marital status, parental status or status as a carer, physical features, political belief or activity, pregnancy or religious belief or activity.

LTSU Standing Orders

The standing orders are also attached for your reference and the chair takes this opportunity to highlight **clause 2 and relevant subsections**

2.1 Subject to the regulations, at every meeting of LTSU after attendance and Apologies, the President will be the chairperson of the meeting. In the event that the President is not present or decides to vacate the chair the Education Vice-President

will take up the role of the chair. If neither the President nor Education Vice-President is available to take up the role of chair the LTSU council will elect a chair from General Members

2.2 The chairperson shall be heard without interruption and when he/she rises during debate, all discussion shall cease.

2.3 Should the chairperson decide to take part in the debate on any question, they shall leave the chair and call upon another member to act as chairperson until the conclusion of the debate and the vote, if any, thereon.

2.4 The chairperson shall maintain order any may at any time, adjourn a meeting which, in his/her opinion, has become disorderly for such period as he/she thinks fit.

2.5 Any member desiring to speak shall rise in his place or otherwise indicate his/her intention and will be placed on the speaking list

The chair also takes this opportunity to highlight **clause 4 and relevant subsections under the LTSU Standing Orders**

4. Formal Debate

4.1 The chairperson shall, as far as practicable, call on speakers for and against a motion of amendment alternatively, subject to the right of the seconder to speak immediately after the mover. If two consecutive speakers have both argued for or against a motion or an amendment and there is no member wishing to argue the opposite side, or in the case of a motion, to move put without debate

4.2 Discussion shall be confined to the motion under consideration, subject to the Sections 3.7 and 4.1.

4.3 Every member desiring to speak shall address her/himself to the Chair.

4.4 Members shall:

- address remarks to the chairperson in restrained and courteous language
- relevant to the matter under discussion
- not use offensive or objectionable language
- not behave in a disorderly manner
- respect the authority of the chairperson at all times

4.5 Each person will be limited to five minutes for his speech and may speak only once, provided that the mover shall have her/his right of reply.

LTU Charter of Student Rights & Responsibilities

The LTU Charter of Student Rights & Responsibilities are also attached for your reference and the chair takes this opportunity to highlight **Part C – Behaviour & Wellbeing – section 6**

6) You are responsible for:

- a. Behaving in a respectful manner at all times towards fellow students, staff and members of the broader University community and its partners;
- b. Valuing diversity and everyone's right to make a respectful contribution;
- c. Engaging in positive behaviours and using language which does not cause offence, physical/ emotional injury or intimidation to another person;
- d. Using social and other electronic forms of media appropriately and refraining from using it to vilify, intimidate, isolate or bully another student, staff member or member of the broader University and general community;

- e. Behaving professionally when representing La Trobe on student placements, on overseas programs, volunteering and at sporting or other University sponsored events;
- f. Using University property and resources safely, in a way which will not endanger others or cause unnecessary damage or reputational risk;
- g. Taking an active role in contributing to an environment that is safe and free from discrimination, harassment, vilification and victimisation;
- h. Reporting unacceptable behaviour or concerns and participating in a complaints process as required.

Thomas mentioned that Elissa's Presence in the meeting makes him feel uneasy due to her conduct in the previous meeting and that it affects his mental health.

Attendance: Annabelle Romano (President), Abhishek Madan (General Secretary), Ashraf Imam (Ed. Vice-President), Musa Qamar (Post-Graduate Officer), Warsan Tubea (Executive General Member), Kate Benesovsky (Queer Office), Cooper Dickson (Welfare Officer), Anushi Goyal (City Campus Officer), Olga Novak (SSA President), Brody Tanner (MSA President), Areesha Nazeer (General Member), Chloe Andrews (General Member), Thomas Balakas (General Member), Stephanie Briese (Ed-Pub. Officer), Ahsanul Karim Fayaz (General Member), Jake McGuinness (Environment Officer), Lewis Kimpton Drake (Environment Officer), Pooja Ganesh (City Campus Officer), Sumi Adnan (Women's Officer), Elissa Khoury (LTSU General Member)

Students Present: Georgie Beatty (20770777), David Cannavo (19929081), Jonah Allen (20762551), Sanjith Konda House (20169913), Lukas Jamieson (20363822), Pam Kirakidis (20347668), Leah Holden (20349839).

Apologies: Jasmine Kinderis (Welfare Officer), Prajuli Maharjan (General Member), Arun Parvathyraj (General Member)

Not in Attendance without Apology: Jayde Hopkins (Indigenous Officer), Olivia White (Disabilities Officer), Hang (Edison) Yu (Disabilities Officer), Hannah Lockwood (Queer Officer), Shehbaz Singh Sandhu (Ethno-cultural Officer), Sayed Durraiz Ahmed (Ethno-cultural Officer), Steven Frampton (Activities Officer), Angus Turner (Activities Officer), Clodie Veyrac (Rabelais Editors), Christopher Graham (Rabelais Editor), Akshat Bodele (ISA President), Kate De Witte (MASO President), Roja Mudundi (Women's Officer), Robert Campbell (Ed.-Pub Officer),

5.9 Position: Queer Officers – Kate Benesovsky & Hannah Lockwood

July was a planning month in terms of LTSU Queer. We've been planning Wear It Purple day (28 August) and our coffee collab (17 August with the GSD Society). Additionally, we helped the GSD Society set up their AGM and attended in support! They've got an amazing executive of passionate students – so check out their Facebook if you can.

Queer Chat is also going to be online from August thanks to La Trobe Counselling, which is a super exciting update we've been hoping for. We've also been dealing with the usual student queries/complaints/issues.

Kate also ran a workshop at 2020 Education Conference with the Disabilities Officer from Murdoch University (Western Australia). The topic was 'How to Be A Good Ally', presented to over 70 people (online of course), with discussion surrounding language, protest and pronouns!

If you have any questions please message Kate on facebook (Kate Benesovsky) or email itsu_queer@latrobe.edu.au

5.10 Position: Indigenous Officer – Jayde Hopkins

No report submitted to General Secretary

5.11 Position: (Dis)abilities Officers – Olivia White & Hang (Edison) Yu

No report submitted to General Secretary

5.12 Position: Ethnocultural Officers -Sayed Durraiz Ahmed & Shehbaz Singh Sandhu

In July month I helped as many students I can in every way they needed. Next month in first week of the August I am organising food fiesta in which all the students can participate and share their different recipes. We will upload it on both Itsu and ethnopage or we also thinking to do this event on zoom. Everyone will be welcome. However, we will also focusing on more things for the students

5.13 Position: Activities Officers – Steve Frampton & Angus Turner

No report submitted to General Secretary

5.14 Position: Rabelais Editors – Chris Graham & Clodie Veyrac

No report submitted to General Secretary

5.15 Position: City Campus Officers - Pooja Ganesh & Anushi Goyal

<u>Current Ongoing Activities</u>		
Advocacy	Rosina is still conducting them online only on 2 days of the week. Some students have expressed concerns over it and have instead reached out to us OB's.	Ongoing
Clubs	Zoom club meetings	Ongoing
Facebook Chat	For students to share their FAQ's	Ongoing
Community Check-in	Add to whatsapp group and do a community check-in	Ongoing

Sharing Student Stories	Articles to engage, uplift, socially engaging ideas to follow. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student stories and share updated 	Ongoing
Student Zoom Weekly Catchups	<i>Weekly Zoom Meetings</i> Will re-assess based on low student participation rates.	Ongoing
Share updates of university and awareness articles.	Shared them both online, facebook messenger and through whatsapp	Ongoing

July Activities

Welcome Video		Shared a welcome video for orientation students and gave an intro to LTSU and city campus	Online
		August 2020	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riddle • Competition • Monthly Posts 			

Motion to accept Office bearers' Reports

Mover: Abhishek Madan

Secunder: Ashraf Imam

Put to vote by Chairperson, Motion approved.

Abstained: Thomas

6. Other Standing Committee Reports

6.1 Mildura Students Association (MSA):

No report submitted to the General Secretary

6.2 Mature Age Students Organisation (MASO):

No report Submitted to the General Secretary

6.3 Shepparton Students Association (SSA):

No report Submitted to the General Secretary

6. 4 International Students Association (ISA):

We are excited for the start of new semester and for the past month we have been conducting regular meetings to come up with creative and interactive online events. The list has been made with guidance from Elissa and has been submitted to the needful members of LTSU.

Corona left things a little complicated and severely limited the extent to which events could be conducted, given the abrupt nature with which things at university imploded at the time from all the restrictions that were placed on all the students.

We also conducted a meeting with the new staff of LTSU, who has agreed to help ISA up their gear for the upcoming semester.

The refund for the trip Mornington Peninsula was processed.

Preparation of poster began for various events from our Social Media Office

Motion to accept Other Standing Committee Reports

Mover: Abhishek Madan

Secunder: Warsan Tubea

Put to vote by Chairperson, Motion Accepted.

7. Other Reports

7.1 Education Council (SRN)

7.2 Clubs and Societies Council

7.3 Post-Graduate Committee

7.4 Activities Committee

Mover: Abhishek Madan

Secunder: Musa Qamar

Put to vote by Chairperson, Motion passed.

Abstain: Chloe Andrews , Thomas Balakas

8. LTSU Policy

8.1 8.1 LTSU DECLARES A CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY POLICY

Amendment Proposed by Themistoklis Balakos:

- Action Point 3) The LTSU under the direction of the LTSU Executive, General Manager, and Environment Department will undergo an internal evaluation to improve sustainability within the organisations and to reduce unnecessary waste before the end of 2020.
- To remove the second climate change policy if these amendments are passed.

Amendments moved by Warsan Tubea

Amendments seconded by Themistoklis Balakos.

The amended policy to now read as:

PREAMBLE

Climate change is the major existential crisis facing humanity. The rise in the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere has led to net global warming of 1.2 Kelvin from a pre-industrial baseline. The IPCC models estimate that a doubling of Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere will lead to global warming of 3.0 Kelvin. This warming has severe negative impacts on the environment and global society. It is for this reason that the international community has agreed to limit warming to 1.5 Kelvin.

It is clear, however, that the efforts of governments and larger society have been inadequate in achieving this goal. Scientists and activists alike have watched with despair as governments, and civil society have failed to tackle the issue. As the rising levels of greenhouse gases drag humanity closer to the precipice, climate change has become a global emergency.

This policy will declare a climate emergency and stand in solidarity with all efforts to tackle climate change. This policy will provide for an internal review of the LTSU's operations to ensure that the organisation is acting in the most sustainable way possible. Finally, the policy will provide that the LTSU continue to lobby the University to declare a climate emergency and pursue more sustainable practices.

PLATFORM

1. The LTSU acknowledges climate change and supports efforts to reduce its effects worldwide.
2. The LTSU supports the climate movement.
3. The LTSU acknowledges that there are shortfalls within the organisation in its sustainability and commits to fixing these shortfalls however it can.
4. The LTSU acknowledges how climate change disproportionately affects students and young workers.

ACTION

1. The LTSU will publicly declare a climate emergency.
 - a. The statement will be written by the LTSU Executive and the LTSU Environment officers.
 - b. The statement will be released on LTSU social media platforms before the next LTSU council.
2. The LTSU will support the climate change movement.
3. The LTSU under the direction of the LTSU Executive, General Manager, and Environment Department will undergo an internal evaluation to improve sustainability within the organisations and to reduce unnecessary waste before the end of 2020
The results of the evaluation will be presented at an LTSU student council
 - a. The LTSU will demand the university release a public declaration of a climate emergency.
4. The LTSU will demand the university release a public declaration of a climate emergency.
 - a. The LTSU will work with La Trobe University to ensure the university is a sustainable entity.

Thomas Balakos Spoke for the amended motion

No speaker against

Jake McGuinness spoke for the amended motion

No speaker against

Kate Benesovsky spoke for the amended motion

Annabelle Romano noted in the minutes that nowhere on the document does it state the executive wrote this policy, it does not have anyone down as having written the policy and therefore it's untrue to say the executive wrote it.

Jake McGuinness responded to this by noting in the minutes that it's not untrue just unproven.

Moved by: Warsan Tubea (Executive General Member)

Seconded by: Thomas Balakos (General Member)

Put to Vote by the Chairperson, amended policy was passed.

8.2 Climate Emergency Declaration A Greener LTSU (As per the amendments which passed, the second climate change policy was removed by Themistoklis Balakos.)

Written by Jake McGuinness and Lewis Kimpton Drake

Preamble—

~~Over the summer of 2020 Australia burned, and whilst memories of our black summer have been diminished by the COVID 19 crisis, the threat posed by the looming climate catastrophe is just as real as it has ever been. This pandemic has given governments, NPOs, and businesses a chance to reevaluate their environmental impact and commit to transitioning towards a sustainable future, the LTSU should be no different.~~

~~By declaring a climate emergency, taking significant internal steps to reduce unnecessary waste, and supporting environmental causes, the LTSU can far better represent the environmental concerns of its membership.~~

~~Opportunities to improve sustainability can also be areas of development for the organisation. One such area is the election regulations, which are both outdated and a sustainability nightmare. Overreliance on paper, due to an arbitrary ban on online campaigning, meant that the Unite ticket alone was allocated a grand total of 18,750 sheets of paper for the last election, with more than 6000 of that on A3 paper primarily for posterage. It's unnecessary, it's bad for the environment, and it's a waste of student money. The LTSU should commit to identifying and eliminating areas of waste, just like this.~~

~~The LTSU's declaration, and internal evaluation, can play a large role in ensuring that the organisation is best positioned to fight for the sustainable future all our students need.~~

~~Change starts at home, the LTSU can't demand the university do better, if we won't commit to doing better ourselves.~~

Platform—

- ~~1. The LTSU fully realises and appreciates the dangers posed by man-made climate change~~

2. ~~The LTSU acknowledges significant areas of waste exist within the organisation, and is committed to removing them where possible~~
 - a) ~~The LTSU acknowledges the current election regulations represent a significant area of waste.~~
3. ~~The LTSU unreservedly supports the climate movement, and understands its own important role in fighting for a more sustainable future.~~

Action –

1. ~~The LTSU publicly declares a climate emergency~~
 - i) ~~The LTSU environment office should create a public statement to be submitted to council for approval no later than 7 days after this policy is passed~~
 - ii) ~~The LTSU outgoing communication channels (included but not limited to Facebook, Instagram and Email) will distribute this public statement on the next business day after council approval~~
2. ~~The LTSU will undertake an internal evaluation to identify areas of unnecessary waste and opportunities to improve sustainability~~
 - i) ~~The LTSU council directs the environment office to lead this evaluation, and submit a final report, complete with recommendations, at the October 2020 meeting of the student council~~
 - ii) ~~The LTSU council directs the executive and general manager to aid this evaluation wherever possible, and provide relevant data and information in a timely manner when requested~~
3. ~~The LTSU amends the following provisions, found in the LTSU election regulations (2019) to promote a more sustainable election:~~
 - i) ~~Clause 18.2 and 18.3 to now read as follows~~

~~18.2 Each individual candidate must receive:~~

~~(a) 1/2 ream of A4 paper, photocopied (may be double sided), and~~

~~(b) 1/2 ream of A3 paper, photocopied (may be double sided).~~

~~18.3 Each ticket must receive:~~

~~(a) 12 reams of A4 paper, photocopied (may be double sided), and~~

~~(b) 2 reams of A3 paper, photocopied (may be double sided)~~
 - ii) ~~The removal of clause 20.1 (n)~~

Moved by: Themistoklis Balakas (General Member)

Seconded: Chloe Andrew (General Member)

9. Other Business

Acceptance of Steven Frampton' resignation from Activities Officer for the remainder of 2020.

Motion to accept Steven Frampton's resignation as Activities Officer for the remainder of 2020.

Moved by Annabelle Romano

Seconded by Abhishek Madan

Put to vote by Chairperson, Motion Moved.

Acceptance of Angus Turner being the sole Activities Officer for the remainder of 2020.

Moved by: Annabelle Romano

Seconded by: Abhishek Madan

Put to vote by Chairperson, Motion Moved.

10. Next Meeting

The schedule for next meeting will be notified soon by the General Secretary.

Meeting closed by the Chairperson at: 11:59pm