

Terms and Agreements

Background

In 2018 UMSU initiated a governance review process titled Renew Our UMSU. This process was run by an external consultant and included significant and extensive consultation with stakeholders.

Several focus groups were established for student representatives to provide their views in relation to UMSU governance, including one dedicated to members of the UMSU International Executive Committee. However, the UMSU International Central Committee was not informed about any of these proposed changes and never had a chance to vote on this. Since the UMSUI committee was not consulted and the changes to the constitution were not endorsed by UMSUI, thus all changes pertaining to UMSU INTL in the new constitution are null and void. We would like to acknowledge that both UMSU and UMSUI could have made more effort for a better consultation process, but the fact remains that the UMSU International Central Committee was not consulted and a review of the constitution should occur again.

Consultation also included all-day forum open to all students, and an online discussion forum also open to all students.

The consultation process concluded in 2018.

A proposed Constitution reflecting the outcomes of the consultation process was drafted in 2019 and approved by the Students' Council. The proposed Constitution contains several changes including a number of amendments that are critical to ensuring UMSU complies with legislative requirements.

UMSU International has since raised significant concerns in relation to the proposed Constitution.

This Agreement is intended to set out a process to ensure those concerns are addressed and changes made to the UMSU Constitution to reflect the wishes of UMSU International.

Terms of Agreement

Molly Willmott (2019 UMSU President) and Hannah Buchan (2020 UMSU President), in consultation with the UMSU Students Council, and Archit Agrawal (2019/2020 UMSU International President), in consultation with the UMSU International Central Committee, will review the following clauses of the UMSU Constitution (adopted 17/9/2019);

6.3 (b) Officers of the Students' Council are elected by all students at the annual elections for the following Offices, subject to any restrictions set out in this Constitution:

(xvi) UMSU International President

(xvii) UMSU International Vice President

6.5 (a) The position of UMSU International Vice-president must be held jointly by two people.

6.8 (d) The President and two Vice-Presidents of UMSU International will share an honorarium on a 40:30:30 percentage basis.

10.3 (a) Each Committee is responsible for the fostering and resourcing of, and consultation with, a Collective open (subject to rule 10.3(b)) to all Students.

The reason why these clauses need to be reviewed are:

1. UMSU International shall have the right to abstain from political involvement in any form, of any level UMSU may be involved in, current and/or future.
2. As the main representative of international students within the University of Melbourne, UMSU International shall be the only body within UMSU to represent and speak on behalf of all International Students.
 - a. In terms of Media and Correspondence, UMSU International shall have the sole right to speak on behalf of international students should a dispute arise with regards to which body shall have the final say on speaking rights.
 - b. As the official representative, UMSU International retains a higher degree of autonomy within the constitution relative to other departments and remains a volunteer body with no remuneration.
 - c. Historically, the Student Council has predominantly been occupied by permanent residents and citizens of Australia. While there is an international student representative on the council, there is a lack of representation of UMSU International's stance as the peak representative body of international students. As such, UMSU International asserts the right to follow an independent framework with regards to the governance of UMSU International and the publicity of our events.
3. As our committee is elected by International Students, the decision made by the Student Council should not override the decision made by the committee. This is to protect the interest of International Students.
4. The President of UMSU International, as the peak representative of the International Students should have the right to publicly disagree with the UMSU President on any issues that affect international students.
5. To maintain a cordial and transparent relationship between UMSU and UMSU International, the committee agrees to provide the reports of our events from the Central Committee Meeting for the Student Council to review and give feedback. Concerns and doubt about the report and our events would be taken into consideration, this will be beneficial to the welfare of International Students.
6. The committee does not agree with the idea that anyone in UMSU International is (will) receive payment. We would like that all positions within the UMSU International Committee to remain completely voluntary. Although if this was to change and if any member of the UMSU International Committee was to receive payment, then the committee asks for payment for every committee member as well.

This process will commence in September 2019. This process will be based on extensive consultation with the UMSU International Central Committee.

While this review is underway UMSU will take no action that has an adverse impact on the status of UMSU International student representatives. The definition of 'adverse impact' will be decided by the UMSU International President.

UMSU and all its governing bodies will comply with changes that are consistent with the changes that are endorsed by the Central Committee of UMSU International. Changes approved in this manner will be submitted to an SGM no later than the end of Semester 1, 2020.

UMSU International should not be assigned with the Office Bearer title and will cooperate to comply with reasonable measures to improve transparency such as reports before the Student Council as long as UMSU International's autonomy is maintained.

UMSU and UMSU INTL will work in good faith to resolve all issues. UMSU will take no action that disadvantages UMSU International or its committee members as a result of the provisions in the proposed Constitution.

MOM WILMOTT
2019 UMSU
PRESIDENT



13/9/19

REECE MOIR
2019 UMSU GENERAL
SECRETARY




13/9/19

HANNAH BUCHAN
2020 UMSU PRESIDENT



13/9/19

JACK BUKSM
2020 UMSU GENERAL
SECRETARY



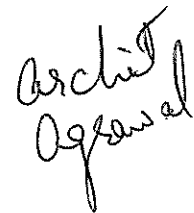
13/9/19

JUSTIN BARE
CEO



13.9.19

Archi Agrawal
2019-20 UMSU President



13/09/19