

ParkvilleStation.

A NEW INDEPENDENT WEEKLY CAMPUS NEWSPAPER

Edition 12, 2016 (week 11)

parkvillestation.com

free

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION.

NDA DRAWS DEDICATED MELBOURNE CROWD.

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION.

Last Wednesday, 11th May, was the National Day of Action (NDA), a protest aimed at fighting cuts to higher education, and calling for additional funding for students and universities.

The event was timed to follow the release of the federal budget, but the lack of clear policies relating to higher education funding in the budget meant that the focus of the event was unclear.

In any case, advertising for the event focussed on the spectre of undergraduate degrees with total student tuition fees over \$100,000, a prospect associated with the federal government's former policy of fee deregulation.

Organised by the National Union of Stu-

dents (NUS), National Days of Action are simultaneous protests held in each state, with a contingent from each university in that state represented. In Victoria, the rally meets at the State Library of Victoria.

The University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) is responsible for organising the contingent from the University of Melbourne, and it does so through its Education department.

For this NDA, to increase student turnout, UMSU played on the recent federal budget and organised a "budget breakdown", billed as an opportunity to "find out how the federal budget hurts you": "The Abbott and Turnbull Govern-

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M-ASS AGM: MARLO ZAMBELLI THE NEW PRESIDENT.

The Melbourne Arts Students' Society (M-ASS) held its annual general meeting (AGM) last Thursday 12 May, electing Marlo Zambelli as President in an unusually contested race.

Zambelli prevailed over Daniel Sango and dark horse Alex Fielden for the top leadership position in the club. Madison Mooney was elected Vice President, Tim Crockett is the new Treasurer, Sango was finally successful for Secretary, and new Marketing Director Sam Galagher rounded out the club's new executive.

As is traditional at M-ASS AGMs, the election was a marathon session lasting just under four hours. We're told that attendees were permitted to take toilet breaks in between the elections for specific positions.

M-ASS, representing Arts students, is one of the largest clubs on campus, and is responsible for events such as Paint 'n' Glow as well as regular BBQs on campus. Zambelli replaces Nick Hynes, who served as President for 2015/16.

We've got the full list of people elected on page 3.

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SCIENCE STUDENTS' SOCIETY ELECTS HAYDEN MICHAELIDES NEW PRESIDENT.

Also on the election trail for large faculty clubs, the Science Students' Society (SSS) held its annual general meeting and committee elections last Tuesday 10 May, electing long-time contender Hayden Michaelides to the top job, President.

No-one will confirm on the record whether SSS or the Melbourne Arts Students' Society (M-ASS) has more members - intense questioning revealed that they both do - but the two clubs have a long-standing rivalry.

SSS is notably responsible for fortnightly free BBQs on South Lawn (alternating weeks with M-ASS) and Foam Party.

Michaelides was formerly Activities Officer at the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU). He replaces Jacinta Cooper as President.

We've printed the full list of people elected to the SSS Committee on page 2.

"IF I WANT TO SHOUT SLOGANS, I'LL GO TO A SOCCER GAME." PAGE FIVE.

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NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION.

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ment have been hell bent on a particular higher education reform that would destroy the accessibility, affordability and quality of tertiary education in Australia, a package called Fee-Deregulation.”

The budget breakdown involved speakers from UMSU and the wider student body speaking to different areas in which the current budget could affect students. UMSU also set up a bean-bag tent and BBQ in South Court, as a drawcard to attend the speeches.

Despite this, we eyeballed the University of Melbourne contingent at about 25–30 students

as it left South Court, heading for the State Library.

The turnout at 2pm at the State Library, the designated time of the event, was somewhat better, with both students from other universities and UniMelb stragglers who didn't make it in the first wave joining the group.

Nonetheless, the crowd didn't make it much more than a few hundred students — far off student protests of yore, and far off causing even mild inconvenience to other users of Swanston St.



RESULTS: SCIENCE STUDENTS' SOCIETY ELECTIONS.

President: Hayden Michaelides
Vice President: Andre Napoleone
Secretary: Meghan Shaw
Treasurer: Sam Chung
Education & Welfare Officer:
Xander Jones

General Committee

On Campus Officer (Senior):
Paco Carranceja
On Campus Officer (Junior):
Matthew Schaffner
Off Campus Officer (Senior):
Jacob Trzebinski
Off Campus Officer (Junior):
Emma Bev
Media & Communications Officers:
James Luke and Kenny Ma
Membership Officer: Meghan Pascoe
Merchandise Officer: Julie Hercus
First Year Representative: Daniel Maison

STUDENT PRECINCT ENGAGEMENT OFFICE OPENS.

As reported in last week's *Parkville Station*, the University has opened a "Student Precinct Engagement Office", which will be aimed at getting students to share their wants, needs and opinions about the University's new Student Precinct.

The "Student Precinct" is the University's project to move all its student services, as well as the two student organisations (the University of Melbourne Student Union [UMSU] and Graduate Student Association [GSA]) to the south-east corner of campus, near the intersection of Swanston and Grattan Streets.

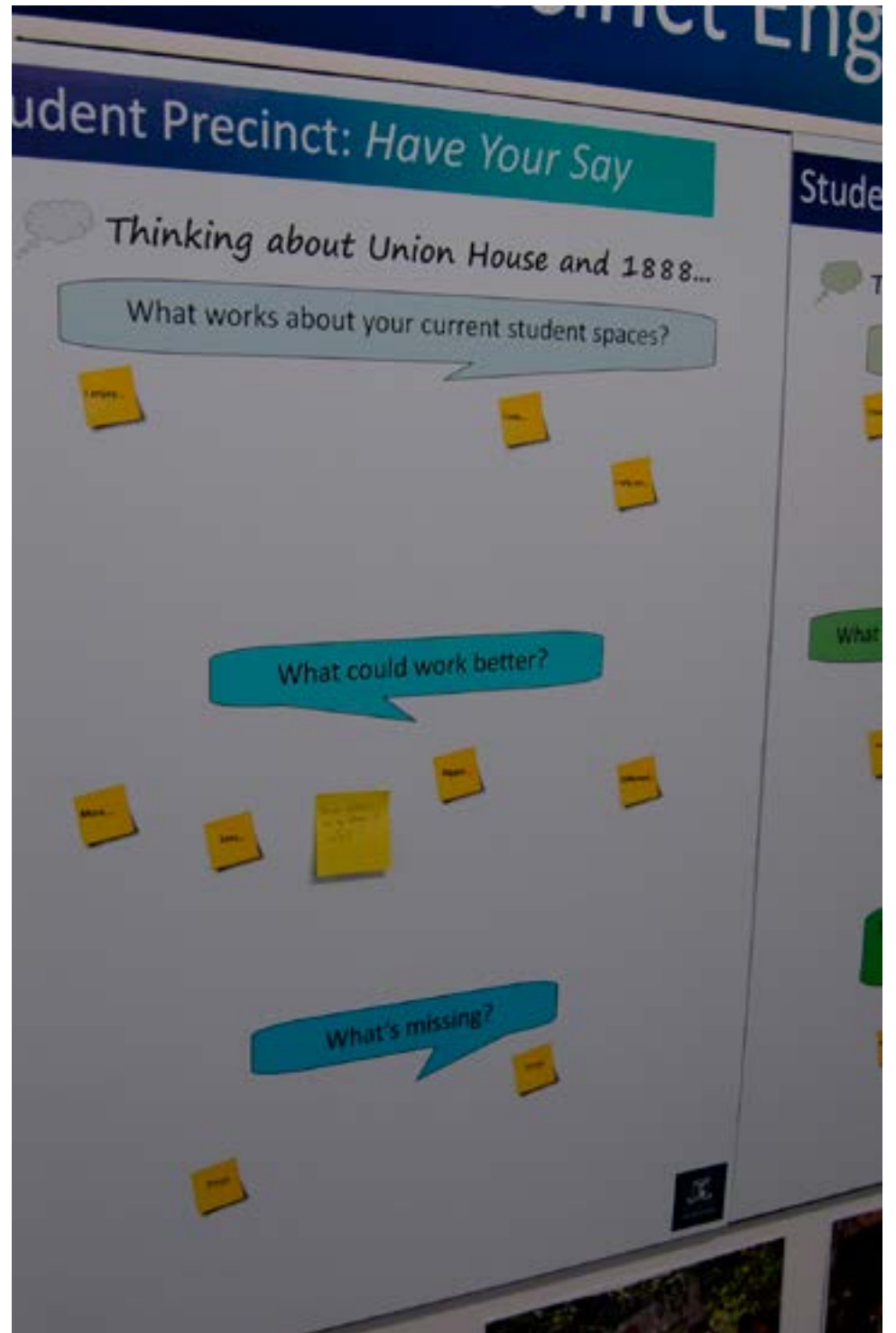
Parkville Station reported in depth on the Student Precinct in edition 10, two weeks ago.

At a launch event last Thursday, project leader Amelia Scurry told the assembled crowd that the project team were very interested in working closely with the student organisations, and that they anticipated the office would remain open throughout the life of the project.

In other Student Precinct news, UMSU President Tyson Holloway-Clarke posted a statement on the UMSU website, emphasising the need to be "adaptable" in the face of change. However, he also laid down a list of requirements that UMSU had for its future home.

It's good to see some movement on this front, and we'll continue to report as things happen.

The Student Precinct Engagement Office is open from 11am–3pm weekdays, and is just across the road from Tsubu. So if you find yourself bored between pints, drop in and have a look.



The new Arts Students' Society Committee — how many people can you name?



FULL RESULTS: M-ASS AGM.

President: Marlo Zambelli
Vice President: Madison Mooney
Treasurer: Tim Crockett
Secretary and Welfare Coordinator: Daniel Sango
Marketing Director: Sam Galagher
Events Coordinators: Alex Fielden and Annabelle Clancy
Marketing Coordinators: Daniel Datnow-Jamieson and Louis Thompson
Sponsorship Coordinators: Elanor Devitt and Nina Lloyd
Education Coordinators: Lily Ackland and Nick Parkinson
General Committee Representative: Sarah Peters
BBQ Coordinator: Andrew Pizzi

VCE SUMMER SCHOOL SEEKING NEW DIRECTORS.

The VCE Summer School (VCESS) has put out a call for applications for new programme directors.

VCESS is a two week programme run in January each year, aimed at addressing educational disadvantage by providing students entering years 11 and 12 with tutoring. It is run under the aegis of the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU).

UMSU has recently hired a volunteer coordinator as part of the development of its "Clubs and Volunteering" cluster, and VCESS is one of UMSU's flagship volunteering programmes.

So far the only substantial change to the programme appears to be a reformatting of the Director position description, but a revamped volunteering policy for UMSU is in the pipeline. We shall see what changes this may bring about in the 2017 Program.

Applications for Director are due on Friday, 20th May.

Disclosure: one of your valiant Parkville Station editors is a current VCESS Director, and one of your vainglorious PS editors was a VCESS Director many years ago.

NOTES.

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by "experienced members from the C&S, welfare and autonomous department communities". Acknowledging the burden of paperwork the proposal would provoke — both for C&S and for the clubs concerned — the proposal also suggests some "smaller" versions, but we think this proposal will need to be modified before C&S is inclined to implement it.

FEDERAL ELECTION CALLED (FINALLY), MAKE SURE YOU'RE ENROLLED TO VOTE.

On Sunday 8th of May, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull advised the Governor General to call a federal election for Saturday, 2nd July 2016 — as was widely anticipated (and indeed we reported on it a few weeks ago).

The election will be fought on various issues (we hope higher education is one of them), but we're sure that will be well covered on your TV screens, Facebook feeds and various other media.

We don't care who you vote for (that's a lie, we care a lot, but that's not the point). Instead, we'd like to take this opportunity to remind you—if you're an Australian citizen over 18 years old—to make sure you enrol to vote:

aec.gov.au/enrol

As an added bonus, enrolling to vote is in fact compulsory, so by doing so you both fulfil your civic duty, and avoid the potential for a fine.

(If you think you are enrolled, it's also worth double-checking that your enrolment hasn't mysteriously disappeared, particularly if you've moved houses. You can do so at the same website.)

The deadline for enrolment is 8pm on Monday 23rd May.

BUREAUCRACY ROUNDUP.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES POLICY WORKING GROUP

The C&S Policy Working Group hasn't yet graced our pages, but the group, formed this year by the Clubs and Societies Committee, is ambitiously tasked with reviewing and writing a veritable mountain of C&S policy, as well as tending to the menagerie that is the Clubs & Societies Regulations.

(Anyone interested in seeing either the veritable mountain or the fecund menagerie can see the full list on the whiteboard in the C&S Office. Ryan and Yas always welcome visitors.)

At its meeting last Wednesday, the working group considered how the C&S department was best placed to promote "welfare" in clubs, both at camps and in general. (As we'll get to, it also had a look at how it might promote "equity".)

The working group made no firm decisions, so we hasten to note that what we're reporting on are proposals, rather than the official position of either the C&S department or any of the people who attended the working group. Our assessment of whether or not the proposals will be implemented is, similarly, just an educated guess.

The first set of proposals considered by the working group tended to be reasonably non-controversial, and mostly consisted of refining existing concepts and best practices into a single 'Camps' Policy. It is likely this would codify the existing processes for camps, as well as introducing guidelines for rostering sober first aiders.

The idea of an advertising policy was also floated: in the past, advertising for various events (notably camps) has flirted with unsavoury themes, or perhaps had been written to suggest attendees would experience a level of sexual success that the club was not in a position to guarantee. A policy could make such advertising sanctionable, although the details of such a scheme remain to be seen.

More ambitious was a discussion of introducing compulsory "welfare training" for clubs. Our minds were immediately filled with fear of

cartoon HR representatives out of *Dilbert* leading caricatured readings of unimaginatively developed policies, but we've been assured that the training would be role-play based and much more interesting. We'll have to see a bit more detail before our minds are put totally at ease.

A proposal that clubs introduce a "welfare and equity representative" who will "promote welfare and equity" in the club and at its events, and act as a "first point of call for internal welfare and equity issues in the club". We think that this will get sharpened down to a "welfare representative".

Along those lines, there is also a question of whether clubs should be required to report on "welfare and equity" in their club. Our view is that a question like "What is the general state of welfare & equity in the club?" is a bit too vague to be made compulsory, but the idea that a welfare officer might make reports of serious grievances or incidents to the C&S department has legs.

More positively, the working group had a detailed discussion about making its grievance processes clearer. Last year, C&S introduced a new and (in our experience) somewhat controversial mediation procedure for grievances. This proposal would see the procedure made somewhat more accessible.

Another proposal that was mercifully simple to understand was introducing a new Regulation requiring clubs to publicly post their Constitutions. In favour of this is improving the transparency of clubs, which are principally funded through the Student Services and Amenities Fee; against the idea is the principle that a club is accountable to its members, rather than the student body at large. We understand the next step for that little proposal will be for it to be brought up at the Clubs & Societies Council.

The final proposal considered at this lengthy meeting was introducing "Welfare & Equity ... Audits", which would see all clubs required to send a standardised survey to their members. The results of this survey would be "collated"

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COMMENTARY.

UNCOMFORTABLE UNCLE.

*Dear Uncomfortable Uncle,
My parent organisation is making me move out of home, but I have nowhere to go, and they've offered basically no help except giving me a date to move out by. What should I do? Where will I go? - U. Msu*

Dear U. Msu,

Moving out of home is always difficult, but at a certain point in everyone's lives it's time to stop mooching off your parents, and to move into the real world. Scared of losing your parents sweet Foxtel deal and DVD collection? Don't want to lose the awesome party space that is your house's north facing veranda? Concerned that without a specific, purpose-built home to live in you'll become detached from the community you've come to know and love, losing your sense of identity and purpose in this increasingly cold and corporatised world, cutting you off from the many essential services you rely on to get by? TOO BAD. Grow up and find a new place. I hear Swanston Street is nice.

Best of luck,
UU

*Dear Uncomfortable Uncle,
I'm a 3rd year Arts student, but my friends still call me a Jaffy. What did I do? Can I fix it? - Eternal Jaffy*

Dear Jaffy,

While being a Jaffy (Just Another F**king First Year) is most often associated with being in first year, any seasoned uni student will know that symptoms will often persist long into an undergraduate degree.

University is a lot like the hit movie, The Karate Kid. Rather than simply graduating through the different levels, what really matters is internalising the values and ideals that you must learn on your journey, using them to overcome your

enemies and internal demons, and becoming a well rounded person in the process. Being a Jaffy is not something that simply disappears after ticking off one year of uni, but is rather a feeling, a state of being, a way of life. In this allegory, Uncomfortable Uncle is your wise yet eccentric sensei. The bad guy, that cocky, arrogant, self-important douchebag with an unearned sense of entitlement that has an alternate training system that you must defeat with your spiritually superior training, is probably some college kid (read into that what you will).

To move beyond your Jaffy stage, and to progress in your training, Sensei Uncle has the following mantras for you to internalise:

I shall not talk about schoolies, my ATAR, high school or my gap year, apart from when someone actually wants to hear about it (hint: never).

I shall not declare at every opportunity declare how screwed I am for exams, unless I can later back that up by actually very nearly failing my exams.

I shall not repeatedly tell everyone how drunk I am whilst drinking, especially when I am only on my second drink.

I shall not dress up for uni like it's a job interview (law and commerce students - I'm looking at you).

I shall not wear boat shoes (probably not really related to being a Jaffy, but they just make you look like a douchebag).

Hope that helps!
UU

**Dear loyal readers:
Do you want your awkward questions answered by your favourite Uncle, in his own special uncomfortable way? Send me an email at uu@parkvillestation.com! Please. I'm so lonely.**

xo, UU

TREND OR DEAD END? UBEREATS

There's nothing new under the sun, but every now and then, someone tells the world they've invented something that will change our lives and make them very rich. **Christina Loccisano** is here to tell us whether **AirBNB For Panther Owners With Sports Cars (or similar)** is here to stay or is just a flash in the pan.

CHRISTINA LOCCISANO

UberEATS is another service that's making our lives more convenient and us lazier.

Food delivery is not uncommon to us. Our local pizza shop mastered the craft long before independent food delivery companies such as Menulog, Deliveroo and now UberEATS.

But first, lets take a step back. Currently in Melbourne Uber is still illegal. Whilst this baffles us all (because the innovation truly is genius), what concerns me is how disregarded the "law" has become. Why has the courts ruling not stopped their advertisements, promotions and product development? How did the masterminds behind Uber manage to develop an additional service, whilst already conducting an illegal one?

Great questions all, very great questions. Essentially, the government is soundlessly collecting tax from drivers, which thus makes the legislation corrupt.

Nonetheless, regardless of the twisted nature, Uber has entered the food delivery business as UberEATS. Their service differentiates as supposedly providing Melbourne's favourites (both healthy and unhealthy options) "faster than anyone else". The food is estimated to get to you

within 15-30 minutes with no delivery charge. Currently the service does not run outside Melbourne's CBD, which only makes it useful for a handful of us. As for Melbourne University, only some of our bordering streets are currently in their delivery zone.

So, why is this delivery service obsession turning into a trying trend and succeeding? Short answer: we as a generation are becoming so impatient and irritated about wasting time that any convenient alternative is attractive to us.

Used on rare occasion, I don't believe this trend to be problematic. However, what's concerning is that for some, this may give a reason to abuse the service as fast food delivery. Consequently, it can damage consumers' health, providing them with reason to rarely leave their office, home or even bed. YAY or NAY?

This sounds to me like another fall down the stairs of solving our obesity crisis. STEP UP PEOPLE. We already live in a day and age where staying active and fit is an effort, let's not make moving to acquire our meals an option.

Until Uber laws are elucidated, I expect UberEATS will flourish and add significant value to Uber's Empire.

BUSINESS ■ OPTUS TAKES ON FOXTEL

CASSIE LEW

Last year Optus outbid Foxtel for the broadcast rights to show the English Premier League (EPL) in Australia. Optus paid a massive \$63 million AUD to get a slice of the lucrative sports broadcasting pie. However on 4th May, it was revealed that in order to watch the EPL, Australian consumers would have to sign up for an EPL-eligible Optus post paid mobile, mobile broadband or home broadband plans, and fans are cut.

If you want to find out what your options are, you'll have to allocate some time to decrypt the Optus website. Australian Financial Review reporter Paul Smith described the options as "ridiculously confusing and expensive". Paul also reported that you might have to pay more depending on where you live because Optus doesn't own all the components of their broadband system in each area. So, soz soccer fans.

The minimum you can pay for EPL, if you're not an Optus member already, is \$1,320 over 24 months. This includes absolutely no frills. You can't even watch it on your TV for this price. If you're a current Optus customer (on an "eligible" plan) and you're paying over \$85 a month, you can watch EPL for free; otherwise you'll need to pay an extra \$15 per month. I don't even like soccer, but these kinds of deals always give me a headache.

Optus have come up with this promotion, almost definitely, to pay off the crazy \$63 million that they forked out for the broadcasting rights.

They clearly believe they'll make more money charging customers this way, rather than signing people up to a season subscription. This also allows Optus to increase their market share, and they'll have high hopes that this will broaden their customer base and deter new entrants from signing up to plans with competitors.

Optus might be being a little optimistic here. Firstly, it's not as simple as just moving from your Fox Sports subscription to Optus. Fox Sports offers a lot more than Optus does right now, so fans feel pretty ripped off. Secondly, Foxtel just signed an agreement with six major EPL teams, meaning it can play delayed games that involve these clubs. I don't know how mad about EPL most fans are, but waiting less than 24 hours to watch a game might seem a better alternative to \$15 month.

The biggest issue is that consumers can watch the EPL for free. Yes, it's illegal, but hello? Haven't Optus heard of Game of Thrones? Australia has the highest illegal downloads of Game of Thrones in the world. We are notorious pirates. Maybe this will be a huge success for Optus, but I doubt it'll have the rapid boost to the company that they're hoping for. Optus want to be a bigger player in this game (pun intended) but if you're a diehard EPL fan, who isn't a current Optus customer, and who watches Fox Sports for other sports as well as EPL, then this situation sucks.

UNCOMFORTABLE UNCLE'S THOUGHT OF THE WEEK: Gone fishin'

FIRST YEAR VIEW

KEEPING UP WITH THE STUDY

Our resident jaf first year student, **Raphael Canty**, makes us miss the feeling of starting uni.

RAPHAEL CANTY

Last week I wrote about joining all the clubs, and if step one to a good first year at Uni is to do just that, step two would have to be to not fail your subjects while you're doing so.

The transition to Uni has definitely been steep, and hearing people say "first year's easy, wait until you're in second or third year" makes me think that I may need to re-adjust my expectations slightly... But despite being not quite as on top of things as I would like, I'm surviving and loving the freer lifestyle.

I think the issue is that (like every new first year) I started this semester blind to how everything works at Uni. Maybe it's just that I forgot everything academics-related over the 3 month post-VCE holiday, but it seems that very few of my study habits have smoothly transitioned to tertiary study.

I know so many things now that I wish I knew in week one. Things like how I should've gotten on top of things sooner, how I should

not have timetabled three lectures back to back, twice a week (my Wednesday and Thursday mornings are not fun), how if I don't understand one lecture, chances are I won't get anything from the next one (or the ones after), and how I need to leave lots of time for my Italian pre-readings and essays because as a Science student my brain doesn't like sitting down and reading pages of writing without solving problems at the same time.

I'm also very aware that SWOT Vac is not far away, along with exams, which will be another fun new first year experience.

But the good thing about all that I've learned through trial and error this semester is that soon it will be semester two, everything will be brand new and I can put all that I've learned into practice. Either everything will be perfect, or I may just end up back where I am now. I'll be hoping for the former!

PAUL & TOM, ED AC

Paul Sakkal and Tom Crowley are the Education (Academic Affairs) officers at the University of Melbourne Student Union.

PARKVILLE STATION INTERVIEWS PAUL SAKKAL AND TOM CROWLEY.



Parkville Station (PVS): *We interviewed the Ed Ac officers a few weeks ago — what does Ed-Ac do that's different?*

Tom Crowley (TC): I think the focus is local — that's the fundamental difference. Ed Ac is really focused on the university's policy settings, rather than national policy settings. For instance, if the University makes a new policy about exams or timetables or subjects or whatever it is, it's our job to serve as advocates for the Melbourne Uni student population on those issues.

We spend a lot of our time in committee meetings, policy committees, meeting with important university stakeholders and I suppose trying to make sure the policy decisions the University makes are in the interests of students.

The other part of our role is meeting with students to figure out exactly what that is. We spend a lot of our time trying to gather information from students, and speak to as many students from as many disciplines as we can to make sure that we're being representative in our advocacy.

Paul Sakkal (PS): I'd say the way to describe it is being embedded in the fabric of the University to try and get outcomes from within.

PVS: *You said a lot of your role was talking to students, getting student opinion. Do students come to you or do you go to them?*

PS: It's a combination of both, but obviously a lot of people come to us with emails or just knocking on the door. If they've got concerns, you can sort of gauge that it's a concern held by a broader cross section, not just that one student. Often when you do hear it from one person, you start hearing it from others.

TC: We also have a yearly recruitment process for interested students to come and join our larger team of student representatives. We have a group of 60-70 student reps who we're in regular contact with and who come to meetings to discuss these issues. In that sense, if there are any students reading this and want to get involved, we're always looking for people to broaden our circle.

We do some more outreach: we've got a survey on some important issues that's coming out soon, and when we do that, we'll spend a bit of time going to lectures, standing around on South Lawn, advertising on Facebook to try to get as many people as we can to give us their two cents.

PVS: *What kind of campaigns or issues are you looking at, at the moment?*

TC: We don't run campaigns so much as we find

out about issues and seek out the right people to meet with to get a grasp on what's happening.

The big one is the Flexible Academic Programme (FlexAp). The University is starting a major discussion on how they can shake things up, how they can improve things, which is simultaneously exciting and scary. They're having a discussion about the role of the lecture, as opposed to (or in addition to) seminars and tutorials, changes to the University timetable system, semester structure system, how they use online technologies — there's a whole big review process that we're quite heavily involved in. That's actually what the survey will be centred around.

There are also little spot fires that turn up from time to time: we recently had to deal with a proposal to prescribe a single type of calculator for use University-wide. There're also issues that are important to us that we can bring up ourselves, so in that sense, push a bit of a positive agenda.

The big one we're working on at the moment is improving feedback: we've just started up a working group on one of the senior Academic Board sub-committees on feedback from final assessments. In particular, we're looking to see if we can bridge the gap for the amount of feedback students get from their exams and take home essays. At the moment, that's pretty minimal.

PVS: *People on University committees — are they receptive to you, or do they see you as a stumbling block?*

PS: That's a key part of our role: lending legitimacy to the student voice. If they see us as a group of people who just shout, and are obstructionist on all issues, then our view will continue to be marginalised.

TC: The flip side of that is that when we do engage constructively, we find we do get taken more seriously. If you can come to the academics with a reasoned point of view, and a reasoned stance, they're pretty receptive to that.

TC: A broader point is that I think student reps in a sense can decide if they want their relationship with the university to be adversarial or constructive, and I think historically different student reps have taken different paths, but our view and our approach to the office is that we have more of a chance of getting good things done if we don't start from the assumption that the University is evil and out to get us. They make plenty of daft decisions that definitely keep up the need for our office to exist, but we're relentlessly trying to engage with them in a reasoned way rather than turning it into a...

PS: ...shitstorm. A good line is: you'll achieve

near nothing if you're militant about the way you go about it.

PVS: *Has there ever been a situation where someone at the University just refuses to work with you?*

PS: Not really.

TC: Well... certain people are more receptive than others, I think it's fair to say. In particular, people on the Academic Board and beneath it are generally really good at dealing with student reps; people from University Council less so.

PS: We haven't had much dealing with University Council, really.

TC: Not for lack of trying.

PS: What about the student representatives on University Council? What's your view on them?

TC: No comment. I didn't know we had them.

PVS: *Big story this week — the federal budget. With the budget adopting a do-nothing consultation process, does that defuse higher education as an election issue?*

PS: Absolutely not.

TC: It might defuse it as an election issue; it doesn't defuse it as a policy priority.

PS: The Labor Party know it's a vote-getter.

TC: I think it will still be an election issue — [Federal Education Minister] Simon Birmingham has been quite explicit about his short to medium term priority for what he calls "greater fee flexibility" and flexibility in general in the higher education sector, and that takes a bunch of forms. I think they think that deregulation is too unpopular to go back to wholesale, but there are plenty of places they can stop just short of that, that are basically exactly the same.

PS: "Deregulation by stealth", really. They've now thrown into the mix a decrease in the threshold as to when you repay HECS, which is another hugely bad policy.

PVS: *A budget and an election are usually both things that fire people up a lot, but we've had both in a matter of weeks and it's fair to say the National Day of Action rally on Wednesday was under-attended. Is protest dead?*

TC: Is protest dead? Look, I would say that

students can choose to be politically active in different ways. There are some students who think that protesting is the most exciting or most effective way of being active in politics — and power to them — it's not really my thing, and I think it's fair to say it's not really Paul's. We tend to be of the view that if you really want to make change, you've got to be a bit more realistic about it: you've got to ground your political advocacy in the real world, you've got to have reasoned conversations, you've got to think deeply about issues and make sure that your point can be articulated in a way that will be taken seriously.

I think that in general, slogans at protests are not the most effective way of conveying nuance, and I think that nuance is key to achieving outcomes in political debates. Certainly from the perspective of the Education (Academic) office, we'd much rather advocate change in ways that maybe aren't quite so loud and in your face, but in our view are more effective.

PS: There's a culture issue in the way these sorts of things are organised, and everyone can see that when they're at these sorts of events. In saying that, you can't not give credit where it's due: I think the protests did have a big role to play in putting down deregulation the first time. But like I said, and a lot of people will have the same view, if I want to shout slogans, I'll go to a soccer game.

TC: I don't think that low turnouts at protests are a sign that students don't care. I think students care in different ways.

PVS: *What would you want to achieve by the end of your term, to be able to say you'd really achieved something?*

PS: I think FlexAp's the biggest thing in our term, and it will be for the next two or three terms. If we can have a proper stake and a proper role in FlexAp discussions, and we do currently have that, I think that would be a huge win, because it's definitely the biggest thing that's going to affect students in the next couple of years.

TC: One other — if we can end the year having done something concrete to improve feedback from assessment, that'll be another big win.

PS: Flagging something, I think there'll be something done on plagiarism. I think there's going to be ongoing discussions about how we provide cultural change in terms of thinking on plagiarism.

And if we can increase the circulation of *Parkville Station* to reach over 10,000 a week.

PVS: *Done.*

ANOTHER UMSU SGM. WHAT'S AT STAKE?

EDITORIAL • As reported in Parkville Station last week, the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) is holding another special general meeting (SGM) to consider changes to its constitution.

We've read through the changes and have lots of opinions! The titles are as given in UMSU's official documents, but from there we descend to highly-biased commentary and selectively-presented facts. More important than reading or considering anything we've written here though, is to come to the SGM and make *your* voice heard.

The SGM is next week, at **12.30pm** on **Tuesday 24th May 2016** in **North Court**. Details: umsu.unimelb.edu.au/gm

1. REMOVING THE ASTERISK FROM "WOM*N"

At the moment, the Constitution refers to the department in charge of representing female students as the "Wom*n's Department".

The asterisk (*) in the name "originated from second wave feminism", which is a "largely exclusionary movement". That said, historically it has been associated with the idea that remov-

ing the suffix '-man' "symbolically remove[s] the concept of wom*n from a patriarchal context".

We're not in a position to give this issue the treatment it deserves in the three, two-centimetre columns we've allocated, but we are sympathetic to the practical arguments: people (particularly first years coming from school systems not

known for their detailed and sensitive treatment of women's issues) are more likely to figure out what the "Women's Department" is than the "Wom*n's". In any event, the Wom[e*n]'s officers are going to advertise their department as they see fit.

Parkville Station
recommends:

YES

2. INTRODUCING A PEOPLE OF COLOUR DEPARTMENT

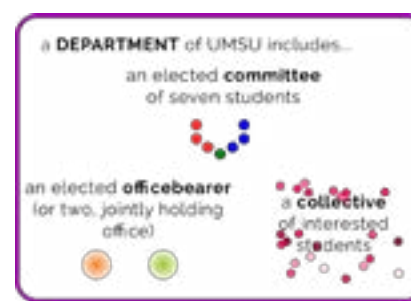
A People of Colour Department would be responsible for representing, well, people of colour (which we'll tentatively define as "non-white", but see below). There's a strong argument for introducing such a department if only because the People of Colour Collective, currently run under the aegis of the Welfare Department, exists and one tends to err on the side of being representative. The rationale given notes the "systematic disadvantage at all levels at university due to [barriers including] racism and cultural barriers".

On the other hand, the proposal is light on detail: none of the barriers (and how a department might break them down) are identified, and budget implications are not mentioned at all.

How the People of Colour Department would interact with the existing Indigenous Department is not defined in the Constitution.

We note with a cheeky smirk a drafting error in these changes, with the changes for a PoC department including reference to the "Representative of Students' Council elected by People of Colour", which is actually item 5.

WHAT'S A DEPARTMENT?



"People of Colour means people who identify as people of colour due to their African, Asian, Pacific Islander, Aboriginal, Indigenous, Latinx, Arab, multiracial or other relevant non-white background."

Parkville Station
is a cowardly:

NEUTRAL

3. CORRECTION OF A MUOSS ANACHRONISM

UMSU International used to be called the Melbourne University Overseas Students Service, or MUOSS for short. There was a lot of "MUOSS" in the UMSU constitution, and it didn't all get removed.

The only reasons we can see to oppose this change are spurious ones.

Parkville Station recommends:

YES

4. UPDATING THE DEFINITION OF "WOMAN"

Currently, to be a "Woman" within the meaning of the UMSU Constitution (important, for example, in determining if you can vote in the election for the Women's Committee), you must be listed on the University's big list of students as a woman. The concern is that this might be "exclusionary of Trans Women", who may either be recorded in the University's system under the

"third gender", or might not yet have been able to cajole the University into updating their records.

The new definition replaces this test with: "a person who identifies as a Woman".

We think this is a good idea, but have grave reservations over its implementation: at the moment, the polling clerks at student elections (i.e., the people who hand out the ballots) have a list

produced by the University of all students recorded as Women, and it's not clear whether they will now give all students a Women's ballot paper (as is the case with the Queer ballot), or will ask every student, or will use a "guess-and-be-corrected" approach. But giving students more power over this is a definite yes in our books.

Parkville Station
recommends:

YES

5. INTRODUCTION OF A STUDENTS OF COLOUR REPRESENTATIVE ON STUDENT'S COUNCIL

We don't see why you'd vote differently on this from how you voted at item 2. Having an odd number of members of the Students' Council is a good idea.

As pedants, we of course prefer the Constitutional orthography "Students' Council" rather than "Student's Council".

Parkville Station is a cowardly:

NEUTRAL

6. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FOR WOMEN OF COLOUR IN THE WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

This would introduce effectively two requirements:

- if there are two Women's officers (and there usually are), at least one has to be a woman of colour; and
- at least three of the seven voting representatives on the Women's Committee must be women of colour.

We think there a few unexplained inconsistencies in the proposed rules:

- why three of seven? why not one of seven,

or six of seven? (particularly in a round of changes proposing to increase to four of seven the quota of women on other committees)

- why require at least one woman of colour as an officer (if there are two officers), but not require a sole holder of the office to be a woman of colour? (We note the equivalent provision for the Queer officers requires at least one Officer to be a Woman or Trans*, regardless of how many officers there are;

and we note that the rationale given for the changes would seem to support extending a similar requirement here).

All in all, the rationale: "White women often speak over women of colour, who face multifaceted challenges incomprehensible to white women" is the most pertinent one, but we feel this change may have been rushed by a desire to have it implemented before the student elections in September.

If you think we're
being pedantic:

YES

but if you think we
raise good points:

NO

7. INTRODUCING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FOR JOINT OB POSITIONS

8. STRENGTHENING AA IN MULTI-MEMBER BALLOTS

These two changes are closely related. The first would require that, for any office held by more than one person, at least one of those people would have to be a woman.

We find the rationale given, “Women should be represented across all UMSU departments” to be a bit lacking — Committees are an integral part of Departments, and all have affirmative action provisions already in place. (We certainly agree that women should be represented across all UMSU departments—don’t get us wrong on that!)

Media, with three or four Officers, is a special case: under the proposal only one of the three or four Media officers would have to be a Woman.

On balance, we don’t think this change is in the best interests of UMSU. Ensuring women are represented across all departments is a worthwhile cause, and one we would happily advocate from the more editorially-oriented sections of the paper. But the best way to ensure women (and LGBTIQ people, and people of colour, and any other group you care to pick) is to subject candidates to intense scrutiny at elections and ensure that not only do they represent those groups, but they’ll also enact policies that promote the interests of students from groups which face barriers. This is particularly pertinent for Officebearer positions, where the smaller number of vacancies makes for a more robust exam-

ination of candidates’ credentials.

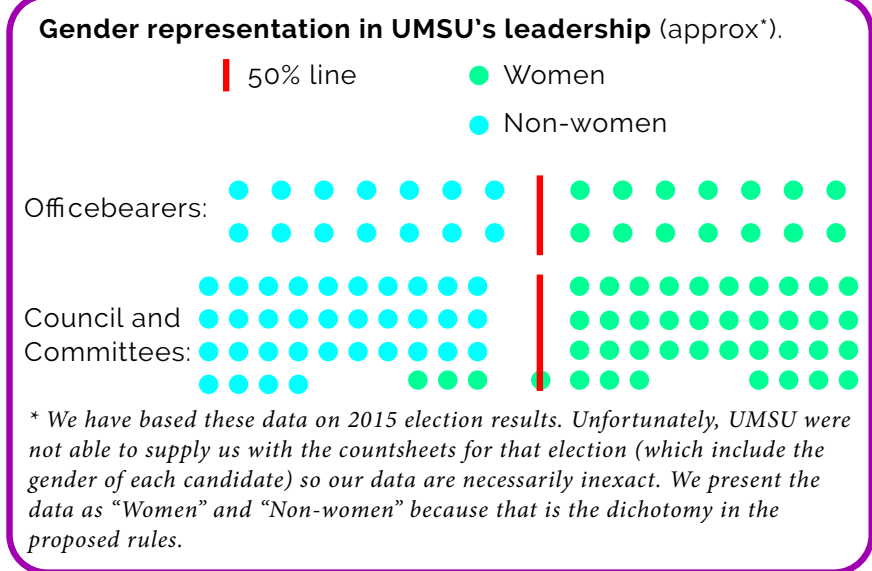
That brings us to proposal eight, “strengthening AA in multi-member ballots” (AA is affirmative action; multi-member ballots means committee and Students’ Council ballots). At the moment, UMSU’s affirmative action re-

ly, this means that men are favoured candidates in the top spots on election tickets — to avoid the risk of a male candidate being “AAed out”). A similar provision requires at least seven of the fifteen general members of the Students’ Council to be women.

This proposal would see that requirement

Parkville Station
recommends:

NO



to be women.

As usual, we’re lukewarm on the rationale presented: the core thrust is “Women students make up the majority of students at the University of Melbourne”. This is true — but it misses the point. Students, at elections, should be selecting candidates they think represent them on policy.

An important part of that representation is selecting representatives from a diversity of backgrounds. If there were a deficit of women at UMSU’s top level, that would suggest a problem and affirmative action might be a tool to solve that problem. But we don’t believe that’s the situation at UMSU.

A rule that tries to roughly follow the University’s gender intake is a blunt tool. (We would agree it would not be a compelling argument to reverse this change if the University’s gender balance slipped the other way; nor do we think a rule requiring three of seven representatives to be men is a particularly compelling one.)

quirements mean that on a committee of seven people, at least three must be women (perverse-

raised slightly, requiring four of seven (or eight of fifteen, for Students’ Council) of those elected

BUT REALLY...

Parkville Station recommends that you read the proposed changes, make up your own mind, come to the SGM and vote. And send us angry letters. letters@parkvillestation.com.

OUT AND ABOUT IN WEEK 10.



Age old red solo cup tower building at UMSUvision trivia.



Activities Officer Itsi.



Kings at Tuesday bands and bevs.



Listening to Budget Breakdown speeches in comfort.



Yes — you can tell me what on Earth this is.



Poster bollard cleaned up in anticipation of...?



BBQ revelers at Kings on Tuesday.

CAMPUS STYLE.

CURATED BY MADELEINE JOHNSON

MIKA BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTS

Spotted at: Cussonia Court



I'm wearing a top that was given to me by a housemate, who is called Maddie, so she gave it to me because it starts with M, and I would never usually wear it, because it's way too sporty and basketball-y, but I kinda like it because it's very comfy. And I've recently been feeling very ironically sporty. Other than that, I'm wearing this orange vest I found in an op shop, which I bought because I decided to go dressed entirely orange to a music festival last year. This backpack I got for my birthday from my housemate. The socks were given to me by her, too. And these shoes, someone left them at my house after a party last year, they're my first real Converse. My grandma is a jeweller, and she makes a ridiculous amount of jewellery, and she's given me an insane amount as well, and I always wear it, like this necklace. And the hat is from some random op shop. I've decided it's beanie weather, as of today.

My favourite item of clothing is this pair of pants that I found in an op shop. They have the same colours, teal, dark green, and hot pink, that

exactly match a necklace that my grandma made me. It's just like, planets must have come into alignment for that to happen, and for those colours to have matched.

I wear entirely op shop things, I decided two years ago I wasn't going to buy anything new. So, pretty much my entire wardrobe, shoes, everything, is second hand. One of the best op shops ever is a Salvos in Abbotsford, it's really good, it's got a lot of art and stuff. I once spent over a hundred dollars at one time there. It was bad, but also really good. I've always just tried to get everything I can from op shops. And it's amazing how you can get pretty much everything you need! I've never actually been like, "ah, I'm missing this one item of clothing that I can't find anywhere in an op shop". I think it's because I don't really wear plain things, but if you need them, yeah, I understand.

My style has definitely gone through phases, as everyone does. I weirdly used to be very hippy, and I've just moved so entirely away from it. But I

still like to think I'm a hippy, even though I'm not, at all. I think colours have always been my thing, I've never worn a lot of black. I like a lot of t-shirts and jeans, baggy things, that's a theme, nothing tight is allowed in my wardrobe, ever. Only if it's ironically tight, for like a costume or whatever. Layers, big, baggy layers, and turtle-necks. I've always liked wearing men's shoes, that are like clunky and way too big. Stripy pants and skirts are a very good time. I used to always try and get Obelix pants (from Asterix and Obelix) and I once had these perfect Obelix pants, they were black and white and stripy, and I just wore them everywhere. And then I wore them to death, and they fell apart. I also love double stripes, or triple stripes! Stripes on stripes, I have a stripy watch, which I actually forgot to wear today. So as many stripes as possible. I also love teal and orange! This is such a hard question.

If I could swap wardrobes with anyone, it would be with Pippi Longstocking. I don't even know if they described her clothing that much. I know she always wore men's shoes. She had a lot of her

dad's big, baggy clothing, and was just very great. And she also coincidentally has a pet monkey, so if that came with the wardrobe, I'd get around it. And I also feel like she'd probably also appreciate my wardrobe.

Style has become increasingly important to me, in high school I was very oblivious to it, and I was seen as this very does-not-care, wear-literally-anything type, I would never think about colours matching or anything. Coming to uni, I've met a few people who are very colour conscious, which has made me a lot more colour conscious. I've never really thought about what suits me and what doesn't, that's never really been important to me. I don't think style is important to the point where people spend a lot of money on it. It's important to me because it's not a huge expense. I think that's what I like about fashion, it's affordable and accessible, it's not exclusive. Or doesn't need to be, anyway.

EVENTS.

Note: we usually do the events frantically at 3am while the printer gets progressively angrier at us. So it'd be a good idea to double-check we got the date and time right, and check if you need tickets. Also send us your events: tips@parkvillestation.com.

ANXIETY SUPPORT GROUP

WHEN: Mon 16 May, 2pm

WHERE: Training Room 2, UH

A space to confidentially discuss anxiety and stress. Comfort and tips offered.

BREXIT & THE EU

WHEN: Mon 16 May, 6pm

WHERE: Terrace Lounge, Walter Boas Building

Hear Dr Robin Niblett consider the future of the EU amidst a succession of crises and growing popular discontent, especially in the UK.

BOTANICAL DRAWING WORKSHOP

WHEN: Tues 17 May, 12:30pm

WHERE: System Garden

Join in on a botanical illustration outdoor class using real objects in the systems garden and surrounding areas.

FREE BBQ AND POCKETS

WHEN: Tues 17 May, 1pm

WHERE: North Court

Free BBQ, Beer & Band. If you don't want to go to this weekly by now I don't know how any description could.

SHOP THE CITY

WHEN: Wed 18 May, 10-10pm

WHERE: Melbourne Central

Twelve hours of offers and events in Melbourne Central. Clothes, food, art, photography and many, many samples.

WELFARE FOOD BANK DRIVE

WHEN: Wed 18 May, 10-5pm

WHERE: Mary Cooke A, UH

Donate non-perishables to UMSU's Welfare department.

FBE GRAD CAREERS

WHEN: Wed 18 May, 12pm

WHERE: G20, Alan Gilbert Bldg

Opportunity for graduate FBE students to discuss strategies for moving from University to the workplace - also a good opportunity for networking.

BASEMENT COMEDY

WHEN: Wed 18 May, 2pm

WHERE: Basement, Nth Crt

Spend 30 minutes in the company of people with opinions on hot topics like Israel/Palestine, global warming, and aeroplane food.

CHANGE THE WORLD

WHEN: Wed 18 May, 6pm

WHERE: LAB-14, Carlton Con.

Three startup founders will speak to how they have geared their ventures towards addressing emerging societal issues.

STATE OF AUS ECONOMY

WHEN: Wed 18 May, 6pm

WHERE: Theatre D, Old Arts

ESSA presents the pre-eminent Aust macroeconomist of our time, Saul Eslake who will share his insights on the state of the Australian economy. \$5 for non-ESSA members.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

WHEN: Thurs 19 May, 12pm

WHERE: Training Room 1, UH

Come have your say on student issues in the last Students' Council of semester.

INEQUALITY & COMPETITION

WHEN: Thurs 19 May, 7pm

WHERE: Copland Th, Spot

Aust's regulatory frames for competition are mostly blind to economic inequality - learn how that could change.

URINETOWN MUSICAL

WHEN: Fri 20 - Sat 28 May

WHERE: Union Theatre, UH

Come see the show that braids corporate corruption, water consumption, capitalism and Malthusian ethics into its farcical musical theatre plot.

EXHIBIT: I CAME BY BOAT

WHEN: Fri 20 - Sun 22 May

WHERE: 9 Glasshouse Rd, Collingwood

A portrait series for the I Came By Boat campaign, celebrating the contribution of refugees to Australia.

NATIONAL TRUST OPEN DAY

WHEN: Sat 21 May, 10am

WHERE: Around Victoria

Explore 20 open National Trust properties across the Victoria

EDWARD SNOWDEN

WHEN: Sun 22 May, 6pm

WHERE: Convention Centre

Hear Snowden comment on the dangers of Australia's growing governmental surveillance and the relationship between individualism and 'national security'.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

After weeks of encouragement, we're pleased to see contributions finally flowing in to **PITCH@PARKVILLESTATION.COM**. Keep it up!

UMSU INTERNATIONAL POLICY SPEECH SESSION

NIGEL THOMSON, Biomedical Sciences

This was held on May 10 in the Greenwood Theatre of the Electrical Engineering Building. I can't report that there were a lot of informed questions, or even a great deal of interest among those gathered to listen. A significant percentage of the audience seemed restless from early on. I'm told that Ben Fourniotis and Connor Kret have some good ideas, but I didn't hear any of them. Wary about having to listen to simple self-serving electioneering, many of us decided to head down to Cinema Nova to watch the 1pm session of "The Green Room". It was terrific. All about a punk rock band con-

tracted to a low paying gig in the Oregon backwoods where they witness... Well, I won't tell you that, but what starts as an intriguing premise develops as a horror-thriller about the band's battle with a diabolical venue owner (Patrick Stewart). The writing's smart and the humour is black; it's gory - but it's a genuinely scary movie. Imogen Poots is in it too. I liked her a lot in She's Funny That Way with Owen Wilson - which no one saw apparently, and she's really good in this too. After the film we had some tapas in the bar, enjoyed immensely with an aged Spanish tempranillo.

TURF BAR

RON BARBERI, MUSC

This is a great place to get a beer and watch sport on the big screens continuously (not just AFL, NRL, NBA, EPL, but also NHL, Golf, you name it). However it's down in Queen Street, nearly the other side of the city and I rarely go there. Mostly I go over to the Cinema Nova Bar which also has a range of boutique beers, and you can have a conversation without having to compete with Game commentaries. Personally I'm not a fan of spectator sport, preferring to get out sailing on the bay on weekends. I haven't got much to say other than that I like the boutique beers at the Nova, but

I know these contributions are supposed to be longer than this, so if you don't mind, I'm going to list the beers I've had there - Napoleone Helles Lager, Barrow Boys Stormy Lager, Two Birds Golden Ale, Moon-dog Old Mate Pale Ale, Anytime IPA, Copycat IPA, Cavalier Pale Ale, Mornington Imperial ILA, Napoleone Saison, Bridge Road Enigma Pilsner, Cavalier Brown Ale, Three Ravens Smoke Dark Ale, Temple Now American Stout, Mornington Brewery Lager, Continuous Daryl, Imperial IPA and Why So Cereal.

EMS MAY REPORT

CAMERON WALSH, Engineering

We had a bi-monthly meeting of the EMS (Engineering Music Society) Steering Group, mainly to discuss the shortfall in funds in March/April which led to the cancellation of the April piss-up, or more correctly the fact that EMS couldn't fund it so we had to buy drinks ourselves (the horror!), but also to organise the next choir rehearsal. As the University had locked us out of our (booked!) meeting room, we decided to have the meeting at the Queensberry, to which we normally adjourn anyway. Before we got onto the serious business we had a few get-to-know-you beers, despite the fact that we all know each other pretty well. This gave rise to the first call for a vote which was "Do we feel like another beer?" Due to an incredibly good, and passionately argued, oration by Charles

Peak, an unprecedented decision was taken NOT to have another beer, but to have a round of cocktails instead. As the Queensberry is not noted for cocktails, we moved on. Elsewhere, over cocktails, we got to the heart of the matter, which was what had happened to the money. The situation was resolved when the treasurer, poring over complex spreadsheets, realized that the money had never been there, it was simply a bookkeeping error in the double entries, and the real problem was that we hadn't levied enough fees from members, especially jaffys, or applied for enough grants. A vote was taken to do just that and set a date for the next choir rehearsal. Passed unanimously!

CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS

ROLLS ON AT UMSU

GEOFF GOLD, SCIENCE

The University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) has added a seventh proposed change to those being considered. The previous 6 were detailed in PS E10 and revolved around sustainability, officebearer terms, affirmative action, quorums and removing the asterisk from wom*n's. UMSU

is soliciting responses from the University community as a whole as an experiment "to increase student consultation through the process". The seventh proposed change is that Nova in Lygon Street become UMSU's Cinema-Of-Choice.

HOW SHITTY ARE THE SOFAS IN THE BAILLIEU?

ROBIN THISTLEWAITE, Medicine

(#RhetoricalQuestion) We'd read about this matter in Parkville Station in a previous edition, and a number of friends and I decided to put the proposition to the test. I guess I should say, by matter of full disclosure, that I prefer a seat firmer rather than softer, and the sofas in the Baillieu tend towards the softer, but there are also really hard bits that make it impossible to find a comfortable position, even for those who prefer soft seating (broken springs I'm guessing). After half an hour of testing we all decided that we needed an objective reference point, (and also somewhere where the seats are more comfortable!). The obvious place was Cinema Nova in Lygon Street. I took Mathias & Raphael to see Sherpa in Cinema 16, which is my favourite, because the leather seats there are extremely firm.

Anne-Marie took Lindsay and Dick to see Florence Foster Jenkins in Cinema 14 because she likes the big roomy armchairs that have the wide arms. We compared notes in the bar afterwards. Both groups agreed that the Nova chairs were considerably more comfortable, and this was true across the full spectrum of seat preferences. Both the films were good too, although Mathias and Dick should have swapped as Mathias is afraid of heights and didn't know that Sherpa would have so many scenes on precipices, and Dick is just a wee bit serious and thought FFJ was too frivolous for him, especially as he was in "work mode" (comparing the seats). Our opinion is that the Baillieu should contact Cinema Nova to find where they source their chairs.

LAW SCHOOL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

ANAIS VILLEFRANCHE, Law

There has been considerable controversy within the faculty over incompatible agendas between the Law School Timetable Restructure Committee and the Law School Schedule Overhaul Subcommittee of Faculty Administration. Both groups acknowledge the same principal issue but differ significantly in their approach to a solution. The Timetable Restructure Committee has consistently said that it is amenable to providing a 150 minute break in afternoon lectures from 1pm. However the Law School Schedule Overhaul Subcommittee of Faculty Administration has called for further information about whether this is enough

time to get from lecture halls to Cinema Nova, see a movie and return by 4pm. Principal queries relate to the length of law-friendly films and an apparent unreliability in session start times viz-a-viz the 12.55pm lecture ends. The Schedule Overhaul Subcommittee has also called into question the advisability of a faculty-wide non-staggered break at all, raising concerns about the width of footpaths to accommodate expected crowds and the difficulty of co-ordinating traffic lights to cut down possible jaywalking caused by careless students "trying to beat the rush".

REFUGEE ACTION GROUP

CONNIE MAYALL, Arts

The new film Chasing Asylum by Eva Orner is a disturbing expose of Australia's offshore detention policies. It shows footage from inside Australia's offshore detention camps, which highlights the mental, physical and social consequences of Australia's decision to lock away families in unsanitary conditions, hidden from media scrutiny. It's opening next week, but Cinema Nova ran an advance preview for the MU Refugee Action Group. The screening was a huge success and we had a question and answer session afterwards. When everyone had gone home, we ducked into the Nova bar to discuss running another session in the next week or two, over a wine. There were

quite a few known faces there, and it was quite fun catching up. Nigel Thompson, who does BioMed with my older brother, introduced us to his colleagues, one of whom had been on Manus Island. They'd just seen The Green Room and were raving about it. There was also a group from EMS, drinking shots with cocktail chasers who kept voting to have another cocktail. At one stage they all got down on the floor and mock-searched for "missing funds". That stopped when someone lightbulbed "they never existed". Requests for them to sing a song were met with loud guffaws and a single out of tune verse of Bohemian Rhapsody by a red-haired merry-maker.

HONG KONG WINNER BANNED IN CHINA

GRACE LIU, Overseas Students Services

The film Ten Years, which won Best Film at last month's Hong Kong Film Awards - Asia's answers to the Oscars, has been banned in China, as was the live broadcast of the Awards (the first time since 1991) when Chinese authorities realised the film had been nominated. Ten Years is a

dystopian narrative composed of five short stories in which Hong Kong has been totally taken over by China to the point that neither the language, Cantonese, nor local agricultural products can be freely used. The film is screening in occasional private sessions at Cinema Nova.

REVIEWS.

Still at the movies. **Jon Krikstolaitis** looks at a few ultra-violent favourites.

THE HATEFUL EIGHT

dir. Quentin Tarantino
IMDb: 7.9
Rotten Tomatoes 75%
Parkville Station: 7

Tarantino has built his career on dialogue. The characters fill the world he creates in a way that make you understand the motivations of each character and what the world is supposed to be like. Pulp Fiction was a triumph of this, it was pulp in every sense of the word. The best of Modern American cinema, it separated itself from our world and took us to another place. The Hateful Eight has the feel and the dialogue but feels lost overall.

The film has a very simple premise. Middle of nowhere just after the American Civil war. The cast arrive at a cabin in the woods where things are just a little strange. They are snowed in, alone and hate each other for various reasons, none of which I am willing to go too deeply into. Simple and easy premise to work with and you spend three hours locked in the cabin with them.

It has gotten to the point where this reviewer has started to believe that Tarantino has surrounded himself with yes men. He does not know where to pull back and let the piece breathe and instead gives us a movie that is too long and in need of an editor. Saying that, the ultra-violence and copious amount of dialogue were enough to keep the audience entertained. It was not his finest film but that does not make it fail overall.

KINGSMAN: THE SECRET SERVICE

dir. Matthew Vaughn
IMDb: 7.8
Rotten Tomatoes 74%
Parkville Station: 6.5

Kingsman hit movies with a splash. The audience was divided as this movie that was heavily placed into the 'James Bond with attitude' category hit our screens. All of it comes down to the fact that this is a film clearly made in bad taste. And it is intended to be - I am just not sure it should have been. Sometimes it decided to take the joke too far and thus alienate the audience that didn't like it and didn't push it far enough to delight those who would.

The plot is your standard James Bond plot - man wants to kill the world for reasons that are half explained and if you think about it too much you will find the holes. The twist to this formula is around recruitment and even then it follows every other story about recruitment (that Men in Black killed years ago).

The fight scene in the church is of particular note. It is one of the most brutal and aggressive scenes put to film which would not have been half as good without the usually romantic and straight Colin Firth in the middle of it all. However the film has so much high impact violence matched with so little character it falls flat and misses the spark that is a big part of the genre.

The director of Kick-Ass comes out again with something off-colour, delivering something a little crasser and more over the top than you would expect for a spy movie, even one designed for satire.

LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN

dir. Paul McGuigan
IMDb: 7.8
Rotten Tomatoes 51%
Parkville Station: 7.5

A perfect movie this is not, but it is enjoyable to the ones who like the genre. The movie is a high impact gangster film that has more in common with The Sting than anything else. The cast is notable: Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman, Lucy Liu, Ben Kingsley and Josh Hartnett - and it makes use of all of them very well. Lucy Liu being the standout of the cast, playing a very bright and happy character which is great considering her usual ice queen image.

It starts with a bang: ultra-violence death and destruction and nothing to help you decipher what is going on. From then on it becomes a fish out of water mystery where a Slevin (Josh Hartnett) is mistakenly brought into an organised crime war between two crime bosses - The Rabbi (Ben Kingsley) and The Boss (Morgan Freeman). The movie keeps twisting and turning and leads you to a payoff which is clumsily thrown in through exposition towards the end.

The movie is hyper-stylised and sits on the grittier side, borrowing heavily from Guy Richie's style. It wants so much to be directed by him. It misses a certain flavour though - we want to be lead through the red herrings and false positives but it misses that mark.

LEON: THE PROFESSIONAL (1994)

dir. Luc Besson
IMDb: 8.6
Rotten Tomatoes 71%
Parkville Station: 9

The Professional is a masterpiece of cinema - a movie that will be held up in classrooms as a place where cinema is at its best. From pacing to camera angles, scripting to performances - it has them in spades. Gary Oldman is a standout as a maniacal and corrupt police officer.

The movie is over the top and yet slow and understated in parts. This type of contrast plays a large role in making the film a success. The action is explosive and the romance is about a 12 year old Natalie Portman. The police officer is about as hammed up as you can get from Gary Oldman.

Leon is a professional assassin. He is ruthless and cold but has a heart of gold and does his job according to his own set of ethics. When Mathilda's (Natalie Portman) family is killed in the apartment next door she is taken in by Leon who teaches her his business and the dangers of revenge.

Overall there is something about this movie that I just can't put my finger on. It keeps your attention throughout with superb pacing and excellent action. While the relationship between Mathilda and Leon can get uncomfortable through her advances it manages to keep it above the line and adds a strange depth due to very strong performances.

PUZZLES.

TRIVIA

BACHELORS LEVEL

Arts: Who plays Black Widow in the Marvel Cinematic Universe franchise?

Science: How many planets are there in our solar system?

Biomed: Are humans more likely to give birth to a male or a female?

Commerce: The frilled lizard has appeared on which Australian coin?

Environments: Abu Dhabi is the capital of which country?

Music: Which former musician had an estate called Graceland in Memphis, TN?

MASTERS LEVEL

Arts: In which month will the UK referendum on EU membership take place?

Science: Who invented the electric light bulb?

Biomed: Which bone connects the shoulder to the elbow joint?

Commerce: To which country does Australia export the most goods and services (by \$ value)?

Environments: Which country has experienced the highest level of deforestation?

Music: Who is the youngest artist ever to win Album of the Year at the Grammy's?

PHD LEVEL

Arts: Which modern day country includes the Sudetenland?

Science: What does a velometer measure the velocity of?

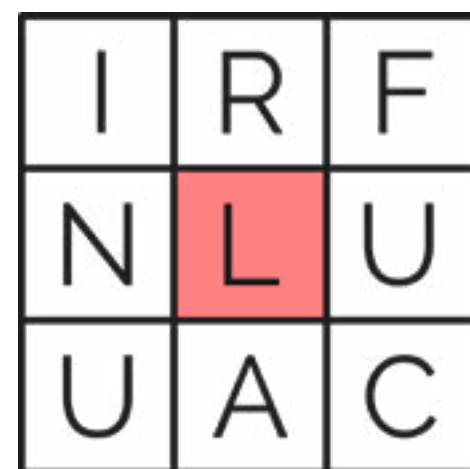
Biomed: What is the only disease that has been entirely eradicated by vaccines?

Commerce: In what year did all of Australia's notes become plastic?

Environments: Which country is home to the world's largest sporting stadium?

Music: How many full octaves are there on a piano?

NINE LETTER WORD



No peeking at the answers until you've attempted the question. If you're playing trivia with a group of people around a lunch table, beware the person sitting opposite you can easily read the upside down answers. *Disclaimer:* doing well at this does not guarantee you'll do well at Uni — you'll definitely be popular at trivia nights, though!

Looking for answers? The trivia answers are below; answers to last week's nine letter word(s) are on our website: parkvillestation.com

Find words that are made up of a combination of the letters in the square above. The word must contain the centre (red) letter. Words must be at least four letters long, not be plurals ending in 's' and exclude proper names. There is a single nine-letter word... or are there more?

P: 8 words; H3: 11; H2: 14; H1: 19; our dictionary contains: 23 words.

Answers:—Bachelors: Scarlett Johansson; eighth; male; 2 cent; United Arab Emirates; Elvis Presley. Masters: June; Thomas Edison; humerus; China; Brazil; Taylor Swift. PhD: Czech Republic; air; smallpox; 1996; North Korea; seven.

WE'D LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO
ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WEEK 10 MIGHT
HAVE BEEN TOUGH FOR YOU WITH ALL
THE ASSESSMENTS AND APPROACHING
EXAMS.

**BUT WE GOT 500
FACEBOOK LIKES.**

(THAT'S ALMOST HALF AS MANY AS
SANGO'S LATEST PROFILE PIC.)

THERE'S STILL TIME FOR YOU TO BE A
TREND-SETTER.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK.

FB.ME/PARKVILLESTN

(WE LIVE FOR ADULATION.)