

2021 Annual Report

gsa
graduate student
association



21

Strategic plan 2019-2024

OUR VISION

A unified and supported community that actively empowers graduate student excellence and experience.

OUR VALUES

Inspired by our fellow students, we will:

- Grow, learn and continuously improve.
- Engage collaboratively and inclusively.
- Be approachable and responsive.
- Promote a respectful and caring environment.
- Demonstrate accountability and honesty.
- Embrace friendship and fun.

OUR OBJECTIVES

Representation

We harness and create representational strength.

Academic Support

We enrich academic excellence.

Transition to Work

We facilitate positive post university outcomes.

Engaged and Healthy Communities

We create GSA relevance and build healthy graduate student communities.

Sustainability

We have a fit for purpose governance model, multi stakeholder influence and diversified funding for a sustainable future.

For all enquiries, please contact reception:

1800 GSA HELP (1800 472435) | info@gsa.unimelb.edu.au | gsa.unimelb.edu.au

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Art and craft prize p.30



Sri Lankan New Year celebrations p.35

Who is GSA

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is the peak representative body for graduate students at the University of Melbourne. We are an independent association of 8 elected board members who are supported by elected representatives and a faculty council, as well as a small team of professional staff.

Find us at gsa.unimelb.edu.au

Meet our graduate leaders

01

GSA President

JEREMY WAITE (HE/HIM)



Jeremy is a student in the Juris Doctor at Melbourne Law School. As University of Melbourne GSA President, he has strengthened GSA's advocacy for students on and off campus following governance reforms in the last two years. Working with GSA staff and office bearers, he has helped respond to unprecedented community challenges — from lockdowns and isolation, to return to campus.

He is a firm believer in membership-driven advocacy, using his platform this year to amplify student concerns, guided by and in collaboration with Grad Groups, committee representatives and student advocates. This includes at academic boards, at meetings with university executives and in representations to federal affiliate bodies. He has also worked hard to enhance GSA's communication with its members through regular updates, outreach and increased organisational transparency.

Approaching the end of his second term as GSA President in a year like no other, Jeremy has thoroughly enjoyed working alongside elected student representatives, the CEO, staff, Grad Groups and our graduate community to take GSA to new heights. Among his highlights of the year he lists GSA's return to the refurbished 1888 building, the reactivation of campus life and the continuation of the GSA Art Prize.

General Secretary

LILY DAY (SHE/HER)



Lily is a student in the Master of Social Policy in the Faculty of Arts. As General Secretary she has focused on compliance and accountability and has strived to ensure GSA operates smoothly to achieve the fantastic outcomes we have this past year.

Lily was ecstatic to be re-elected for another term and continues to work hard for graduate students. In another challenging year, Lily has continued her commitment to providing supportive and informative communication.

Some of her highlights of the past year have included increasing our COVID-19 advocacy (including extending the WAMnesty to 2021), ensuring moving back to campus was as safe as possible as restrictions eased, and pushing for student access to information and resources to help them learn effectively on campus or online. We have also focused on helping international students safely and easily return to Australia, holding the University accountable in their decisions, and pushing for students to be actively involved in all decisions affecting them. We have facilitated discussions with graduate students through 'town hall' meetings to ensure their feedback guides our work. Along with the myriad of other events, forums, data collection, reports and day-to-day work, this has enabled Lily to represent graduate students and fight for their best interests.

Lily is constantly inspired by the passion and dedication shown by fellow GSA members and staff who have helped her to grow and develop in this role. She is guided by keeping graduate students at the forefront of everything that GSA does and she is looking forward to continuing this work into the next year.

A message from the President and General Secretary

2021 was another year of obstacles and uncertainties for graduate students. But through it all, GSA continued to achieve outcomes alongside our graduate student community. It has been an enormous privilege to finally return to work in the stunning 1888 building as we welcome students to the new and refurbished student precinct. However, most importantly, we have focused on student needs, providing representation on issues at the University and more broadly through peak bodies at the national level. We have run events on study skills to provide students with opportunities to excel academically, build work skills and attend various social events, both in-person and online.

Our collective advocacy wins were hard-fought and all of us at GSA continue to work tirelessly for all graduate students, whether domestic or international, research or coursework. We have secured some of the best supports provided by the University to date. This includes establishing significant COVID-19 safety measures, renewing the WAMnesty policy in 2021, support for international students returning to Australia, our fantastic campuses, and material aid through grocery and food packs. We haven't done this all by ourselves though. Our advocacy has only been possible because students engaged with GSA, told us what they needed us and how we can work with them to achieve outcomes. We have had tremendous support through our affiliated Grad Groups, working group members, graduate committee representatives, unions, and individual students who wanted to make a difference.

Despite these achievements, we have not lost track of the variety of issues students continue to face — such as returning safely to campus, online learning, and the specific needs of overseas students and those facing illness and caring duties.

Online and in-person, our fantastic GSA staff members have continued to deliver high-quality events and services, adapting these to student needs and making sure they are valuable. Semester two's orientation was all online but was vibrant and added a variety of ways for students to get to know each other and to learn about the University and the support they have through GSA. We continued focusing on health and wellbeing with our popular yoga classes and online art classes. Semester one of 2022's orientation was our best yet, running over three weeks to ensure that students would have time to attend what they wanted to and weren't overwhelmed with trying to do it all in one week. We had multiple events, seminars and information sessions both on-campus and online to ensure we were reaching as many students as possible. The events were fun and a great way to meet new people — and provided a range of free goodies for students!

As 2021 was the first year of us incorporating the new governance structure, as voted by our membership, there were many changes to implement to ensure we continued to govern effectively and efficiently. Responding to students' insights, we have functioned effectively and enhanced our best governance practices, advocacy and services to benefit graduate students.

Working groups have continued to be a crucial function of our governance and operational system. We set up the Finance, Risk, Audit, and Compliance Committee to ensure governance oversight and that all risks are addressed and managed effectively. The International Graduate Student Committee included a variety of Board members, Representative Council members and graduate students. Protecting students' rights has always been a critical focus for us. Still, the ongoing pandemic and its consequences have only further



highlighted the importance of continuing this work. We would like to thank all who were involved in these working groups: we were able to understand the issues and potential solutions so much more clearly with this insight. We are looking forward to introducing more working groups in 2022 so more students can share their insights.

Our policies, statements and media releases have advocated for and provided insights on various university and higher education issues. We have worked hard on the WAMnesty to ensure the University heard students' needs through the continued difficulties of 2021. We advocated successfully for introducing the University's Standalone Sexual Misconduct Policy and submitted amendments to the Assessment and Results Policy based on graduate student surveys. GSA also contributed to consultation on the Gender Affirmation Policy consultation, the Stop the Menzies Institute campaign and advocated for survivors of sexual assault and sexual harassment throughout this year's National Student Safety Survey. We were successful in advocating for changes to COVID-19 leave for graduate researchers and increasing COVID-19 safety measures. More still needs to be done and we continue to advocate for student needs, driven by our COVID-19 Safety Survey findings.

We also made a pre-budget submission to the Federal Government, advocating for graduate student needs. These accomplishments are just a sample of what has been achieved in the interest of graduate students. Thank you to everyone involved in these and other critical pieces of work to advance the rights of graduate students.

Looking ahead, the Board has expanded the Representative Council with a new Office Bearer, the Disability and Equity Officer. It's exciting to see what this position and the others will achieve for graduate student advocacy and representation. We will continue to strive for the best possible representation and governance through 2022 and plan well for the years beyond.

To all GSA Representative Council members — thank you for your endless passion for representing graduate students through various advocacy projects, services, activities, town halls and connecting with graduate students.

To all Board members — thank you for your commitment to governance and putting graduate students at the centre of all decisions at GSA.

To our staff — thank you for your tireless work for the graduate students and your work through these incredibly challenging times.

To Rachna, our CEO — thank you for your constant support, dedication and commitment to guiding the organisation in the interests of graduate students.

To all our graduate student colleagues — a huge thank you for being a part of GSA. This is your organisation, so your engagement, support and insights are critical, and we look forward to continuing to work with you and representing your interests into the future.

GSA Board



**EMILY
DE WIND**
(SHE/HER)

Vice President

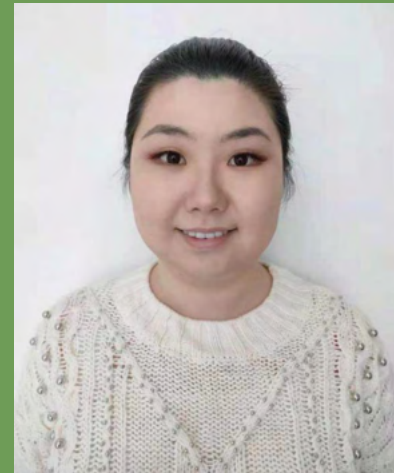
I'm Emily and I'm a final year Doctor of Physiotherapy student. I joined GSA in mid-2020 and have been proud to be able to advocate for students to effect change, especially around COVID-19 safety, as well as helping develop the Grad Group Engagement Strategy along with our wonderful staff.



**WILLIAM
KABIRA**
(HE/HIM)

Treasurer

I'm Will, a first-year Master of Management (Accounting) student. After six months on the former Council, I joined the GSA Board in April 2021 as Board Treasurer, I'm also a member of the Finance, Risk, Audit and Compliance Sub-Committee. My Board responsibilities have centred around financial oversight, governance, and risk and compliance management. My student advocacy has focused on international students' issues, including a safe return to campus and establishing processes to improve transparency and accessibility to and from the Board.



**YINGCHEN
ZHAO**
(SHE/HER)

Board Member

My name is Yingchen Zhao. After graduating from a Bachelor of Commerce, I am now studying a Masters of Information Systems. I joined the Board in September 2021, working with our wonderful team. I participated in the Finance, Risk, Audit and Compliance Sub-Committee and International Students' Sub-Committee and further engaged in GSA activities. For the coming term, I aim to strengthen advocacy and ensure GSA provides help to graduate students.



**PHOEBE
FITZPATRICK**
(SHE/HER)

Board Member

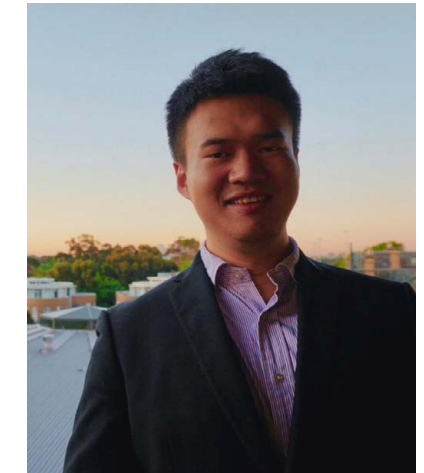
My name is Phoebe Fitzpatrick and I am studying a Masters in Biostatistics. I joined the GSA Board in May 2021 and since joining have been focused on student wellbeing and experience, by working on initiating the drop-in sessions and the orientation events for graduate students, among other student life events.



**MATTHEW
HARPER-GOMM**
(HE/HIM)

Board Member

I'm Matt and I'm a third year Juris Doctor student. I have been involved with the GSA since June 2020, first on the Council and then on the Board. I have continued to be involved in ensuring good governance through the Finance Risk Audit and Compliance Sub-Committee and meeting Board responsibilities. It's an incredibly exciting time for GSA with life returning to campus and the new Student Precinct opening on our doorstep, and I can't wait to help us keep serving the graduate community.



**JUNYI JOHNNY
ZHENG**
(HE/HIM)

Board Member

My name is Junyi Johnny Zheng and I am currently completing a Masters in Information Systems. I joined the GSA Board in September 2021 and have been fulfilling the governance duties including finance, risk, audit and compliance. I have also been collaborating with the amazing GSA staff and student representatives from the Board and Representative Council on multiple exciting projects, including orientation planning, student engagement, the Reconciliation Action Plan research and development, and the International Student Mentorship Network.

Representative Council members



**BRAM
SERVAIS**
(HE/HIM)

International Officer



**BRENDAN
LAWS**
(HE/HIM)

Education
(Coursework) Officer



**BRIDGET
COCHRANE-HOLLEY**
(SHE/HER)

Health and Welfare Officer



**CAROLINE
WILLIAMS**
(SHE/HER)

Indigenous Officer



**JEAN
YONG**
(SHE/HER)

Environment and
Sustainability Officer



**KATE DENVER-
STEVENSON**
(SHE/HER)

Activities Officer



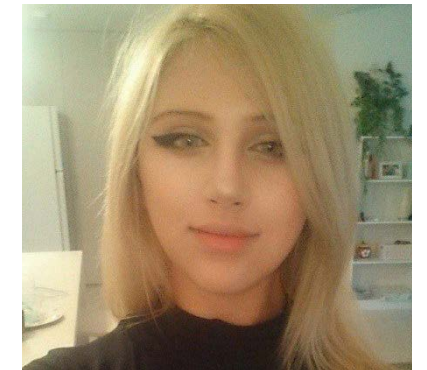
MONICA SESTITO
(SHE/HER)

Education (Research)
Officer



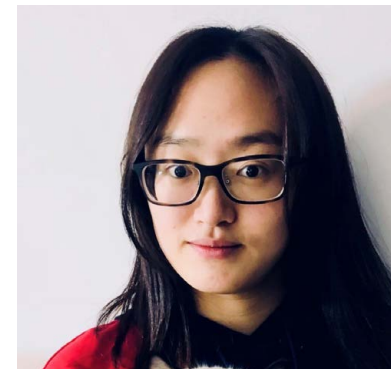
RICKI SPENCER
(THEY/THEM/SHE/HER)

LGBTIQ Officer



SERENA RAZA
(SHE/HER)

Families Officer



WEI LENG
(SHE/HER)

Women's Officer

“Advocating
on behalf of
all graduate
students”

Faculty Council members

Asela Lakvin Fernando
(preferred name: Lakvin)
Medicine, Nursing, and Dentistry

Benjamin Cronshaw
Arts

Jordan di Natale
Medicine, Nursing, and Dentistry

Lynton Gunn
Arts

Megan van Vegten
Business and Economics

Working groups and sub-committees

In 2020, the GSA Council established working groups and sub-committees to support the strategic advocacy and program delivery for graduate students. The working groups and sub-committees were empowered to provide strategic advice and support to ensure that the desired advocacy and program delivery outcomes were met within specified timelines, with proper input and advice.

FINANCE, RISK, AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Junyi Johnny Zheng
Board Member

Lily Day
General Secretary

Matthew Harper-Comm
Board Member

Rachna Muddagouni
CEO

Sajal Goundar
Manager Business
Operations and Finance

William Kabira
Treasurer

Yingchen Zhao
Board Member

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' SUB-COMMITTEE

Afsaneh Seifinaji
GSA International Officer

Jeremy Waite
GSA President

Kerry Tucker
GSA Manager Student
Engagement

Natasha Abrahams
GSA Manager Policy and Advocacy

Neharika Bajracharya
Committee Member

Prerna Aggarwal
Committee Member

Rachna Muddagouni
GSA CEO

Sagrika Chugh
Committee Member

Simran Purushotam Manyal
Committee Member

Sriram Gopalasubramanian
Committee Member

Zahra Keikhosravi
Committee Member

CONSTITUTION AND ELECTORAL REGULATIONS REVIEW WORKING GROUP

Jeremy Waite
GSA President

Lily Day
General Secretary

Matthew Harper-Comm
Board Member

Rachna Muddagouni
CEO

SAFETY ON PLACEMENT PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

Annette Herrera
NTEU representative

Celia Scott
Chancellery Policy and
Strategy Advisor

Emily De Wind
GSA Vice President 2021

Leonie Griffiths
Medical School placement
coordinator

Madeleine Charisis
GSA Women's Officer 2021

Mickhaella Ermita
UMSU Women's Officer 2021

Morgan Perry
MDHS Clinical Placements
Committee representative 2021

Patrick Tidmarsh
UMSU Sexual Harm Response
Coordinator

Rachael Noble
MDHS Clinical Placements
Committee representative 2021

Rachna Muddagouni
GSA CEO

Ricki Spencer
GSA LGBTQ Officer 2021

Srishti Chatterjee
UMSU Women's Officer 2021

FORMER STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Aria Sunga
UMSU Women's Officer 2020

Cate Allingham
GSA Women's Officer 2020

Isadora Reynolds
GSA LGBTIQ Officer 2021

Ruby Gardner Russell
GSA Health and Welfare
Officer 2020

Naomi Smith
UMSU Women's Officer 2020

Roshan Karri
MDHS Clinical Placements
Committee representative 2020

Special acknowledgement to Benjamin Griffiths, Cassandra Sulc, Chen Liang, Friday Kennedy and Sophia Liang for assisting with participant recruitment. Also to Associate Professor Laura Tarzia and Dr Patrick Tidmarsh for providing extensive guidance on survey design.

ORIENTATION WEEK WORKING GROUP

Jeremy Waite
President

Junyi Johnny Zheng
Board Member

Kerry Tucker
GSA Manager Student
Engagement

Phoebe Fitzpatrick
Board Member

Cara Margetts
Graduate Policy and
Advocacy Officer

Stephanie Sadler
Student Engagement Officer



Meet our staff

02

A message from the CEO

RACHNA MUDDAGOUNI (CEO)



2021 continued to be a challenging year with the ongoing global concerns related to COVID-19. Uncertainty, isolation, inability to attend campus and inability to plan ahead, remained our graduate students' concerns. After delivering services remotely in 2020 GSA was well prepared to shift from campus face-to-face to online delivery. We continued to deliver innovative, interactive and responsive programs to facilitate student engagement work, and led policy, advocacy and campaigning work. Staff and elected student representatives joined forces to collectively address these challenges for our domestic and international membership base.

Implementing our new constitutional rules this year was extremely rewarding, however also quite tricky and resource intensive. Balancing shared responsibilities between the Board, Representative Council and Faculty Council members is a work in progress.

The Board elected eight members in May 2021 and during their term, retained six members for the full term and the two remaining casual vacancies were filled by September 2022. The Board has strengthened their governance mechanisms, improved their accountability and compliance framework, and identified areas of improvement to strengthen transparency, increase membership participation and review decision making. Overall it has been a very successful tenure with regular professional development, strategic advocacy and representation of graduates, and assistance to plan for and future-proof GSA.

I have been very fortunate to work with our President, Jeremy Waite, and the General Secretary, Lily Daly, over the last two terms. They have continued to guide to our strategic and governance functions and provide support to overcome the many challenges we faced over the last two years. Lily and Jeremy have demonstrated extraordinary leadership and commitment to supporting the staff

“We are building the foundations for an even stronger and more effective GSA”

and elected representatives. A big thank you to them, the additional office bearers (Emily De Wind, Vice President and William Kabira, Treasurer) and our four general board members.

The Representative Council members were all elected in May 2021 and we were able to recruit nine out of 10 positions. We were very fortunate to recruit our first Indigenous Officer, Caroline Williams, who had led GSA to consider how we engage and support our First Nations members. All the Representative Council members have offered great advice, support and advocacy to address the concerns of their respective cohorts or portfolios, and increased GSA's ability to respond to a range of diverse and competing issues. This is a new student governance mechanism which required review and feedback from our first year of operation, leading to many constructive changes and improved collaboration.

The Faculty Council members only elected five of the 20 advertised positions, however they have contributed in many supportive ways and increased our advocacy. GSA is reviewing this structure to ensure how we can best support the roles and increase membership in 2023.

It is very complex leading a small organisation through significant period of challenges change. However my role has been very well supported by a wonderful team (staff, elected student representatives, interns and committee representatives). The Student Engagement Team have delivered excellent and highly complementary student information services, events, activities, training and collaborated with our Grad Groups to provide many engaging programs over the last 12 months. (See the student engagement section).

The Policy and Advocacy Team has undertaken a range of advocacy and policy campaigns to support our graduates. The team members have worked with students, sub-committees, Representative

Council members and Board, and have responded to policy documents, made submissions, undertaken action research and managed many critical projects. Extensive consultations have been conducted via surveys, forums and many other engagement activities. Thanks to Natasha for her leadership and Cara and Sean, who have been excellent policy officers and contributed extensively to the team's work.

The Grad Groups have grown and inspired increased participation in the University community. They supported GSA to develop innovative ideas into various engagement platforms and groups to improve social connection, engagement and cohesion. GSA extensively resourced and staffed the Grad Group collaborations. We have held interesting forums, created a new website portal, invested in new training workshops and offered extensive assistance to support compliance and accountability.

Sajal Goundar, Manager Business Operations, has continued our financial and human resources (HR) systems and processes. We continued to receive great support from University of Melbourne to ensure GSA met our Information Technology (IT) and Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) responsibilities and functioned effectively and efficiently for staff and elected representatives who mostly worked remotely. The team has supported all staff with excellent working from home arrangements and offered many interesting and innovative health and wellbeing activities for staff and Council members.

We are building the foundations for an even stronger and more effective GSA. A big thank you to all the staff who have strived so hard to ensure GSA can be 'the heart of graduate student life'. We will continue to make every effort to increase the value we create for all graduate students.

GSA staff 2021

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR STAFF IN 2021

Alexandra Iliopoulos
HR and OHS Officer

Andrew Le
Graduate Online
Communications Officer

Arnab Majumder
Graduate Student
Information Officer

Cara Margetts
Graduate Policy and
Advocacy Officer

Chelsea Ryan
Lead Student Engagement
Officer - Grad Groups

Gemma Papprell
Lead Content Development
and Graphics Officer

Ivana Eleftheriadis
Marketing and
Communications Officer

Jesse Argent
Student Engagement
Officer - Programs

Jessica Dunn
Graduate Admin Support
Officer

Jill Chou
Student Engagement
Officer - Programs

Kelvin Hoang
Finance and Compliance Officer

Kerry Tucker
Manager - Student Engagement

Liana Moore
Executive Assistant

Lisa Hadaway
Manager - Student Engagement

Marnie Higgs
Communications and Stakeholder
Engagement Officer

Michael D'Rosario
Manager Advocacy and Campaigns

Natasha Abrahams
Manager Policy and Advocacy

Nicola Cullen
Training and Development
Officer

Pradeepa Panneerselvam
Graduate Administration
IT Officer

Rachna Muddagouni
CEO

Reuben Dyer
Lead Student Information Officer

Rhiannon Van Vliet
Graduate Student
Information Officer

Sajal Goundar
Manager Business
Operations and Finance

Sean Mijares
Graduate Policy and
Advocacy Officer

Stephanie Brush
Student Engagement
Officer - Grad Groups

Stephanie Sadler
Student Engagement Officer

Subah Kamal
Grad Groups Admin Officer

Tevita Lesuma
General Manager
Programs, Engagement
and Communications

Vibol Hy
Project Officer

Vivien Bong
Graduate Communications
Design Officer



CASUAL STAFF

Benjamin Griffiths
Policy and Advocacy
(Safety on Placement Project)

Brighde Aine
Policy and Advocacy
(Safety on Placement Project)

Cassandra Sulc
Policy and Advocacy
(Safety on Placement Project)

Chen Liang
Policy and Advocacy
(Safety on Placement Project)

Sophia Liang
Policy and Advocacy
(Safety on Placement Project)

EXTERNAL CONTRACTORS AND CONSULTANTS

Caraniche Pty Ltd
EAP Provider

ITCV Writers
Sean Croon (Transition to
Employment Program)

Johnson Recruitment
Barry Vienet and Nick Body
(External Recruiters)

Justice Connect
Governance Training Provider

Keiran Pigeon
Website Consultant

Landmark Printing
Vivek Sharma (Printing,
Merchandise)

Modern Risk Solutions
Mike Cole (Insurance Broker)

Rosina Azzaro
Graphic Designer

Vivien Bong Designs
Graphic Support

Wholehearted Life Pty Ltd
Kirsten Brown
(LEAD Program Facilitator)



INTERNS

Semester 1 2021

Akshay Sunil Agarwal
 Andrew Ignazio Luhur
 Balaji Venkatesh Jonnalagadda

Chenwei Ma
 Chunhan Yu
 Ishali Uday Nagwekar
 Kuixuan Zhang

Pruthvi Shivanand Ninganur
 Sze Shi Yap
 Zixi Chen

Semester 2 2021

Akshara
 Ashley Hildrew
 Dylan Nossek
 Elisabeth Priscila

Jinghua Xu
 Juzaili Rasis Jalaludin
 Junyi Johnny Zheng
 Karthik Krishnamurthy
 Megan Van Vegten

Parikshit Diwan
 Phong Noon Nan
 Priyanhka Ganapathy Valli
 Simran Purushotam Manyal
 Yian Ma



Meet our graduate reps

03

Graduate representatives

Graduate students are nominated to sit on various University committees to ensure that we have a direct voice in how the University operates. GSA nominates and supports graduate representatives to sit on these committees and express the diverse perspectives and needs of their fellow graduate cohort.

When there is a vacancy on a committee GSA recruits new graduate students through its student networks. We aim to select students based on their interest in advocating for the needs of graduate students. We also seek students that have a demonstrated capacity for representing diverse perspectives and interests. Graduate students can apply for the vacant committee roles on GSA's website and might be contacted for an interview with the Policy and Advocacy team.

We invite new committee representatives to a training and induction session. This provides information about GSA, demographics of the graduate student population, the committee structure at the University, and how to be an effective committee representative. All

representatives complete the training before beginning their role. We try to have multiple new committee representatives in one training session so that they can network and establish collaborative relationships with each other.

GSA's 2021 committee representatives engaged in fantastic advocacy work. For example, two of our committee representatives were concerned that proposed changes to inherent course requirements had the potential to negatively impact students with a disability. We supported them to raise these concerns in their committee. As a result of this collaborative advocacy effort, the proposed changes were removed. Students have also been able to raise feedback from the wider student population on issues such as COVID-19 safety on campus, quality of online learning, connectedness for offshore international students, and the accessibility of digital library resources. On top of initiating their own advocacy, committee representatives inform our work at GSA. For example, our committee representatives contributed to GSA's LGBTQIA+ inclusion survey by sending the survey out to their networks and encouraging others to participate.

GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVES 2021

Alex Verhoijesen

Faculty of Science Graduate Research Committee

Alice Kim

Research Ethics Integrity Strategy Committee

Amy Patterson

MDHS Learning and Teaching Subcommittee

Brandon Liew

Arts Research Training Committee

Christian Ainsworth

MDHS Academic Programs Committee

Claire Demeo

Academic Programs Committee

Corey Cribb

Arts Research Training Committee

Diane Stubbings

FFAM (VCA) Graduate Research Committee

Divyangana Rakesh

Higher Degrees Research Committee

Djamila Eliby

MSCP User Committee

Georgia Caruana

CGRAD

Gio Fidelito

Central Human Research Ethics Committee

Haifei Yu

Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance Committee (TALQAC)

Helen Argyris

Selection Procedures Committee

Hilary Bowman-Smart

Medical School Graduate Programs and Executive Education Committee

Ioannis Sidiropoulos

FFAM Student Enrichment Advisory Group, Higher Degrees Research Committee, and FFAM (VCA) Graduate Research Committee

Jay Ryder

Arts Faculty Board

Jemin Suh

MDHS Clinical Placements Committee

Jen Valender

Library and Scholarly Services Advisory Group

Jenslie George

Fairtrade Steering Committee

Jeremy Waite

Academic Board

Jessie Downey

Mental Health Advisory Committee

Joshua Karis

Science Graduate Academic Programs Committee

Kevin Mao

Selection Procedures Committee

Laura Ruaux

MDHS Academic Programs Committee

Lynton Gunn

Arts Education and Students Committee

Madeleine Charisis

Academic Programs Committee

Marc Katzev

Scholarly and Digital Capabilities Working Group

Mohini Mehta

Arts Graduate Studies Committee

Monica Sestito

School of Languages and Linguistics Research and Research Training Committee

Morgan Perry

MDHS Clinical Placements Committee

Niles Zhao

School of Languages and Linguistics Research and Research Training Committee

Paola Villaneuva

Researcher Professional Development Portal Steering Committee

Rachael Noble

MDHS Clinical Placements Committee

Rashika Bahl

Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance Committee (TALQAC)

Saeid Charani Shandiz

Sustainability Executive Committee

Seungyoul Oh

Occupational Health and Safety Committee

Siobhan Lake

Arts Library Committee

Tamara Richardson

Academic Consultation and Coordination Committee

Yihan Ma

Fairtrade Steering Committee

Thank you to all the Graduates who supported Student Misconduct Hearings.

2021 MISCONDUCT REPRESENTATIVES (NON-COMMITTEE)

Bree Booth	Julian Newman	Tejaswi Bhat
Dilan Thakrar	Lynton Gunn	Theo Wong
Hayley Kebbell	Patrick Bradfield Smith	Xiaoyu Feng
Jingran Mu	Sindhusha Veluguleti	

2021 MISCONDUCT REPRESENTATIVES (COMMITTEE)

Emily De Wind	Jeremy Waite	Lily Day	Matthew Harper-Gomm
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“For anyone considering taking up a leadership position, I would strongly encourage you to engage with the GSA – the GSA provides fantastic support and will guide you in making the most of opportunities.”

Graduate Committee Representative

“As a student, we don't often see behind the scenes, so it's been really interesting to see how the University functions. I would like to work in the higher education setting after I complete my degree, so I think of this experience as an internship!”

Graduate Committee Representative



Meet the Grad Groups

04

Grad Groups

Thank you Grad Groups for your wonderful work this year.

Grad Groups are student-led, student-run groups that are affiliated with the GSA for funding and support.

GSA's Grad Groups facilitate connection, wellbeing and cohesion within the University's diverse graduate student population. They are platforms for students to come together and form community within the context of shared interest, cultural and academic pursuits.

In 2021 the pandemic continued to disrupt academic and social life at the University and Grad Groups rose to meet the challenges posed with resilience and creativity. Meetings, forums and a diverse range of events including dance classes, trivia nights and journaling workshops were adapted for remote delivery. As restrictions eased Grad Groups navigated the difficult terrain of protecting the health and safety of their members while re-emerging into communal student life.

As the year came to a close, Grad Groups were able to host face-to-face events once more and end-of-year celebrations were held at parks, pubs and theatres. Amidst the difficulties and anxieties of ongoing uncertainty there emerged a sense of joy and hope as student communities re-connected and celebrated being together again.

153 Grad Groups

23,678 Total memberships

2021 GRAD GROUPS

- 180 Degrees Consulting Melbourne (180DC)
- African Studies Group (ASG)
- Agrifoodies
- Anatomy and Physiology Student Society (APSS)
- Animal Welfare Science Students of the UoM (AWSSUM)
- AntiTHESIS
- Asia Institute Postgraduate Group (AIPG)
- Ausdriod
- Australia Awards Scholars Club (AASC)
- Australian Holistic Health Student Association
- Australian Students' Society of Haematology (ASSH)
- Bengali Cultural Club (BCC)
- Bioinformatics Graduate Student Association (BGSa)
- Biosciences Postgraduate Society (BioPS)
- Built Industry Group (BIG)
- Burnley Campus Postgraduate Group (BCPG)
- BusinessOne Consulting
- Cancer Society of Melbourne University (CSM)
- Chemistry Postgraduate Society (CPS)
- Chilean Research Group of Australia (CREGA)
- Chinese Students and Scholars Association Graduate (CSSA Grad)
- Chinese Studies Research Group (CSRG)
- Classics and Archaeology Postgraduate Group (CAPG)
- Climate College Graduate Student Group (CCGSG)
- Computing and Information Systems Graduate Research Student Group (CIS GReS)
- Construction Students Association (CSA)
- Crossing Borders Melbourne (CBM)
- Culture and Communication Graduate Committee (CCGC)

2021 GRAD GROUPS (CONTINUED)

- De Minimis
- Dermatology Interest Society (DermIS)
- Earth Science Postgraduate Group (ESPG)
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering Research Student Association (EERSA)
- Enable Prosthetics Melbourne
- Enactus
- Ethnoforum
- FBE PhD Student Society (FBEPSS)
- Film and TV Graduate Students Group (FTV Grad Group)
- Film, Art, Media and Entertainment Law Students Association (FAME LSA)
- Folding Our Futures (FOF)
- Forest Ecosystem Student Society (FESS)
- Geography Postgraduate Society (GPS)
- Global Consulting Group (GCG)
- Global Law Students Association (GLSA)
- Graduate Agriculture and Food Society (GAFS)
- Graduate Education Society (GES)
- Graduate Group of Student Parents (GGSP)
- Graduate House Student Group (GHSG)
- Graduate Infrastructure Engineering Society (GIES)
- Graduate Organisation of Development Students (GOODS)
- Graduate Research Association MSPGH (GRAM)
- Graduate Researchers in Psychological Sciences (GRIPS)
- Graduate Social Science Society (GSSS)
- Graduate Yoga Society (GYS)
- History Postgraduates Association (HPA)
- Indian Graduate Students Society (IGSS)
- Indian Institutes Graduates (I2G)
- Indigenous Graduate Student Association (IGSA)
- International Graduate Student Wellbeing Group (IGSWG)
- International Melbourne Uni Graduate Volleyball Group (IMUGVG)
- Interprofessional Education and Practice Health Students Network (IPEP-HSN)
- Korean Medical Society (KMS)
- Later Law Students' Network (LLSN)
- Law Students for Refugees (LS4R)
- Lembaga Pengelola Dana Pendidikan (LPDP)
- MD Choral and Acapella Society (MDCAS)
- MD Diverse Educational Backgrounds Society
- MD Queer (MDQ)
- Mechanical Engineering Research Student Association (MERSA)
- Med Moves (MM)
- Medical Creatives Collective (MCC)
- MEDitate
- Medleys - The Med Revue
- Melbourne Business School Student Association (MBSSA)
- Melbourne Children's Campus Research Students Association (MCCRSA)
- Melbourne Dental Post-Graduate Group (MDPGG)
- Melbourne Dental Students Society (MDSS)
- Melbourne Emergency Student's Society (MESS)
- Melbourne Energy Students Association (MESA)
- Melbourne Graduate Music Society (MGMS)
- Melbourne Information Systems Graduate Association (MISGA)
- Melbourne Interdisciplinary Students' Society of Neuroscience (MISSiON)
- Melbourne International Property Students (MIPS)
- Melbourne Population Health Students Association (MPHSA)
- Melbourne Postgraduate International Relations Organisation (MPIRO)
- Melbourne South Asian Law Society (MSALS)
- Melbourne Sport Law Association
- Melbourne University at Mercy Students (MUMs)
- Melbourne University Chinese Debating Group (MUCDG)
- Melbourne University Civil and Structural Society (MUCSS)
- Melbourne University Gastrointestinal Society (MUGIS)
- Melbourne University Genetics Postgraduate Society (MUGPS)

2021 GRAD GROUPS (CONTINUED)

- Melbourne University Geomatics Society (MUGS)
- Melbourne University Graduate Christian Union (MUGCU)
- Melbourne University Law Students' Society (MULSS)
- Melbourne University Nepalese Students' Society (MUNSS)
- Melbourne University Nursing Students' Society (MUNSS)
- Melbourne University Obstetrics and Gynaecology Society (MUOGS)
- Melbourne University Physiotherapy Students Society (MUPSS)
- Melbourne University Planning Student Society (MUPSS)
- Melbourne University Taiwanese Postgraduates Association (MUTPA)
- MIGrads
- MSD Research Students Association (MSD RSA)
- Music Therapy Graduate Student Group (MTGSG)
- Navigators, The
- Neuropsychology Students Society (NSS)
- OCULUS
- One Health Research Society (OHRS)
- Outlook Rural Health Club (Moovin Health)
- OVS Research Crew
- Paraguayan Student Association (PSA)
- Pharmacology United with Biochemistry Students (PUBS)
- Philosophy Postgraduate Group (PPG)
- Physiology Student Society (PSS)
- Postgraduate Association of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering Researchers (PACBER)
- Postgraduate Environment Network (PEN)
- Postgraduate Physics Students' Society (PPSS)
- Postgraduate Society for Students of Immunology and Microbiology (POSSIM) (Formerly: Special Postgraduate Association for Students of Immunology and Microbiology (SPASIM))
- Postgraduates at Werribee (PAWS)
- Postgraduates of Veterinary Science (POVS)
- Psychiatry Students' Interest Society
- Public Interest Law Network (PILN)
- Public Policy Grad Group (PPGG)
- Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgical Society (RASS)
- Rogue Crims
- School of Languages and Linguistics (SOLL) Postgrad Group
- Social Work Association of Graduate Students (SWAGS)
- Society of Marketing and Communications (SMAC)
- Speech Pathology Students' Society (SPSS)
- Sri Lankan Graduates' Society (SLGS)
- St Vincent's Student Society (SVSS)
- Statistics and Mathematics Postgraduate Society (STAMPS)
- Strive Student Health Initiative Inc. (STRIVE)
- Student Conservators @ Melbourne (SC@M)
- Students in Orthopaedic and Musculoskeletal Academia (SOMA)
- Students in Primary Care Research (SPCR)
- Students in Primary Care Research Publishing Group (SPCR-P)
- Students of Landscape Architecture (SOLA)
- Students of Neuropsychiatry Research (SONR)
- Students of Neuroscience and Anatomy (SONA)
- Students of Royal Melbourne (STORM)
- Students of the Florey Institute (SOFI)
- Surgical Students' Society of Melbourne (SSSM)
- SYNAPSE
- The Architecture Lobby - Victoria Chapter
- Unimelb Journalism Society (MJS)
- University of Melbourne Infectious Disease Society (UMIDS)
- University of Melbourne Medical Students' Society (UMMSS)
- University of Melbourne Optometry Students' Society (UMOSS)
- Victorian Environmental Law Student Network (VELSN)
- Wellbeing Arts Graduate Student Group (WAGSG)
- Western Clinical School Health Initiative Program (WCSHIP)
- Wilderness Medicine Students' Society (WMSS)
- Womendeavour

Sri Lankan New Year celebrations

Sri Lankan New Year celebrations, organised by the Sri Lankan Graduate's Society, were held at the South Lawn on 1 May 2021. The celebrations included a delicious brunch with many Sri Lankan delicacies and a variety of traditional new year games, which attracted the participation of students from diverse nationalities and well-wishers. By hosting one of the main cultural celebrations in Sri Lanka, this event recreates and introduces Sri Lankan culture at the University. In addition, this was an opportunity for Sri Lankan postgraduate students to get together and build a family of their own to celebrate the new year as they usually celebrate in their homeland.





As we shifted out of lockdowns in Melbourne, the GSA was behind us every step of the way in getting our feet steady on the ground once again. With Grad Group support, our student club was able to nurture a sense of ownership for mapping out our community engagement and reinvigorated student independence that was lost to the pandemic. Many of our members greatly benefited and enjoyed our social events, webinars, projects, programmes, and excursions, all of which draw from GSA funding, resources, and guidance.

Anna Laursen

President of the Melbourne Postgraduate International Relations Organisation



Thank you very much GSA, for all the support you have given to our Grad Group. Because of you, we have many opportunities to connect with other student families. Life at the campus is lonely as we miss out on most of the opportunities to interact with other students due to our family commitments. Organising events for weekends to cater for the whole family was the best part of working in this group. I hope GSA will continue supporting student families in different ways. Thank you!

Lubna Meempata

Graduate Group of Student Parents

**We
represent
you**

05

Policy and advocacy

AIM AND PURPOSE

The Policy and Advocacy Team helps elected graduate representatives design, articulate, and advocate for, their policy and program recommendations. We support your representatives in making effective arguments and presentations to the University, governments, or anyone our representatives need to talk to.

KEY ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

In 2021 much of our advocacy work focuses on COVID-19 issues. During this difficult period our members were aided by advocacy on issues such as graduate researcher extensions, subject cancellations, WAMnesty, and emergency support funding.

On top of our COVID-19 advocacy, the team authored many action research reports, briefings and policy submissions to support GSA's advocacy efforts. These complimented our training activities to support our representatives in their advocacy.

The team undertook both discrete and more regular consultation with graduate students. This included proactive surveying and the collection of feedback in response to University policy changes. Further evidence was collected through action research projects that investigate graduate student issues in more depth. This ensures our advocacy is supported by evidence and aligns with current student issues.

The Policy Team continued to advocate on the key recommendations arising from projects and submissions conducted in 2020 (see below), as well as undertaking some new action research in 2021.

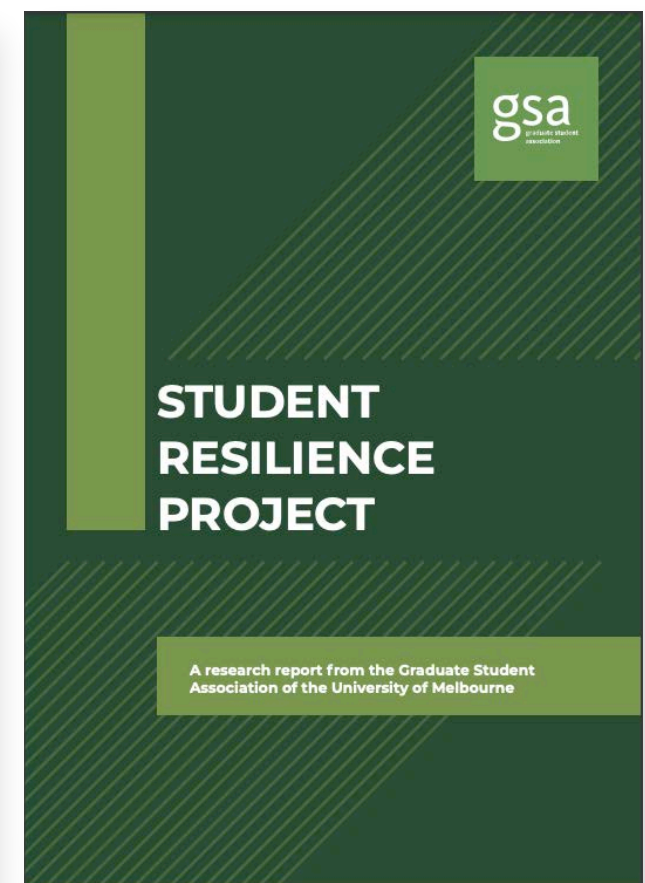
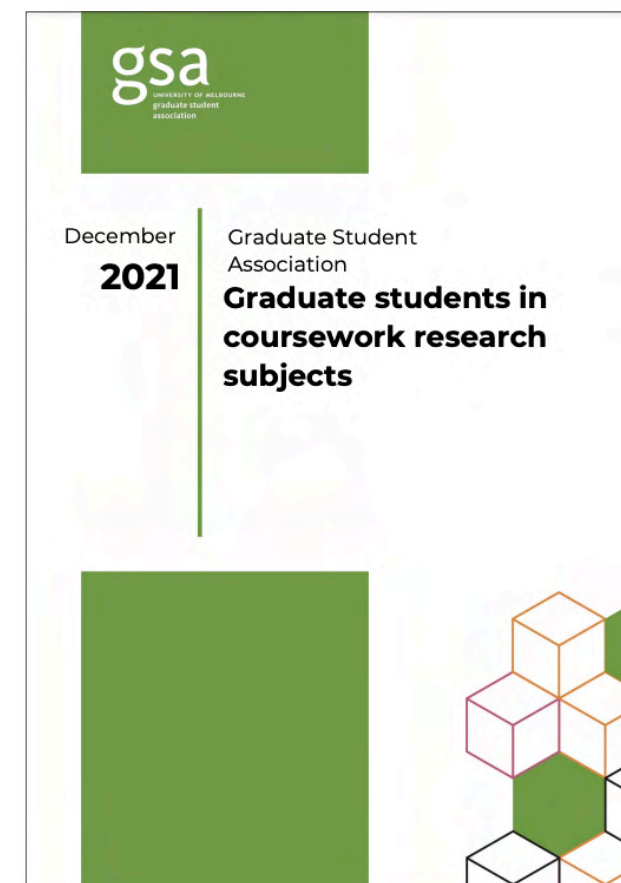
SUBMISSIONS CONDUCTED

Coursework research report

Some coursework students choose to undertake research, which has raised concerns around course quality and the research experience. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 20 coursework students who had either completed or were completing a research subject.

Student Resilience Project

GSA undertook the Student Resilience Project to better understand graduate students' emotional, physical and social wellbeing at the University. We received a total of 624 responses that outlined the need for more accessible services, greater communication and connectedness with the University and mental health support.



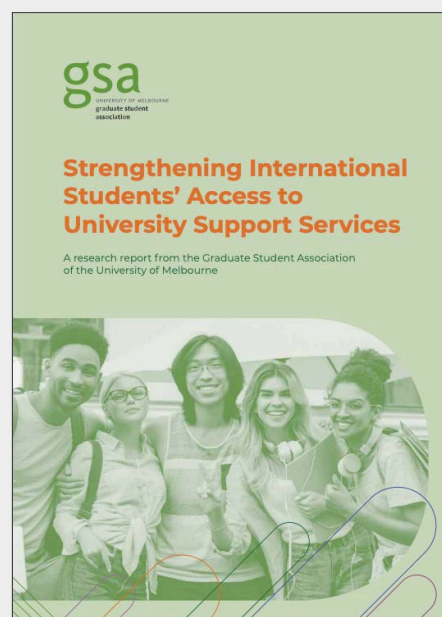
“helping articulate
and **advocate** for our
graduate representatives”





Graduate LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Survey Findings

GSA advocates for a community that champions inclusion, safety and respect for our LGBTQIA+ graduate students. We surveyed 330 graduate students to identify opportunities to support the LGBTQIA+ graduate community at the University. 173 of the students surveyed identified as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community.



Strengthening international students' access to University support service

International graduate students have reported many constraints in accessing the University's support services. COVID-19 has exacerbated the demand for meaningful support as students endure social isolation, online learning, financial stress and other personal challenges related to mental and physical health. GSA surveyed 324 international graduate students to identify how access to support can be strengthened.



Parents on Campus

We conducted research to understand and improve the educational experiences of graduate student who are parents. Parents on Campus highlighted factors that hinder the academic success and sense of belonging at the University for student parents.



Safety on Placement Project

The Safety on Placement project consults with 767 students on university placement and internship issues with a focus on prevention of sexual assault, harassment and workplace misconduct. Student responses articulated a lack of information and training and a failure of the University and placement sites to proactively provide guidance and support to students who experience sexual misconduct during placement. Students desired more information before going on placement, with current preparation practices being inconsistent and insufficient.



Subject cancellation

In response to growing concerns about subject options and delivery modes in 2021, we surveyed over 400 graduate coursework students to understand the extent of subject cancellations and the impact of online-only delivery. GSA advocates that the University should offer a broad range of subjects and reinstate cancelled subjects where there is student demand.



COVID-19 extensions for graduate researchers

GSA conducted an online survey to collect information on the impact of COVID-19 on graduate researchers' projects and overall experience. We yielded 397 responses that outlined perspectives around recent COVID-19 extension and leave provision changes.

SUBMISSIONS CONDUCTED

2021-2022 Pre-budget submission

GSA developed a pre-budget submission calling on the Government to prioritise four key areas: strengthening graduate research, supporting international students, educating the future workforce, and promoting student health and wellbeing.

Submission to the University of Melbourne gender affirmation policy consultation

The University proposed a new gender affirmation policy that provides a framework for an inclusive culture at the University and outlines processes for transgender and gender diverse members of the University community to have their gender identity and expression affirmed. GSA consulted with graduate student representatives to provide feedback on the proposed policy.

Submission to the Academic Board on academic progress review in Graduate Research Courses Policy

This submission by GSA's Education (Research) Officer examines a new policy proposed by the Academic Board from the perspectives of graduate researchers. The proposed policy aims to improve timely completion outcomes in graduate research degrees.

Submission to the International Education Strategy 2021-2030 Consultation

For this submission, GSA sought feedback from international graduate coursework and research students through two focus groups. Recommendations are focused into three areas of student life including academic excellence, transition to work, and engaged and health communities.

Submission to the University of Melbourne on Academic Skills Division change proposal

The University of Melbourne has proposed changes to the Academic Skills Division as part of its Pandemic Reset Program. The Academic Skills Division assists students to attain academic continuity and supports their academic performance through workshops, one-to-one support, and other coaching and mentoring strategies. GSA sought feedback from graduate student representatives and GSA staff on the proposed changes.



Submission on proposed amendments to the Management of Research Data and Records Policy

GSA's Education (Research) Officer developed a submission in response to the University of Melbourne's proposed amendments to the Management of Research Data and Records Policy. This submission clearly analyses some of the concerns of our graduate researchers in relation to the proposed changes.

Submission to consultation on University of Melbourne Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy

GSA has continuously advocated for the creation of the Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy and participated and actively contributed on the Respect Taskforce. This submission outlines six key issues that GSA would like the University to consider to finalise this important policy, including information on implementation and mechanisms to review the effectiveness of the policy.



Submission to the Amendments to Assessment and Results Policy

The University proposed changes to the grading scheme and how grades are recorded:

- Adopting the 'High Distinction/Distinction/Credit/Pass' grading scale and adjusting cut-off grades accordingly, in line with other Australian universities.
- On students' transcripts, record the median score and number of students for each subject (for subjects with a minimum of ten students).

To facilitate graduate student input to the proposed policy change, GSA surveyed 334 graduate students.



How we engage

06

Student engagement team

In 2021, the GSA's Student Engagement Team worked extremely hard to respond to the challenges in delivering online and face-to-face activities. The team members systematically provided engagement and support resources to graduates through Zoom. GSA invested additional resources to support online service delivery, increased the training and development activities and restructured the communication team to improve information dissemination.

Student information and referrals

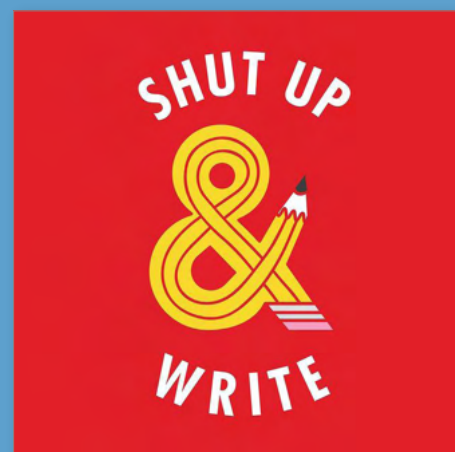
The GSA Helpline (phone support) and the GSA information email were widely promoted and used by both domestic and international students. The team — Reuben Dyer (Lead Student Information Officer), Rhiannon Van Vliet and Sean Mijares — provided timely and appropriate responses to our graduates' questions via email, phone and social media.

The team also helped improve systems and processes to support the Student Misconduct Hearing sessions and resourced all the sessions with properly trained student representatives.

The team managed and maintained the membership list and improved communication and engagement with our members. A very comprehensive student engagement survey report informed the planning and improvement of many of our service delivery activities.

Academic support

To better identify unmet graduate student academic needs, GSA introduced a program of academic support services. Academic support functions were resourced and supported by Nicola Cullen and Kerry Tucker in 2021. Nicola developed the Student Achieve program and Reuben Dyer facilitated the Shut up and Write Program and Thesis Bootcamp sessions, that were very highly regarded and appreciated by GSA graduates. GSA offered short courses including on improving quality and impact skills, and on writing submissions and reports for students with English as an additional language. The Peer Study Program and the SWOTVAC activities were very popular online and enabled students all over the world to collaborate together.



TRANSITION TO WORK

GSA offered flagship programs and new initiatives to our graduates online to support soft skills and career development opportunities. The most popular programs included:

Internship program

Our internship program offered 37 graduates 12-weeks' experience at GSA. Graduate student participants learnt soft skills and practical skills relevant to their future employment. Interns experienced the work undertaken by different GSA teams, contributing to workshops and planning strategic support of graduate students.



LEAD

This leadership program supported graduates to build awareness of their values and strengths, develop resilience, hone their own leadership style, and complete an experiential learning project to reflect on the course content. It was delivered in semester one and two in 2021. The program was facilitated by Kirsten Brown and supported by GSA staff and coaches who were past participants.

Engaging diverse graduates who may not regard themselves as 'future leaders' but who have the talent and potential to make a difference, was a challenge. It was also important that the program built a sense of community through a period of social isolation.



CV writers' program

The CV writers' program provided many international and mature age graduate students the opportunities to attend workshops facilitated by Sean Croon to explore the topics:

- Planning your career
- CV writing
- Interview training
- Using LinkedIn for career development
- Personal branding
- Cover letters and selection criteria
- Recruitment tactics.

Over 30 students participated and provided excellent feedback. The program has received great feedback and GSA will continue to deliver these capacity building workshops to support career development in 2022.



ART AND CRAFT PRIZE

The GSA Art Prize is an annual event as part of our Engaged and Healthy Communities mandate. This event champions creativity and reflects the diversity of students' interests outside their area of study. 2021 entries showcased how students creatively connect with their own world.

This was the second time the Art Prize was held virtually. The theme of the competition this year was 'sustainability'.

This year we received 42 entries for the Art Prize and 15 for the Craft Prize, including photographs, digital artwork, paintings and drawings.

The top faculties represented by all submissions include Fine Arts and Music with 43 per cent of submissions, Medicine, Dentistry and Health (16 per cent) and Arts (nine per cent). Submissions were also received from students in Engineering, Education, Architecture Business and Planning, Science, Veterinary and Agricultural Science and Veterinary Science.

This is the sixth year that GSA has run this annual competition and each year students have been providing entries that reflect the diversity of interests and creativity alive in our community. Due to the success of the Art Prize, this year we added the Craft Prize category.

Why sustainability?

We wanted a theme that would allow students to reflect on how they sustained themselves through these trying times, whether that be social sustainability, environment sustainability, economic sustainability – or more generally, what human sustainability means to you and how it has worked for you. This led us to our theme.

The works in this year's exhibition showcase the capacity graduate students have for expression, resilience and optimism – even in the face of unprecedented challenges.

2021 Art Prize Winner – Paola Villanueva – Celery C'est la Vie – \$1,000

2021 Art Prize 2nd Place – Zoe Scotland – Footpath Fortunes – \$750

2021 Art Prize 3rd Place – Destinee Stubbs – Our World Our Choice – \$500

2021 Art Prize Innovation Award – Kelly Varmalis – Collapse – \$100

2021 Art Prize Global Thinking Award – Mabel Ng – Innovation – \$100

2021 Art Prize Personal Experience Award – Danielle Wallace – Unprecedented – \$250

2021 Art Prize People's Choice Award – Ali Yamin – Trampotting – \$250

The 2021 Inaugural Craft Prize promotes and supports craftspeople and their creative practices in their creation of hand-made works.

2021 Craft Prize Winner – Kate Melville-Rea – Would you care if we had hands – \$1,000

2021 Craft Prize 2nd Place – Anni Hagberg – Flux Xi – \$750

2021 Craft Prize 3rd Place – Yunfan Zhang – Back to the Forest – \$500

2021 Craft Prize Innovation Award – Anni Hagberg – Flux Xi – \$100

2021 Craft Prize Global Thinking Award – Victoria Laine – Aztec Featherwork – \$100

2021 Craft Prize Personal Experience Award – Brittany Fong – Thinking of you – \$250

2021 Craft Prize People's Choice Award – Kate Melville-Rea – Would you care if we had hands – \$250

We also thank our esteemed judges:

Art Prize:

Cam Raw – 2020 Winner

Bon Mott – Installation and Performance Artist

Jacqueline Doughty – Head Curator Art Museums
University of Melbourne

Saeid Charani Shandiz – GSA Environmental
and Sustainability Officer

Craft Prize:

Simone Edwards – Professional Textile Designer

Jess Lyons – Ceramic Based Artist

Sue Hopkins – Sustainability Manager
University of Melbourne

Saeid Charani Shandiz – GSA Environmental
and Sustainability Officer

Our
winners
for 2021



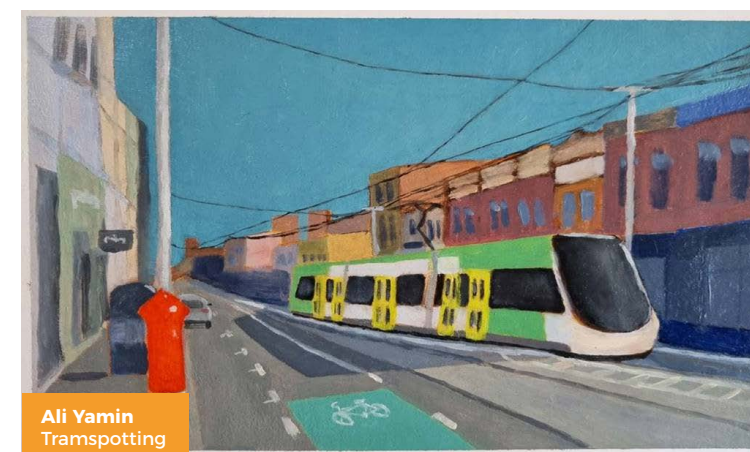
Paola Villanueva
Celery C'est la Vie



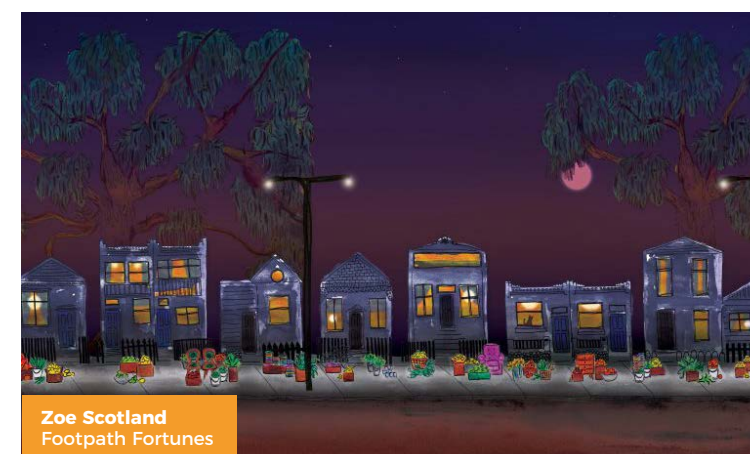
Kate Melville-Rea
Would you care if we had hands



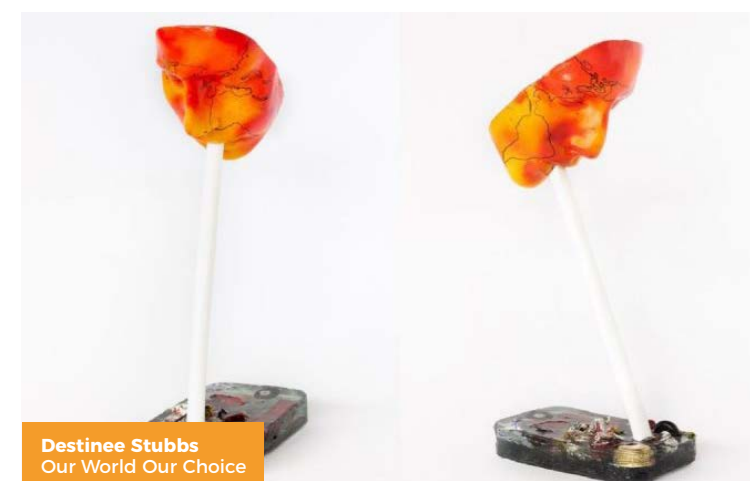
Kelly Varmalis
Collapse



Ali Yamin
Trampotting



Zoe Scotland
Footpath Fortunes



Destinee Stubbs
Our World Our Choice



Mabel Ng
Innovation

Emotional health and wellbeing activities

We continued to provide financial aid and support to many graduates both in Australia and overseas. We offered Coles gift cards, coffee vouchers and other material aid support to many students to assist with food and living expenses support. GSA provided zoo entry vouchers and other gift cards for graduate student parents and their families. Parents were also provided support to manage children’s home schooling and young people’s mental health and wellbeing during lockdowns.

Yoga, meditation classes, drop-in sessions and reproductive health and wellbeing information sessions were very well received and attended. Family-friendly drawing competitions and the summer activities were also well attended It was lovely to see the bright smile on the faces of our little ones!

GSA also regularly ran art classes and one-off workshops, which were all very well regarded.



Grad Groups

In 2021, GSA invested heavily in our Grad Groups’ capacity to deliver online activities while we were all in lockdown. We reviewed the team structure and were very fortunate to employ Chelsea Ryan and Stephanie Brush, who worked hard to increase engagement, collaboration and networking opportunities for our diverse Grad Group leaders and their membership. We held six Grad Group forums to support dialogue and collaboration and ensure GSA’s elected student representatives and staff had the opportunity to exchange ideas, collaboratively solve problems and build their collective expertise. The website portal supported them to make financial transactions online, enabling more timely responses and increased accountability and reporting. GSA partnered with external agencies like Justice Connect to develop training packages for our clubs and societies, to assist their office bearers in their roles and offered a range of event management support training packages.

Under the leadership of Tevita Lesuma, Lisa Hadaway and Kerry Tucker, the staff team planned, promoted, implemented and evaluated a diverse range of engagement opportunities that were well received by graduate students and their families. We were pleased to be able to expand our reach this year thanks to the efforts of our communications, marketing and business development team members and our relationships with external partners.



Business operations team

The small team undertook a range of functions to support GSA's business operations and strengthen organisational capacity to effectively manage the finances, HR, governance, OHS, operations, risks and compliance, facilities, IT and Grad Groups financial administration and compliance functions.

The team works collaboratively with the Student Engagement Team and Policy and Advocacy Team to ensure GSA continues to remain sustainable into the future and to prudently manage all contractual obligations. Part of this work is in collaboration with the University's Finance and Business Operations Team.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN 2021

Grad Groups

- Establishing a dedicated finance function role to develop systems, processes and policies to effectively manage our group funding to resource Grad Groups activities. This led to a more streamlined and efficient management of annual funding, special grants, upfront funding and budgeting.
- Strengthening the compliance function to ensure Grad Groups met the reporting requirements needed to receive their funding and that all the funds are administered in a fair, equitable and timely manner. Grad Groups were provided support to conduct Annual General Meetings, develop annual reports, conduct elections of office bearers, meet all constitutional and membership obligations.
- Developing improved financial reports for the Finance, Risk, Audit and Compliance Sub-Committee, to ensure we are managing the finances appropriately and to assist with decision making.

Human resources

- Establishing and appointing a HR and OHS Officer to support GSA to meet all our employment obligations, keeping the wellbeing of our staff and elected representatives in mind.
- Designing and streamlining online recruitment, onboarding, induction and performance appraisal process for staff.
- Developing a learning and development plan and offer trainings in partnership with other organisations that included:
 - Returning to the workplace: Navigating COVID normal – Caraniche
 - Working Better with people from another culture or language group – Centre for Culture, Ethnicity and Health
 - Gender diversity – Minus18
 - Risk insurance and safety – Justice Connect
 - Aboriginal cultural awareness – RJHB Consulting

Information technology

1. Partnering with the University business services team for all IT support needs for GSA. This ensures we have high quality IT and infrastructure support when staff were working remotely.
2. Developing cloud-based file management systems and share points to improve information management systems.

Facilities

1. Re-locating and coordinating the return to the newly refurbished 1888 building.
2. Ensuring the staff and elected student representatives are supported to ensure GSA provides a COVID-safe space.
3. Closely work with the University facilities team and STOP 1 team to negotiate the space allocation within new student precinct space.

Overall the extraordinary commitment of the team members and ability to work through a range of challenges in the last 12 months has enabled GSA to continue to provide graduates both material aid and important services.



Communications and marketing

In 2021, we worked online for most of the year, delivering virtual GSA services, programs and events to students.

As digital communication was our only source of connection to students for a large portion of the year, we heightened our digital presence. We did this by posting more frequently on social media, including videos and stories to increase engagement and used paid advertising on social media platforms to encourage more involvement in online delivered events. In addition, by the end of the year, we completed a website refresh, with cosmetic changes across the homepage, updated content and menu items to ensure a more positive user experience.

A key highlight was the GSA newsletter. The newsletter membership not only grew substantially from 17,000 in 2020 to 24,000 at the end of 2021, but this audience is also more engaged, with more opens, reads and clicks on articles. It has become one of GSA's leading points of student engagement.

We also started using hashtags on social media posts, such as #gsa_unimelb #UOM #UniMelb to increase engagement and grow followers. We noticed that more students followed our pages when we started using hashtags, increasing our online visibility.

In 2021, we began using paid advertising for the first time on Facebook and Instagram, to increase event bookings. Each advert cost a modest \$20 or \$30 and reached an audience of 3,400 people in total. We were also able to tailor the spend, length and target audience to reach the right people in the right way.



Our audience and reach



Most of our social
media audience is

**aged between
25-34**

Most engaging social media content:

1

Free coffees and
food vouchers

2

Orientation

3

Employment
classes



64,136
New visitors

194,747
Total page views



222,913
Impressions

8,280
Reach

2,636
Followers



527,225
Impressions

89,658
Reach

12,963
Likes



24k
Subscribers
17
Newsletters sent



30,313
Impressions

1,752
Engagements

872
Followers



89
Watch hours

1,984
Views

25,734
Impressions

Time for numbers

07

Statement of profit or loss

For the year ended 31 December 2021

		2021	2020
Income	Note	\$	\$
Student services and amenities fee (SSAF) funding - core		3,248,670	2,546,537
SSAF - other		-	123,333
Event income		-	1,026
Interest income		2,589	12,378
Training and workshops		-	559
Other income		71,171	298,402
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		11,379	8,110
		3,333,809	2,990,345
Expenditure			
Depreciation and amortisation expense		18,337	88,026
Employee benefits expense		1,438,443	1,395,377
Honoraria		167,549	161,719
Other operating expenses		21,723	13,722
Program/project activity costs		158,857	77,684
Administration expenses		169,035	114,349
Audit fees		12,000	11,700
Computer/ICT expenses		94,515	120,886
Graduate groups support		169,203	123,662
Marketing and communications		37,454	14,692
Occupancy expenses		1	220
		2,287,117	2,122,037
Surplus for the year		1,046,692	868,308

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2021

		2021	2020
	Note	\$	\$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	3,809,442	2,654,683
Trade and other receivables	3	-	39,285
Prepayments		8,435	8,972
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		3,817,877	2,702,940
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Plant and equipment	4	23,194	35,680
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		23,194	35,680
TOTAL ASSETS		3,841,071	2,738,620
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	5	192,794	143,514
Employee benefits	6	83,395	63,660
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		276,189	207,174
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits	6	7,170	20,426
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		7,170	20,426
TOTAL LIABILITIES		283,359	227,600
NET ASSETS		3,557,712	2,511,020
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained surplus		3,557,712	2,511,020
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		3,557,712	2,511,020

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 December 2021

2021	Retained Earnings
	\$
Balance at 1 January 2021	2,511,020
Surplus for the year	1,046,692
Balance at 31 December 2021	<u>3,557,712</u>
2020	Retained Earnings
	\$
Balance at 1 January 2020	1,642,712
Surplus for the year	868,308
Balance at 31 December 2020	<u>2,511,020</u>

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Other receipts		-	1,585
Proceeds from student services and amenities fee funding		3,625,734	2,866,711
Receipts from COVID-19 stimulus		110,456	264,943
Interest received		2,589	12,378
Payments to suppliers and employees		-2,589,548	(2,360,380)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	7	<u>1,149,231</u>	<u>785,237</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment		20,465	12,135
Purchase of plant and equipment		(14,937)	(1,442)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>5,528</u>	<u>10,693</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		1,154,759	795,930
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		2,654,683	1,858,753
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	2	<u>3,809,442</u>	<u>2,654,683</u>

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

The financial statements cover University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. as an individual entity. University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. is a not-for-profit Association incorporated in Victoria under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

Basis of Preparation

In the opinion of the Directors, the Association is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial statements who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.)* and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101. *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows*, AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* and AASB 1054 *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) Income tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(b) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Items of property, plant and equipment acquired for nil or nominal consideration have been recorded at the acquisition date fair value.

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

(c) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the Association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date regardless of the classification of the liability for measurement purposed under AASB 119.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

(d) Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Association and where performance obligations exist, those performance obligations have been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(e) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

(f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(g) Comparative amounts

When necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to enhance comparability in respect of changes in presentation adopted in the current year.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

2 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	2,317,035	1,164,865
Short-term deposits	1,492,407	1,489,818
	3,809,442	2,654,683

3 Trade and Other Receivables

CURRENT		
Trade receivables	-	550
Other receivables	-	38,735
Total current trade and other receivables	-	39,285

4 Property, plant and equipment

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Student furniture and fittings		
At cost	3,047	23,679
Accumulated depreciation	(2,329)	(18,684)
Total plant and equipment	718	4,995
Office fixtures and fittings		
At cost	15,473	35,822
Accumulated depreciation	(5,066)	(25,233)
Total furniture, fixtures and fittings	10,407	10,589
Service improvements		
At cost	-	5,304
Accumulated depreciation	-	(5,304)
Total service improvements	-	-
Office equipment and computer hardware		
At cost	78,997	414,339
Accumulated depreciation	(66,928)	(394,243)
Total computer equipment	12,069	20,096
Total property, plant and equipment	23,194	35,680

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

5 Trade and Other Payables

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade payables	1,790	50
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	191,004	143,464
	192,794	143,514

6 Employee Benefits

Current liabilities		
Annual leave	83,395	63,660
	83,395	63,660
Non-current liabilities		
Long service leave	7,170	20,426

7 Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities		
Profit/(loss) for the year	1,046,692	868,308
Non-cash flows in profit/(loss):		
- depreciation	18,337	88,026
- net gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(11,379)	(8,110)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	39,285	(33,459)
- (increase)/decrease in other assets	537	(2,466)
- increase/(decrease) in income in advance	-	(63,333)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	49,280	4,390
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	6,479	(68,119)
Cashflows from operations	1,149,231	785,237

The Association has no significant stand-by or financing facilities in place. There were no non-cash financing or investing activities during the period.

8 Contingencies

In the opinion of the directors, the Association did not have any contingencies at 31 December 2021.

9 Economic dependence

The Association is economically dependent on continued funding from The University of Melbourne. In 2021 Student Services and Amenities funding received from The University of Melbourne was 97.45% (2020: 87.28%) of its income.

Directors' declaration

The directors has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The directors of the Association declares that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 8: are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 and:

- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards as stated in Note 1; and
- (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 December 2021 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of is in accordance with the accounting policy described in Note 1 of the financial statements.

2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors and is signed for and on behalf of the directors by:

President
Jeremy Waite

Treasurer
William Kabira

Dated 28 February 2022

Independent audit report to the members of University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc.

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021, the statement of profit or loss, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 December 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter - Basis of accounting

We draw attention to Note to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist the Association to fulfil the financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Association and should not be distributed to or by parties other than the Association. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Responsible Entities for the financial report

The directors of the Association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, and for such internal control as management determines necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible entities either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting processes.

Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association’s internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities’ use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association’s ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor’s report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Accru Melbourne

ACCRU MELBOURNE (AUDIT) PTY LTD

Cameron J Flynn

C J FLYNN

Dated 28 February 2022

Schedule of operating and capital expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021

Report on expenditure under the Student Services and Amenities Fee Funding Agreement

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Operating and Capital Expenses			
Representation and Education Activities		1,533,872	1,233,048
Administrative Services to Support	3	442,513	269,464
Capital Expenditure		14,937	1,442
		1,991,322	1,503,954
Funding made available to other bodies pursuant to Schedule B - Student Services and Amenities Fee Funding Agreement Reporting Obligations			
Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations Inc		35,000	46,878
Other affiliation fees		440	440
Postgraduate Groups (Clubs and Societies)		169,203	123,662
		204,643	170,980
Total Expenditure		2,195,965	1,674,934

Reconciliation of total expenditure under the Student Services and Amenities Fee Funding Agreement 2021 to profit/(loss) for the year ended 31 December 2021

Report on expenditure under the Student Services and Amenities Fee Funding Agreement 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) funding received	1	3,248,670	2,546,537
Less: Expenditure as per schedule of operating and capital expenditure		1,991,322	1,503,954
		1,257,348	1,042,583
Less: funding made to other bodies			
Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations Inc		(35,000)	(46,878)
Other affiliation fees		(440)	(440)
Postgraduate Groups (Clubs and Societies)	2	(169,203)	(123,662)
SSAF Funding monies unspent/(overspent)	4	1,052,705	871,603

Notes

1. Represents core funding allocation received under the SSAF funding agreement. GSA didn't receive any other grant funding from the University of Melbourne from separate SSAF funding pools in 2021. In GSA's 2020 statement of profit or loss, a total of \$123,333 of other SSAF income was recorded.
2. Represents 5.2% of SSAF funding received for the year. This expenditure was lower compared to previous normal years as there was less grad group activities due to COVID 19 situation. Based on satisfactory enrolments in 2022, GSA is committed to provide additional resources to grad groups to expand any surplus funding of 2021.
3. Total admin costs increased in 2021 due to additional staff being recruited to increase service delivery to students. In 2020 part of the admin costs was also subsidized by the government supplements received which decreased in 2021.
4. GSA had unspent monies in 2021 resulting from a reduction in operational costs due to COVID-19 situation preventing students from being on-site at campus, causing events to be cancelled or being run online. Additionally, GSA also received government supplements (Jobkeeper) which subsidized the salary costs of staff which would have been paid from SSAF grant.

Statement by President and Treasurer

Report on expenditure under the Student Services and Amenities Fee Funding Agreement

We, Jeremy Waite and William Kabira, being the President and Treasurer of the University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. state the accompanying report has been prepared in accordance with the Student Services and Amenities Fee Funding Agreement 2021 and that all moneys spent for the year ended 31 December 2021 and disclosed herein have been on providing facilities, services or activities of direct benefit to graduate students at the University of Melbourne.

President
 Jeremy Waite

Treasurer
 William Kabira

Dated 31 March 2022

Independent Audit Report

To the University of Melbourne

Report on the Acquittal Report

The attached acquittal report for the year ended 31 December 2021 of University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. has been prepared using the accruals basis of accounting for the purpose of acquitting expenditure under the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) Funding Agreement 2021.

Executive Committee responsibility

The executive committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the report and the information contained therein. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the report that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the report is free from material misstatement. The accounting books and records of University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the statutory financial report for the year ended 31 December 2021.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the report. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the report.

The report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the executive committee's financial reporting requirements under the Funding Agreement. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on these report to which it relates to any person other than the directors, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis of our audit opinion.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion the attached special purpose report for the year ended 31 December 2021 has been drawn up in accordance with the books and records of University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc. so as to give a true and fair view of the Income totalling \$3,248,670, and Expenditure totalling \$2,195,965 for the Student Services and Amenities Fee Funding Agreement (2021) for University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Inc.

ACCRU MELBOURNE (AUDIT) PTY LTD

C J FLYNN
Director

Dated 31 March 2022



**GSA would like to
acknowledge and thank the
University of Melbourne for
their support and funding
over the past year.**

Contact us

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