

**Acknowledgement:** We acknowledge that we meet and work on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to the Elders, past and present and recognize the strength, resilience and capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait people in this land.

<b>Board Members in attendance</b>	Jesse Gardner-Russell – President and Chair Yingchen Zhao, Rosalie Ritter-Jones, Junyi (Johnny) Zheng, Nidhi Sikka, Bolor Jamiyandagva, Yujia (Lucy) Zhang, Amin Abedini.	
<b>Apologies</b>		
<b>Other Attendees</b>	Sajal Goundar – Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kelvin Hoang – Manager Business Operations & Finance (MBOF) Christina Murambi – Manager Policy & Advocacy Liana Moore – Interim Manger Student Engagement Carole Griffin – HR & OHS Officer Eren Muller – Minute Taker	
<b>Representative Council Observers</b>	None	
<b>Faculty Council Observers</b>	None	
<b>Absent (other attendees)</b>	None	
	<p><b>1 – FORMAL MATTERS</b></p> <p><b>1a. Welcome &amp; Acknowledgment</b></p> <p>The President opened meeting at 4:13pm with welcome and acknowledgment.</p> <p>The President reminded board members to forward identified Conflict of Interest/s to the General Secretary – <i>Noted</i></p> <p><b>1b. Attendance</b></p> <p>Board Members, Bolor Jamiyandagva, Yujia (Lucy) Zhang, to attend meeting from approx. 4:20 pm – <i>Noted</i>.</p> <p><b>1c. Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>No new declarations. <i>Refer to Board Policies</i></p> <p><b>1d. Minutes &amp; Follow-up log actions (Attachment 1d)</b></p> <p><b>Motion:</b> The minutes of the GSA Board meeting held on 26 July 2023 be accepted without amendment.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> President, Jesse Gardner-Russell</p> <p><b>Seconded:</b> Yingchen, General Secretary</p> <p>Motion is Passed with all in favour, 2 absent (Bolor Jamiyandagva, Yujia (Lucy) Zhang), no one against.</p> <p><i>Circular resolutions for ratification:</i></p> <p><b>Motion:</b> That Bridie Cochrane-Holley to be granted a leave of absence under s 9.14 of the GSA Constitution for the period 10/07/2023 - 21/07/2023.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> General Secretary</p> <p><b>Seconded:</b> Board Member, Nidhi Sikka</p> <p><b>Motion is passed:</b> All in favour, no one abstained, no one against.</p> <p>RATIFIED</p>	<p><b>Responsible person, time Allocated</b></p> <p>President 5 minutes</p>

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<p><b>Motion:</b> That Bridie Cochrane-Holley to be granted a leave of absence under s 9.14 of the GSA Constitution for the day 23/08/2023.  <b>Moved:</b> General Secretary  <b>Seconded:</b> Board Member, Yuija (Lucy) Zhang  <b>Motion is passed:</b> All in favour, no one abstained, no one against.  RATIFIED</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> The GSA Board approves the Health &amp; Welfare Officer to apply for the City of Melbourne Community Inclusion Grant to support graduate students with food and hygiene items over the break.  <b>Moved:</b> General Secretary  <b>Seconded:</b> Board Member, Yuija (Lucy) Zhang  <b>Motion is passed:</b> All in favour, no one abstained, no one against.  RATIFIED</p> <p><b>1f. Meeting to move in camera</b>  <b>Procedural Motion:</b> That the meeting move in camera  All Board Members voting in favour to move in camera, 1 absent (Yujia (Lucy) Zhang).  Motion is Passed</p> <p>Board member Bolor Jamiyandagva jointed meeting at 4:19pm – <i>Noted.</i></p>	
<p><b>Meeting to move in camera:</b>  <b>Moved:</b> All Board Members vote in favour to move in of camera – motion carries</p>	Board
<p><b>2 – BOARD REPORTING – (Attachment 2a-g)</b>  <b>2a. President Update on GSA Board, RC, external stakeholder issues and other meetings (Attachment 2a)</b></p> <p>The President’s report is noted as read.</p> <p>The President summarised a busy month, noting major highlights including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with legal team regarding CAPA concerns. Legal team will draft a letter from legal, which will be presented to the board for approval.</li> <li>• Meeting with the Head of Vet School, Josh Slater – we will be building our presence at Werribee campus this year.</li> <li>• Meeting with FFAM GR, Mandy Kim – President is supporting the start up of Grad Group for FFAM GR’s.</li> <li>• Assisted Research Officer in preparation of submission to CGRAD to increase travel scholarship amounts.</li> <li>• Providing input to the P&amp;A team on the interim report. President and Vice President will have a follow up meeting with the Disability and Equity Officer on the SEDS items.</li> <li>• Addressing RC honorary policy, regarding RC members failing to submit report/s or attend compulsory meetings without apology or seeking LoA approval from the Board prior to meeting/s.</li> </ul>	Board 20 min

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**Action Log (Priorities: Red = High, Orange = Medium, Green = Low).**

High priority - Governance Action Item for noting include:

- CEO performance management committee – key item for 2023, UMSU has set up a small CEO management sub-committee. Recommend we form a sub-committee of the GSA Board with 5 members. Further updates to follow.

High priority – Representation Item for noting:

- Implementation of new Committee Representative model – two APC and one exams subcommittee positions available.

High priority - Stakeholder Item for noting:

- Elected Reps – need to follow up on Iranian students.

High priority – Representation Item for noting:

- Duncan Maskell (VC) – no update.
- PVC Diversity and Inclusion – new position, need to develop when

**GSA Elected Representative Uniform Policy (Attachment 2a i)**

The President Briefed the board on a unified approach to dress code at events and meetings which will establish a strong brand image.

**Motion:** The GSA board endorses the ratification of this policy without amendments and the General Secretary will support and monitor the implementation of the policy.

**Moved:** President

**Seconded:** Board Member, Bolor Jamiyandagva

**Motion** is passed: All in favour, no one abstained, no one against.

Motion carries.

**GSA NTEU Strike Letter for Board Endorsement (Attachment 2a ii)**

The President provided the board with an overview of the current status of Strike Week. Many GSA members are sessional tutors and academics at the University of Melbourne, or professional staff member delivering vital services for our members.

The Board believes that all students and staff deserve fair working and studying conditions. The President will provide a letter of solidarity in supporting our students and staff in fair working and studying conditions, scholarship wards and job opportunities, and recognize that our staff colleagues also deserve secure employment and a just pay increase.

The President will forward the letter of support for endorsement by Circular Motion – *Noted.*

**Board Member Bolor Jamiyandagva:** advised that the APC and the Exam Committee is open, adding there is also another member open for TALQAC. Bolor advised of interest being on the APC – *Noted.*

**President:** sought confirmation if other board members wished to be on the APC and provided an overview of the role of the APC.

**Board member, Nidhi Sikka:** confirmed interest in the APC – *Noted.*

**President:** sought confirmation if other board members wished to be on the TALQAC and provided an overview of the role of the TALQAC.

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## 2b. General Secretary Report (Attachment 2b)

The General Secretary Report is noted as read.

The General Secretary highlighted items focused on including:

- FRAC, Revised Budget 2023
- New HR Officer on board
- Chancellery Elected Student Representatives meeting, P&A items sourcing – will continue to work with the manager P&A to prioritise discussion item and invite relevant RC/FC members as guest speakers.
- Newly elected representatives replacement training with full day of training held on 18 August, we had great participation from attendees.
- Nominated to Chair the Constitution in the electoral regulation review working group. The General Secretary is seeking board assistance, specifically with legal knowledge.  
**Vice President:** discussion with the General Secretary – Vice President will work with the General Secretary on legal items in relation to the electoral regulation – *Noted.*
- ToR for 5 Working groups has been approved, with nominations closed by August Board meeting date. 10 vacancies including Board, RC and FC available as of 24 August.

Board member, Yujia (Lucy) Zhang left meeting at 7:11pm – *Noted.*

### 2b i. Elections Report (Attachment 2b i)

The General Secretary reported on the elections report, noting that a number of errors and inconsistencies were identified.

Board members discussed the returning officer contract for 2024 annual election.

President: added, need to nominate for the constitutional regulations and governance working group – *Noted.*

**Motion:** That the GSA Board to approve the University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association Election Report 2023, provided by above corridor elections propriety limited.

**Moved:** General Secretary, Yingchen Zhao

**Seconded:** President, Jesse Gardner-Russell

**Motion** is passed: All in favour, no one absent (Yujia ‘Lucy’ Zhang), no one against – Motion carries.

### 2c. Vice President Report (Attachment 2c)

The Vice President’s report is noted as read.

The Vice President highlighted items focused on including:

- Faculty Council Meeting – first meeting was held in August. The Vice President is the Chair of the FC meetings. The Vice Chancellor advised the board overall, the meeting went well however, noting improvements identified including a more solid structure, and pre-determined agenda items to streamline discussions in future meetings. The Vice President is encouraged by the high level of engagement of councillors and looking forward to the next meeting in October.
- Debrief with the interim manager Student Engagement.
- Working on contacts for the faculty council within the faculty. Receiving positive feedback.

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<p><b>2d. Treasurer Report (Attachment 2d)</b> The Vice President’s report is noted as read.</p> <p>The Treasurer highlighted items focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative &amp; Faculty Council Expenditure Policy Review, approval at FRAC meeting and presenting to the board for approval.</li> <li>• Development of Elected Student Representative Conference &amp; Travel Expenditure Policy, which will be presented at the September FRAC meeting.</li> <li>• SEDS Review Panel Focus Group meeting, will follow up with the P&amp;A Disability &amp; Equity Officer. The Treasurer provided a brief regarding review of the implementation of SEDS language academic adjustment plan and the ongoing conditions. The Treasurer is raising the inconsistency across the different faculties.</li> </ul> <p><b>2e. Nidhi Sikka (Attachment 2e)</b> Board Member Nidhi Sikka’s report is noted as read. Board Member, Nidhi highlighted items focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability – Meeting with the Environmental &amp; Sustainability Officer, Sakshi Chawla to discuss upcoming Townhall and identifying improvement and adopting changes that can be made as an organisation.</li> <li>• SPC Committee – connecting with members of the committee and attendance of meeting.</li> <li>• Working Groups.</li> </ul> <p><b>2f. Bolor Jamiyandagva (Attachment 2f)</b> Board Member Bolor Jamiyandagva’s report is noted as read. Board Member, Bolor highlighted items focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty Council meeting, attendance as observer – attendees were highly engaged and encouraged by robust discussions and sharing ideas.</li> <li>• TALQAC meeting – highlighting discussion of strategic plan of the University for students with disabilities. The P&amp;A manager reported that the 2 reports the Disability &amp; Equity Officer is currently working on were not ready in time to share for circulation in support of the TALQAC discussion, hoping to circulate the reports at the next TALQAC meeting and provide student testimonials.</li> </ul> <p><b>2g. Amin Abedini (Attachment 2g)</b> Board Member Amin Abedini’s report is noted as read. Focus on coming month includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduate Groups provisions for graduate students to access a room booking system to utilise rooms for holding events. Will follow up, present at the graduate working group working group.</li> <li>• Rental Crisis documents – reviewed.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>3 – MATTERS FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL</b></p> <p><b>3a. Minutes of Representative Council Meeting - August (Attachment 3a)</b> The minutes of the GSA Representative Council meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2023, to be noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RC Minutes, noted.</li> </ul>	<p>President 5min</p>

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<p><b>3b. Recommendations from the Representative Council for Board consideration</b></p> <p><i>No Representative Council items for Board consideration in August.</i></p>	
<p><b>4 – MATTERS FROM THE FACULTY COUNCIL</b></p> <p><b>4a. Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting – August (Attachment 4a)</b></p> <p>The minutes of the GSA Faculty Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023, to be noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FC Minutes, noted.</li> </ul> <p><b>4b. Recommendations from the Faculty Council for Board consideration</b></p> <p><i>No recommendations for Board consideration in August.</i></p>	<p>Vice President 5 min</p>
<p><b>5 – MATTERS FROM WORKING GROUPS</b></p> <p><b>5a. Establishment of Working Groups (Attachment 5a)</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To establish Working Groups including Board members, RC, FC, and staff members to support and provide strategic advice on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Grad Groups</b></li> <li>• <b>Advocacy</b></li> <li>• <b>Constitution, Electoral Regulations and Governance Charter Review</b></li> <li>• <b>Strategic Plan</b></li> <li>• <b>International Graduate Students</b></li> </ul> <p>The board discussed the working group nominations for the working group working groups.</p> <p><b>CEO:</b> advised board members of the importance of strict terms of nominees attendance and contribution of the working group working groups – <i>Noted.</i></p> <p><b>General Secretary:</b> will send email with confirmation of the confirmed working group working group’s nominees – <i>Noted.</i></p>	<p>General Secretary 10 min</p>
<p><b>6 – OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>6a. Questions and other business from observers</b></p> <p>No observers.</p> <p><b>President:</b> Noted Representative and Faculty Councillors to be invited to attend meeting section “Questions and other business from observers – <i>Noted.</i></p> <p><b>6b. Meeting to move in camera.</b></p> <p><b>Procedural Motion:</b> That the meeting move in camera.</p>	<p>President 5 min</p>
<p><b>Meeting concluded 8:15pm</b></p>	
<p><b>Next Board Meeting – Wednesday 27 September 2023</b></p>	