

STUDENT SENATE

Subject	Student Senate Meeting 1/2021 (SS1)
Chair	Olivia Carey
Present	Representatives: Declan Hanrahan, Lizzie Tongway, Geeta Naralasetty, Janelle Moyes, Laura Benney, Olivia Carey, Rasika Singla, Verana Hunter Raye. Guests: Ainsley Lindsay (Residence student), Teresa Tjia (Advisor), Heather Marsh (Advisor), Tom Brooker (Executive Officer), Liz Luciani (Advocacy), Eric Holm (Academic)
Apologies	N/A
Absent	Gautam Pal, Heba Abdulrahman, Sam McKeegan
Venue	Online, Microsoft Teams
Date	16 th February, 2021
Runtime	5:00pm – 7:00pm

Meeting Actions

1.1 Heather Marsh to provide a final report to the Senate on international student support in the context of COVID.	
1.2 Tom to check Gautam is the CISA liaison person.	
1.3 Senate to provide ongoing feedback to Teresa on how students are experiencing return to campus process and the communications they are receiving from the University.	
1.4 Tom to report on the implementation of the Ballarat City Parking proposal.	
1.5 Tom to organise a workshop for Lizzie Tongway's two textbook proposals.	
1.6 Lizzie and Tom to organise an initial session for the Honour Code working group.	
1.7 Geeta to meet with International and discuss the fee rise.	

Proposal & Project Tracking

Intimacy Proposal

Agreed actions	Status
Tracking for an update from Heather Marsh about the implementation of the intimacy protocols project, as well as the triggering content protocols.	Due SS3, 2021.

Ballarat City Parking

Agreed actions	Status
Tom to review progress and track implementation.	Due SS2, 2021.

University Residences

Agreed actions	Status
Residence representatives to seek student feedback in late 2021 to gauge if students are satisfied with the clarity of offering prior to arriving on residences, particularly students accepting a place as part of a scholarship.	Closed. Will rely on residence rep reports.

Professional Year

Agreed actions	Status
An update for Senate if there are plans for a professional year scheme as part of 2022 planning, particularly for IT, accounting, and engineering students.	Due SS6 2021.
Tom to request briefing for Senate from PVC International about Professional Year. Tom to check if Gautam's Outreach portfolio want to carry this.	Due SS2, 2021.

Industrial Year

Agreed actions	Status
Careers staff to provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations generated by the industry engagement audit.	Due SS3 2021.

Prayer Room and Multi-Faith Advisory Committee

Agreed actions	Status
Tom to meet with Heather Marsh and draft Multi-Faith Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.	Due SS2, 2021.
Call for applications and launch Multi-Faith Advisory Committee.	Due SS4, 2021.

Meeting Minutes

Olivia Carey, Chair, opened the meeting at 5:00pm and gave an acknowledgement to country. Motion raised to adopt minutes for SS8 2021. Olivia moved the motion to accept the minutes. Lizzie seconded. Motion passed.

Resolution SS1/21-1: that the Senate ratify the minutes of the meeting held October 20 as an accurate record.

University Update: Heather Marsh and Teresa Tjia

Teresa Tjia, the new Dean of Students and Registrar, introduced herself and invited the Senate to give her feedback regarding the University's response during COVID, delivery of Orientation, and return to campus.

She suggested the Senate discuss the University's new strategic plan at their next meeting.

Heather Marsh discussed the upcoming online Orientation and the on-campus events the Engagement team will be delivering if COVID restrictions permit. She asked for feedback from representatives on these.

Residence Update: Ainsley Lindsay

Ainsley Lindsay explained the new system on residences where students could now volunteer into smaller roles with staff taking on more support. Residence advisor roles no longer exist. She introduced her new Residence student social club, BARS.

Ainsley identified several suggestions based on issues for residence students regarding the Commercial Services area:

- Request that commercial services staff receive training around intercultural competency and sensitivity.
- Streamlining of processes and clarity of staff members roles to prevent resident enquiries being handballed.
- Introduction of office staff to resident to help students feel more comfortable when talking to / dealing with office staff.

Terms of Reference: Residence Reps

Tom Hodgson explained the need to update the Terms of Reference to ensure representation from residence students as Residence Advisor roles no longer exist. See SS1.R1 and R2.

Lizzie moved the motion to adopt the changes. Janelle seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution SS1.21-2: that the Senate approve the changes and adopt the new Terms of Reference V6.

Advocacy and Policy Update

See SS8.R3

Liz Luciani, Manager of Student Advocacy, shared data on the different kinds of concerns students were presenting to the service with. Liz noted the high number of discipline cases related to online exams, and many of the cases were dismissed.

She suggested request for assistance with fees was low as the University had been running a special case management team for this in 2020.

Liz noted the high average age of students presenting and expressed her concern that this might mean younger students – particularly first years – felt uncomfortable or unsafe to raise concerns and were not bringing them to Advocacy.

Liz also reviewed the list up policy coming up for review and suggested the Senate might wish to provide feedback on the Academic Integrity Procedure. She suggested the ideal approach was an educative one in the first instance, with punitive measures only taken for repeat offenders. Many representatives agreed with this assessment.

Liz invited students to contact her at studentadvocacy@federation.edu.au if they had further questions or comments.

Proposals: Equitable textbook pricing and timely booklist release

Lizzie Tongway raised two proposals. See SS1.R4 and R.5.

Lizzie moved the motion that textbook lists be released in a more timely fashion. Sage seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution SS1.21-3: That the Senate recommend the publication of textbook lists no less than six weeks prior to course start date.

Lizzie moved the motion that textbook pricing be equitable across campuses. Sage seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Heather suggested that information about commercial agreements might be needed from Commercial Services.

Resolution SS1.21-4: That the Senate recommend that textbooks be available equitably to all students, across all campuses.

Honour Code Project

Eric Holm, Lecturer in Commercial Law at Business School, proposed the Senate assist in the development of a student honour code about academic integrity. He suggested the code take the form of a succinct set of principals that raise understanding of what academic integrity means and looks like. Eric proposed the formation of a working group.

Lizzie Tongway will lead a design thinking workshop to explore the Honour Code. **Declan Hanrahan**, **Sage Akouri**, **Verana Hunter-Raye** and Eric Holm will join.

Lizzie suggested the workshop could be run during the Senate's mid-year training.

Reports

Geeta Naralasetty said he'd been hearing frustration from international students around the fee rise this year. He asked for advice on what answer to give them. Tom will assist Geeta to connect with staff who can address this.

Laura Benney introduced her project to create an annual event connecting experienced and new students in the Education program to share advice and tips. Laura is receiving support from the School to implement this.

Other Business

Lizzie Tongway advised the Senate a gallery exhibition of her ceramics work would be on soon.

Sage Akouri asked if the Senate website could give more clarity on roles on the contact us page. Tom will update this.

Tom Brooker asked representatives to nominate to get involved in a project to set up composting systems on campus. **Lizzie Tongway, Verana Hunter-Raye, Olivia Carey, Geeta Naralasetty** all asked to be included.

The Chair, Olivia Carey, declared the meeting closed at 6:52pm.

APPENDIX I: SENATE MEMBERSHIP

 As of February 17th, 2021: 36 roles, 14 occupied, 22 vacant.

Name	Representative for
Kyle Jackson	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Students
Geeta Naralasetty	Academic Board
<i>Vacant</i>	Ballarat Residence Students
Tanvi Mahajan	Berwick Campus Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Berwick Campus Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Berwick Residence Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Brisbane Campus Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Camp St – Performing Arts Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Camp St – Visual Arts Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Clubs and Societies
Heba Abdelrahman	Distance and Online Students
Janelle Moyes	Distance and Online Students
Sage Akouri	Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion
<i>Vacant</i>	FedCollege Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Gippsland Campus Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Gippsland Campus Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Gippsland Residence Students
Verana Hunter-Raye	Horsham Campus – Higher Ed. Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Horsham Campus – TAFE/VCAL Students
Gautam Pal	International Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Learning and Teaching Quality Assurance Committee
Rasika Singla	Mt Helen Campus – Higher Ed. Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Mt Helen Campus – Higher Ed. Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Mt Helen Campus – TAFE Students
<i>Vacant</i>	Postgraduate Students
<i>Vacant</i>	School of Arts Board
Declan Hanrahan	School of Business Board
Laura Benney	School of Education Board
<i>Vacant</i>	School of Engineering, IT and Physical Sciences Board
<i>Vacant</i>	School of Health Board
<i>Vacant</i>	School of Science, Psychology and Sport Board
Lizzie Tongway	SMB Campus Students
<i>Vacant</i>	SMB Campus Students
Sam McKeegan	Sports
Olivia Carey	Sustainability
<i>Vacant</i>	TAFE Board