

Victoria University
VUSU
Student Union



Victoria University Student Union 2018 Annual Report



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Victoria University Student Union
2018 Annual Report

Prepared by:

Elisse Baitz - Executive Officer

AND

Catherine Abourizk - General Secretary

Contact Us

Email: vusu.queries@gmail.com

Phone: (03) 9919 5053

Facebook: www.facebook.com/VUStudentunion

Website: www.vustudentunion.com

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Acknowledgement of Country



Acknowledgement of Country

Victoria University Student Union acknowledge the Elders, families and forebears of the Boonwurrung and Wurundjeri tribes of the Kulin Nations who were the custodians of University land for many centuries. Victoria University Student Union acknowledge that the land on which we meet was the place of age old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal and that the Kulin people's living culture had and has a unique role in the life of this region.

About VUSU

Victoria University Student Union (VUSU) is the peak representative student body at Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia. VUSU represents and supports all students at Victoria University (VU). The stated objectives of VUSU are to provide a range of representation and general services to a student population of approximately 40,000 across all campuses of the university.

VUSU provides representation and advocacy to all VU students. Student representatives often provide support to students when needed, and when students have complaints and grievances against Victoria University. VUSU representatives lobby the University for inclusive services that benefit all students.

VUSU representatives are elected annually by the student body. Elections are fundamental to the democratic nature of the organisation. Participation rates in VUSU elections vary from year to year; in 2017 approximately 5% of enrolled students voted in the election, a high percentage of participation relative to other Victorian universities.

VUSU conducts Board and Executive meetings to facilitate informed discussion with the aim of making decisions. Mobile information booths and surveys conducted via the website and social media channels facilitate the exchange of information between VUSU representatives and the students they represent. Forums and symposiums with staff and students are an opportunity for students to come and voice their views on issues they face.

VUSU is affiliated to the National Union of Students (NUS). The NUS is the peak student representative body in Australia. It has over 600,000 members within Australian tertiary institutions. VUSU is a proud member of NUS and values the contribution it makes to further the interests of students. Each year VUSU sends delegates to the National NUS Conferences. Those delegates take part in the democratic process of formulating NUS policy and electing NUS office bearers.

VUSU ORGANISATION CHART 2018

EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT JASMINE BIRCH/HOLLY WALKER		GENERAL SECRETARY HOLLY WALKER/CAT ABOURIZK
VICE PRESIDENT – EDUCATION AL SPIRIC	VICE PRESIDENT – WELFARE AMY MARKS	VICE PRESIDENT – ACTIVITIES VITHURAN JOGARATNAM

OFFICE BEARERS

WOMEN'S OFFICER CAT ABOURIZK/NAT DAMMOUS	CULTURAL DIVERSITY OFFICER GHAZALA NAZ/JANHAVI MISTRY	LGBTQIA+ OFFICER CHALLIS/HAYDEN SAVAGE
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AFFILIATED ORGANISATION REPRESENTATIVES

VU-ISA PRESIDENT NORBERT KINDERMANN	VUPA REPRESENTATIVE AHMAD MOHSENI	UNIVERSITY COUNCIL VACANT
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COLLEGE SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

ARTS & EDUCATION* (CAES)	BUSINESS* (COBS)	ENGINEERING
HEALTH & BIOMEDICINE* (CHABS)	LAW & JUSTICE* (DICTUM)	SPORT & EXERCISE SCIENCE* (SESS)
	POLYTECHNIC* (TRADES)	

*2018 Affiliates

President Report – Holly Walker



Acknowledgements



To say that I am proud of the achievements of the VUSU team in 2018 would be an understatement. This team has proven that they are some of the hardest working, driven and recommendable young people I have ever had the pleasure of working with. Whatever new challenge or task that came before them, they would work together through all of the tough times and come out the other side with not only fantastic results,

but with smiles on their faces. Throughout the year they have faced various challenges and have proven their strength and willingness to achieve goals despite the odds. I am so proud to have been president of a union of people who carry themselves so well through all of the stresses, challenges and hard times that comes with being in a union. Most of all I would like to thank each and every one of you who has been involved with the union from the bottom of my heart for an extraordinary year. You have made the experience so very rewarding, educational and most of all, fulfilling. I can only hope that the successors of this great union follow in your footsteps and continue to not only fulfill the obligations of the union, but also continue the sense of family and community that we so cordially share.

Key Achievements

This year VUSU has had a few main focusses and the team has worked extremely hard to make these goals possible. VUSU aims to improve the student experience by providing students with the support, the fun and the safety they need to thrive. This year has seen a range of fantastic initiatives come to life including our VUSU VIP Program, accessibility of events and the VU and VUSU relationship remaining strong.

VUSU Loyalty Program (VUSU VIP)

In last year's annual report, you will see in the president Jill's report, that she wanted a loyalty program to be created to increase student participation and the idea was brought to life this year by the hard work of VUSU. The new loyalty program was called VUSU VIP and over the past 8 months of bringing it to life, we have had over 85 sign ups at a \$20 membership fee. When you buy the membership, you also receive a goodie bag with a keep cup, bottle opener, notepad, glasses etc. This is not only a great way to market VUSU, but it is a fantastic way to involve students on a continuous basis at all VUSU events. We also have nearly 40 signed up volunteers that regularly help out at events that VUSU holds.

Accessible events

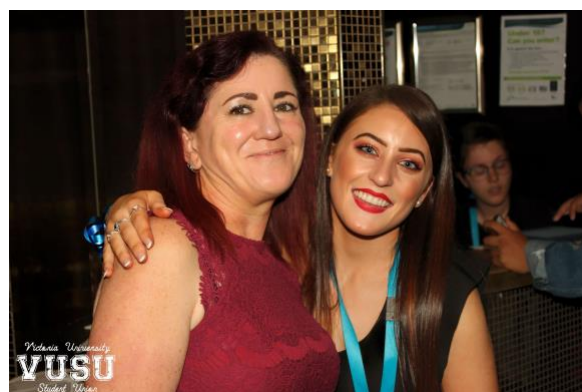
This year has also been a huge year for VUSU in terms of accessibility. We are proud to present that every event we have held this year has been an accessible event. This was one of VUSU's key goals for the year, to make all events accessible and we are very pleased to note that we have reached this goal. For example, every year we have held a VUSU boat party, but this year we scrapped it because this event was not accessible for students who have certain medical conditions. We are committed as a union and as a university as a whole to making everything accessible to all students, which includes all events by VUSU. We will continue to stick to our promise and goal to ensure that all VUSU events in the future are kept accessible.

VUSU and VU Relationship (Block Model)

This year we have seen quite a bit of focus on the implementation of the 'Block Model' beyond first year. In order for VUSU to adequately address all issues and student concerns, it is important for VUSU to maintain a healthy and prominent relationship with VU to gain relevant insight into the developments of the block model. We have tried very hard to make this happen with the monthly meetings between the executive of VUSU and executive members of the university, however, problems still arose when VUSU was not made aware of certain

events/forums/proceedings that were taken place. To resurrect this issue we have endeavored to stick our fingers in all pies of university levels which means we will have connections and information coming from all levels of governance and therefore kept informed with all things VU. The relationship between VUSU and VU is very important in VUSU's aims to adequately represent the student body.

Photos



General Secretary – Cat Abourizk

Women's Officer

2018 began a little differently to my predecessors before me. I began this year as the elected Women's Officer at VUSU. The few months in this role was amazing. VUSU partnered with Respect and Responsibility in creating the Mural – “We are stronger than Fear” at Footscray Park. This mural promotes Preventing Violence Against Women, with the painting of this mural contributed by staff and students at Victoria University. The mural was created on International Women's Day, where VUSU held refreshments for all participants. The 1st of August 2018 marked one year since the release of the Australian Human Rights Commission's “Change the Course Report”, which detailed the prevalence of sexual assault and sexual harassment on university campuses.

“The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Marcia Devlin, acknowledged the pain and hurt suffered by those who have experienced sexual assault and harassment, and affirmed the University's commitment to working with staff, students and the community to change the sexist attitudes that underpin violence and discrimination. VU Student Union's Cat Abourizk, who was Women's Officer at the time of the mural painting, affirmed its symbolic importance in reclaiming a space for women on campus, and creating a message of strength and resistance. Professor Devlin then unveiled the mural, dedicating it to “everyone in our community who has been affected by gender-based violence, through their life's journey.”

- <https://www.vu.edu.au/about-vu/news-events/news/we-are-stronger-than-fear>

On International Women's Day VUSU also marched in the International Women's Day March in Melbourne CBD supporting equality.

Further, I worked closely on the Bystander Awareness Module launched for Victoria University, continuing this work on further modules being created, including one regarding Consent.



General Secretary

On the reshuffle of the Executive in January, the Student Union Board appointed me as the General Secretary. This was an honour and a privilege to which I took on immense responsibility. I won't go overboard in details in this report, however I will highlight the key activities throughout the year.

Working with Colleges

I worked tirelessly to be the student voice and ultimately made some big changes for students. We worked closely this year with many of the Colleges at VU in supporting students throughout their studies and for the future coming into Block Model.

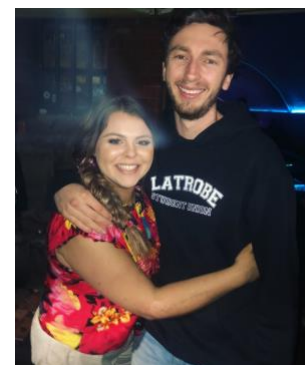


Planning Days

We orchestrated many planning activities where the Student Union Office-bearers came together with VU staff, students and vusuteers to plan events and ideas going forward. This proved to be great team-bonding also.

Learning and Teaching Quality Committee

I was appointed as a Student by Higher Education Coursework to the LTQC. This committee has been great in expressing views of the students, as well as understanding the inside workings of regulating the quality of learning and teaching at VU.



VUSU HANGS

VUSU Hangs was a new initiative (will be discussed in the Activities Report) developed by myself and other members of the Student Union. VUSU Hangs were held regularly at all campuses of VU, where we were able to meet students, provide free food and drink, and develop further ideas for students. It was a place where students could learn about the VUSU, as well as for members of the VU Community to join, to advertise, promote or help out.

NUS Education Conference

Education Conference was a great experience, bringing many new VUSU-teers to also experience. It was a wonderful way to see how other Student Unions run within their Unions and to also meet new people and learn. The week was great in not only getting to know other people from other unions, but to also engage and know more about the people in our own. A very successful week.



Constitution and Regulations Updates

Over the course of the year, myself and Holly have worked on proposing amendments to the VUSU Constitution, as well as creating and updated regulations and policies. I have worked

tirelessly on ensuring that our Constitution and Regulations are adjusted to meet the needs of the Student Union, but to also protect the Student Union and its members.

VUSUteers

Organising the VUSUteer's has been my role alongside Hannah Nadin. The VUSUteer program has proved to be of huge success, with VUSUteer's not only enjoying their volunteer work, but enjoying the Student Union and what it has to offer. I am excited to see our VUSUteer's continue their time at VUSU.



Student Appeals

I, and other members of the Executive have sat on many Student Appeals throughout the year. This role is a very important part of ensuring students are supported as this procedure applies to all students or other eligible persons who are subject to an adverse decision in relation to, Student misconduct, Student complaints, An admission decision, Academic progress; and any other decision relating to students which the University is required by law to provide an appeals process for and which is not already covered by another appeals process. The University has expressed on multiple occasions its gratitude to the VUSU for engaging in this process.

Council Dinner

Attending the Council Dinner with Holly was a great opportunity to meet members of the University we wouldn't normally meet on a day-to-day basis. This event allowed students and student leaders to express their opinions on matters within the University setting. Both Holly and I were well received, with many actions taken by our words.

Student Leadership Awards Ceremony

I was incredibly fortunate to be the recipient of the Raj Kannan Leadership Scholarship for 2018. The Student Leadership Awards recognise and celebrate students across Victoria University for their leadership roles and outstanding achievements in co-curricular and extracurricular activities. The criteria is to provide evidence of when you have demonstrated leadership that benefited your fellow students and the VU community, as well as to provide evidence of participation in causes that champion social inclusion, cultural diversity, and equity. Not only this, our College of Law and Justice Society (Dictum) was the recipient of Club of the Year under these awards. Members of the College of Arts and Education Society were also recipients of Individual Awards.

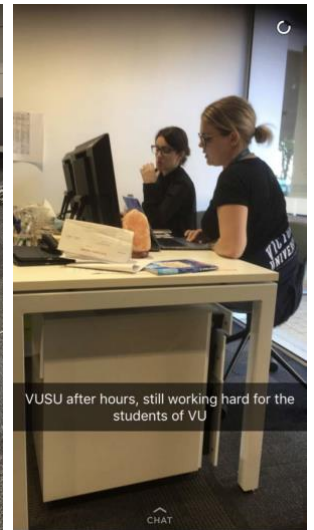
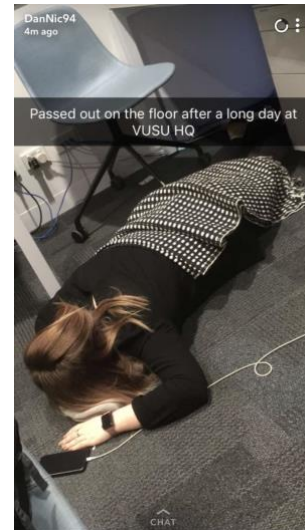


Integrity Module

Other members and I of the VUSU engaged with the University in assisting the creation of an Integrity Module, addressing what academic integrity is and why it is important. This is planning to be launched early next year.

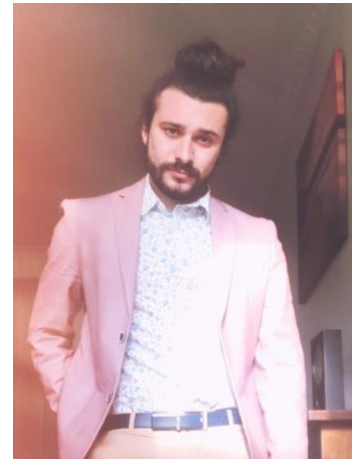
Overall

On a final note, I wish to say thank-you to all members of the Student Union. Although there have been tough times and a lot of work, I have enjoyed every moment of my role in 2018. This position has been one of the most rewarding experiences and has helped development me into the person I want to be. I look forward to 2019 as your President.



Education Report – Aleks Spiric

My name is Aleks Spiric, and I have been lucky enough to be elected the Vice President of Education at Victoria University Student Union for 2018. This role has been in every aspect enjoyable, often stressful, and in no doubt an enriching, satisfying experience immersed with learning curves. Additionally, I have made connections with many new people professionally, as well as developed lifelong friends through collaboration and shared visions.



The start of my term was very daunting, as I felt there was so much to do and I wasn't sure where to start. The first big project team wide for VUSU was preparation for O-Week, which I was a central organiser of. This event is so important in introducing ourselves to new university students so that they are well aware of the events and support we offer them throughout their studies.

At the start of each semester I released a textbook grant. This grant consisted of a number of Co-Op Book Shop vouchers valued at \$100 each. The aim of this was to support students financially in purchasing any necessities relevant to their studies, but also to gather data on the demographic of students attending each campus and establish ways the VUSU can support students as we expand across all campuses. This resulted in very grateful students that were able to purchase expensive textbooks, but also valuable feedback that VUSU had gained from various students.

An early project I worked on was with VU Scout on their app. I, along with the Welfare Officer had been meeting with staff from VU Scout to help them develop their app by mapping out the VU campuses and locate all bathrooms, central and accessible entrances to add to an easy to read map within the application. The vision here was to offer all students immediate and accessible assistance in navigating the campuses – this was particularly in the best interest of first year university students.

During my term I have been able to gauge that some facilities within the university needed upgrading and broadening. An example of this is the Creative Cloud Suite that I spoke to library staff about uploading to more computers on both Footscray Park Campus and Nicholson Campus. Media and Arts students have been limited in their usage of these programs due to compatibility issues they experience between Mac and PC. I felt that offering these programs across both operating systems erased the issues students have been facing

with software compatibility. This was ultimately a success, with PCs, as well as Macs, receiving Creative Cloud programs on Nicholson and Footscray Park campuses.

I made it my mission to give traction to student feedback, so a lot of my events involved gaining consistent feedback from students on relevant university matters. The past couple of years have proven to be central to the Block Model of study that received a lot of contention. I created organised free pizza events where students would come and offer anonymous feedback and would receive a free slice of pizza or two. This type of event was also held online with prizes offered to students on all campuses. These events were extremely successful as they were assessable to lots of students – particularly those who lived far from their campuses. The mountains of feedback and queries we received were then used to inform the Symposiums that I facilitated at the end of semester 1 and semester 2.

As one of VUSU's biggest events, the VU & VUSU Symposiums were an honour to facilitate. I found this type of event extremely beneficial and important as the university's greatest stakeholders (the students) are able to share their thoughts and concerns, and also ask questions in a safe and professional environment. The second Symposium event this year was live streamed on our Facebook page and I think that method was valuable as we were able to engage students from other campuses in asking questions and offering feedback. The panels included Victoria University staff that were from relevant fields to the established themes of the event. We were very lucky to have support from university staff in organising a donated laptop (from VU Procurement) for a random student attendee of the event. We have received positive feedback on our Symposium events numerous times and I had been so excited to hear back from students and staff about the event.

I have also wanted to get sleep lounges in places across campuses – this is something a lot of students who travel far have requested. It has loosely gone to university staff however it is something that I wish I had pushed more in my remaining weeks in VUSU. This is something that has been brought up in the lead up to our Symposium events, as well as within them.

I have also been lucky enough to attend the NUS National Conference in December of 2017, which was a great experience in gathering the issues that we face as students on a national level and being able to witness and be a part of debates and vote on policies that best benefit us as students. During this time, I have been able to meet many student union representatives from other universities across Australia – wherein I was able to share and develop goals and ideas about my term as Education Officer.

During my term I have worked closely with our Welfare Officer in organising and funding student events like the Mental Health First Aid training and Responsible Service of Alcohol course. I have also been a part of the Mental Health Plan reference group at the university, where I was able to give input about what should be considered regarding mental health and how to change the stigma around seeking help and talking about mental health in general. Additionally, I have advocated for and supported students with queries relating to their experiences at university – both social and academic. I also felt as Education Officer it is important to support student activity and outcomes and I did this by helping advertise student led fundraisers or research projects through our online platforms and offering advice, as well as attending exam revivers at the end of each semester.

In the conclusion of my term I feel like I have accomplished many things, measured by what I have been able to offer the students at Victoria University. I do, however, wish I had more time to advocate for more change within student experience. I have no doubt that the Vice President of Education for 2019 will continue to pursue my values in advocating for students and developing a university that offers exceptional academic, social and financial support for its students. I would like to wish the new team the best of luck and endless congratulations on being elected to represent and advocate for students for 2019.

Being a part of VUSU 2018 has been an honour.

Farewell.

In unity,
Aleks Spiric



Events Report - Vithuran Jogaratnam

Vice President (Activities) Victoria University Student Union

This year whilst as activities officer we have conducted over twenty events and ensured that all the campuses are somewhat touched by VUSU in a positive way.

Hawaiian Orientation Party

At the beginning of the year we organised an orientation event at platform one. This was a great way to start the year as we sold out the event and all the students seemed to extremely enjoy the event and were excited to see all the future VUSU events coming up.

VUSU Comedy 101 with CAES

This event was to support a few international comedians who came during the Melbourne international comedy festival. Students were invited to come to this few event with food provided for a good old laugh and a fun time. The students that came seemed to enjoy the show and appreciated the break from university work.

VUSU Pub Crawl

This event was a fun and easy event where we went to several different locations to drink and party the night away. This was a free event where we provided jugs of beer and cider as well as food for all those who attended. This was an amazing night as we met both Will and Dylan who have been so helpful for VUSU and helped us create the VUSUteers.

Simple events such as these allow us to further expand our team for the better.

RUSU SSU & VUSU Present: EOX Heroes vs Villains

VUSU had collaborated with RMIT and Swinburne's student unions to put on an event during the semester break. This was an incredible way to get VUSU's name out as well as achieve a good rapport with different Universities

VUSU Hangs

VUSU Hangs has been a major event within VU that has hit all VU campuses thus far, and with the more we have our Hang events the more and more VUSU's engagement increases. In Footscray Park every fortnight we provided a free BBQ and drinks for all students and at the other campus we provided a large amount of pizza and drinks when possible. During the time

received a large amount of praise and the events were a success all around with students learning more and more about the union and what we can do for them as well as a great way to advertise the upcoming events that VUSU is holding.

VUSU Ball

The VUSU ball is the largest event on the VUSU calendar and like every year we tried to make it bigger and better than anything we had previously achieved. We had achieved a sell-out event as well as make the event as cheap as possible that I am extremely proud of. I had heard nothing but positive feedback and review about the ball and then venue had mentioned to me that we had been the best university they had ever worked this.

Reflection

This year has been an incredible journey of growth and understanding for both VUSU as an organisation and myself. The VUSU team has been supportive and extremely helpful. There are so many things I would do differently and explore more options but missed out on the opportunity. I am extremely proud of all we have accomplished, and all Hannah Nadin has accomplished throughout the year, I cannot wait to see what you all do and I will be there to support you however you may need it.

I am so happy I had the opportunity to have worked with you all and call you my friends, even though we fought, and I lost my temper, I could always come to you for advice, help and a good old vent session.

Much Love

The 2018 Vice President (Activities) VUSU

Vithuran Jogaratnam xoxo (RAWR XD)



Welfare Report – Amy Marks

If you don't read beyond this sentence, in short, running the welfare department of VUSU for 2018 has been incredible - incredibly difficult at times but also always incredibly rewarding.

For O-week welfare ran a chill out table featuring adult colouring-in and play doh at most campuses for those who found the day 'too much' and needed some space to relax. This initiative saw particular success at the Footscray Nicholson campus where many students chose to participate. At other campuses where we were logistically able to run the activity, not as many students partook in the alternate activity but those who did appreciated it.

Following this we ran a bigger and better 'Chill Out Zone' at 'Step Up Day' an annual evening event predominantly for incoming students at the end of orientation week. This area featured giant jenga, a playstation area and various other board games as well as bean bags and a general space to chill out as an alternative to the physical activities. This space was appreciated by many students who were quite shy or needed to take a rest.

Then Welfare and Education did an accessibility audit of City Queens and Footscray Park campus, this was for a now, unfortunately, semi-abandoned collaboration with VU scout.

Welfare started student-facing events for the year with a visit from the 2018 Australian Youth Representative to the United Nations, Amos Washington at City Flinders where we heard from a small group of students between 18-25 about how young people are perceived currently and their views, goals and concerns for the future. This event confirmed welfare was on track for the year as a common theme was that mental health, access to opportunities and skills were key wants relevant in these students lives.

Then it was on to planning the always popular free breakfast stall, however, in the midst of this it came to the VUSU executive's' attention that the VUSU lounge at City Queen had been converted to a learning hub without VUSU's knowledge. To support students on campus and rally against this undisclosed change with less than a week's notice, welfare contacted the Red Frogs (redfrogs.org.au) to help us run a pancake flip and a few days later we ran our event with several volunteers, toppings and pancakes provided by Red Frogs free of charge. Later it was realised that this was the first-ever on campus pancake flip for Red Frogs Victoria. This initiative provided many students with a warm snack on a cold day and gathered numerous signatures in protest of the location of the Learning Hub.

When it was time to launch the free breakfast stall, it was decided to use Melbourne-based fruit supplier, Fruit2Work (fruit2work.com.au) to supply the fresh fruit when possible, not only did this partnership ensure VUSU got market-fresh fruit for students but that we supported the community as Fruit2Work provides employment and rehabilitation opportunities for those just released from prison to help them reintegrate into the community.

As the free breakfasts continued, Welfare along with events and the College of Arts and Education Society held a free lunchtime comedy event in partnership with the Melbourne International Comedy Festival's Comedy Zone Asia programming.

Welfare also had a consistent behind-the-scenes presence throughout various VUSU events during the year advocating for more physical accessibility by making signs for the accessible entrances to the symposium, advocating for flat venues with accessible bathrooms and alternative but equal experiences for those who may be neurodivergent or just prefer a quieter space. Outside of VUSU Welfare also joined the accessible event and mental health committees for the broader VU community.

Welfare also investigated the possibility of having VUSU events interpreted into Auslan, however, due to the current national shortage of Auslan interpreters this year that was not possible, however we now have information and awareness of services available to us if we need to utilise an interpreter in the future.

Welfare along with the LGBTIQA+/Pride Officers throughout the year also advocated for more freeform dress codes at formalised VUSU events such as the ball.

Welfare held three practical workshops this year - Auslan classes (in conjunction with the College of Arts and Education) Physical First Aid and Mental Health First Aid, not only were these courses heavily subsidised for VU students, In the cases of both mental and physical first aid, VUSU saved students roughly \$100 or so dollars depending on where they hypothetically would have completed the course, when including educational resources, food and in-class training. Mental Health First Aid was a particular highlight with students giving exceptionally positive feedback. On top of the savings for students generally, VUSU was also able to award at least one scholarship per workshop that covered all the costs of the course to a deserving and/or highly motivated student through an online application process administered through vustudentunion.com and promoted through Facebook this initiative received universally positive feedback from VUSU executives, VU staff and most importantly, students as it enabled students who generally may not have the financial means to complete this course, an opportunity to participate and gain skills. In particular with the mental health first aid, we were able to provide two scholarships which resulted in one being given to a law and business student based at City Queen. They

are now a qualified as Mental Health First Aider for the next three years. Not only is this a direct benefit to the student but it will also hopefully bring awareness to the importance of mental health to disciplines outside the health and educational sectors.

Going into the second semester, Welfare held a silent disco in support of Mental Health at Footscray Park. As well as a collaborative event with Student Life based around the footy finals featuring Wheelchair AFL to bring more diverse and accessible events to the student body.

Finally, welfare ran a survey about students experience with car parking at VU as a response to multiple complaints about the pricing hike due to the recent implementation of the easy park app and lack of parking overall. VUSU received almost 200 responses in less than 24 hours. This data has now been passed onto Daniel Nicholson who will utilise it going forward into 2018.

The above is truly just the surface of what was achieved both by myself in the Welfare role and VUSU as a collective unit. Thank you all for this experience it has truly been an honour to be able to work to improve the awesome VU community.

Amy Marks

WOMEN'S OFFICER REPORT - Nat Dammous

As Women's Officer in 2018 I have:

Attended many meetings with Respect and Responsibility. Working alongside Greta, Fleur and Marian I am proud to say that I (and in turn VUSU) have had a huge hand in the creation and development of the bystander awareness module. Holly and I proudly attended the soft launch of the module (see photo) where I was asked to speak on behalf of the slides which I had a hand in contributing. What an honour and a thrill. We are the first university to do anything like this! My understanding is that the module may be used by other universities with our name attached to it! This module deals with important and relevant issues that are more prevalent now than ever before. It is currently live and accessible on the homepage of the collaborate space.



The highlight of my year has to be the Blue stocking week event which we hosted in August. We had approximately 30 students in attendance - from a range of campuses and disciplines. I am so happy and proud of how the event turned out! I would like to thank all who gave up their time and helped with the event. The panel wouldn't have been such a raging success if it wasn't for our incredible panellists:

- Danica Sekulovska
- Catherine Burkhalter
- Dr Kaylene Evers; and
- Rocio Lopez.

Attended multiple networking events. One event that particularly stood out for me (as the Women's Officer) was the Women's Lawyers Victoria and Chartered Accountants of Australia Socialising event where I heard from the empowering, incredible and hilarious Jo Stanley. Jo spoke about Women in the workforce, equality, the pay gap and all things in between. She was amazing!



I have enjoyed every minute in the role of Women's Officer for 2018. I am so proud of everything that VUSU has achieved this year and I look forward to staying on as a VUSU-teer in my final year at Victoria University.

Cultural Diversity Report – Janhavi Mistry

Interacting with people from different backgrounds plays an important role in the life a person. My passion an individual is to make sure that multiculturalism nourishes them as an individual.

Multicultural Week

My role as a cultural diversity officer in the second half of the year focused mainly on the multicultural week. I had the opportunity to share my thoughts with some amazing people. The main event at Footscray Park brought many students to engaged in the question “*What does Cultural Diversity mean to you?*” Many students participated in this activity, by anonymously writing their answers on a whiteboard. This activity showed great insight into the diversity here at VU. This information will further be used in the Cultural Diversity Reference Group in 2019.



Next year, I am planning to start a series of ‘talk show’ which includes an active participation of students. The talks will be conducted by specialised practitioners in their respective field. The aim is to spread awareness and connect people together.

LGBTQIA+ Officer – Hayden Savage

2018 brought many changes to VUSU. This included a change in Officer for the LGBTQIA+ Officer. Challis, in collaboration with VU Pride ran a wellbeing day in Semester 1. This event was held at Footscray Park and offered many activities encouraging wellbeing to students. This event was quite successful. In taking over this position in Semester 2, I have worked closely with the VUSU Executive in ensuring access to Pride Rooms at all campuses, mainly St. Albans, and am working on creating bigger and better spaces for the LGBTQIA+ community in 2019.



FREE EVENT, ALL WELCOME

9:30 AM THEN AGAIN AT 4 PM

- Meditation with Jax

10 - 1:00 PM

- Therapy Dogs Coco&Cookie!
- Frida Kahlo Flower Crown Making!
- Tarot Card Reading!
- Art & Texture Therapy Table!
- Tea/Coffee/Snack Stall

1 - 2 PM

Subway Catering
*Gluten free / Vegetarian / Vegan options available

2:30 - 5 PM

Showing of Pixars "UP"
with provided movie drinks and snacks

Victoria University
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VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

STUDENT LIFE

VUSU-teer Coordinator Report – Hannah Nadin

(Unofficial Position)

2018 has been an amazing year for VUSU. Being the VUSUteer coordinator (unofficially) has been incredibly rewarding and given me a sense of leadership I didn't believe I had. At the beginning of the year we changed the name from volunteer to VUSUteers as it had a bell to it. Our VUSUteers came to many events including O'fest mid-year, VUSU Hangs, Education Conference, symposiums, parties, and much more. This year our VUSUteers have shown outstanding work and really impressed our team with the work they have given and the presence they have shown.

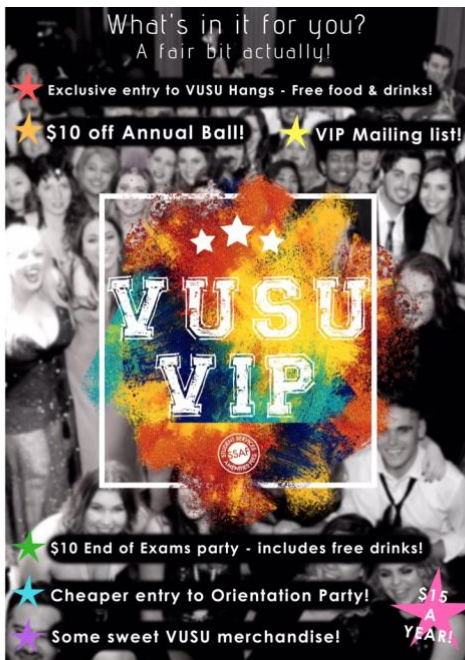


This year I have helped manage the VUSUteers, making phone calls and creating rosters to have as many hands as VUSU needed. The VUSUteers and I have helped at every event and activity that VUSU held in any way that we could to make it easier on the team.

This position has been enjoyable and satisfying the entire year-round, and the support of the rest of the team, especially the executive team has been overwhelming. I have made many useful contacts, met many exciting people, and been a part of an outstanding team whilst in this position. I am excited to see what is to come of this position and the work the next VUSUteer coordinator brings to the table.

2018 EVENTS GALLERY





VUSU & VU Symposium Semester 1 & 2

VU & VUSU SYMPOSIUM

VUSU IS HOSTING A VU STAFF AND STUDENT FORUM!

- > First Year Model
- > Academic Support
- > Timetabling
- > Fees
- > Teaching & Learning
- > Facilities

Location:
D230
Footscray Park

Catering Provided!

THIS IS AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO COME AND ASK QUESTIONS OR ADDRESS ANYTHING REGARDING YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCES IN A PROFESSIONAL AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT!

MAY 16
12PM-2PM

Victoria University
VUSU
Student Union

STUDENT SERVICES
SSAF
AMENITIES FEES

VUSU IS HOSTING ANOTHER VU STUDENT & STAFF FORUM!

Attendees go into the draw to win a
FREE LAPTOP!

This is an amazing opportunity for you to come and ask questions or address anything regarding your student experiences, in a professional & safe environment!

Location:
FPA
D232

OCTOBER 9
12pm-1pm

VU & VUSU SYMPOSIUM

- > Facilities
- > Library Services
- > Block Model
- > Academic Support
- > Teaching & Learning
- > Timetable/Scheduling
- > Activities/ Events

Catering provided!

Event will be recorded to ensure access to all students. By entering the premise, you agree to be present in the recorded content.

Victoria University
VUSU
Student Union



Financial Statements

Notes to Financial Statements

Victoria University Student Union Inc Financial Reports for 2017/2018 Financial Year

The Public Officer of VUSU Inc. declares that the Union 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.

- 1. The financial statements fairly present the Union's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Union will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.***

It should be noted that most VUSU operations and activities are funded by the University. The University has allocated funds to spend on activities and operations as determined by VUSU. The Financial Statements do not include this sum of money, however information is provided and solely prepared for the benefit of student at the annual general meeting.

EXTERNAL ACCOUNTS

The Balance sheet and Profit and Loss Statement represent the external account held by the Union. The Union operates and external account with Westpac Bank.

UNIVERSITY ACCOUNTS

The University spends money on VUSU's behalf as allocated from the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF). The University Profit and Loss Statement for the Union account is taken directly out of the University Finance System as of 14th November 2018.

VUSU does not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the special purpose financial report.

**DETAILED BALANCE SHEET
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

ASSETS

Cash at Bank	\$	24,646.32
Total Assets	\$	24,646.32

LIABILITIES

Total Liabilities	\$	0
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**DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

INCOME

VIP (Stripe)	\$	810.28
Events	\$	16,125.39
Victoria University (SSAF)	\$	30,021.96
Misc	\$	1,621.96
Total Income	\$	48,579.58

EXPENDITURE

Reimbursements	\$	1,280.02
Other Expenditure (Suppliers)	\$	20,005.00
Grants	\$	13,406.95
Misc	\$	721.00
Total Expenditure	\$	35,532.97

Net profit or loss from Ordinary Activities	\$	13,046.61
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For the Period January to November, 2018

275 - STUDENT ORGANISATIONS

OVERVIEW	
PROFIT & LOSS	Year to Date
	2018 Actual
<u>Revenue</u>	\$
Other Income	27
Internal Income	-
Total Operating Revenue	27
<u>Salary Expenditure</u>	
Academic Employee Benefits	-
Academic Sessional	-
Non-Academic Employee Benefits	85,530
Non-Academic Casuals	-
Separation Costs/Provisions	-
Total Salary Expenditure	85,530
<u>Non-Salary Expenditure</u>	
Repairs & Maintenance	599
Cleaning & Security	-
Operating Lease Rental	-
Telecommunications	-
Rates & Utilities	-
Equipment & Furniture	1,886
Scholarships Grants & Prizes	44,915
Practicum Expenses & Overseas Health Cover	-
Fees & Subscriptions	11,280
Legal & Professional Fees	270
Advertising & Marketing	27,456
Travel, Staff Development & Entertainment	4,367
Printing & Stationery	9,845
Consumables & Class Materials	5,023
Insurance & Bad Debts	1,834
Other Miscellaneous	3,071
Internal Expenses	1,260
Total Non - Salary Expenditure	111,806
Total Expenditure	197,336