



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

20 26



Agenda

Annual General Meeting 2026 – Monday, 10th August 2026

Time : 18:30

Venue : PAR-149-L1-107-William Macmahon Ball Theatre (73)

- 1. Attendance and Official Welcome of AGM**
- 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**
 - 2.1.UMSU International Annual General Meeting 2026
- 3. Executive Committee Final Reports**
 - 3.1. President's Annual Report
 - 3.2. Education and Welfare Vice-President's Annual Report
 - 3.3. Cultural and Social Vice-President's Annual Report
 - 3.4. Media and Marketing Vice-President's Annual Report
 - 3.5. General Secretary's Annual Report
 - 3.6. Treasurer's Annual Report
- 4. Other Business**
- 5. AGM Adjourns**

UMSU International President's Annual Report

Annual General Meeting 2026 – Monday, 10th August 2026

Introduction

This annual report covers the period from September 22nd, 2025 to August 10th, 2026, outlining the achievements of UMSU International, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(a) of the UMSU International Regulations.

Looking back on my tenure, I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to advocate for and represent the international student community at the University of Melbourne. Over the past year, I have had the privilege of working alongside students, staff, and external stakeholders on issues spanning academics, wellbeing, culture, employability, and the broader international student experience. While this report cannot capture every initiative or conversation, it reflects some of the work that I believe had the greatest impact during my term. I will begin by outlining my stakeholder engagement, before discussing my key advocacy initiatives and concluding with other notable contributions.

Stakeholder Relations

Relationship with University of Melbourne Executives and Teams

Throughout my term, I continued to build on the strong foundations established by previous UMSU International Presidents, strengthening relationships with senior University leaders and professional staff across a wide range of portfolios. Despite significant changes in the University's senior leadership throughout the year, UMSU International maintained existing partnerships while establishing productive relationships with newly appointed executives. This continuity has ensured that international student perspectives remain embedded in key discussions.

For me, however, these relationships have always extended beyond simply having a seat at the table. My own experience of transitioning into university highlighted how easily certain international student perspectives can be overlooked, particularly those that fall outside the assumed student experience. This reinforced for me the importance of building relationships founded on trust, openness, and constructive conversations. It has enabled UMSU International to raise not only issues that were already visible, but also those that had yet to be recognised.

Over the course of the year, I worked closely with the Vice-Chancellor, the Provost, the Deputy Vice-Chancellors, the Pro Vice-Chancellors, the President of the Academic Board, the Director of Student Success, the Director of Wellbeing Services, faculty Deans, and many other leaders across the University.

UMSU International currently holds membership in/ has contributed to:

- University Executive (quarterly presentations)

- University Council (paper submission in August 2026)
- Faculty of Arts Management Committee (presentation in June 2026)
- Academic Board
 - o Academic Board
 - o Teaching and Learning Quality and Assurance Committee
 - o Selection Procedures Committee
 - o Assessments & Results Policy Working Group
 - o Higher Degree Research Committee
- Office of the Provost
 - o Elected Representatives
 - o Gender-Based Violence and Respect at Melbourne Committee
 - o Gender-Based Violence and Respect Reference Group
- Others
 - o Anti Racism Action Plan Implementation Working Group
 - o Mental Health Advisory Group
 - o Health Promotion Grants Selection Panel
 - o 24/7 Libraries Working Group
 - o Food Working Group
 - o HPP Healthier Minds Advisory Group
 - o HPP Healthier Bodies Advisory Group

These relationships extended well beyond formal committee meetings and consultations. Throughout the year, UMSU International was increasingly engaged by University leaders and professional staff as a collaborative partner on initiatives affecting international students, creating opportunities for earlier consultation, more open dialogue, and more responsive decision-making. This was reflected in the University's strong participation in this year's Night Market, where, for the first time, Deans from across the University attended, and the event was officially opened by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Global, Culture and Engagement). Their presence demonstrated not only the significance of the event itself, but also the University's continued commitment to engaging with and celebrating the international student community.

Alongside engagement with senior leadership, I also prioritised strengthening relationships with Student and Scholarly Services (SASS) and operational teams across the University. Regular engagement with Careers and Employability, Student Life, and Academic Skills and other service areas enabled UMSU International to provide timely student feedback, identify opportunities for collaboration, and work proactively with staff to improve the international student experience.

These relationships have strengthened UMSU International's ability to advocate effectively by ensuring international student perspectives are considered early in institutional planning and decision-making. More importantly, they have created opportunities to identify gaps that may otherwise have remained unrecognised, allowing the University and UMSU International to work collaboratively to develop more inclusive policies, services and initiatives for international students.

Relationship with UMSU

Throughout my term, I maintained regular engagement with both the UMSU President and the UMSU Chief Executive Officer, fostering an open and constructive working relationship on matters affecting international students. Building on the work of my predecessors, I also sought to strengthen UMSU International's relationships with UMSU Office Bearers, recognising that many of the challenges facing students are shared across the wider student community and are best addressed collaboratively.

Beyond working with elected representatives, I also made it a priority to strengthen our relationships with UMSU staff across the organisation. Throughout the year, UMSU International collaborated more closely with staff on events, day-to-day operations, and advocacy work, allowing us to better support international students and learn from one another's expertise. I am incredibly grateful to the many staff members who generously shared their time, knowledge, and guidance. Their support, collaboration, and genuine commitment to our work played a significant role in what UMSU International was able to achieve throughout the year. At the same time, I believe it is important to recognise UMSU International's unique position within the organisation. Unlike UMSU departments, UMSU International is an autonomous representative body with its own Constitution, governance structure and mandate to advocate independently on behalf of international students. While collaboration with UMSU is both valuable and necessary, it is equally important that this autonomy is understood and respected by both UMSU Office Bearers and staff. Maintaining this balance allows UMSU International to work constructively with UMSU while continuing to represent international students independently and without compromise.

Looking ahead, I hope the positive relationships established throughout the year continue to grow. By fostering mutual understanding, open communication and respect for each organisation's role, I believe UMSU and UMSU International can continue working together to deliver meaningful outcomes for the students we collectively represent.

Relationship with GSA

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) remains an important partner for UMSU International, given the significant proportion of international students enrolled in graduate study. Throughout my term, I maintained strong working relationships with GSA executives and board members, collaborating across a range of advocacy initiatives. This relationship has been particularly valuable when presenting a united voice to University leadership on issues affecting students.

At the same time, I have always believed it is important for UMSU International to remain guided by what is in the best interests of international students. In navigating this relationship, I have followed the approach established by my predecessors: working closely with GSA where our priorities align, while ensuring that UMSU International continues to maintain its own

priorities as the dedicated representative body for international students. Supported by UMSU staff and resources, we have the ability to respond directly to student needs, deliver initiatives effectively, and advocate on issues that matter to our community. Throughout my term, I believe this balance of collaboration and maintaining our distinct role has continued to serve international students well.

Key Advocacy

Advancing Inclusion and Belonging Across the University

Throughout my term, one of my key priorities has been advocating for a more nuanced understanding of the international student experience. International students are often discussed as a single cohort, despite the significant diversity within the community in terms of nationality, cultural background, socioeconomic circumstances, identity, and personal experience.

My advocacy has therefore focused on identifying gaps that can be overlooked by traditional understandings of the international student experience, particularly where students face additional barriers to accessing support, participating fully in university life, or developing a sense of belonging. This has included raising awareness of intersectional vulnerability and advocating for University policies, programs, and support structures that account for the different circumstances within the international student community.

Intersectional Vulnerability and Inclusive Student Support

I presented on the topic of intersectional vulnerability at the University Executive meeting on 8 December, highlighting the importance of recognising how multiple identities and circumstances can shape an international student's experience.

Certain groups of international students may face additional challenges due to the intersection of their international status with other aspects of their identity. For example, queer international students may come from countries where LGBTQIA+ identities are heavily suppressed or where disclosure of their identity may carry significant personal, social, or family consequences. Some students may hesitate to seek support or formally report incidents due to concerns that doing so could unintentionally reveal their identity to family members or communities overseas.

Similarly, international students under the age of 18 face unique challenges as they transition into university life. Many are living away from home for the first time, developing independence while navigating unfamiliar cultural and institutional systems. They may rely heavily on third-party accommodation providers and have fewer trusted adults around them, creating additional vulnerabilities relating to safety, exploitation, and understanding their rights and available support pathways.

These examples demonstrate that international students cannot be viewed as a single homogeneous group. A student's experience is shaped not only by their visa status or nationality, but also by their age, identity, cultural background, support networks, and personal circumstances. Recognising these intersections is essential to ensuring that University initiatives are designed to support all students, including those who may otherwise remain invisible within broader discussions.

LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Plan Consultation

Building on this advocacy, I was also involved in consultations for the University's new LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Plan, where I highlighted the importance of ensuring that international students are meaningfully considered within the University's approach to LGBTIQA+ inclusion.

A key concern I raised was that international students can often become overlooked within broader inclusion frameworks. While the Plan appropriately recognises the experiences of LGBTIQA+ students and staff, international LGBTIQA+ students may navigate additional challenges shaped by their cultural background, legal context, migration circumstances, and personal relationships.

These challenges may include differing cultural attitudes towards sexuality and gender identity, concerns about disclosure to family or communities overseas, uncertainty around Australian legal protections, and barriers in accessing support services. Such factors can significantly influence a student's ability to seek support, engage with university services, and feel a genuine sense of belonging.

I advocated for these considerations to be reflected in the implementation of the Plan, including through more culturally responsive support pathways, greater awareness among frontline staff, and clearer communication about available protections and resources. It is important that support systems recognise that not all students will have the same level of safety, openness, or familiarity when navigating their identities within the University environment.

This work reflects a broader commitment to ensuring that inclusion initiatives account for the diversity within the international student community itself. Through ongoing consultation and collaboration with the University, UMSU International will continue advocating for approaches that ensure all students, including those whose experiences may be less visible, feel recognised, supported, and able to participate fully in university life.

Strengthening Student Safety

General Safety Advocacy

Following my work in advocating for a more inclusive university environment, another key focus throughout my term has been ensuring that international students feel safe and supported

throughout their university experience. Safety extends beyond responding to incidents of harm; it also includes creating an environment where students feel respected, valued, and able to participate fully in university life.

The 2025 International Student Survey highlighted that discrimination remains a significant concern within the international student community. Among respondents, 19.6% reported experiencing some form of discrimination, with 68% of those students identifying racism as the form of discrimination they experienced. Other reported experiences included sexism, religious discrimination, homophobia, transphobia, cyberbullying, and sexual harassment.

These figures likely underestimate the extent of these experiences, as students may choose not to report due to stigma, cultural attitudes towards reporting, uncertainty about available processes, or concerns about potential impacts on their visa status, academic progression, or personal circumstances. Additionally, discrimination does not always occur through explicit incidents. Students have also shared experiences of microaggressions and unconscious bias, including assumptions based on accents, language proficiency, nationality, or cultural background. While these experiences may appear subtle, they can significantly influence students' confidence, classroom participation, and sense of belonging over time.

I presented these findings and broader concerns around discrimination at the December University Executive meeting, highlighting the importance of considering how institutional practices and learning environments can better support diverse student experiences. A key discussion arising from this presentation was the role of classrooms as spaces where students from different cultural and social backgrounds interact. I raised the importance of exploring how teaching practices and classroom structures could further encourage meaningful conversations between students, helping to challenge stereotypes, reduce assumptions, and foster greater understanding across the student community.

International students bring a wide range of perspectives, languages, and lived experiences to the University. However, without opportunities for genuine engagement between students, differences in background can sometimes reinforce misconceptions or create barriers to connection. Addressing discrimination therefore requires not only effective reporting and response mechanisms, but also creating an environment where students feel safe, supported, and comfortable coming forward when they experience or witness discrimination.

Involvement in the Gender-Based Violence and Respect Steering Committee

This work has also intersected with my involvement in the University's Gender-Based Violence and Respect Steering Committee, where I have advocated for international student considerations to be embedded in the implementation of the National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence.

A key focus of my contribution has been ensuring that information and resources relating to gender-based violence prevention and response are accessible to international students. Concepts relating to consent, respectful relationships, and reporting pathways may not always

be familiar to students who come from different cultural, legal, or social contexts. It is therefore important that student-facing resources are communicated in clear and accessible language, while recognising that students may have different understandings of these concepts based on their previous experiences and backgrounds.

Ahead of each Steering Committee meeting, I have met with Naomi Smith from UMSU Legal to ensure that I have a sufficient understanding of relevant regulatory and policy updates, and to discuss how these developments may affect international students. These discussions have helped me identify considerations from an international student perspective, particularly around communication, accessibility, and navigating support pathways. I have also worked with the UMSU President, GSA President, and Associate Director of Gender Equity and Respect Initiatives to consider how the University's communication can be further strengthened to better support international students and ensure that key information is accessible and meaningful to students from diverse backgrounds.

There remains further work to be done in understanding how student-facing communications can be adapted to better meet the needs of international students, particularly in relation to how information about consent, reporting, and available support is communicated. I hope that UMSU International continues this work collaboratively with the University to explore more accessible and culturally responsive approaches to communication.

International Student Visa Fee Increases and Tuition Fee Increases

One of the most significant areas of my advocacy throughout my term was addressing the growing financial pressures facing international students, particularly through rising tuition fees and changes to post-study visa costs. These issues were consistently raised by students and became a major focus of my work in ensuring that the University remained aware of the challenges affecting the international student community.

To better understand the experiences behind these concerns, I engaged with student campaign groups and representatives. These discussions provided valuable insight into how fee increases, visa changes, and broader cost-of-living pressures were affecting students across different circumstances, and helped shape the issues I brought forward in University discussions.

I raised these concerns across multiple University governance and representative forums, including presenting to the University Executive in March, submitting a paper to the University Council, and advocating through the Academic Board, the Selection Procedures Committee, and discussions with Elected Student Representatives. Through these engagements, I highlighted both the immediate impact of these changes on students and the broader implications for student experience, trust, and the University's international education environment.

A major concern I raised was the scale and timing of international tuition fee increases. Between 2025 and 2026, 22 out of 29 undergraduate subject fee bands increased by 6.95% or more, while 30 out of 32 postgraduate subject fee bands increased by 9.95% or more. While annual fee

information is available, many students only become aware of changes during subject selection or when receiving their fee statements, often leaving limited time to adjust their financial plans.

These concerns were further amplified by the doubling of the Subclass 485 Temporary Graduate visa application fee from AUD \$2,300 to AUD \$4,600 on 1 March. The sudden nature of this change created uncertainty for many students planning their post-study pathways. While visa settings are outside the University's control, I advocated for greater recognition of the impact these changes have on international students and the importance of clear communication and support during periods of uncertainty.

Following these changes, I conducted a 48-hour snapshot survey to better understand their impact on students, which I also presented at the University Executive meeting. The results highlighted significant financial strain, with over 75% of respondents reporting moderate financial hardship or worse due to tuition and visa fee increases, and nearly one in five experiencing severe hardship. The survey also identified a clear communication gap, with over 75% of respondents indicating that they did not feel adequately informed about potential fee increases before arriving in Australia.

Beyond the immediate financial impact, I also highlighted the broader implications of these issues for student wellbeing, academic success, and the University's long-term relationship with its international student community. In my discussions with University leadership, I connected these concerns to the priorities outlined in Strategy 2030, particularly around student experience, trust, sustainable operations, and maintaining the University's position as a leading global institution.

By framing these issues through a strategic lens, I sought to demonstrate that improving transparency and support for international students is not only a matter of addressing individual hardship, but also an important consideration for the University's long-term goals. Financial uncertainty can affect students' ability to engage fully with their studies, participate in university life, and make confident decisions about their future, while also influencing international student attraction and retention.

My advocacy around international tuition fees focused on three key areas: improving transparency and communication around fee changes, including advocating for earlier release of the annual fee table to give students greater time to plan financially; strengthening awareness and accessibility of financial support options available to international students; and encouraging continued University engagement on policy settings affecting international education.

A particular concern I raised was the need for greater clarity and consistency between the tuition fees initially communicated to students in their Confirmation of Enrolment and the fees they ultimately pay throughout their degree. While students may receive an initial indication of their expected tuition costs, the actual fees they incur can vary depending on their study area, subject selection, and the electives they choose. This can make it difficult for students to

accurately anticipate the total cost of their degree, particularly when differences in subject fees are not clearly understood at the time of enrolment.

I advocated for greater transparency around these potential variations, so that students are able to understand not only the fees associated with their course as a whole, but also how their choice of subjects and electives may affect their overall financial obligations. For international students, who often make significant financial and visa-related decisions based on the expected cost and duration of their degree, having clear and reliable information from the outset is particularly important.

Looking ahead, I hope the University can continue working towards greater transparency by providing earlier notice of the 2027 international student fee table. Earlier communication would allow students and their families to make more informed financial decisions and better prepare for the costs associated with studying at Melbourne.

July Joint Statement with UMSU

Following the announcement of further increases to student visa fees in 2026, I worked alongside the UMSU President to release a joint statement condemning the additional financial burden placed on international students. Effective from 1 July 2026, the Student Visa (subclass 500) application fee increased from \$2,050 to \$2,500, while the Temporary Graduate Visa (subclass 485) application fee increased from \$4,600 to \$5,750. These increases represent significant additional costs for international students at a time when many are already navigating rising tuition fees and broader cost-of-living pressures.

Our statement highlighted the cumulative impact of these costs and the need for policies that recognise international students as valued members of the University community, rather than simply as a source of revenue.

This continued advocacy reflects the importance of ensuring that international students' experiences are represented not only within the University, but also in broader conversations about international education policy. Moving forward, I hope UMSU International can continue working closely with UMSU on joint advocacy where our priorities align, while ensuring that UMSU International's role and representation remain visible. In future joint communications, it will be important to ensure that UMSU International's branding and attribution are clearly reflected, recognising the distinct role we play in representing the international student community.

Increasing Visibility and Representation Across the University

Throughout my term, I have also focused on increasing the visibility of UMSU International beyond spaces specifically centred on international students. I have sought opportunities to

represent international students in broader University conversations, particularly where international perspectives can add value to discussions around belonging, inclusion, wellbeing, and community. This has helped position UMSU International not only as an advocacy body for international students, but also as an active contributor to conversations across the wider University community.

People and Community Conversation: How Can We Disagree?

In October, I co-hosted a People and Community conversation with Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor People and Community Lesley Stirling on the topic of “How Can We Disagree?”. The discussion brought together approximately 45 staff and students to consider how people navigate disagreement, whether students and staff feel comfortable expressing differing views, and the role universities can play in creating spaces for constructive disagreement.

Drawing on my own experiences of living between Japan and Taiwan, I spoke about how differently disagreement can be expressed across cultures and how easily misunderstandings can arise when we do not take the time to understand where others are coming from. I also highlighted the diversity of perspectives within the international student community, and how university can be one of the first environments in which students are encouraged to openly question, challenge, and exchange ideas. I emphasised that learning to disagree well is not only about expressing our own views, but also about creating space for others to be heard.

2026 Respect Week: Building Safer Digital Ecosystems

I also represented UMSU International in the University’s 2026 Respect Week programming through the “Building Safer Digital Ecosystems – Equity, Design, and Wellbeing Online” webinar. Alongside the UMSU President and University researchers, I contributed a student perspective to discussions around online wellbeing, technology-facilitated abuse, and the development of safer and more ethical digital environments. Opportunities such as this have allowed UMSU International to contribute an international student perspective to conversations that extend beyond traditional international student issues.

Connection and Belonging Presentation

Similarly, UMSU International was invited to contribute to the University’s Connection and Belonging Community of Practice, a community bringing together staff and students working across the University. I was invited to provide a five-minute overview of UMSU International’s initiatives and support over the previous 6–12 months, providing an opportunity to showcase our work to staff and students working in related areas and to identify potential opportunities for collaboration.

These opportunities have demonstrated the value of ensuring that UMSU International is visible not only when international student issues are explicitly on the agenda, but also within broader University conversations. Greater visibility creates opportunities for the organisation to build

relationships, share international student perspectives, and demonstrate the breadth of work being undertaken by UMSU International.

Moving forward, I hope UMSU International continues to actively explore opportunities to present at University forums, contribute to cross-campus initiatives, and engage with external organisations and communities. Increasing our visibility in these spaces can help broaden awareness of the work we do, create new avenues for collaboration, and ensure that international student perspectives continue to be represented in conversations that shape the wider University community.

Strengthening Engagement with Faculties

Throughout my term, I have strengthened UMSU International's relationships with faculties, student representative bodies, and student leaders across the University. These relationships have helped bring international student perspectives into faculty-level discussions and identify opportunities for collaboration.

MDHS Student Leadership

I participated in a cross-representative meeting alongside members of the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences (MDHS) Student Advisory Council, UMSU, and the Graduate Student Association (GSA) to discuss key student experience issues affecting the MDHS cohort.

Discussions focused on several shared priorities, including food security, student placement experiences, strengthening cohort belonging and connection, improving student access to and navigation of health and wellbeing supports, and identifying more effective ways to cascade important information to students. This meeting provided an opportunity to contribute international student perspectives to faculty-level discussions and identify areas for future collaboration between representative bodies on issues affecting student wellbeing and experience.

International House Student Leadership Summit

I also attended the International House Student Leadership Summit, which brought together student leaders from across the University to network, share experiences, and discuss student leadership and representation. Beyond strengthening relationships with leaders from different communities and portfolios, the summit provided an opportunity to increase awareness of UMSU International's role and services and identify potential opportunities for collaboration on future student-facing initiatives.

Faculty of Arts Management Committee Presentation

Another significant part of this work was my engagement with the Faculty of Arts through a faculty-specific analysis of the 2025 International Student Survey. Rather than presenting the survey as a general University-wide dataset, the analysis focused specifically on the experiences and challenges faced by international students within Arts.

Presenting this data directly to the Faculty provided an opportunity to move beyond broad discussions of the international student experience and consider how particular issues may manifest within a specific academic environment. It also reinforced the importance of ensuring that student support is not only available but communicated in ways that reach students effectively and reflect the realities of their faculty and cohort.

These engagements have demonstrated the value of developing stronger relationships between UMSU International and individual faculties and student representative bodies. Different faculties have distinct academic structures, placement requirements, student demographics, and support needs, and a more localised understanding of these experiences can strengthen the quality of our advocacy.

I encourage future UMSU International committees to continue exploring opportunities for faculty-specific engagement, including presenting International Student Survey findings, attending faculty student leadership forums, and developing relationships with faculty-based student representatives. This would allow UMSU International to better understand the diversity of experiences across the University, identify issues that may otherwise be overlooked at a University-wide level, and build stronger pathways for collaboration and advocacy.

Other Notable Work

International Student Survey

During my term, I supported the Education Department in the delivery, review, and promotion of the International Student Survey (ISS), contributing to one of the University's key mechanisms for understanding international student experiences.

I also contributed to a substantial review and restructuring of the survey to improve its quality and reduce survey fatigue. This included removing duplicated questions, streamlining sections, refining question wording, and restructuring the graduate student section to focus specifically on Graduate Research students. Employment-related questions were also refined by distinguishing between casual and part-time work experiences and post-graduation employment pathways.

Further consultation with University staff across specialised portfolio areas, including the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education), Careers and Employability, and Academic Skills, helped ensure that survey questions remained accurate, relevant, and aligned with current University

priorities. These consultations strengthened the survey's ability to capture meaningful and actionable insights into the evolving experiences of international students.

Elected Student Representatives Meetings

The Elected Student Representatives meeting has continued to serve as an important channel for raising student concerns directly with Chancellery and relevant University leaders. I have used this forum to bring forward issues raised by international students and the broader student community, while also seeking greater clarity on University policies and processes.

Throughout my term, key issues I raised included concerns around assessment practices, such as last-minute changes to assessment criteria and submission dates, inconsistencies between lectures and tutorials, limited feedback from tutors, and the lack of peer-review mechanisms for group assignments. I advocated for clearer and more consistent expectations around assessment changes and stronger mechanisms to ensure students receive meaningful feedback and support throughout their studies.

I also raised concerns regarding experiences of racism and discrimination within teaching environments, including reports of racial stereotyping, microaggressions, and perceived unfair treatment. These discussions focused on the adequacy of existing reporting, review, and accountability processes, and the importance of ensuring that students who raise concerns can have confidence that appropriate action will be taken.

Financial pressures on international students were another recurring area of discussion, including the need for more actionable financial support when students face unexpected increases in visa-related costs. Raising these issues directly with University leadership provided an opportunity to seek clarity on existing support and advocate for more responsive mechanisms.

These discussions have reinforced the value of having a forum where student representatives can raise both individual concerns and broader systemic issues directly with senior University decision-makers. I hope future representatives continue to use this space proactively, bringing forward issues raised by students and following them through to meaningful institutional responses.

24/7 Libraries

Alongside UMSU and the Graduate Student Association (GSA), I contributed to advocacy efforts that secured the continuation of the 24/7 library pilot program for Semester 1, 2026, recognising the importance of accessible late-night study spaces for students during the examination period.

This outcome followed ongoing collaboration and a series of meetings throughout the semester with key University stakeholders, including the Director of Student Success, as well as representatives from UMSU and the GSA. Through these discussions, student representatives advocated for the continuation of overnight study access, highlighting the importance of safe, accessible, and reliable study spaces for students balancing exams, work, commuting, and different study preferences.

As a result, the University continued 24/7 access to the ERC Library from 1 to 9 June, including over the public holiday period. Additional access arrangements were also secured for Building 168, enabling students to use kitchenette facilities and ensuring that those studying overnight had access to essential practical amenities.

Move to 301, 302, 334, and 335 of Building 168

Following UMSU's organisational restructuring, UMSU International relocated to Rooms 301, 302, 334, and 335 in Building 168. Managing this transition was a significant focus during the first half of my term, particularly as the move involved adjusting to a new space and accommodating a range of perspectives within the Committee.

I facilitated discussions between Committee members, the Student Representative Division, and the UMSU CEO to navigate these perspectives, manage expectations, and ensure that Committee concerns were appropriately considered. Over the semester break, I also coordinated the practical transition alongside the UMSU International Secretary, including moving materials and preparing the new rooms for use.

While the relocation presented challenges, the new space provides a more open and visible environment for international students. Compared with the previous space, the new location is more public-facing and accessible to the broader international student community, better reflecting UMSU International's role as a representative body and welcoming space for all international students.

Moving forward, I encourage future Committees to actively promote the space to international students and continue developing it as a welcoming and accessible student hub. Maintaining the cleanliness, organisation, and usability of the rooms will be important in ensuring that the space remains a practical resource that students feel comfortable using throughout the year.

University Health Promotion Program Grant Assessments

I also served as one of two student representatives on the 2026 Health Promotion Program (HPP) Executive Selection Panel, alongside a representative from the Graduate Student Association (GSA). In this role, I contributed to the assessment and allocation of funding for student health promotion initiatives, reviewing shortlisted applications against criteria

including student need, feasibility, equity and diversity, health promotion outcomes, student consultation, evaluation, and value for money.

The applications covered a broad range of initiatives supporting student wellbeing, including mental health, physical activity, food security, social connection, belonging, and equity-deserving student cohorts. This role provided an opportunity to bring a student perspective to funding decisions and consider how proposed initiatives could meaningfully respond to student needs while aligning with the University's broader wellbeing and prevention priorities.

Concluding Words

I am so incredibly grateful for everyone who has been a part of this journey with me.

When I was 17, a fresh high school graduate looking for communities to join in Melbourne, I came across UMSU International's Instagram page. I remember thinking almost immediately that this was a community I wanted to be a part of. I did not really know what that would mean at the time, or where it would eventually take me, but looking back now, it is hard to believe how far that first bit of curiosity has led me.

My first year at university was not always an easy one. I started university under 18, and as a queer student whose experiences did not always fit into the typical idea of what an "international student" looked like, I struggled at times to find a community where I felt like I could truly be myself and belong. I remember reading Richard's article in Farrago during my first year, and thinking that one day, I wanted to be in a position where I could make that kind of impact for other international students too, especially for those whose experiences do not fit neatly into the boxes that are often assumed of us. I wanted to help build a community where students could feel seen not just as international students, but as the complex, individual people that they are.

I started my UMSU International journey as an International Student Ambassador. I spent a lot of time helping out at Brekkies... in fact, I signed up for Brekkies probably more than anything else, mostly because all the other events somehow seemed to clash with my classes. But those mornings ended up meaning so much more to me than I expected. I met so many international students who I could relate to, people who made Melbourne feel a little smaller and a lot more like home. Somewhere along the way, I realised that I wanted to do more, and eventually ran to become an Education Officer.

As an Education Officer, I had the opportunity to work on things that I genuinely cared about, from the International Student Survey to Get Certified and our broader education advocacy. But more importantly, it was through this work that I met so many incredible people and built friendships and connections that I never could have imagined when I first started.

Then, in late August last year, I came back as President to a completely new committee. It was definitely strange going from being the person who was always asking questions to suddenly being one of the people expected to have the answers. I had spent so much of my time learning from the people before me, and now I was doing my best to pass on what I had learned while figuring things out along the way.

To everyone who has been part of this committee, thank you. Thank you for the work you have put in, for the things you have taught me, and for making this year what it has been. Thank you for laughing at my jokes... or at least pretending to, every time I inevitably started joking around. And sorry if I ever invited myself into your conversations when you probably just wanted to talk amongst yourselves, haha.

I always talked about how I would avoid the lounge whenever I was overwhelmed with UMSUi. But somehow, I would always end up there anyway, because I knew that there would be someone around to have a stupid conversation with, make me laugh, or just take my mind off things for a while. I think that says a lot about what this team has meant to me.

To Exco, I know we started out a little rocky, and we all had to adjust to each other and our roles pretty quickly. But I am genuinely so grateful for how much I have enjoyed working with all of you throughout the year. There were definitely a lot of stressful moments, but you somehow always managed to keep me sane through them... whether it was late-night texting, last-minute planning, or just having someone to complain to when things got a bit too much.

Thank you for trusting me, for backing me when I needed it, and for sticking with me through everything this year. And thank you, most importantly, for not resigning. I have really enjoyed working alongside all of you, and I am so grateful that I got to do this with you.

Nishka, thank you for taking on two departments and somehow managing to keep up with everything, especially with how many events you had going on throughout the year. I know you had a lot on your plate, and I really appreciate how much work you put into everything.

Shree, you genuinely kept me alive this year. You were always checking in on me and making sure I wasn't taking on more than I could handle. I'm also sorry for not having it together during Night Market. I know there were definitely moments where I could have made things easier for you. Despite that, you gave me so much support throughout the year, and I really appreciate you always being there when I needed it. Night Market was such a huge success, and I really admire how well you managed your team while somehow keeping everything moving. Thank you for everything you've done for me and for the committee this year.

Bhavya, thank you for always being so willing to help. I really appreciated how responsive you were whenever something needed to be done or someone needed a hand. You were always happy to step in, and I'm really grateful for that. Good luck next year, I trust that you'll do a great job.

Redd, thank you for listening to all my rants and crashouts throughout the year, and for always keeping the CCMS running so smoothly. I genuinely don't think I had to book a room even once because you were always on top of everything. You never needed reminders to get your work done, and I really admire how organised and dependable you are. Our friendship is so important to me, and I'm really glad that UMSUI gave me the chance to get to know you this well.

Dhruv, I'm honestly so surprised by how close we've become over the past year. You've always been so approachable, and I've genuinely really enjoyed getting to know you and working with you. Thank you as well for handling all the finances throughout the year. I'm so grateful to have had such a capable Treasurer, and it was such a relief knowing that I never had to worry about that side of UMSUI. Thank you for all your work this year!

To the rest of the committee, thank you for everything you have done this year, whether it was the work that everyone saw or all the things that happened behind the scenes. I know there was a lot that went into making everything happen, and I really appreciate everyone who gave their time, energy, and ideas throughout the year. I'm so grateful to have gotten to know all of you, and I hope you know how much your contributions have meant to me and to UMSUI. I would love to stay in touch with you all, you've each been such a big part of my university journey, and I hope you know that. Please feel free to reach out to me about anything; I'd always be happy to help.

To the Student Representation Division, Lachie, Mary, Hana, Fiona, Lauren and Alyssa, thank you so much for all your support throughout the year. There was definitely no shortage of crashouts and stress talks from me, and I'm so grateful for how much you all helped me behind the scenes. Whether it was helping me understand regulations, working through advocacy issues, supporting campaigns, or just being there when I needed to talk something through, you have all made my job so much easier. Thank you for always being so positive and willing to help, even when I was stressed and probably making things more complicated than they needed to be.

And Jess, thank you so much for always making me feel understood, especially whenever I was stressed or overwhelmed. You were always someone I could go to when I needed advice, reassurance, or just someone who understood what I was talking about. I really appreciated how much support you gave me when I first stepped into the role, and you made the transition so much smoother than it could have been. Thank you for always being there for me.

To the international students I have had the privilege of representing throughout this year, thank you for trusting me with this role. I hope that through my work, I have been able to make things even a little bit better, whether through the bigger pieces of advocacy or the smaller things that might not always be visible. It has been incredibly meaningful to represent such a large and vibrant community, made up of so many different cultures, experiences, and perspectives.



And lastly, to my family, friends, and everyone else who has been around me this year, thank you for putting up with me through all of it. There were definitely times when UMSUI consumed way too much of my brain space, and I'm very grateful for the people who were there to listen to me rant, distract me when I needed it, and remind me that I had a life outside of UMSUI.

One thing I hope we take away from this year is how much of UMSUI happens outside of the things that end up on a report. It's the conversations in the lounge, staying back after meetings, helping each other when things get stressful, and having people around who make the hard days a little easier. Those are the parts of this year that I know I will remember most, and I hope you all have your own moments that you'll carry with you too.

When I first joined UMSUI, I was looking for somewhere I could belong. That has probably shaped the way I have approached this role more than anything else. I hope that, whatever roles you take on in the future, you continue to make space for people who are still trying to find that sense of belonging. Keep looking out for each other, keep being willing to listen, and remember that sometimes the smallest things can make a huge difference to someone.

I am really proud of what we have built together, and even more grateful for the people I have to build it with.

Thank you for such an amazing year!

With gratitude,

**Momoka HONDA
President 2025/26
UMSU International**

UMSU International Education and Welfare Vice President's Annual Report

Annual General Meeting 2026 – 10th August 2026

1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from August 7th, 2025, to August 10th, 2026, outlining the achievements of the Education and Welfare department, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(a) of the UMSU International Regulations.

2. Internal Projects

The following are projects involving the Education and Welfare departments held over the last year.

2.1 Education Department

2.1.1 PR Visa Workshop

There were 2 PR Visa Workshops held over the past year, one in each semester. These workshops have been a long-running event held by UMSU International as it serves to educate students on the different graduate visas available to them, migration policies as well as how they can obtain points to become a Permanent Resident in Australia. With the uncertainty involving visas amidst the changes adopted by the government, it is even more important than ever to continue having these workshops.

2.1.2 Get Certified

Get Certified is an event where UMSU International subsidizes different education courses for students to help them obtain employment, as these courses can be rather expensive. Two Get Certified events were held, one each semester. The courses subsidized were Responsible Service of Alcohol, First Aid, and Barista. Students were

asked to still pay a small fee for each course, ensuring students come on the day as they have paid a deposit.

2.1.3 Personal Finance Workshop

The Personal Finance Workshop aims to improve financial literacy amongst international students by focusing on personal finance management methods and investment.

The workshop was well-structured and informative, covering key personal finance topics such as TFNs, saving, debt management, investing, and superannuation, with good engagement through interactive questions and relatable examples. While the content was valuable, it could be improved by making explanations more interactive, shortening certain sections, and incorporating a short break or mid-session Q&A to maintain participant focus. For future events, consider collaborating with UMSU Financial Counselling.

2.1.4 OSHC Workshop

The OSHC Workshop aimed to help international students better understand their Overseas Student Health Cover and how to navigate the Australian healthcare system. The event featured two informative sessions—one from a BUPA representative and another from Stop 1 regarding Special Consideration—followed by dedicated Q&A segments to address common questions and concerns.

The workshop was well-received, with attendees finding the content clear, informative, and useful. It successfully created a space for students to gain practical knowledge about their health insurance rights and services.

For future improvements, allocating more time for Q&A sessions, offering a wider variety of food options, and providing clearer directions to the venue would help enhance the overall experience.

2.1.5 Employability Panel

The Employability Panel 2026 was held with the aim of supporting international students in navigating the challenges and uncertainties associated with employment in Melbourne.

The panel sought to address the stress and concerns that international students often experience when entering the Australian workforce, particularly around understanding employment pathways, opportunities and expectations. It also provided students with valuable information about the employment opportunities available to them in Melbourne, helping them better understand the local job market and identify potential pathways for professional development.

A key objective of the event was to create an accessible platform for international students to connect directly with industry experts and professionals, allowing them to ask questions, seek practical advice and build meaningful professional networks. Overall, the panel aimed to equip international students with greater confidence, knowledge, and connections to support their transition into the workforce.

2.1.6 International Student Survey

The International Student Survey is an integral initiative from UMSU International as it provides us with necessary information to advocate for the needs of students as well as to provide us with directions for the events we hold. The survey contains various sections targeted at understanding more about the different issues that international students face, and this includes academic experience, financial situation, accommodation, employment opportunities, and more.

After the survey concluded, we filtered through the data and produced a report highlighting the different issues students faced. We also provided different recommendations that the university can consider improving the situation of international students. This report will be presented at various university meetings attended by university staff and will help them understand the difficulties that international students face and how they must be addressed.

2.2 Welfare Department

2.2.1 International Brekkie

The International Brekkie is UMSU International's flagship initiative aimed at supporting international students facing food insecurity, with a focus on offering meals from a diverse range of cuisines. With many students struggling to meet their daily needs, including access to affordable food, it is essential that this initiative continues until the University provides more accessible and affordable food options on campus.

The success of the initiative has been driven by the collective efforts of the entire UMSU International Committee, along with dedicated volunteers from the International Student Ambassador Program. Together, they have consistently distributed food every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning for the past two and a half years.

Over the past semester, several improvements have been made. These include offering a wider variety of cuisines while maintaining a thoughtful balance between quantity and quality. In response to concerns from students who queued but did not receive food, the current committee implemented a number plate system, which has significantly improved the experience. With support from the MnM Department, we also began posting the weekly Brekkie menu in advance, allowing students to plan their day accordingly. Shout out to the MnM team to design the number plates. Additionally, we've made ingredient lists available each day via both printed Excel sheets and a QR code that students can scan while waiting in line.

These enhancements have made the International Brekkie more efficient, inclusive, and responsive to student needs.

2.2.2 Glovey's Get Together

UMSUi Glovey's Get-Togethers was a program designed to make the semester feel more fun, relaxed and connected for all students by providing casual and welcoming spaces to participate in hobby-based and social activities.

Recognising that many international students experience challenges in building friendships and feelings of isolation, the program aimed to create a warm and inclusive environment where students could meet new people, unwind and engage in activities outside of their academic commitments.

Across two Glovey's Get-Togethers, we hosted four events in total across Weeks 3 and 9, including Winter-Themed Cookie Decoration, Tote Bag Painting and Cat Café sessions. These activities provided students with accessible opportunities to socialise and connect with others in a low-pressure setting, while contributing to a more positive, inclusive and emotionally supportive campus environment.

2.2.3 Sexual Health Week

Sexual Health Week is an event from the Welfare department that focuses on the sexual health of international students. Aimed to raise awareness amongst students, SHW gave away stickers, sexual health packs, and sexual health resources through a booth that was placed near the Brekkie booth. Also, a game of sexual health, true or false, was provided for students to learn more about this topic and win extra prizes.

The event went well with a lot of foot traffic from Brekkie, and we had a good time collaborating with HPP.

2.2.4 Exam Pack Giveaway

Exam Pack Giveaway (EPG) has been held the last day before SWOTVAC for the past two semesters. The packs include useful items such as stationery, snacks, energy drinks, and more. For the past two semesters, we were excited to partner with Hungry Panda to provide free boba tea to students — a collaboration that proved to be a major success.

A big thank you to the PnS Department for securing EPG sponsors like Hungry Panda, Sulbing vouchers for our past two EPG events, and our regular partners such as Red Bull.

With approximately 800 attendees at each event, the feedback we received has been insightful. Students suggested including more nutritious snacks, providing pencils for written exams, and adding welfare items such as tissues and wipes to future packs.

2.2.5 International Queer Pub Night

Welfare Department launched International Queer Pub Night as a new initiative, aimed at supporting queer international students at the University of Melbourne. The initiative was developed in response to the need for safe, inclusive, and affirming spaces where students could explore their identities, build meaningful connections, and develop a sense of belonging while navigating life in a new cultural environment. The event provided a structured yet relaxed social setting, featuring interactive speed-friending activities alongside a casual pub-style atmosphere to reduce social barriers and encourage genuine conversations, cultural exchange and connection. Free food and beverages were also provided to ensure the event remained accessible to students and encouraged wider participation. Overall, International Queer Pub Night sought to strengthen peer support networks, reduce feelings of isolation and contribute towards a more inclusive, welcoming and supportive campus community for queer international students.

2.2.6 Mental Health Week

UMSUi Mental Health Week was designed to support the wellbeing of international students by creating calm, welcoming and engaging spaces that encouraged students to prioritise their mental, physical and emotional health. The program provided opportunities for students to unwind, de-stress and connect with others through a range of accessible wellness and creative activities. Across the week, activities included Mat Pilates, Keychain Making, a Crochet Workshop, a workout session led by MU Sport, a Voguing Dance Workshop and an Animal Therapy Session with Miracle Paws. These activities were intentionally varied to cater to different interests while creating low-pressure opportunities for students to socialise, express themselves and build connections. Recognising that students may experience stress, loneliness and difficulties forming connections throughout the semester, the program aimed to foster a stronger sense of belonging and peer support within the university community. Overall, Mental Health Week contributed to creating a more inclusive, supportive and mentally healthy campus environment for international students.

3. Acknowledgements

Before I step down from this role, I want to thank the entire UMSU International 2025/2026 Committee for your hard work and dedication in supporting and advocating for international students throughout the past year.

I started my UMSU International journey simply wanting to be a little more involved in university life. I definitely did not expect that decision to eventually lead to me taking on the role of Vice President of Education & Welfare and somehow being responsible for two departments. Safe to say, I learnt very quickly that “getting involved” came with a lot more spreadsheets, meetings, messages and responsibilities than I had originally imagined.

Taking on this role was definitely not always easy. There were stressful days, difficult decisions, last-minute changes, and moments where managing two departments felt a lot. But somewhere between all of that, I also learnt more than I could have imagined. This role taught me how to lead, delegate, communicate, problem-solve and, probably

most importantly, accept that I cannot do everything myself. I learnt to trust my team, rely on the people around me and be comfortable figuring things out as I went.

Looking back, I am really grateful that I decided to get involved in the first place. What started as simply wanting to be part of university life turned into one of the biggest learning experiences of my time at Melbourne. I am incredibly proud of what both departments have achieved and of the spaces we have been able to create for international students. It definitely wasn't the easiest year, but it was one filled with growth, some very questionable levels of stress, lots of memories, and, most importantly, people I am incredibly grateful to have met along the way.

To the **UMSU staff**, thank you for being there throughout the year, especially when I was completely new to the role and had no idea what I was doing half the time. Thank you for answering my endless questions, guiding me through everything, and, of course, to Lachie for being my unofficial and very much unpaid therapist throughout it all. Your support, patience and encouragement meant more to me than you probably realise, and I'm incredibly grateful for all of it.

To my fellow Executive Committee members — thank you for all the effort you've put into UMSU International. It's been a journey leading such a large committee, and I hope we've all learned more about our leadership styles and taken away something valuable that we can carry with us in the future.

To **Momo**, thank you for being such a constant source of support and for always being there with your endless ideas, guidance, and encouragement throughout the year. I genuinely don't know how you manage to come up with the brightest ideas for everything, but I've learnt so much from watching the way you approach things. You've also been so closely involved with the Education Department, and I really appreciate everything you've done for the department and the wider committee. Your ability to stay calm, think through things logically and somehow always find a solution has been

something I've really admired. And, of course, I can't not mention your incredible M&M skills, you've made everything look so effortless for ISS alongside M&M. I'm so grateful I got to work alongside you and wouldn't have wanted anyone else as my President.

To **Shreeyukta**, thank you for bringing so much fun, and always sharing juice boxes with me at our ExCo meetings. I especially appreciate how well you handled the huge responsibility of Night Market, even through all the stress, and still managed to pull off one of the best Night Markets we've had. Thank you for all the work you've put in throughout the year, and for always bringing the cutest and most random reel ideas to the Instagram page.

To **Bhavya**, I think one of the best things that came out of my time at Umsu International was becoming so much closer to you and gaining such a genuine friendship along the way. Beyond that, watching you take on the responsibility of M&M and somehow manage to support and keep up with every department has shown me just how dedicated and capable you are. I've genuinely loved working alongside you, and I have no doubt you're going to be an amazing President next term. I'm so excited to see everything you do, and I'm very glad I got to call you a friend through it all.

To **Redd**, thank you for always making CCMs run so smoothly and for keeping all of us in check throughout the year. And, of course, thank you for the occasional strikes! Your consistency has made such a difference, and I really appreciate everything you've done for the committee this year.

To **Dhruv**, thank you for always being so helpful with the Welfare and Education payments, even when we were occasionally very late with our invoices. I'm also really glad we were able to put everything aside and work well together throughout the year. I'll miss our occasional Woolies and Muji runs!

To my directors, **Amanda and Pavitra**, I genuinely don't know what I would have done without you both. You were always there to have my back and knowing that either of you could step in and handle both departments whenever I wasn't around made my job

so much easier. You're both incredibly capable, and I'm so grateful for everything you've put into the year.

To **Amanda**, love you so much, and I'm so proud of everything you've done as a director. You may have been dramatic and stressed about absolutely everything, but somehow the moment an event started, you always pulled it together and came through with the best ideas. You cared so deeply about Welfare and always went above and beyond to make sure the department was doing its best.

To **Pavitra**, thank you for being such a wonderful director and for building such a strong bond with everyone in Education. You brought so much care and consistency to the department, and it was so reassuring knowing that you were always there to support the team. I'm so grateful I got to have you both by my side this year.

To the Education Officers — **Nivetha, Sirong, Edeline, Eunice, Lucy and Corlynn**, thank you for all the effort, energy and support you brought to the Education Department throughout the year. I'm really grateful I got to work with all of you, even if some of our time together was shorter than I would have liked.

- To **Nivetha**, thank you for always being so responsive, active, and reliable. You were someone I could very easily count on, and I really appreciated how consistently you showed up and got things done.
- To **Sirong**, thank you for always being so participative and for being such a huge help with coordinating with the ISAs and managing food for our events. You were always willing to jump in wherever needed, and I really appreciated having you on the team.
- To **Edeline**, thank you for being such a great help to me throughout the year. I could always rely on you to step in and help when things got busy, and I'm really grateful for everything you contributed.
- To **Eunice**, thank you for being extremely helpful, especially with ISS, and for always being willing to take things on. Your support made a real difference, and I'm so grateful for all the work you put in.

- To **Lucy**, even though you joined us quite late, you came in and put in so much effort from the beginning. You really showed just how capable you are in such a short amount of time, and I genuinely wish we had gotten more time to work together.
- And to **Corlynn**, even though you left partway through my term, I'm so grateful for everything you contributed while you were with us. You were a huge help with the Employability Summit and always brought so much to the work. I really appreciated having you on the team.

To the **Welfare Officers — Jane, Elaine, Sally, Cody and Jeslyn**, thank you for making to our ridiculously long meetings somehow one of the best parts of the week. There was definitely a lot of yapping, but also so much bonding, laughter, and genuine connection in every meeting. I'm grateful for all the memories we made together and for all the work you put in behind the scenes throughout the year. You made even the longest meetings feel worth it.

- To **Jane**, from first knowing you for your RBF to realising you're genuinely one of the nicest people in the committee. Thank you for always being so dedicated, getting your work done on time and making sure our events ran smoothly. I could always count on you to get things done.
- To **Elaine**, from being the first person to ever talk to me in Welfare to becoming someone I could bond with over The Weeknd's songs. Thank you for always getting things done and for being such a huge support to the Welfare Department throughout the year.
- To **Sally**, you are genuinely such a wonderful person, and I'm so proud of everything you achieved in Welfare. You put in so much hard work and care into

everything you did, and I only wish I had gotten more time to work with you as an officer.

- To **Cody and Jeslyn**, even though you both joined us later, you fit into Welfare so effortlessly and were immediately such great additions to the team. Thank you for jumping in and being such a huge help during the final part of the semester. And Cody, I genuinely couldn't think of a better person to take on Welfare Director next term, you're going to be amazing. I'm so excited to see what you do!

5. Final Words

To the incoming Education and Welfare teams — I wish you all the best of luck. I'm excited to see the amazing ideas you'll bring to UMSU International and the positive impact you'll make.

To **Tanya**, I'm genuinely so excited to see you take this on. I won't lie to you and say it'll always be easy — there will be stressful days, moments where you question yourself, and probably a few times where you wonder why you ever signed up for this. But those moments are also where you'll learn the most. My biggest advice is to not get too caught up in trying to do everything perfectly. Trust yourself, lean on the people around you and, most importantly, enjoy it. Some of my favorite memories from UMSU International came from the moments I never could have planned for, and I hope you get to experience that too. I know you're going to grow so much through this role, and I'm really excited to see you make it your own.

To wrap everything up, I can genuinely say that I have no regrets about joining UMSU International. I started out simply wanting to be more involved in university life, never really knowing where it would take me, and somehow ended up taking on the role of Education & Welfare Vice-President and the responsibility of two departments. Looking back, it's honestly a little crazy to think about how much changed from that first decision to get involved. This role challenged me in ways I didn't expect, but it also gave me some of the best experiences, friendships, and lessons from my time at university.

I'm incredibly grateful for every opportunity, every person who trusted me, and everyone who supported me along the way. Thank you to everyone who was part of this journey — I genuinely couldn't have asked for a better one.

Prepared by,

Nishka CHOPRA

Education and Welfare Vice President 2025/26

UMSU International

UMSU International Cultural and Social Vice President's Annual Report

Annual General Meeting 2026 – 10th August 2026

1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from August 7th, 2025, to August 10th, 2026, outlining the achievements of the Cultural and Social department, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(a) of the UMSU International Regulations.

Serving as the CNS Vice President of UMSU International has been one of the greatest privileges of my university experience. It has been a year filled with challenges, growth, unforgettable memories, and countless moments that reminded me why this role matters. Although it would be impossible to document every experience and achievement, I hope this report captures the highlights of what we have accomplished over the past year and the impact we have worked so hard to create.

2. Internal Projects

The following outlines all the events and projects that were carried out by the Cultural and Social Department throughout the term of 2025/26.

2.1 Winterfest Giveaway

The Winterfest Giveaway marked our beginning as we hosted a stall in the Amphitheatre as part of Winterfest 2025. The event aimed to introduce new international students to UMSU International by raising awareness of our programs, services, and upcoming activities, while creating an approachable space for students to connect with our team. To engage students, we prepared informational flyers alongside gift bags containing UMSU merchandise, snacks, and other freebies. Students who visited our stall were welcomed by our ISAs and OBs, who encouraged them to follow our social media platforms in exchange for the giveaway items. The initiative resulted in hundreds of new followers across our social media channels, increased awareness of UMSU International, and greater participation in our future events. It also provided a valuable opportunity to promote and generate interest in our upcoming programs throughout the semester.

2.2 Food Adventure

Food Adventure was one of the most popular initiatives which brought students together to explore Melbourne's diverse food culture while fostering meaningful social connections. Building on feedback from previous years, several changes were introduced to enhance the overall experience. Ticket prices were increased from \$5 to \$10 to better reflect event costs, and the number of restaurants were reduced to three allowing participants to enjoy larger portions and spend more time at each venue.

The event featured different routes across both semesters. In Semester 2, 2025, students explored Carlton, Brunswick, and a dedicated vegan route in South Yarra. In Semester 1, 2026, the routes included Smith Street, Fitzroy, and a vegan route in Collingwood, showcasing a new selection of local restaurants.

Food Adventure remained one of our most logistically demanding events. Coordinating with multiple restaurants required extensive communication, particularly when obtaining Certificates of Currency and securing large group bookings on busy weekends. During Semester 1, we also experienced some ticketing issues that affected the registration process. While these challenges required quick problem-solving and clear communication with participants, they provided valuable lessons that will help improve the planning and delivery of future Food Adventure events.

Despite these challenges, the event allowed UMSU International to build meaningful relationships with local businesses and strengthen our engagement with the wider Melbourne community. Across both semesters, we partnered with a total of 18 restaurants, each contributing to the success of the event and helping create a memorable cultural experience for our students. The restaurants we partnered with are listed below.

- Momo Central Nepalese
- Docks Fish and Chips
- Pho my Tho
- Jumi's Cafe
- Dessert Culture
- Madame Yen
- Dumpling Max
- Beku Gelato
- Just Reload
- Xe Om Viet
- Parco Ramen
- Tippy Taco
- Molly Rose Brewery
- Punjabi Curry Cafe
- Maji Pantry
- Hello Harry's
- Souvlaki GR

- L'Arte Della Gelato

The event turned out to be a huge success in both semesters, with all tickets selling out and students expressing strong interest in future Food Adventures. For this, I thank everyone that was in charge of the event.

2.3 Meat and Greet – Mini Carnival

This event was a collaborative initiative between the Cultural & Social, Human Resources and Partnership and sponsorship Departments. As part of the CNS team, we transformed UMSU building L1 into a carnival-style space by designing and delivering six interactive games for students to enjoy after collecting their food. The aim was to create a fun and welcoming environment where students could take a break from their studies, connect with others, and experience a vibrant campus atmosphere.

Participants who successfully completed the games earned tickets, which they could exchange for plush toys, UMSUi merchandise, and other small prizes. The games were well received and encouraged students to stay, interact, and engage with the event beyond simply collecting food.

2.5 International Expo

Previously known as *International Week*, this event was renamed to better reflect its format, as it had evolved into a one-day celebration rather than a week-long program. The event aimed to bring students together to experience games and activities from different cultures while strengthening connections between UMSU International and the University's clubs. A total of 10 clubs participated as vendors, each hosting interactive games that showcased aspects of their culture. To support their participation, UMSU International provided each club with a grant of up to **\$500** to develop engaging activities and purchase prizes. This investment resulted in highly interactive stalls, strong collaboration with our clubs, and a positive experience for both participants and organisers.

Beyond the club stalls, the event featured a range of complementary activities, including a stamp collection challenge with prizes, a photobooth, food truck, live performances, and external vendors. These additions created a lively festival atmosphere and encouraged students to explore every part of the event. With over 650 **students** attending and participating throughout the day, the event successfully fostered cultural exchange, student engagement, and a strong sense of community on campus.

2.6 Summerfest

As part of Summerfest 2026, the Cultural & Social Department hosted an information and giveaway booth to welcome new students, introduce them to UMSU International, and raise awareness of the programs, services, and events available throughout the year. For the first time, we also expanded our outreach beyond Parkville by bringing the giveaway to the Southbank and Burnley campuses, allowing us to connect with an even wider international student community.

To make the booth interactive and memorable, we prepared giveaway bags filled with snacks, while students were invited to play a simple game for the chance to win an additional UMSU International merchandise item. Prizes included tote bags, water bottles, umbrellas, and keychains, creating a fun and engaging experience that encouraged students to stop by, interact with our team, and learn more about what UMSU International offers.

2.7 International Movie Week

International Movie Week will always hold a special place in my heart. Long before I became Vice President, back when I was an Officer, this was the event I dreamed of creating. At the time, we were still learning, growing as a department, and figuring out what was possible, so it never came to life. When I ran for Vice President, this event was genuinely one of the things I was most excited for. The event was a week-long event, during which films representing a range of different cultures were screened each day. Most screenings were held on campus, while one screening took place off campus at Cinema Nova. The event offered a range of ticketing options at different price points. The most popular option was the five-screening pass, with the majority of attendees purchasing this ticket. In total, more than 100 tickets were sold throughout the event. Seeing Cinema Nova filled with students, watching an idea that had lived in my head for years finally come to life, is something I will never forget. Not every screening went as planned, some had only a handful of attendees, but through it all, I was reminded that I never did it alone. International Movie Week was never just an event. It was a dream, and I finally got to see it on the screen.

2.8 Night Market – The World After Dark

Night Market continued to be the largest and most anticipated event of the year for the Cultural & Social Department. This year's theme, "**The World After Dark**," celebrated the beauty of how different cultures come alive at night through lights, food, performances, traditions, and community.

Building on feedback from previous years, we introduced a greater emphasis on interactive experiences throughout the event. Alongside **food stalls** showcasing from around the world, students were able to participate in cultural game stalls hosted by clubs, external activities, a DIY lantern decorating workshop, photobooths, and other interactive experiences that encouraged them to stay, explore, and connect with one another. We also continued the **\$10 traditional attire initiative**, rewarding the first 200 attendees dressed in their traditional clothing with vouchers redeemable at any food stall. This initiative once again proved to be incredibly popular and created a colourful and welcoming atmosphere across the event.

Given the scale of Night Market, planning commenced months in advance and required extensive collaboration across every area of the department. The EXCO worked together to organize the VIP reception ahead of Night Market, officially marking the commencement of night market. The **Food Team** worked closely with cultural clubs, professional chefs, external suppliers, and council representatives ensuring every stall complied with food safety regulations and council requirements. The **Games Team** focused on making Night Market more interactive than ever before. Working alongside cultural clubs and external vendors, they curated a variety of cultural games, activity stalls, workshops, and entertainment that encouraged students to actively participate rather than simply observe. The **Performance Team** curated a diverse lineup of cultural performances that celebrated the talent within our community while maintaining an engaging atmosphere throughout the night. Finally, the **Decoration Team** brought *The World After Dark* to life through creative and immersive styling across the venue.

Lastly, I would like to sincerely thank my EXCO, committee members, ISAs, volunteers, cultural clubs, performers, sponsors, university staff members, and external stakeholders who contributed to this event. Night Market is far too large to be achieved by any one person, and its success was only possible because of the passion, creativity, and commitment of everyone involved. Looking back, Night Market was a celebration of everything UMSU International stands for, and without a doubt, the achievement I am most proud of during my term as Vice President.

3. External representation

In relation to external representation, the executive committee have been dedicated to foster constructive dialogue and collaboration with external stakeholders, focusing on matters that hold the potential to impact not only our organization but also the wider community.

External representation reflects our engagement with key external stakeholders, particularly through our involvement in meaningful discussions and initiatives. This term, I was fortunate to contribute to these conversations through a range of opportunities that allowed me to represent our community and engage with important issues.:

3.1. Elected Student Representative

3.2. Respect Reference Group

4. Concluding Words

It's honestly crazy how one small decision can change your entire life. For me, it was deciding to run for Cultural & Social Officer in my very first semester, almost two and a half years ago. At the time, I was just hoping to get involved. I never imagined I'd still be here today, signing off as Vice President.

Even after all this time, I still don't think I'll ever find the right words to explain what UMSU International means to me. It gave me opportunities I never thought I'd have, memories I'll smile about for years to come, and, most importantly, the people who became my home away from home. Thank you for believing in me, growing with me, and giving me a place where I truly belonged. As this chapter comes to an end, I know I'll be leaving UMSU International, but UMSUI will never really leave me. A little piece of my heart will always belong here.

Before I end this report, I want to take a moment to thank the people who became my reason to stay, the people who challenged me, believed in me, and ultimately shaped me into the leader and person I am today.

To my beloved UMSU staff, thank you for being the quiet force behind every idea, every event, and every milestone over the past two and a half years. Thank you for believing in my vision even when it sounded a little crazy, and for helping transform those ideas into memories that thousands of students got to experience. Every event I'm proud of carries a huge piece of your support, guidance, and hard work. Thank you for every coffee chat, every debrief, every work trauma joke, every pep talk, and every "we'll figure it out." I don't think I'll ever be able to explain how much those little moments meant to me. I will miss them more than you'll ever know.

To my department, I genuinely believe that some of the best things in life happen by accident. Somehow, all of us "won" an election, ended up in the same department, and what started as a committee slowly became a family. Thank you for giving me a year I'll

spend the rest of my life talking about. If I could choose my team all over again, I'd still choose every single one of you. Every time.

To Arham, thank you for being the calm to my chaos, quite literally. You've seen me at my absolute worst and somehow never once matched my panic. Instead, you always reminded me that "it's not that deep" and "it will always work out." Thank you for keeping the entire department sane. I don't think I'll ever stop appreciating your patience, your reassurance, and your ability to make everything feel manageable. Although... I do wish you'd reply in less than two business days and maybe text with just a little more enthusiasm.

To Tejna, thank you for genuinely everything especially the definition of reliable. Every time I gave you a task, I never had to think about it twice because I knew you'd absolutely smash it. Throughout the year, there were so many moments where I wished that we should just swap positions because I genuinely believed you could lead this team with so much grace. Somewhere between our countless "work hangouts," food runs, and random life chats, you became one of my best friends and that has been one of the greatest gifts this role has given me. Thank you for always showing up for me, for making me laugh when I was stressed, for listening to every crash out, and for somehow making even the busiest days fun. I genuinely hope that no matter where life takes us, we'll always find each other over food. I hope I get to call you my best friend in every universe.

To Raunak, I still remember meeting you at a CNS event, and it is crazy to think how far we've come since then. From day one, you've been nothing less than home. Thank you for always knowing when something was wrong without me ever having to say a word. Thank you for always showing up, for always checking in, and for somehow understanding me better than I understand myself sometimes. Although I'm technically still your boss for one more day... I'd like you to continue acting like that. I hope our friendship only grows stronger from here and I hope we continue eating like absolute big backs together for many years to come.

To Jonathan, thank you for being the department's unofficial dad, solely because you're the only one who can drive. Thank you for always being dependable, always saying yes when we needed help, and always making sure we somehow got from A to B. I know I'll always run to you when I need someone to listen, give me advice, or talk me through life's problems,, But when it comes to romantic advice... with all the love and respect in the world, I think I'll be taking my business elsewhere.

To Neeya, thank you for being the steady presence our department always needed. Through every high and every low, your dedication to the team never faded, and that's something I will always admire about you. You have such a creative mind, and I

genuinely hope you never lose that part of yourself. Don't ever let deadlines, AI, or the world convince you otherwise. Keep creating, keep trusting your ideas, and never underestimate the impact you've had on this department. It has been so much greater than you probably realise.

To Ryan, our newest addition, what a privilege it was to have you on our team. Ever since your interview, we knew you were going to be a star, and you proved us right every single time. Thank you for fitting into the department so effortlessly and making all of our jobs easier. Watching you grow throughout the year has been such a joy. As you step into the Director role, know that you'll do an amazing job. And if things ever get overwhelming, you know where to find me. I may take up to three business days to reply... but I'll always be there. If things get really bad, I'll come rescue you with some soju. *(For legal reasons, that's a joke.)*

To Audrey, Thank you for your kindness, your hard work, and for being such an important part of this department. I'm so grateful that our paths crossed, and I truly wish you nothing but the very best for everything that comes next.

To my ExCo, thank you for being the people I could always lean on throughout this journey. Every challenge felt a little lighter because I knew I never had to face it alone.

To Momo, thank you for being such an incredible President and an even more incredible friend. Thank you for always being our first point of call, no matter how big or small the problem was. I genuinely couldn't have asked for a better President to learn from or a better person to go through this journey with. I hope we keep scubaing and laughing over the most random things for years to come. Thank you for everything, Momo.

To Redd, the funniest person I know and the owner of the world's best hair blowouts. Thank you for bringing so much light into every room you walk into. Your unhinged jokes and ability to make everyone laugh somehow became the best part of every ExCo meeting. I genuinely don't know how you manage to get everything done while still making every moment fun, but it's something I've always admired about you. I have no doubt that one day our content creation dreams will come true, and we'll somehow end up at Coachella.

To Dhruv, thank you for being our department's biggest supporter and, quite honestly, my unofficial saviour. I should probably apologise for the times I may have accidentally offended you... but in my defence, I'd like to blame the delayed payments and Night Market stress. Thank you for always taking it with a smile and never making me feel bad about it. More than anything, thank you for being there through every last-minute problem and every "Dhruv, listen... I need your help."

To Bhavya, I still haven't forgiven you for leaving CNS. But honestly, I don't think anyone else could've been a better fit for the role you stepped into. Thank you for always hyping up our reels, no matter how random they got, and for bringing such genuine positive energy into ExCo. As you step into the role of President, I genuinely have no doubt you're going to do incredible things. You've got this!

To Nishka, I don't think I've ever told you this enough, but I will always admire the way you handled two departments with so much grace. I was barely surviving one, yet somehow you managed two while making it look effortless. I'll never forget the food vendor choices for Brekkie (because honestly, they were that good) and our occasional crash outs in the lounge before events. It has truly been such a privilege sharing this journey with you.

To the rest of the committee and our lovely ISAs, thank you for everything you've done behind the scenes this year. On a slightly more serious note... if I've ever offended anyone throughout the year, I am genuinely sorry. I have a very unfortunate habit of speaking before my brain has had the chance to process what I'm about to say (I'm working on it... slowly). If I said something that came across the wrong way, I hope you know it never came from a bad place.

Overall, I really hope you all know how much I've enjoyed this year with every single one of you. Thank you for all the memories, the laughs, the crash outs, and for making UMSUI feel like home. I'm so, so glad our paths crossed, and I hope this isn't the last time they do. Thank you for giving me a year I'll never forget.

To Mishti and the incoming committee, wishing you all the very best for your term. When things get overwhelming, just remember why you wanted it at the first place. Have the best time, do NOT accidentally spend the entire budget in one go, and keep the lounge clean.

Thank you so much everyone!

This is me, officially signing off.

Prepared by,

Shreeyukta ADHIKARI
Cultural and Social Vice President 2025/26
UMSU International



UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION INTERNATIONAL



Care for, Act for, Stand for International Students

UMSU International Media and Marketing Vice President's Annual Report

Annual General Meeting 2026 – 10th August 2026

1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from 7th August 2025 to 10th August 2026, providing an overview of the initiatives, projects, and achievements of the Media and Marketing Department. It has been prepared in accordance with subsection 15(4)(d) of the UMSU International Regulations.

Throughout the term, the Media & Marketing Department was responsible for developing promotional and branding assets across UMSU International's communication platforms, including social media, the website, newsletters, and other digital and physical channels. The department also documented events through photography and videography, produced post-event content, managed online communications, and served as a key point of contact for students seeking information and support through our social media platforms. Through these efforts, we aimed to strengthen the reach of our communication channels while building a consistent and recognisable identity for UMSU International through effective branding and engagement.

2. Marketing, Communications and Brand

2.1 Brand Identity

Throughout the term, the Media & Marketing Department focused on strengthening a recognisable and consistent visual identity for UMSU International across our events, initiatives and communication channels. Our branding aimed to reflect the youthful, playful and welcoming nature of UMSU International while allowing students to easily recognise our initiatives and promotional material.

A defined colour palette was consistently incorporated across our designs, primarily featuring pastel colours to create an approachable and inviting visual identity. Light blue remained UMSU International's primary colour, complemented by secondary pastel colours including green, yellow, red and orange where appropriate. Consistent typography was also incorporated across promotional materials, with a designated primary font used for headings alongside complementary fonts for supporting information. The UMSU, UMSU International and Student Powered logos were included

across our designed promotional posts to ensure appropriate and consistent identification.

Glovey, UMSU International's mascot, continued to be one of the most distinctive elements of our brand identity. Due to Glovey's recognisability and strong association with UMSU International, we aimed to incorporate the mascot into almost every design where appropriate. Throughout the term, the department also developed a range of new Glovey elements and variations that could be adapted to different events and initiatives, allowing the mascot to remain relevant to the theme and context of each campaign while retaining a familiar connection to UMSU International.

To maintain consistency within individual event campaigns, a primary social media design was generally developed first and used as the visual foundation for the remaining promotional assets. Reusable templates were also developed for major announcements, alongside consistent fonts and colours for Instagram and Facebook Stories. This approach allowed promotional material to be adapted across different formats while retaining a coherent identity for each event and for UMSU International more broadly. The same branding principles were also extended to merchandise, helping connect our physical presence on campus with our digital identity.

For Night Market, UMSU International's largest event, a more distinct event-specific visual identity was developed to differentiate the campaign from our regular events and draw greater attention to its promotion. While Night Market maintained its own recognisable style, UMSU International's core branding elements were retained to ensure that the event remained clearly connected to the organisation.

2.2 Event Publicity

The Media & Marketing Department continued to produce the majority of UMSU International's promotional materials internally, while collaborating with the UMSU Design Team for selected larger-scale events, such as Night Market. The continued shift towards internal design was partly due to capacity constraints within the UMSU Design Team, while also allowing us to maintain greater consistency in UMSU International's branding across our events, initiatives, and communication channels.

For each event and initiative, we developed a comprehensive range of promotional assets tailored to different platforms. These included Instagram and Facebook posts, website banners, newsletter tiles, posters, and LCD screen assets. This allowed events to be promoted across UMSU International's Instagram and Facebook pages, the UMSU International and UMSU websites, UMSU's e-news, and the UMSU International monthly newsletter. During the term, we also expanded the use of physical and on-campus

promotional channels, including LCD screens, light boxes, and posters around the University, with support from the UMSU Communications and Design teams. Physical promotion was particularly utilised for larger initiatives such as Night Market and the International Student Survey, where posters were displayed around campus to increase visibility beyond our existing online audience.

We also strengthened cross-promotion by developing a list of university and student accounts to approach for support in sharing major campaigns. This included accounts such as UniMelb, Life at UniMelb, UMSUunimelb, various UMSU departments, and student clubs. As UMSU International regularly supports clubs by sharing their events and initiatives when approached, these relationships also enabled reciprocal promotion, with many clubs assisting us by reposting our promotional material and extending its reach to their own audiences.

2.3 Social Media

Social media remained our primary promotional channel, particularly Instagram, as it continues to be where a significant portion of our audience engages with UMSU International. The department also maintained a presence across Facebook, TikTok and Xiaohong Shu, allowing us to communicate with students across a range of platforms and audiences.

Alongside our main promotional posts, we regularly produced supporting content such as stories and reels to keep students informed, build interest around upcoming events, and maintain engagement throughout promotional periods. For reels, we increasingly incorporated trending sounds, formats and content styles where appropriate. This allowed our content to remain relevant to current social media trends, attract greater viewership, and increase the visibility of UMSU International beyond purely informational and event-based posts.

We also increased the frequency and variety of Instagram Stories throughout the term, using them for event reminders, announcements, live event updates, interactive content and Q&As. This helped maintain a more active and engaging social media presence while providing students with regular updates beyond permanent feed posts.

To further strengthen UMSU International's visual identity across social media, we introduced consistent font and colour guidelines for Instagram Stories. Custom story border templates were also developed for major announcements outside individual event campaigns, allowing important communications to remain visually recognisable and stand out from regular content.

2.4 Newsletter

The UMSU International newsletter was relaunched on 1 March 2026 after having been inactive for more than six months. Following its relaunch, the newsletter was published monthly and distributed to subscribers across the University, including both international and domestic students. To establish consistency, the newsletter was scheduled to be distributed on the first Monday of each month.

Each edition provided students with a centralised overview of UMSU International's upcoming events and initiatives for the month, alongside relevant student information and selected University initiatives that were particularly beneficial to international students, including employability and academic skills opportunities. This provided an additional communication channel for students who may not regularly engage with our social media and allowed key events, opportunities and information to be accessed conveniently in one place.

As part of the relaunch, the newsletter was fully redesigned to align with UMSU International's branding and visual identity. Individual promotional banners were designed for each featured event and initiative to create a more visually engaging and consistent newsletter. The Vice President (Media & Marketing) was responsible for compiling and preparing each edition. A structured submission process and internal deadlines were also introduced to ensure that promotional material submitted for inclusion in the newsletter could be collected, reviewed and prepared in a timely manner.

Following the relaunch, we actively promoted newsletter subscriptions across our other communication channels and at in-person events. Promotional reels were created for social media, while students were also encouraged to subscribe through initiatives and events including the International Student Survey giveaway stalls, O-Week stalls and International Brekkie stalls. Through these efforts, the newsletter subscriber base grew from 772 subscribers at the time of relaunch to 3,659 subscribers within five months, representing an increase of more than 370%.

2.5 Website

The Media & Marketing Department continued to manage and maintain the UMSU International website throughout the term, with updates primarily carried out by the Media & Marketing Director with support from the Vice President (Media & Marketing). The website was consistently updated to ensure students had access to current and relevant information about UMSU International's events, initiatives and opportunities.

Dedicated webpages were created and maintained for our events, providing students with relevant information including event descriptions, dates, locations, registration links and other important details. The website also maintained dedicated information for UMSU International's staple events and initiatives, including International Brekkie, Night Market, the International Student Survey and the International Student Ambassador Program. These pages provided students with more comprehensive information about our activities and opportunities to become involved with the international student community.

The website was regularly integrated with our other communication channels, with students directed to relevant webpages through our Linktree, social media platforms and monthly newsletter. Beyond event promotion, the website continued to serve as an important information hub for international students by providing access to student resources, support services, frequently asked questions, guides and other relevant information.

3. Media, Engagement and Committee Support

3.1 Event Coverage

The Media & Marketing Department was responsible for documenting UMSU International's events and initiatives throughout the term. Media & Marketing members attended the majority of events specifically to capture photographs and videos, primarily using professional cameras alongside mobile phones where appropriate. For frequently recurring events, such as International Brekkie, the department attended selected sessions for dedicated coverage, while officers from the organising department assisted by providing photographs and videos from other sessions.

Photography formed a major part of our event coverage, creating a collection of visual content that could subsequently be used across social media, promotional materials, event overviews, recaps, and future campaigns. Where appropriate, Media & Marketing members also provided live social media coverage from events, including updates and reminders as events commenced, helping students stay informed and providing a more immediate view of UMSU International's activities.

Beyond documenting individual events, consistent event coverage allowed us to showcase the atmosphere and experiences offered through UMSU International. Sharing authentic moments from our events helped students better understand what to expect, generate interest in future events and initiatives, and strengthen UMSU International's presence and identity across our communication channels.

Photographs and videos captured throughout the term were organised and stored within the committee's SharePoint, creating an accessible archive of UMSU International's activities that can continue to be utilised by future committees for communications, promotion and organisational records.

3.2 Student Communication

Social media served as one of the most accessible communication channels between students and UMSU International throughout the term. As students are often more active on social media and can easily send a direct message rather than communicate through formal email channels, Instagram became an important point of contact for student enquiries.

Students regularly contacted UMSU International through direct messages with questions regarding event registrations and ticketing, event and initiative information, event updates, opportunities to join the committee through ISA intakes and co-options, and the services provided by UMSU International. Students also used the platform to communicate feedback, suggestions and concerns regarding our events and initiatives. Where relevant, this feedback was passed on to the appropriate department or Executive Committee member for consideration.

The Vice President (Media & Marketing) primarily managed incoming social media enquiries, with an aim to respond to messages within 24 hours and no later than 48 hours wherever possible. A consistent response format was adopted to maintain a friendly yet professional tone across our communications, including an appropriate greeting, acknowledgement of the student's enquiry, a clear response and a suitable closing. Questions and comments made publicly under our social media posts were also responded to wherever appropriate.

For enquiries relating directly to our events and initiatives, we aimed to provide students with an answer through social media wherever possible. Where further clarification was required, the relevant department or Executive Committee member was consulted before responding to the student. More complex enquiries relating to areas such as advocacy, welfare, academic matters, visas or other student support needs were appropriately redirected to the relevant university service rather than providing information beyond the committee's scope. Where an enquiry required more formal communication, students were provided with UMSU International's official email address for further assistance.

Social media also served as an initial point of contact for external organisations and potential sponsors. Where businesses or organisations approached UMSU International through direct messages regarding potential opportunities or collaborations, they were directed towards the appropriate official email channel for further communication. Overall, maintaining an approachable and responsive social media presence helped reduce barriers for students seeking information and allowed UMSU International to remain accessible through a communication channel that students regularly use.

3.3 Merchandise

During the term, the Media & Marketing Department designed and produced approximately \$33,000 worth of merchandise for UMSU International. New merchandise included tote bags, umbrellas, water bottles, phone card holders and keychains. These items were designed internally by the department from scratch, with new artwork developed to reflect UMSU International's identity and branding.

Merchandise was distributed across a range of events and initiatives, particularly through giveaways during O-Week, Night Market and the International Student Survey. Merchandise was also incorporated directly into event activities, such as Glovey's Get Together, where students were able to personalise and paint UMSU International tote bags. Alongside the newly produced merchandise, remaining stock from previous years, including cutlery sets, lanyards and notebooks, continued to be utilised throughout the term.

Beyond giveaways, merchandise served as another way to increase UMSU International's visibility on campus, strengthen brand recognition and encourage students to engage with our events and initiatives. Wherever possible, we aimed to select items that students could continue to use beyond the event itself. Tote bags, umbrellas and water bottles were particularly well received by students and remained some of our most popular merchandise items.

3.4 Committee Photoshoots

The Media & Marketing Department organised and conducted two committee photoshoots during the term to create consistent and professional visual assets for UMSU International's committee.

The first photoshoot was conducted across four days during Semester 2, 2025, accommodating the different schedules and availabilities of committee members and departments. All departments and Executive Committee members participated, with

approximately one hour allocated to each department. During each session, Media & Marketing members captured individual portraits of each committee member, a formal department photograph and a more casual department photograph. All photography was conducted internally by the Media & Marketing team using professional camera equipment.

Following the photoshoot, photographs were made available to committee members through OneDrive for selection. Each department was asked to select one formal and one casual department photograph, while each individual committee member selected a preferred personal portrait. The selected photographs were then edited internally by the Media & Marketing team before being finalised for use across UMSU International's social media, website and other communication materials.

A second photoshoot was conducted during Semester 1, 2026, bringing the wider committee together for a collective committee photoshoot. To maintain consistency with UMSU International's visual identity, a blue and white dress code was adopted for the photoshoots. The final photographs from both photoshoots were organised and stored within the committee's SharePoint, ensuring that they remained accessible for ongoing communications and organisational use.

4. Future Recommendations

4.1 Branding

Future committees should continue maintaining a consistent and recognisable visual identity across UMSU International's communication channels. The established use of light blue and complementary pastel colours, consistent typography, UMSU International branding and Glovey should continue to form the foundation of promotional designs. At the same time, designers should retain enough creative flexibility to develop unique graphics and visual concepts for individual events while ensuring that they remain recognisably connected to UMSU International.

Glovey should continue to be utilised as a key identifiable element of the UMSU International brand, with new variations and assets developed where appropriate to connect the mascot with different events and initiatives. Maintaining consistency across social media, merchandise, website assets and physical promotional material will further strengthen students' recognition of UMSU International and its initiatives.

4.2 Collaborations and Cross-Promotion

UMSU International should continue supporting student clubs, UMSU departments and relevant University initiatives through appropriate resharing and cross-promotion. Maintaining positive relationships with these groups can also encourage reciprocal support when UMSU International seeks additional promotion for its own major events and initiatives.

However, cross-promotion should remain selective to ensure that UMSU International's social media channels do not become overwhelmed by external promotional material or lose their own identity. Content should be relevant and accessible to the international student community, and initiatives that are not open to international students or may negatively affect student wellbeing should not be promoted through UMSU International's channels.

4.3 Reels and Video Content

Short, engaging and entertaining reels should continue to form an important part of UMSU International's social media strategy. Where appropriate, current trends, sounds and content formats should be adapted to the international student context, as timely participation in social media trends can help content reach audiences beyond existing followers and increase awareness of UMSU International's events and initiatives.

Future committees should also continue producing post-event recap content that showcases the atmosphere, activities and student experiences at UMSU International events. Students who have not previously attended may not know what to expect from an event, and short compilations of authentic event footage can help communicate the experience more effectively, generate interest and encourage attendance at future events.

4.4 Promotion

Physical and on-campus promotion should continue to complement UMSU International's digital marketing, particularly for larger events and initiatives that are not heavily restricted by ticket capacity. Posters around campus, LCD screens and light boxes can help reach students who may not already follow or regularly engage with UMSU International's social media channels.

I would particularly recommend increasing the use of posters for major events and initiatives where greater participation is encouraged, building on their use for campaigns such as Night Market and the International Student Survey. Where additional reach is required for major campaigns, paid advertising through platforms such as Instagram and Facebook can also be considered to reach relevant audiences beyond UMSU International's existing followers.

4.5 Newsletter

Following the relaunch and growth of the UMSU International monthly newsletter, future committees should continue developing it as a key communication channel alongside social media. Maintaining a consistent monthly schedule and providing students with a centralised overview of upcoming events, initiatives and relevant opportunities will help ensure that the newsletter remains useful to subscribers. Efforts should also continue to grow the subscriber base by promoting newsletter sign-ups through QR codes at UMSU International giveaway stalls, major events and other high-traffic initiatives, where students can easily subscribe while already engaging with UMSU International.

I would also recommend expanding the newsletter to include appropriate promotional content from student clubs where it is relevant to the international student community. Clubs should be made aware that this promotional opportunity is available, particularly through opportunities such as Heads of Clubs and other interactions with club representatives. A clear submission process and deadlines should continue to be maintained to ensure that external promotional content can be reviewed and incorporated effectively without overwhelming UMSU International's own communications.

4.6 Merchandise

Future committees should prioritise merchandise that provides practical and ongoing value to students rather than selecting items solely for novelty or short-term engagement. During the term, functional items such as tote bags, umbrellas and water bottles received particularly strong interest from students and could continue to be used well beyond the events at which they were distributed.

Selecting useful merchandise can therefore serve both as an incentive for student engagement and as an ongoing form of UMSU International brand visibility around

campus. Future merchandise decisions should balance functionality, quality, cost and alignment with UMSU International's visual identity.

4.7 Website

The UMSU International website should continue to be maintained as a reliable source of information about our events, initiatives, opportunities and support available to international students. While new event information was regularly updated throughout the term, future committees should also conduct periodic reviews of existing pages to identify information, resources and links that may have become outdated.

Maintaining accurate information across both current and longstanding pages will ensure that students can confidently use the website as a central source of information. Particular attention should be given to staple initiatives, student resources, support information, frequently asked questions and program pages, alongside the continued creation and updating of individual event pages.

5. Concluding Words

I started my UMSU International journey as a Cultural and Social Officer in August 2025. Honestly, I joined the department because a friend told me they organised fun events, and as someone who has always loved event planning, I thought it would be a fun way to stay involved at university. Little did I know that one small decision would end up becoming such a huge part of my university life.

A few months later, I got the opportunity to become the Media & Marketing Vice President, a role that, if I am being completely honest, I initially thought would look pretty good on my resume. I was incredibly nervous stepping into it. I barely knew what the Media & Marketing Department did, and had no idea how much work I was about to take on. I remember wondering whether I was actually ready for it. Once I stepped into the role, I knew that I had a lot to learn and a lot to prove, not only to everyone else but also to myself, and from the moment I stepped into this role, I tried to give it my best.

I have to admit, my journey has definitely been a challenging one, but it has also been one of the most rewarding experiences I have had. Somewhere between all the designs, events, late-night messages, last-minute changes, and non-stop feedback, this stopped feeling like just another role I had taken on.

When I first joined as an officer, I genuinely could never have imagined myself becoming part of ExCo, finishing my term as Media & Marketing Vice President and then beginning my next one as President. Before I close this chapter, though, I need to thank the people who made it what it was. You encouraged me, challenged me, dealt with me at my most stressed and celebrated the good moments with me. This journey would never have been the same without all of you.

To the **UMSU staff**, thank you for being there when I was completely new to this role and sometimes had no idea who I was supposed to turn to. Thank you for answering my questions, guiding me when I needed it and reminding me that I was capable of doing this. There were moments when a few encouraging words meant far more to me than you probably realised. Thank you for believing in me at times when I was still learning how to believe in myself.

To my dear **EXCO**, thank you for supporting me through all of it. I'm so grateful that I got to know each and every one of you, learn so much from you all, and share this incredible journey together.

To Momo, thank you for being the person I knew I could message whenever I was confused. If I needed help with something, chances are you were my first message. Thank you for answering my endless questions, guiding me in the right direction and helping me with more designs than I can probably remember. Not going to lie, sometimes you were basically an honorary M&M member. Your perfectionism definitely stressed me out occasionally, but it also pushed me to do better and never settle for something I knew could be improved. I have always looked up to the way you led this committee and somehow made being President look effortless. As I step into that role now, I just hope I can do justice to it the way you did. Thank you for being someone I could learn from and look up to. I've got to say, I couldn't have asked for a better president.

To Nishka, my biggest supporter and genuinely my calm in the chaos. I don't think I could have completed this journey without you. From the late-night crashouts and random rant sessions to all the moments where I just needed someone to tell me everything would be fine, you were always there. I am so, so proud of everything you have done. Watching you handle two departments while somehow making it look easy is something I will always admire. But more than any position or work we did, I am just grateful that this experience brought us closer. Thank you for listening to me, believing in me, putting up with me and, most importantly, always having my back.

To Shreeyukta, thank you for being one of the first people who showed me what good leadership looked like. I am so grateful I got the chance to work closely with you before becoming VP myself. I don't think I have ever properly told you this, but I learnt so

much from you. When I was completely new to UMSU International, you made me feel like I belonged here, and I genuinely think that gave me some of the confidence I needed to eventually take this role on. Thank you for always being there, and also for being one of the funniest people in this committee because, genuinely, I would have been very bored without you.

To Redd, I have always admired the way you carry yourself and how much you care about doing the right thing by everyone around you. It has been so lovely sharing this journey with you, and I am grateful for every conversation, laugh and moment along the way.

To Dhruv, thank you for being a true friend through all of this. UMSU International might only be one part of our friendship, but I am so glad it is something we got to experience together. More importantly, you are literally the reason I joined in the first place. Thank you for convincing me that day, because neither of us could have imagined where that decision would eventually take me. I also don't think you get enough credit for how much you showed up for everyone. Every last-minute order, delivery, invoice, pickup or random thing that suddenly needed to happen, somehow, we were all less stressed because we knew you would figure it out. Thank you for always being someone we could rely on and thank you for accidentally changing my life by convincing me to join this committee.

And then, of course, my beloved **Media & Marketing team**.

You guys challenged me from literally day one. I have to admit that when I first became VP, I was intimidated by almost all of you. I walked into a department I barely knew, trying to lead people who knew the department better than I did, and all I wanted was to prove that I deserved to be there. Somewhere along the way, that nervousness disappeared and was replaced by me constantly wanting to brag about how good my team was. I grew to love this department and all the chaos that came with it, and I genuinely could not have asked for a better group of people to share this experience with.

To Arianna, my director, my last-minute saviour. Thank you for being someone who just understood. I never had to give you a massive explanation when something went wrong or plans suddenly changed, somehow you would just get it and help me figure it out. I'm sorry for the late-night messages, urgent designs, last-minute edits and the probably unreasonable amount of feedback I sent your way. The only reason I could throw so much at you was because I trusted you completely. I knew I could rely on you without being judged or having to explain myself, and that meant more to me than you probably know. Thank you for making my life easier on so many occasions.

To Phoebe, where do I even start? Thank you for constantly holding me accountable and making sure I followed through with everything I said I would do. I will admit publicly that I was genuinely scared of you when I first joined M&M, only to slowly discover the kindness, insane work ethic, cribbing and, of course, those judgemental looks that came with the package. When I first became VP, hearing you appreciate my work gave me so much confidence at a time when I really needed it. And obviously, a very special thank you to Phoebe's camera, an unofficial but extremely hardworking member of the M&M department that has saved us god knows how many times. I am genuinely so happy that you are taking over as Media & Marketing VP. I know how much you care about this department, and I have absolutely no doubt that you are going to do incredible things with it. I can't wait to watch you make the role your own, and thankfully, I'm not going very far.

To Allison, thank you for being someone I always knew I could count on. You were such an important part of our team, and your willingness to step in and support us whenever something needed to get done never went unnoticed. Thank you for supporting me through this journey and for being one of those people whose presence simply made things easier. I am genuinely grateful I got to have you as part of my team.

To Zoe, thank you for somehow helping with everything I threw at you without complaining. Whether I gave you plenty of notice or suddenly appeared with something completely random that needed to be done, you were someone I knew I could rely on. Thank you for always showing up, helping wherever you could and being such a steady presence in the department. It meant a lot knowing I could count on you.

To Karen, thank you for always lending a helping hand and for bringing such genuine positive energy into our meetings. You have such a warm presence, and I always appreciated the energy you brought into the team. Thank you for being willing to help whenever we needed you and for making our department a happier place to be.

To my entire team, I am so grateful for every single one of you. I genuinely cannot imagine this department without any of you in it. Thank you for dealing with me, challenging me, supporting me and trusting me to lead you. Everything we achieved this term was something we achieved together, and I hope you know how incredibly proud I am of what we created as a team. Whatever I managed to achieve as Vice President was never mine alone.

To my **Cultural and Social family**, I honestly become a little short of words when it comes to you all. A tiny part of me will probably always feel guilty that I left the department, because you were the reason I fell in love with UMSU International in the first place. You were my first department, the first people who made me feel like I belonged here, and somewhere along the way you genuinely became family. Even after I

moved to M&M, I never stopped feeling like a small part of me still belonged with you. Thank you for welcoming me when I was completely new and for continuing to love and support me through every role that came afterwards.

To the **rest of our committee**, thank you. UMSU International genuinely would not be what it is without all of you. You are the people who show up, help out, deal with the chaos behind the scenes and somehow make everything look effortless when students walk through the doors. Thank you for making this term one I will always remember. I hope you are all proud of what we managed to achieve together, because I definitely am.

To the **incoming committee**, I have a feeling that before you know it, UMSU International will start feeling like home to you too. I hope you do amazing things by it, but I also hope you remember to enjoy it. Go to the events, stay back after meetings, talk to people you normally wouldn't, make mistakes, learn from them and make memories along the way. Your journey might not always be easy, mine definitely wasn't, but I promise you it can be incredibly worth it. I believe in all of you, and I genuinely cannot wait to work alongside you and see what we create together.

And finally, as I step down as **Media & Marketing Vice President**, I somehow find myself stepping straight into another chapter as **President of UMSU International**.

If you had told Cultural and Social Officer Bhavya in August 2025 that this is where she would be a year later, I genuinely don't think she would have believed you. I never expected that I would be part of UMSU International across two terms, serve on ExCo twice, experience two different departments and eventually be trusted to lead this committee. I came here because I thought organising events sounded fun. Somehow, I found so much more than that.

I found confidence I didn't know I had. I found something I genuinely loved doing. I found people who challenged me and people who believed in me. I found friendships I hope stay with me long after university. And somewhere along the way, I found a little home away from home.

Thank you for giving me the love, trust, support and guidance that brought me here. I hope I can take everything you taught me into this next role and do right by the committee and people who have given me so much love and support. This time I am lucky enough that my goodbye isn't really a goodbye. I get to stay, work alongside all of you and watch your own UMSU International stories begin. I hope I can help make this experience even half as meaningful for you as it has been for me. I cannot wait to see everything we accomplish together.

And whatever you need along the way, I'm always here. PS. PLEASE DON'T RESIGN!

Thank you!

Prepared by,

Bhavya MIDDHA

Media and Marketing Vice President 2025/26

UMSU International

UMSU International General Secretary's Annual Report

Annual General Meeting 2026 – Monday 10th August 2026

1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from 7th August 2025 to 10th August 2026, outlining the performance and achievements of UMSU International's General Secretary, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(e) of UMSU International Regulations.

2. Aims and Objectives of UMSU International

The aims and objectives of UMSU International shall be to:

- Represent all international students in all matters arising in the University and in any matters as deemed necessary or desirable by UMSU International;
- Promote, protect, develop, and assist the interests of International Students with regards to financial, social, educational, professional, cultural and welfare matters and to encourage interest groups and clubs and societies for International Students on campus;
- Foster a common bond amongst all International Students in the University;
- Work towards the goal of fostering goodwill between International Students and Non-International Students;
- Implement all such activities as may deemed conducive to any of the objectives of UMSU International;
- Assume responsibilities to organise and direct activities as may deemed appropriate for furthering the aims and objectives of UMSU International aforementioned;
- Be represented within UMSU, cooperate with Departments of UMSU, contribute to the specified aims and objectives of UMSU; and
- Afford a recognised means of communication between International Students, Non-International Students, and authorities of the campus, the University, the community at large and other organizations of students.

3. UMSU International Membership

In accordance with subsection 6.1 and 6.3 of UMSU International Regulations, the Members of UMSU International shall be:

- a) International students enrolled in a higher education course at the University;
- and

- b) Any students granted Honorary Life Membership of UMSU International under section 7 of the UMSU International Regulations

4. UMSU International Committee 2025/26

The official date that the UMSU International Central Committee 2025/26 started their office term was on Thursday, 7th August 2025.

4.1 Co-option 2025

Co-Options serve as a pathway for University of Melbourne students to join as the committee of the UMSU International family. This committee conducted one recruitment for co-opted officers in Semester 2 2025, with the interviews being conducted by the Executive Committee Members, Directors, and Officers of the respective departments. Successful candidates were selected based on the criteria and skill sets that were predetermined by the departments.

4.1.1 Timeline

- 1) Application Submission:

Week 3 (Monday, 11th August) – Week 4 (Friday, 22nd August)

- 2) Shortlisting of Candidates:

Week 4 (Friday, 22nd August) – Week 5 (Tuesday, 26th August)

- 3) Interview period:

Week 5 (Friday, 29th August) - Week 6 (Sunday, 31st August)

- 4) Announcement of results:

Week 8 (Tuesday, 9th September)

- 5) Official commencement date of co-opted officers:

Week 8 (Wednesday, 10th September)

4.1.2 Number of Co-opted Positions per Department

Two (2) Education Officers, Two (2) Welfare Officers, One (1) Cultural and Social Officer, Two (2) Media & Marketing Officers, One (1) Human Resources Officer, and One

(1) Partnership and Sponsorship Officer were recruited. A total of 9 co-opted officers were appointed.

4.2 Co-option 2026

Due to high resignation rates, this committee conducted another recruitment for co-opted officers in Semester 1 2026, with the interviews also being conducted by the Executive Committee Members, Directors, and Officers of the respective departments. Successful candidates were selected based on the criteria and skill sets that were predetermined by the departments.

4.2.1 Timeline

1) Application Submission:

Week 0 (Monday, 23rd February) – Week 0 (Friday, 27th February)

2) Shortlisting of Candidates:

Week 1 (Monday, 2nd March) – Week 1 (Wednesday, 4th March)

3) Interview period:

Week 2 (Monday, 9th March) - Week 2 (Wednesday, 11th March)

4) Announcement of results:

Week 2 (Saturday, 14th March)

5) Official commencement date of co-opted officers:

Week 3 (Monday, 16th March)

4.2.2 Number of Co-opted Positions per Department

One (1) Education Officer, Two (2) Welfare Officers and One (1) Cultural and Social Officer were recruited. A total of 4 co-opted officers were appointed.

4.3 Members of UMSU International 2025/2026

Prior to the co-option period, there occurred a dismissal of the president through a Vote of Confidence. Throughout this term, there occurred a total of 13 voluntary resignations.

This includes 3 Executive Committee Members, 1 director, and 8 officers (including 2 co-opts) and was dismissed from their position accordingly.

The positions of President, Education & Welfare Vice-President, Media & Marketing Vice-President, General Secretary, Welfare Director, and Media & Marketing Director were subsequently filled through a By-Election.

Below are the final members of the UMSU International 2025/26 Committee per the AGM 2026 and By-Election:

President

Momoka HONDA

Education & Welfare Vice-President

Nishka CHOPRA

Cultural & Social Vice-President

Shreeyukta ADHIKARI

Media & Marketing Vice-President

Bhavya MIDDHA

General Secretary

Redd Danielle SY

Treasurer

Dhruv RANA

Education Director

Pavitra RAVI

Welfare Director

Zejun (Amanda) LI

Media & Marketing Director

Arianna KUGENDRAN

Human Resources Director

Suhas AGRAWAL

Partnership & Sponsorship Director

Whitney YEUNG

Education Officers

Nivetha SANKARASUBRAMANIAN

Sirong LIU

Zi Hui (Eunice) NG *

Edeline FIDELIA *

Minjeong (Lucy) SEONG *

Welfare Officers

Jane CHEN

Elaine YE

Juni TAKAHASHI *

Thao Nhi (Sally) NGO *

Yue Xin (Cody) LUO *

Lok Yi (Jeslyn) TSUI *

Cultural & Social Officers

Raunak RAGHAVAN

Tejna Saravana KUMAR

Neeya Ann SIBU

Johnathan SONG

Sai Wing (Ryan) SIU *

Media & Marketing Officers

Phoebe CHAN

Ai Jin (Allison) GOH

Chieh-Hsin (Karen) HSU *

Zoe Michelle SHANTA *

Human Resources Officers

Aliya HAFIZ

Kirsten ABUSTAN

Jia Ni (Sheela) LIM *

Partnership & Sponsorship Officers

Keyur GOHEL

Xing Li (Charlene) TAN *

[*] indicates a member of UMSU International who holds the position of a co-opted officer.

4.4 Structure of UMSU International 2025/26

The UMSU International Central Committee consists of 6 Executive Committee Members, 6 Directors and 25 Officers. The 37 Central Committee members who are part

of UMSU International 2025/26 (either elected through the Annual General Election 2025 or recruited through Co-Options) are required to attend the Central Committee Meeting held fortnightly, are given voting rights during the meetings and collectively work towards the aims and objectives of UMSU International.

5. Administration for Meetings

5.1 Central Committee Meetings

Central Committee Meetings (CCMs) are formal meetings that are held fortnightly that guide the operation of UMSU International. Central Committee members are required to submit any proposals of events and budgets to be approved, and reports of undertaken events. During the meeting, discussions are carried out for any concerns, objections, and potential recommendations that will be carried forward to future events. The Central Committee also approves changes in the internal procedures and raises issues concerning international students. Additionally, assessment and approval of Grant Applications from clubs and societies are also carried out during the CCM.

A total of 12 CCMs and 3 Emergency CCMs (eCCMs) were held, all of which met the quorum of at least half the voting Central Committee Members. All motions passed in the CCMs are detailed in the meeting minutes, together with the proposals, reports and other businesses discussed. All proposals, reports, meeting minutes of the CCMs are recorded and published as electronic copies on the UMSU International website (<https://intl.umsu.unimelb.edu.au/about/meetingminutesandreports/>).

All CCMs (excluding eCCMs) were conducted on-campus, with Zoom meeting the option granted to committee members who had been granted excusal.

The dates for the CCMs conducted with only members of UMSU International Committee 2025/26 are as follows:

Semester 2 2025

Location: PAR-Biosciences 2-122-L1-124-Turner Theatre

- 1) CCM #1: Wednesday, 13th August 2025

2) CCM #2: Wednesday, 27th August 2025

Location: PAR-200-L2-VIEPS-Intensive Room (36)

3) CCM #3: Wednesday, 10th September 2025

4) CCM #4: Wednesday, 24th September 2025

Location: PAR-Biosciences 2-122-L1-124-Turner Theatre

5) CCM #5: Friday, 10th October 2025

Location: PAR-160-G-G03-Evan Williams Theatrette (56)

6) CCM #6: Thursday, 23rd October 2025

7) eCCM #1: Tuesday, 23rd December 2025 (Zoom)

Semester 1 2026

8) eCCM #2: Tuesday, 10th February 2026 (Zoom)

Location: PAR-148A-L1-155-Collaborative Learning Space / Project Room

9) CCM #7: Tuesday, 10th March 2026

Location: PAR-148A-L4-454-Flexible Learning Space

10) CCM #8: Tuesday, 24th March 2026

Location: PAR-149-L2-239-North Lecture Theatre (75)

11) CCM #9: Tuesday, 14th April 2026

Location: PAR-149-L1-107-William Macmahon Ball Theatre (73)

12) CCM #10: Tuesday, 28th April 2026

13) CCM #11: Tuesday, 12th May 2026

The dates for the CCMs that are conducted with members of UMSU International Committee 2025/26 and the newly elected Committee 2026/27 are as follows:

Location: PAR-160-L2-213-Flexible Learning Space (36)

14) CCM #12: Tuesday, 26th May 2026

15) eCCM #3: Saturday, 27th June 2026 (Zoom)

5.2 Executive Committee Meetings

The UMSU International Executive Committee had weekly meetings to examine and discuss the direction of UMSU International, to ensure that performances and operations of UMSU International across the departments are well aligned to UMSU International's aims and objectives. The Executive Committee also discussed issues concerning the education, welfare, and social matters of international students at the University, including both internal and external matters, such as the International Students caps, and the recent visa changes.

The Executive Meetings also focused on the wellbeing of the Committee members, department events, and the work ethic of each department. The Executive Committee put great emphasis on working with their respective departments to assist the interests of international students and to foster a positive work relationship within the Central Committee.

A total of 28 Executive Committee Meetings were held during the term of 2025/26 Committee. The dates for the meetings are as follows:

Semester 2 2025

Location: Building 168 - UMSU International Lounge, unless specified otherwise

- 1) EXCO Meeting #1: 24th July 2025
- 2) EXCO Meeting #2: 30th July 2025
- 3) EXCO Meeting #3: 6th August 2025
- 4) EXCO Meeting #4: 13th August 2025
- 5) Emergency EXCO Meeting #1: 15th August 2025
- 6) EXCO Meeting #5: 20th August 2025
- 7) EXCO Meeting #6: 27th August 2025
- 8) EXCO Meeting #7: 25th September 2025
- 9) EXCO Meeting #8: 2nd October 2025
- 10) EXCO Meeting #9: 9th October 2025
- 11) EXCO Meeting #10: 16th October 2025
- 12) EXCO Meeting #11: 23rd October 2025
- 13) Emergency EXCO Meeting #2: 26th November 2025 - Zoom
- 14) Emergency EXCO Meeting #3: 13th December 2025 - Zoom

Semester 1 2025

Location: Building 168 - UMSU International Lounge, unless specified otherwise

- 15)Emergency EXCO Meeting #4: 29th January 2026 - Zoom
- 16)EXCO Meeting #12: 3rd March 2026
- 17)EXCO Meeting #13: 10th March 2026
- 18)EXCO Meeting #14: 17th March 2026
- 19)EXCO Meeting #15: 24th March 2026
- 20)EXCO Meeting #16: 31st March 2026
- 21)EXCO Meeting #17: 14th April 2026
- 22)EXCO Meeting #18: 21st April 2026
- 23)EXCO Meeting #19: 28th April 2026
- 24)EXCO Meeting #20: 5th May 2026
- 25)EXCO Meeting #21: 12th May 2026
- 26)EXCO Meeting #22: 19th May 2026
- 27)EXCO Meeting #23: 26th May 2026
- 28)Emergency EXCO Meeting #5: 7th August 2026 - Zoom

6. Amendments to UMSU International Regulations

The UMSU International Regulations is the governing document that establishes the structure and operating rules for UMSU International. In accordance with the regulations, any amendment to the UMSU International Regulations or Policies must be formally passed by the UMSU Students' Council in order to take effect. However, a review of prior records indicates that the regulations were last passed in 2019, meaning that the subsequent amendments had not received the requisite Council approval.

Based on previous years, it has been amended on four separate occasions since their last ratification, specifically the AGM held on the 31st August 2020, 3rd September 2021, 24th August 2023, and 9th September 2025, with the most recent ratification on the 9th August 2025. With this, last 19th March 2026, the General Secretary 2025/26 brought the relevant motion to the UMSU Students' Council to have it passed. The motion was passed accordingly.

The full updated document on UMSU International Electoral Regulations can be found on our website (<https://intl.umsu.unimelb.edu.au/about/regulationsandpolicies/>).

6. Annual General Election (AGE) 2026

The Electoral Regulations provide guidance to the UMSU International Annual General Election (AGE). The Electoral Regulations shall take effect during all relevant periods of the AGE including, but not limited to, the nomination period, the policy speech session, the voting sessions, voting counting, the declaration of results and any period in between.

The AGE 2026 was held from Monday, 27th April 2026 to Friday, 22nd May 2026 to elect the 2026/2027 UMSU International Central Committee. The election was carried out through both online and in-person methods, with 2 Returning Officers overseeing the process.

Per regulation requirements, the AGE was operated and oversaw by external Returning Officers. The above quota was appointed for the UMSU International Annual General Election 2026, with Patrick Clearwater as the Returning Officer and Stephen Luntz as the Deputy Returning Officer.

6.1 Nominations Period

Nominations Open: 9AM, Monday, 27th April 2026

Notice of Provisional Nominations: 5PM, Friday, 8th May 2026

Final close of Nominations: 9AM, Monday, 11th May 2026

6.2 Candidate Information Session

A Candidate Information Session was not held during the previous electoral period. This session was to provide candidates with a better understanding of the roles and duties of the various positions within the Central Committee, as well as the timeline and regulations of the election. The Returning Officer (RO) is typically tasked to provide a detailed explanation of the procedures and policies of the AGE, where candidates gain insights on what is to be expected. Following the supposed presentation from the RO, the Executive Committee and some members of the Central Committee 2025/26 may

engage in discussions and Q&A sessions with the candidates regarding the roles of the different positions.

6.3 Policy Speech Session

An in-person Policy Speech session was held on Monday, 18th May 2026 from 4:15PM – 7:00PM in Chisholm Theatrette, Babel Building. Candidates running for Executive or Director positions were required to present their policy speeches followed by a short Q&A session, in which all candidates were required to engage in a Q&A session. The RO moderated the session and enforced strict timeframes for each speech & Q&A to ensure smooth progression. The recording of the policy speeches was uploaded on the election website for public viewing (<https://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/make-difference/elections/umsuinternational/#rodetails>).

6.4 Campaigning Materials

All candidates were provided with the opportunity to provide their own campaigning material to the Returning Officer to be approved, for it to be used as promotional material for both in-person or for social media. Candidates were also provided with the option to submit their policy statements and a picture to be included in the voting ballot to ensure any international students will have a chance to review the candidates prior to submitting their votes.

6.5 Voting System

All International students at the University of Melbourne were eligible to vote in the AGE through the unique voting link sent to their student email address. The votes were counted using the preferential voting system, and everything in relation to voting was monitored by the Returning Officer. Any complaints or concerns raised during the voting period will also be supervised by the Returning Officer, and they have the discretion to inflict any penalties they deem fit on the candidates that breached the regulations.

6.6 Results

The final election results were declared and confirmed at 5PM on 22nd May 2026. The results, and the full count sheets can be found here (<https://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/pageassets/make-difference/elections/umsuinternational/UMSU-Intl-Declaration-of-results-2026.pdf>).

7. UMSU International Central Committee 2026/2027

Below are the combined results of the UMSU International Annual General Elections 2026. The Central Committee members will formally take office as the UMSU International Central Committee 2026/27 on Monday, 10th August 2026:

President

Bhavya MIDDHA

Education & Welfare Vice-President

Tanya PARASHAR

Cultural & Social Vice-President

Mishti MITTAL

Media & Marketing Vice-President

Phoebe CHAN

General Secretary

Yurou (Rhea) FAN

Treasurer

Saumyaa SARUP

Education Director

Raiesa KHUTEL

Welfare Director

Cody LUO

Cultural & Social Director

Sai Ring (Ryan) SIU

Human Resources Director

Yu Ting (Haylyn) HOO

Partnership & Sponsorship Director

Aarush YADAV

Education Officer

Kaavya KALRA

Welfare Officer

Anushka DUBEY

Declan Benedictus LEE

Eric LEE

Parth Kamleshbhai CHANDRANI

Yihan LI

Cultural & Social Officer

Hari Dutt VYAS

Jiya PAREEK

Johnathan SONG

Lisa JIA

Paridhi CHHAJED

Media & Marketing Officer

Kyra SANEJA

Simar KOHLI

Lynn HO

Partnership & Sponsorship Officer

Human Resources Officer

Vardaan CHANANA

8. Committee Bonding Activities

9.3 Central Committee Meeting Catering

Central Committee Meeting Catering is a new incentive in replacement of Committee Bonding Dinners, whereby an amount of budget is allocated for biweekly catering after Central Committee Meetings to promote light-hearted conversation over small bites.

A total of 5 CCM Caterings were held for this committee, and the details are outlined below.

CCM Catering #	Vendor	Date
1 – CCM #1	Guzman y Gomez	13 th August 2025
2 – CCM #2	Guzman y Gomez	27 th August 2025
3 – CCM # 3	Ida Bar Catering	10 th September 2026
5 – CCM #5	Guzman y Gomez	10 th October 2025
6 – CCM #6	Marybrown & Duke's Pizza	23 rd October 2025

Due to budget constraints and discussions with UMSU regarding the financial regulations, Central Committee Meeting Caterings were abolished after Central Committee #6 and for future committees.

9.4 Committee Graduation

The Committee Graduation is an annual appreciation event for UMSU International to celebrate and acknowledge the exceptional hard work, time, and effort that the Central Committee have invested in advancing the mission of UMSU International throughout their term. This event is dedicated to expressing sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions made by the Central Committee, recognizing their significant role in driving the organization's success.

The 2025/26 Committee Graduation will also include appreciation for our International Student Ambassadors (ISAs) and will be open to all International Students if they would like to participate. This event is set to tentatively occur in Semester 2 2026.

9. Human Resource Department

The following outlines all the events and projects that were carried out by the Human Resources Department throughout the term of 2025/26.

10.1 International Student Ambassador (ISA) Program

10.1.1 Overview

The International Student Ambassador (ISA) Program is a volunteer initiative that supports UMSU International's events and activities with dedicated volunteers. It allows University of Melbourne's students to grasp UMSU International's organizational practices, while contributing to their peers' welfare and experiences. Student volunteers could also gain valuable skills like networking, leadership, and project management, fostering new friendships and enhancing their university involvement.

The ISA program runs per semester, open to all University of Melbourne students (Domestic & International). Selection involves an initial questionnaire and informal group interviews with representatives from Human Resources, the Executive Committee, and Directors. Volunteers are expected to complete 30 hours of volunteer service to fulfill the ISA Program. Approximately 80 to 90 students are accepted for the program per semester. Below show the number of ISAs intake for UMSU International 2025/26:

Semester 2 2025

- July Intake → 25 ISAs (out of 71)

- August Intake → 55 ISAs (out of 137)

Semester 1 2026

- February Intake → 37 ISAs (out of 69)
- March Intake → 44 ISAs (out of 70)

10.1.2 ISA Incentives

ISA Incentives were introduced into the ISA program to incentivise and to express our gratitude for their hard work and time in ensuring our events run smoothly. Incentives such as UMSUi merchandise were awarded to the overall winning house who contributed the most points over the course of each term, encouraging participation and gratitude among the ISA community. This program promotes regular involvement in ISA activities in addition to recognizing their group's hard effort.

10.1.3 ISA Graduation Night and Winning House Dinners

The International Student Ambassador (ISA) Graduation Night and Winning House Dinner were events to celebrate graduating ISAs (those who have fulfilled the 30-hour requirement) by inviting them to dinner, as a reward and appreciation from the Human Resources (HR) department for their help and volunteer effort throughout their terms.

Below are the summaries of ISA Graduation Night and Winning House Dinner for ISAs graduating within UMSU International 2025/26 period:

July & August 2025 Intake:

	ISA Graduation Night	ISA Winning House Dinner
Date	9 th March 2026	12 th March 2026
Venue	Cha Ching	Lucy Liu Kitchen and Bar
Number of Attendees	18	6

February & March 2026 Intake:

	ISA Graduation Night
Date	25 th May 2026
Venue	Vapiano Australia
Number of Attendees	30

Due to budget constraints and discussions with UMSU regarding the financial regulations, Winning House Dinners were abolished after the July & August 2025 Intake and for future committees. A goodie bag filled with UMSUi merchandise was given as a replacement incentive to still show the committee's appreciation and gratitude to the most hardworking House.

10.1.4 Words for ISA from UMSU International 2025/26

The International Student Ambassadors form a vital part of the community at UMSU International through their effort, creativity, and diverse personalities. Not only have they contributed their time and wonderful ideas at UMSU International, but they have also been vital in helping UMSU International reach where we are today. The UMSU International Committee 2025/26 would like to sincerely thank all our ISAs for their contributions, and we hope you have and will continue to have a wonderful journey together with UMSU International.

10.2 Meat and Greet

The Meat and Greet aims to provide UMSU International with a platform to showcase our identity, activities, and the ways in which we support University of Melbourne students.

10.2.1 Meat and Greet Carnival 2025

The Meat and Greet Carnival was conducted in Semester 2 2025 in collaboration with the Cultural & Social (C&S) Department. Held on Monday, 22nd September 2025 at the Amphitheatre and 1st Floor of Building 168, the event consisted of barbeques and mini carnival games. The HR Department was mainly in charge of the barbeques and reached a total number of 613 attendees for the day. This event gave students the chance to

socialise and make new connections, providing a safe and engaging platform for students to enjoy fun games and food.

10.2.2 Meat and Greet 2026

Held in Semester 1, 2026, this Meat and Greet was ran by HR and P&S. It was held on Wednesday, 6th May 2026 at the Amphitheatre, attracting 600 attendees. This event consisted of barbeques and popcorn for students to enjoy. It serves as a publicity event for Committee Members and International Student Ambassadors (ISA) to introduce UMSU International to students at the University of Melbourne by giving out free food.

10.3 ISA After Event Feedback

ISA feedback has always been integral to improving communication and encouraging open conversations between committee members and ISAs. A customized feedback form was used to actively collect feedback from ISAs, which was then sorted and brought to the respective departments of concern.

It is highly recommended that this practice be continued, as I believe it is necessary to have a platform for ISAs to share concerns or positive feedback so we can improve as a committee together.

2. External Representation

Each member of the Executive Committee was appointed to represent UMSU International in various working groups and steering committees.

During our term, I was involved in the following external engagement:

1. Health Promotion Program: Healthier Relationships Advisory Group
2. Welcoming Universities (WU)

3. Concluding Words

Crazy to think that it's already the end our term. I would like to give a huge thank you! Thank you to everyone I've met, everyone I have worked with so far, and everyone who has made me who I am today. I remember when I first got byelected in September, I did not know what I had signed up for. I admit,, it was a struggle,, but the best way I would put it is to live a life with no regret!

As I am finishing my final moments of undergrad, I am happy to say that UMSUi definitely made its mark,,

To Momo, the goat! Genuinely, I cannot imagine being in your place, achieving all the goals you've achieved as president, going to countless of meetings a week, all while balancing uni work and tutoring. You are one of the most inspirational people that I have met. Although with the rocky start, you somehow always find a way. I admire you a lot momoka honda. Don't ever doubt yourself or feel like you aren't doing enough. I will always be here to reassure you with anything.

To Shree, the rising star! For some reason, you always find a way to light up the room. I really appreciate your daily TikToks and the random yap sessions for no reason. The first time we met, you know me as Zhao's girlfriend,, and look at me now! Meeting the first time at the Meet and Greet carnival like it was just yesterday! Could not have asked for anything more. Also, goodluck with your content creation journey, you'll do amazing and I am always one call away.

To Dhruv, pls go home! (genuinely) Thank you for always being there (literally,, we are always together in the lounge chilling). Another thank you for our banter in the lounge, you always are a silly goofy putting up with everyones last min purchasing,, or dealing with my unnessesary stress-crash outs about coles orders or even just printing.

To Nishka and Bhavya, it was definitely a journey well spent. I feel like I am not as close with you both yet but,,, even with our highs and lows, I am proud to say that we did it!! As time passed, with night market, EPG, our VERY successful sports day bonding, it was quite reassuring to see that we were never the problem,,, it was the job that drove us crazy (haha) anyways jokes aside, you are all lovely people and I am so thankful to have met each one of you.

To Suhas, my HR life saver! Honestly, I would be very very VERY lost without you. ANY question I ask about HR,, you always have an answer to it. If an event pops up randomly, you always come in to ask if ISAs can contribute to it for hours. You are always so understanding and thoughtful! Also side note, thank you so much for your patience!! Suhas, you are genuinely a very good listener! (not in a bossy naggy way) but you will

always be there if I needed someone to talk to or give any support. HR complaining, gossip, previous lore drops. Love that about you, Suhas!

To Sheela, what a huge blessing for you to be co-opted into the HR team. I remember the good old days when I first got byelected and you recently got co-opted,, coincidentally we joined the UMSUi committee at the same time,, both very confused. You are my fav auntie of UMSUi and so so happy to have met you. (btw she gave me a butter squishy – which is such a huge honour)

To Kirsten, my fav filipino new zealander! The one person I can count on to have a full on debrief about a turn of events. I can't imagine how we first started off as media and comms classmates to how we are today. Always love the little moments in the lounge that we can talk about random things or people ;) and our usual big back-tivities,, \$15 for a yochi is completely fine btw

To Aliya, the sweetest pookie wookie of the HR team (yes the sweetest). Being completely honest, I think I don't know you the most out of the whole HR team BUT I will say, I love how you are so talented in all the things you do. Thank you for always being that middleman of all the HR chaos. You always know how to handle things in a positive light and I really appreciate that about you. To many more memories together! (aka let's force HR to run a 10km)

To the future committee, first of all,, goodluck! Haha, I trust you'll all do well no matter what. Some advice from me: (1) have as many committee bondings as possible ! and (2) resigning is not the solution.

Thank you!

Prepared by,

Redd Danielle Sy (Redd)

General Secretary 2025/26

UMSU International

UMSU International Treasurer's Annual Report

Annual General Meeting 2026 – 10th August 2026

1. Introduction

This annual report covers the period from 7 August 2025 to 10 August 2026, outlining the financial performance and expenditure of UMSU International and the achievements of the Partnership and Sponsorship portfolio, written in accordance with subsection 15.4(f) of UMSU International Regulations.

2. Fund Allocation for 2025 and 2026

UMSU International gains funds as a department of the Student Union, which gains funds from the University of Melbourne.

UMSU International was budgeted by the Student Council to receive \$272,500.00 in the 2026 calendar year.

3. Partnership and Sponsorship Department Portfolio

3.1 Heads of Clubs

The Partnership and Sponsorship Department has successfully hosted the Heads of Clubs Event in Semester 2 2025 and Semester 1 2026, to which executives from different clubs and societies had attended. Through this, we onboarded clubs to participate in the Night Market for our food stalls and performances, promoted UMSU International's grants, and encouraged collaboration between clubs and UMSU International.

3.2 Partnerships & Sponsors

The Partnership and Sponsorship Department was able to acquire new sponsors during our term. The sponsors below have engaged with us by providing giveaways and/or vouchers in one or more UMSU International events during the 2025/26 term.

- Hungry Panda
- Red Bull
- Sulbing
- Fantuan
- Golden Duck

4. Representation

4.1 Mental Health and Advisory Group

The 2025/26 Treasurer was nominated by the President to attend the Mental Health and Advisory Group on behalf of UMSU International. This working group is George Habib, the Clinical Psychologist and Director of Wellbeing Services, and various academic professionals, staff and student representatives from the University of Melbourne. As part of the reference group, we discuss the University's approach on the mental health services provided by the university such as CAPS and the new system for it as well. Meetings occur quarterly and are ongoing.

5. Grant(s) Applications

UMSU International has allocated a fixed budget of of \$2,500 for the 2025 calendar year and was discontinued for 2026. The budget allocated earlier was awarded to UMSU-affiliated and non-affiliated clubs, societies, and organizations within the University of Melbourne.

The purpose of the UMSU International grant scheme is to encourage clubs and societies to organise events and programs beneficial to the International Student community. Even though due to the budget cuts it was discontinued this year, there are plans to reintroduce next year as discussed with UMSU staff.

For Tier 1 Grants, the final decision of approval or rejection of the applications is carried out by the Executive Committee. For Tier 2 Grants, Approval or rejection of grant applications is

carried out by the Executive Committee in a preliminary examination and a final decision would be made during the Central Committee Meeting by all UMSU International Committee Members.

The following P&L summary outlines expenses and income recorded as of May 31, representing the financial overview for Semester 1.

Account No.	2025	May			YTD			Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
		Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance	2026	2026
Income									
1901	Service/Event Income	\$396.43		\$396.43	\$5,000.78		\$5,000.78		(\$5,000.78)
	Total								
	\$4,918.28 Income	396.43		396.43	5,000.78		5,000.78		(5,000.78)
Less Cost of Goods Sold									
	Gross								
	\$4,918.28 Margin	396.43		396.43	5,000.78		5,000.78		(5,000.78)
Expenditure									
Salaries & Wages									
Other Operating Expenses									
3231	Promotion expenses						(2,700.00)		2,700.00
3713	Printing - External					(16,000.00)		16,000.00	
3774	Subscription & literature	(188.99)	(260.00)	71.01	(980.55)	(1,040.00)	59.45	(2,600.00)	(1,619.45)
3801	Repairs & Maintenance				4,681.87		4,681.87		(4,681.87)
3839	Programs	(5,135.87)	(4,200.00)	(935.87)	(5,135.87)	(4,200.00)	(935.87)	(8,400.00)	(3,264.13)
3840	Events	(11,207.78)	(17,350.00)	6,142.22	(58,357.31)	(63,600.00)	5,242.69	(133,700.00)	(75,342.69)
3842	Night Market	(46,155.76)		(46,155.76)	(67,720.66)	(95,000.00)	27,279.34	(95,000.00)	(27,279.34)
3849	AGM Costs							(800.00)	(800.00)

(\$147,143.9 Total 7) Expenditure	(62,688.4 0)	(21,810.0 0)	(40,878.4 0)	(130,212.5 2)	(179,840.0 0)	49,627.4 8	(272,500.0 0)	(142,287.4 8)
Total								
(\$142,225.6 Surplus / 9) Deficit	(62,291.9 7)	(21,810.0 0)	(40,481.9 7)	(125,211.7 4)	(179,840.0 0)	54,628.2 6	(272,500.0 0)	(147,288.2 6)

7. Concluding Words

With this, I wrap up my term as the treasurer and my journey at UMSU International comes to an end. I joined umsui directly as an exco member not knowing how tough it would turn out to be. From always keeping tabs with everyone for every single payment (im glad that its finally over) to running around the city to complete the last minute payments. This role definitely came with a lot of commitment but honestly taught me so much and I wouldn't have it any other way.

To Deanna, Thank you so much all the times you came in clutch and saved me. From the time I came in, you have answered so many questions throughout my term and all with a smile for which I'll always be grateful. I wish you nothing but the best and hope to trouble you again with my questions in the near future.

To Whitney, I'll always be thankful for everything you've done for the department and I'll always have that respect for what you do as I don't think anybody else understands how difficult it was for you to keep everything running under all the pressure. I still haven't forgotten about the dinner that I have to cook for you so I promise that's coming soon.

To Charlene, From the time you came in as a co opt officer to now, I'll always remember your calmness towards everything you do which in fact helped me in more ways than you can imagine (though I hope the next time I do ask you something, Im expecting something other than you saying nothing.). I'll always look back at the late night study sessions at the lounge during exam season. All the best with everything Charlene!

To keyur, Thank you for calling me to that poker game last year with your friends. Funnily enough that was the first of many times we ended up playing together and hopefully won't be long before the next one. You've also helped me with my assignments from time to time and I hope you know I will still be asking questions in the future (Im kidding but I do hope to play again soon it for sure has been very long since we last played.). All jokes aside thank you so much for being there for me and for all you've done for me it truly means the world to me.

To Momo, I can't thank you enough for keeping this department running and doing what you do as the president. I've only been to one of hundreds of meetings where you represented us on a weekly basis and I can't imagine how you managed everything so effortlessly. I apologise for the countless crashouts and can't thank you enough for helping me through it and making sure everything runs smoothly. I'll always admire you for the leader you are and what you've done for our department. Looking back, I want to thank you once again for everything you did for me and the department as a whole, we truly could not have had a better president to lead us.

To Shree, looking back at everything we've accomplished, it's impossible to ignore the heart and soul you poured every single time into making the department what it is today. Quite frankly, umsui wouldn't be anywhere near to what it is without you. Something that I'll always treasure is your kindness - thank you for always being patient, understanding and forgiving whenever I made a mistake (I'm still truly sorry for Food Adventure!) . The standard that you've set is going to be very difficult to match. Umsui is truly losing its brightest star, but your impact will be echoing around for a long time to come.

To Bhavya, It sounds crazy that a friend I made in the first week of me being in Melbourne would be here alongside me completing our terms as exco together. Thank you so much for always being there for me not only as a coworker but also as a close friend. I can't thank you enough for the times you've unintentionally made me feel better by always saying or doing something funny. From completing lectures one day before our exams in our first semester to seeing you become the president, we for sure have come a long way. I'm sure you'll lead the committee as intended and will be up for the challenge that the role brings.

To Redd, thank you for making exco fun and lively from the moment you came in and for always keeping us in check (especially me). I'll always be grateful for the crazy runs to pick CCM food at the last minute and the lounge hangouts where we did everything but study (im just kidding the not studying part was mostly me) and thank you honestly for managing everything together because I can't even imagine how hard it would've been to do so. Looking forward to hunting more free food with you and Zhao in the future.

To Nishka, thank you for handling two of the biggest departments and pulling off all the events successfully (I can't even imagine how difficult that would've been). Kudos to you for making brekkie such a success week in and week out where we know how difficult it was to even show up for two shifts a semester (thank you for the pass to skip a shift this semester). I'm glad we got along and made sure everything went on smoothly while tackling all the different problems that come with running these events.

To the rest of the committee and to our lovely ISA's, thank you so much for putting in the time and effort, and it was you guys who made our term a huge success. I'll always have

gratitude for each and every one of you who were a part of this journey, and I do apologise if I ever made mistakes and I just want everyone to know that I was always trying to do my best. It definitely was not an easy journey but one thing is certain as I leave with such wonderful memories having enjoyed every single moment with you all and I hope you did too. I wish you all the best for everything that you do! (Hoping we can have one last committee bonding even though our term is finished).

To Saumyaa, I know it won't be an easy ride but trust me it'll be one that's worth everything that you'll face. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did and I hope you won't have that many questions (jokes aside please do contact me if you need anything and I promise to reply this time around). And to the incoming committee, I have full faith you all will ace it and will have a blast while you're at it.

And one last thing, Thank you to everyone for making umsui a place that felt like a home and a place where I truly belonged. I know that I might not express myself that loudly but trust me every single one of you truly mean the world to me. Thank you so much everyone!

Prepared by,

Dhruv RANA

Treasurer 2025/26

UMSU International

4. Other Business

4.1

5. AGM Adjourns