

Victoria University
STUDENT UNION

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

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2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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

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

VUSU representatives are elected annually by the student body. Elections are fundamental to the democratic nature of the organisation. Participation rates in VUSU elections vary from year to year; in 2018 approximately 6% of enrolled students voted in the election, a high percentage of participation relative to other Victorian universities.

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

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MEMBERSHIP

The Student Union is a member-based not for profit organisation. The VUSU Constitution defines five categories of membership:

- Governing Members
- VIP Members
- Life Members
- Executive Officer
- Associate Members

Cost of Membership was \$35 for a Gold pack and \$15 for a Bronze pack from 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020.

The VUSU Executive and VUSU Board has the authority to confer life memberships to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the Student Union and the Victoria University community.



MEET THE TEAM



WILLIAM
PENROSE



RONISH
CHATTARAJ



HANNAH
SMITH



TEMI
OLADIJI



EMMA
WHITBREAD



MICHAEL
DEPPER



TOOLSIKA
RAWOAH



ASHFUQ
LUKMAN



MUGHEES
RAZA



HANNAH
NADIN



PRATEEK
SHRESTHA



PARUL
TOMAR



AKOI
AROK



JOHN
CHURCH



ANTHONY
MALLON



JEREMY
YAPP

2020 VUSU REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT	WILLIAM PENROSE
GENERAL SECRETARY	RONISH CHATTARAJ
VICE PRESIDENT ACTIVITIES	TEMI OLADIJI
VICE PRESIDENT EDUCATION	HANNAH SMITH
VICE PRESIDENT WELFARE	EMMA WHITBREAD
WOMEN'S OFFICER	TOOLSIKA RAWOAH
LGBTQIA+OFFICER	MICHAEL DEPPELER
DIGITAL MEDIA	MUGHEES RAZA
CULTURAL DIVERSITY OFFICER	ASHFUQ LUKMAN
VU POSTGRADUATE ASSOCIATION	JEREMY YAPP
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION	PRATEEK SHRESTHA
DICTUM SOCIETY (COLLEGE OF LAW)	AKOI AROK
COLLEGE HEALTH & BIOMEDICINE SOCIETY	JOHN CHURCH
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY BUSINESS SOCIETY	PARUL TOMAR
HYDE EDITOR IN CHIEF	HANNAH NADIN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER	ANTHONY MALLON



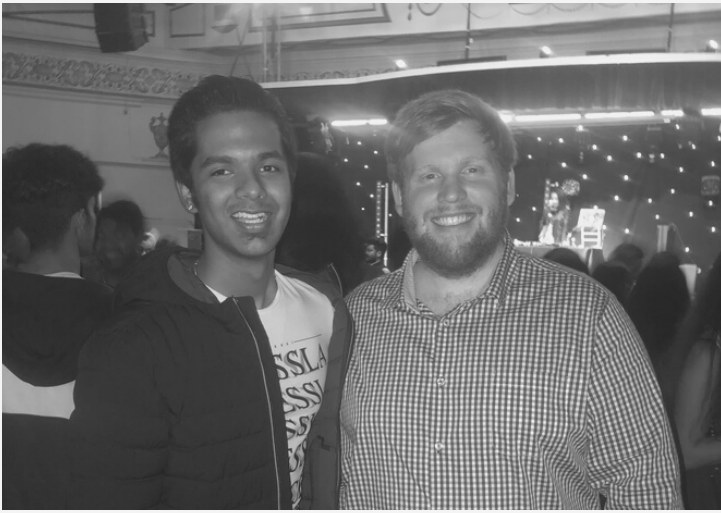
PRESIDENT REPORT

Well what a wild ride 2020 has been! If anyone could've predicted the insane circumstances that we all found ourselves in this year, I would've loved the heads up. This year was extremely challenging yet rewarding for myself as the VUSU President. I am extremely proud of all the great work the VU Student Union has done for students this year, from the Hyde student magazine to Mental Health First Aid courses, we have just about done it all.

Let's go back to before the pandemic was making life difficult for VU students. 3 Student Reps as well as myself from VUSU and VU were given the opportunity to travel to Loughborough University in the UK. We got to experience parts of their campus life and see the pivotal role the Loughborough Student's Union (LSU) play in a student's journey throughout their university experience.

We spent our time in Loughborough staying in their student accommodation to fully gain the student experience. We had campus tours and got to explore the great facilities that the LSU provide to their students. We also had some fantastic workshop sessions where both unions were given opportunities to see what the other does, how we can improve and how we can all work to make the student experience at both of our Universities the best it can be.

While on our journey with the LSU, we also got to collaborate and brainstorm on a joint campaign rolled out in the forms of the "Be a Better Human" Campaign. We had great plans for this and intended to run festival style events. Obviously with the development of COVID this was not able to occur but will be looked into for 2021 I am sure. It was a great experience for all involved and it was really refreshing seeing that the LSU can't work properly without the university and the university can't run without the LSU doing what they do for students. As we faced the transition to remote online -



These came in the shape of the COVID relief fund that myself and ISA Presidents, Susie and Prateek, played pivotal roles in ensuring the funding was easily accessible to vulnerable students that needed support. VUSU was also the driving force behind getting the University to remove fail grades from all academic transcripts for the whole of 2020. This was a massive win for students as it ensured protection and minimal academic repercussions as a result of the pandemic.



VUSU is a member organisation of the National Union of Students (“NUS”), carrying out a key campaign and as such rolled out the “Save our Students” campaign. This campaign looked to ensure that all students were protected during the transition to online delivery and that no student was left behind. We rolled out this campaign in the forms of a video that had student leaders from a range of different disciplines share concerns that they had regarding the transition. This video was launched and got massive engagement around VU and also at other universities too. It was pivotal in getting things changed at VU and making some critical policy changes during 2020 such as the no fail grades on academic transcripts for the whole of 2020. I wish to again thank everyone that assisted with the making of this campaign video.



During this year VUSU has worked alongside many VU departments including VU Safer Community, VU Welfare, VU Respect and Responsibility and many more.

This has come in the shape of material promotion and collaborations in activities and events held throughout the year.

I was invited this year to sit on the Student COVID stream meetings alongside the Director of Student Services, Acting Deputy Provost Academic and Students as well as many other university staff. This was a really great opportunity to give student feedback straight to the university and also get wider updates regarding the university's response to COVID outside of the student space. This was a weekly meeting that was of great benefit to myself and the university really benefited from having a student rep onside for these discussions and updates too.



A black and white promotional graphic for the VU COVID-19 Student Support Fund. The text reads: '\$1 million added to the VU COVID-19 Student Support Fund. Emergency Support Grant for continuing VU students'. Below this, it says 'CHECK YOUR STUDENT EMAILS FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CLICK THE LINK'. The graphic includes a Wi-Fi symbol, a cartoon illustration of a man in a hat and sweater, and a hand holding a smartphone.

VUSU as well as ISA have been working very closely with the university to launch and roll out the student relief fund. That looked to ensure that students had access to emergency funding from the university to assist with day to day expenses and help support students with the transition to online delivery.

We had a number of meetings to discuss how we could make the fund easy enough for students to access and also make sure the students that really needed it were the target. To date the fund has spent over \$2.4 million to students which is fantastic. There is also the probability of it being extended into 2021 with the continued ongoing consultation with the 2021 VUSU President and ISA President.

VUSU had the pleasure of welcoming a new Executive Officer to the team, Anthony "Felix" Mallon, who joined us in February of 2020 but quickly became a tough transition as COVID sent all of us home for the remainder of the academic year. Felix has done a great job integrating into the VUSU life and I want to thank him for all of his assistance in such a tough time for all. That also being said I also wish to thank our previous Executive Officer, Elisse Baitz, for all of her support and help over the last few years. It was sad to see you leave but we at VUSU thank you endlessly for the exceptional work you did for the union and wish you all the best for your future.

This year has been a big one, in a different way. No, we didn't run the huge festivals and parties that people are used to but this year we truly supported students. When they needed us and called for us - we answered. We took questions to the university and saw results. I was to thank everyone in the VUSU team for their hard work this year. It's been a blast and to the new team - good luck. It's not going to be easy, but you are all so capable, some of the most capable student leaders I have ever seen, and I am so excited to see what the Union produces in 2021.



GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT

2020 has been a very distinctly challenging year but despite that, the Union made its progress and achieved its primary goals and I was privileged enough to be a part of this journey.

WELFARE VP

started my journey in VUSU for the year 2019-2020 as the Welfare Officer. I was excited to take on this portfolio and mould the role in my way, thereby promoting the essence of Welfare-related activities across the union and the university. Starting, the Summer O'Fest was fun. We gathered a few interests for the Mental Health First Aid Workshop, which was the pillar of my portfolio. The first two workshops which had the lucky opportunity to be held on campus, were sold-out and emphasized the importance of awareness and the hunger to learn about issues pertaining to Mental Health and Welfare

TO students/staff on and off-campus. The first two workshops which had the lucky opportunity to be held on campus, were sold-out and emphasized the importance of awareness and the hunger to learn about issues pertaining to Mental Health and Welfare of students/staff on and off-campus. I had a lot of plans for the other major events upcoming in my term for the year, but my role was short-lived as I was the Welfare Officer for merely 3 months. But it was an amazing learning experience for me, and I was happy to know that Emma, the succeeding Welfare Officer, made the portfolio really vibrant and went the distance to make it more acclaimed across the union and university.

GENERAL SECRETARY

Post my short-term as the Welfare VP, I was appointed to the role of General Secretary in February. Again, I was privileged and really excited to be appointed to this role while also understanding the gravity and importance of the role I'm in. This role brought out the best in me whilst ensured we kept students in mind.

My appointment to this role and the whole COVID situation unfortunately clashed, making my in-person learning and experience on campus really difficult and inconvenient. The whole remote management was really challenging but with the support of each member of the union, my job was made easier. Be it sending out reports on time or sending out apologies or proxy, it wasn't made inconvenient for me, most of the time. The role was aimed at looking at the administration side of the union. A major part of the role was assisting the President and the whole VUSU board in their day-to-day functioning. I also had the opportunity of meeting new people from various parts of the university, especially via the VU Clubs and the College Societies, thereby, maintaining and building new relationships in order to work in unison and help out our student community in these distraught times.

HOODIE COMPETITION

Due to closure of campuses, the popular VUSU Hoodies were just left behind. So along with the President and the Digital Media Officer, we had the opportunity of planning a 'Hoodie-Giveaway' competition to spread happiness amongst the student community in what was a difficult situation. We got the VUSU-zens (VUSU online audience) to complete a simple task, which was to give a like/thumbs up to all our social media accounts, and then fill out a Google form recording their details, and then via a lucky draw, choose 40 random winners, who received hoodies. The President took the initiative of bringing the Hoodies in from the campus and sending them out to the lucky participants and I sent out congratulation emails, notifying them. It was a great experience.

RESTARTING THE VU COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE (VUCESS)

Being a final year engineering student, it was disappointing to not see an official college society for the College of Engineering and Science, especially considering the fact that every other college has its own society, and we're the only ones left behind. Moreover, 2 AGM's had already been held, with failure to generate enough interest to reach minimum executive quorum, for the society to be affiliated and up and running. Hence, alongside the President elect for the new term, Alastair, I had the opportunity to take on the challenge of re-affiliating the society after 2 years, before my term ends, as I personally believed and still believe, that the VUCESS is a great platform for the different cohort of STEM based educators and students to come together and enjoy, learn, teach and inspire the upcoming batch of students and keep the ball rolling.



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Other than the above, I had my ups and downs during the term, which I guess was a part and parcel of the learning experience. But I'd like to thank the whole VUSU board for their support throughout the term and most importantly, our student community, who voted for me in the first place, and believed in me and made me confident into doing whatever I had aimed to do. I want to wish the best of luck to the new incoming team and wish them all the happiness, love and luck they deserve. Peace out!





WELFARE REPORT

Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you for all the support from everyone this year! I have learnt so much from everyone and it has been amazing to see how dedicated and invested everyone is to helping students! It has been such a great experience seeing everyone work so hard and stick together throughout the year and despite the year not going the way we planned it, it was amazing to see what we can do even through a global pandemic.

Over the year, the Welfare Department held tons of events and competitions, we found a way to provide students with weekly activities to help them stay positive throughout these hard times, even though there were a lot of bumps I think that we definitely achieved something great!

I have added in a rundown of activities and competitions we ran throughout the year and a little bit of information on our successes and ways the new Welfare Team can improve on what I accomplished this year.

ACTIVITIES

YOGA

The weekly online Yoga Classes was one of the most amazing initiatives that Welfare held, we had more and more people jump on and join in, with a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 25. We had amazing positive feedback from both the students and Yogamigo's and I have been advised that Yogamigo's would love to continue working with VUSU throughout the year.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

- We held 5 training sessions, which all sold out.
- We definitely could have improved on this number of classes however with COVID, we worked together with Denise to formulate online classes with an updated curriculum.

2020 VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION

RECIPE BOOK



Victoria University
STUDENT UNION



- With the new adjustments to online classes, one issue that I found was that there were less students that were allowed to complete the in-person teaching MHFA reduced the number from 25 to 12 which will hopefully be changed back when in-person classes are back.

STRESS LESS FESTIVAL

- We worked alongside all of the VUSU Departments to put together an amazing festival with tons of insight on ways to De-Stress!
- Stress Less Festival also gave us the motivation to think outside of the box and work along-side different departments to give students support and resources.
- It was also an amazing opportunity that gave us feedback on things we should continue to run in the future and also some things that didn't work as well, due to the functionality of the activities.

SIP AND PAINT

- The Sip and Paint was a great idea however there were limited spots that sold out instantly and we had some operational issues with the sending of the supplies to students and the small period of time that was allocated by the company we went through. However overall, we had amazing feedback from the students who attended, and we had comments from other students about holding another Sip and Paint in the future but as an in-person class.

VUSU COOKBOOK

- I would firstly like to say a huge thank you to Ash for helping me organise and put together the Cookbook.

- The VUSU Cookbook was an amazing way to reach out to students and hear more about the things they love to cook and eat; and gave other students the opportunity to learn more about dishes from across the world!

COMPETITIONS NETFLIX

- The Netflix Competition had an amazing response from students with over 50 competition entries and gave other students some movie recommendations throughout isolation.

STRESS LESS

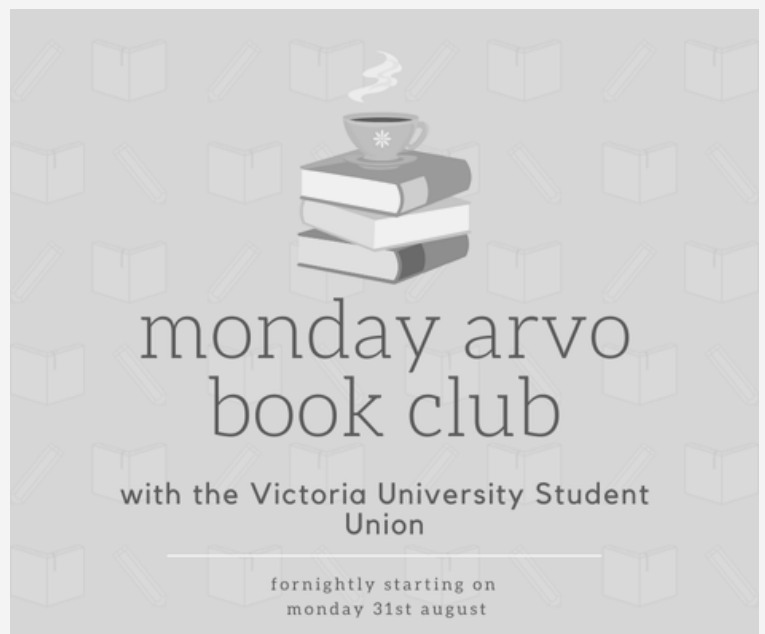
- The Stress Less Competition was less successful than the Netflix Competition however I believe that was due to the competition being on the Facebook Event, but we still had some amazing answers to ways people De-Stress.

R-U-OK DAY

- Lastly the R-U-OK Day Competition. It was amazing to see everyone keeping the conversation going and giving amazing tips on ways to help other people and focus on themselves, we had an amazing response and so many great comments that were heart-warming.

And with that, I again want to thank everyone who got involved and helped not only me but everyone. It has been amazing to see what we can achieve, how big our community is growing and the support we have from all of the students, teachers and other businesses that have come to support us over this year.

It has been an amazing experience as the 2020 Welfare Officer, one that I will forever hold close to my heart.





CULTURAL DIVERSITY REPORT

Throughout the year 2020, I have organised various events and activities for students to get involved and win prizes, a list of all the events are listed below:

VUSU TRADITIONAL DRESS PHOTO CONTEST DETAILS

This event was organised for students to showcase their cultures traditional outfit. It could be from any part of the world and the dress is the key importance for deciding the winner of the contest. Dress that tells the story of a person as much as local tradition. The response was amazing where over 15 cultures were represented. VUSU received the highest engagement for this competition for a long time.

WINNER GIFTS:

1st Winner: \$100 personalised prepaid master gift card

2nd Winner: \$50 e-gift voucher (Ticketmaster, Uber or Red Balloon)

3rd Winner: \$30 e-gift voucher (Ticketmaster, Uber or Coles)



I was elected as the cultural diversity officer for VUSU 2020 and what a unique and exciting year it has been except for the challenges faced due to the pandemic. I had plans of organising so many on campus engagement events such as Food Festival, celebrating the Independence of various cultures, Holy, Diwali, and many more. Of course due to the pandemic as we transitioned to everything being online, this has not stopped me from celebrating the diversity and inclusivity of students at VU.

VUSU'S GUESS THE LANGUAGE COMPETITION

The purpose of this event was to celebrate the diversity of world languages and test a student's language skills by allowing them to participate in the competition by listening to different audio recordings from different languages. A video was posted on the competition day on Facebook with ten different languages and students need to guess the language and comment in a numerical order. The first person to get all the languages correct was considered the winner of the competition. If none gets all the languages right, the person with the greatest number of correct guesses wins the competition.

Winner gift: \$100 Feast Frenzy Basket Hamper

VUSU'S END OF BLOCK CULTURAL TRIVIA NIGHT

The purpose of this event was to increase the engagement of students to participate in a fun and exciting trivia competition and increase the knowledge of various cultures. Additionally, it was also a great opportunity for the students to meet other VU students virtually from various backgrounds and share cultures.

WINNER GIFTS:

- 1st Winner: \$120 gift hamper from hampers with bites (students get to choose)
- 2nd Winner: \$75 gift hamper from hampers with bites (students get to choose)
- 3rd Winner: \$50 gift hamper from hampers with bites (students get to choose)
- 4th Winner: \$40 gift hamper from hampers with bites (students get to choose)
- 5th Winner: \$30 gift hamper from hampers with bites (students get to choose)


VUSU'S ORIGAMI SESSION FOR MULTICULTURAL WEEK

Origami is the art of paper folding, which is often associated with Japanese culture. In modern usage, the word "origami" is used as an inclusive term for all folding practices, regardless of their culture of origin. Origami sessions were run on the 24th and 25th September 2020 each. Workshop session 1 was to fold paper to design/create different types of boxes to hold pins, candies, clips, etc. Workshop session 2 was based on folding papers to design/create a written letter into an envelope as well as designing a shirt with a classic tie. The session was very engaging and so many positive feedbacks were received from students about how much they loved the workshop.

"OUR TRADITIONS BUILD OUR IDENTITY"

VUSU TRADITIONAL DRESS COMPETITION

COMPETITION STARTS: WEDNESDAY, 22 APRIL, 2020
 COMPETITION ENDS: FRIDAY, 1 MAY 2020, 5 PM.
 WINNERS ANNOUNCED: FRIDAY, 8 MAY 2020



Victoria University
STUDENT UNION

Shut Up & Listen to us!

YOUTH FORUM



<p>Allara Pearce Victorian Treaty Advancement Commission</p>	<p>Dilara Anaz Social Justice Advocate & Law Student</p>	<p>Kareem Al Ansary Australian UN Youth Ambassador 2019</p>	<p>Ashfaq Lukman VU Student Union Cultural Diversity Officer</p>	<p>Temu Oladiji President of VU Afro Society</p>
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VU MULTICULTURAL WEEK VIDEO

VUSU collaborated together with VU International Student Association to put a video together of various VU students from diverse backgrounds greeting and talking about what they miss the most in their culture. Certificate of participation was designed by me and sent to all the participants for their commitment, collaboration and hard work to help put the video together.



SAND ART TO REPRESENT CULTURAL DIVERSITY AT VU COMMISSIONED BY VUSU

The purpose of this sand art is to show how diverse and multicultural VU is. A story board was submitted to a sand artist based in the UK to represent Cultural Diversity at VU through the unique representation of sand art. The sand art was posted on the VU's Cultural Diversity website as well YouTube channel during Multicultural Week. Great feedback was received from senior staff executives for a wonderful art.



VUSU DIWALI VIDEO

At VU, we have a wide range of students from India. To celebrate, VUSU decided to put a short video together to wish all the Indian community at VU a happy Diwali. A personalised Rangoli Art was put together by a Rangoli artist.

Victoria University
STUDENT UNION

PRESENTS

**GUESS THE
LANGUAGE**

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2020
9AM - 5PM

*celebrate the diversity of world languages and test
your language skills by listening to different audio
recordings*





WOMEN'S REPORT

The Women's Portfolio had many events planned at the beginning of the term. However, because of the COVID-19 pandemic and all the restrictions that came along with it, we had to move to virtual events.

In November 2019, the Women's Officers, Toolsika and Carmelina, were able to get involved with Respect and Responsibility for the 16 Days of activism against Gender-based violence. We were also able to help Respect and Responsibility with the filming of a video, where we shared our experience on why students should complete the Active Bystander Awareness module and other modules in which we participated in developing.

We were able to relaunch the Women's Room again with the help of the former Women's Officer.

The Women's Room was a success, with us receiving feedback that a lot of women have started using it. The Women's Room is a safe accessible space for all people identifying as women. At the beginning, it could only be accessed if security was called and if the women had their student identification card on hand, however, we were able to get it open until 5pm every day. We regularly filled the Women's Room with goodies and food as we thought it would be good especially if some women have difficulties accessing food or if they skipped their breakfast. We had bread, milk, cereals, cereal bars, milk, cup noodles and biscuits.

We also created a library space where women could borrow or leave a book and most of the books have female authors. We also put pamphlets and the numbers of organisations that can help in the case of domestic violence or harassment and we also left our numbers and emails so they could come talk to us in case anything is bothering them or so that we can receive feedback.



We made informative posters to ensure that women using the kitchen could keep it clean and accessible to others and for them to contact us in case there is anything. We also put free pads and tampons for women to take and filled the cupboard in front of the VUSU office for students to take.

We also organised the International Women's Day where we had women from diverse backgrounds talk on a range of topics. We also had stalls so that the 'Be a Better Human' campaign could be promoted. This was supported and sponsored by VUPA and Respect & Responsibility. We had pop-up stalls with information and handouts from organisations such as SisterWorks and other internal facilities such as VU Safer Community and Student Well-Being. The event was a success as we had more than 80 people who joined us.



We also went to the VU Cultural Events Working Group where we helped for the Multicultural week. We also met with the Centre for Culture, Ethnicity and Health Pilot Program to propose a pilot program to understand sexual education through a focus group.

Additionally:

- We were also part of the Student as Partners Network Meeting, where we got involved with Planetary Health;
- Toolsika was part of the steering committee of Chatbot which is a program designed to decrease loneliness during the pandemic;
- Toolsika bought and mailed pads and tampons to women who have difficulties accessing them during the pandemic;
- Organised and hosted the International Women's Day Panel;
- Promoted the VU Shuttle bus by Security and being escorted by security to the parking lot;
- Made a creativity space and small library in the Women's Room;
- Launched the Women's Room during the 'Wine and Sip' Event;



VUSU Presents: Liptember

WRITE A LINE OR TWO ON
MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS
& POST A PHOTO OF YOURSELF
WEARING A BOLD LIPSTICK ON
PADLET OR TAG US

2 STUDENTS WILL WIN A GIFT
VOUCHER OF \$50 EACH

MORE DETAILS IN THE
DESCRIPTION



Women's Mothers' Day Funny Photo Competition

TWO WINNERS WILL BE
SELECTED ON MONDAY THE
18TH MAY 2020 TO EACH GET
A \$25 UBEREATS VOUCHER
CHECK THE DETAILS IN THE
DESCRIPTION □□□□

- Had the Virtual Poetry Night, where we had a Guest Speaker speak about the theme 'Resilience' during the pandemic;
- VU Students sent through their poems for the Virtual Poetry Night for Hydes Women's Edition; Hosted a Mothers' Day photo competition, where students had to send in photos of them with their mother(s);
- Hosted the Liptember competition where students posted their photo wearing a bold lipstick and sharing a few paragraphs on what mental health means to them;
- Had the Blue Stocking Day posting on social media to promote women getting Higher Education;
- Met with Kim Burell to develop about archive of VU having female achievements;
- Participated in the NUS policy against virtual harassment;
- Helped during orientation days;
- Went to the Student Reference Group for cultural diversity; and
- Helped during Peacebuilding Event to talk about the effects of loneliness during the pandemic.

The Women's Officer, Carmelina, resigned in the second semester but contributed enormously to the Women's Portfolio



NTEU National Tertiary
Education Union

WAC
WOMEN'S ACTION COMMITTEE

WOMEN WORK & COVID

Bluestocking Week 2020

31 Aug–4 Sept nteu.org.au/bluestockingweek



LGBTQIA+ REPORT

Though C19 has definitely been in our forethoughts it didn't stop us from putting on small events monthly and 3 major online events through the year.

My time here as Queer officer has made some progress on this campus and other campuses for the creation of PRIDE rooms where queer identifying community members can use them for study and chillout with fellow students and staff without the fear of judgement from others. Changes to the website now show the accurate locations and times they are open.

In 2020 the queer ball is already gaining sponsorship, and is coming together with acts, meeting and long hours to make this vu queer masquerade ball one to not forget. Queernival will also be happening again in 2020 with the help of Elisse who this year created on one of the best events of the year.

With the closure and sale of a few campuses, next years pride room projects will be sunshine and Werribee campuses.





DIGITAL MEDIA REPORT

The Digital Media portfolio throughout the year has worked with almost every other portfolio. It has been a fun year as well as a very hard one because of the pandemic and all the restrictions in place. We started the year with Diwali and had a lot of fun. Our team covered the whole event and also helped out in organising different activities. We also worked very closely with the cultural diversity officer for the multicultural week and with Women's officer for Liptember. We were responsible for various graphics put on our socials and promotion of our events on our social media platforms. We also did a VUSU hoodie give away where we posted 40 hoodies to the winners chosen via lucky draw. We boosted the social media engagement through our all online social media contests. We were also responsible for our website revamp where we put all our executives with their contacts and introductions.

This year has been a challenging one. We could not go forward with the "Be a Better Human" campaign due to the current circumstances and all the restrictions in place and could not organise VUSU Hangs as well where we give away free food on campus and have a lot of fun. Overall, this year has been fun and came with some limitations but we somehow managed to get through it. We are thankful for the opportunity given to us by the student union and all the friends we have made. We wish the 2021 team the best of luck with all they will achieve in their term.





HYDE

In 2020 the Hyde team revamped the print, website and social media accounts launching a new and vibrant Hyde Student Magazine. At the beginning of the year we launched the Survival Guide and Edition 1 - Orientation and were able to provide these to at Orientation Festival.

At the beginning of the term that began in November 2019, VUSU passed new Hyde regulations that stated Hyde was to provide at least 4 editions for the year. The 2020 Hyde team decided we wanted to complete a series and released 6 editions plus the Survival Guide, this included the Orientation Edition, Mental Health Edition, Queer Edition, Women's Edition, Cultural Diversity Edition and the Indigenous Edition.

The Hyde team is overwhelmed and in love with the series that we completed for 2020.

Unfortunately in 2020 we were not able to print all editions but we grew our online platform and managed to reach other countries across the world, which was outstanding.

I was so privileged and honoured to be the Editor in Chief of Hyde Student Magazine and cannot wait to see the work that is continued in 2021.





VUSUTEER'S

This year was definitely an interesting one with the VUSUteers. Due to COVID we were only able to have VUSUteers help out at O-Fest, VUSU Hangs and International Women's Day, where it was amazing to see so many new, happy faces!

We had over 200 sign-ups for students that wanted to get involved and 50 people join the 2020 VUSUteer Group on Facebook, which is outstanding given the circumstances of this year.

We also held a Meet and Greet at the start of the year, where we had over 20 students come and join us to have a chat too and eat pizza with, which was amazing to meet so many eager people.

During COVID, I kept in weekly contact with most of the VUSUteers personally and through posts on Facebook, we also held an International Volunteers Day Competition, where it was so empowering to read people's favourite volunteering experiences. I had plans to run an Online Games Night however it clashed with a lot of students' classes and assignments.

Even though I held the official position of VUSUteer Coordinator for a short 4 months, it was amazing to see how many people wanted to join in and help out whenever they could and was so empowering to see what we can do together.







CHABS REPORT

Earlier in the year we developed an agreement to increase Society membership. All students paying membership fees to join College associated Clubs during the summer orientation period would automatically gain CHABS membership, with a fee amnesty. This agreement was not well executed, but some simple changes can be made to improve future success. It would be valuable to attempt this strategy for at least the next 1-2 years, as the Society is still relatively unknown and inactive in the minds of the broader College community.

Changes to improve success:

- Increased planning to ensure relevant Club executives are better aware of the agreement;
- Greater promotion of the agreement to members and prospective members via individual Club communication channels;

- The addition of an 'opt in' arrangement. It is plausible that students will view the agreement as a breach of privacy when providing their personal details during Club membership sign-up.

An initiative aimed at improving engagement with the College community was the use of Society funding to sponsor students to attend industry body conferences. The event we had initially wanted to use as a trial for this initiative - the Australasian College of Paramedicine International Conference - did not release ticket pricing details until after arrangements had begun to be made for Society handover. Timing was such that we did not go ahead with this initiative, but it would be good to revisit the idea. The pandemic is not likely to allow for the types of in-person social events that Society funding has previously been used for, to be held for some time. In the absence of these types of events, tickets to online professional association education events are a good use of Society funding.



VUBS REPORT

EVENTS

We organized a Visa Workshop on Flinders Street campus for all the VU students. Students got information about changes in various related visa types and about different visa conditions including the information about Permanent Residency and Post Study Visas.

CHANGES IN VUBS TEAM

VUBS had a team of 10 people including executives and general team members. VUBS former president Aileen Barcelon resigned in June 2020 and Parul Tomar was assigned as the new President with a couple more changes in the team in July.

In June 2020, most of the team members graduated. The new team put together and got re-affiliated in August. Due to some reaffiliation issues regarding the roles VUBS hadn't been able to host events. VUBS finally got re-affiliated properly in September 2020.

OTHER INFORMATION

- There have been so many ups and downs throughout the year mainly because of COVID-19. VUBS bank account hasn't been set up yet because of the lockdown since March 2020.
- VUBS all social media accounts are active and access has been given to the President.
- VUBS merch is sorted and put together at Flinders Street campus and Footscray campus at the VUSU offices.
- VUBS new team is all set to work for next year.

Victoria University Student Union Inc.
Financial Report for 2019/2020 Financial Year

The public officer of **Victoria University Student Union Inc.** declares that under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (the Act), that VUSU is a Tier 1 Association. This financial report has been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

- 1. The financial statements fairly represent VUSU's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Union will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.**

It should be noted that most VUSU operations and activities are funded by the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF). The university has allocated SSAF funds to spend on activities and operations as determined by VUSU in accordance with the Higher Education Support Act (HESA) 2003. The financial statements do not include this sum of money, however information is provided and solely prepared for the benefit of students at the Annual General Meeting.

EXTERNAL ACCOUNTS

The balance sheet and profit and loss statement represent the external account held by the Union, operated under Westpac Bank.

UNIVERSITY ACCOUNTS

The university disburses money on VUSU's behalf as allocated from the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF). The university profit and loss statement for the Union account is taken directly out of the university finance system (FinanceOne) as of 30th November 2020.

VUSU does not accept responsibility for any other person for the contents of this financial report.

Schedule 1
Regulation 15
Form 1

Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012

Sections 94 (2)(b), 97 (2)(b) and 100 (2)(b)

**Annual statements give a true and fair view of financial performance and position
of incorporated association**

We, Hannah Nadin and Oliver Kaiser, being members of the committee of the
Victoria University Student Union certify that –

“The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial
performance and position of the above named association during and at the end of
the financial year of the association ending 2020.”

Signed: _____



Date: _____

30/11/2020

Signed: _____

Oliver Kaiser

Date: _____

30/11/2020

DETAILED BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

ASSETS

Cash at Bank	\$ 25,038.33
Total Assets	\$ 25,038.33

LIABILITIES

Total Liabilities	\$ 0
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DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

INCOME

VIP (Stripe)	\$ 2,380.29
Events	\$ 14,778.10
Victoria University (SSAF)	\$ 30,460.52
Misc	\$ 550.01
Total Income	\$ 48,168.92

EXPENDITURE

Reimbursements	\$ 8296.39
Other Expenditure (Suppliers)	\$ 12,306.66
Grants	\$ 10,566
Elections	\$ 16,487.85
Fees	\$ 120.01
Total Expenditure	\$ 47,776.91
Net profit or loss from Ordinary Activities	\$ 392.01

OVERVIEW
PROFIT & LOSS

Year to Date

	2019 Actual
Revenue	\$
Other Income	3,636
Internal Income	2,367
Total Operating Revenue	6,004
Salary Expenditure	
Non-Academic Employee Benefits	85,731
Total Salary Expenditure	85,731
Non-Salary Expenditure	
Repairs & Maintenance	552
Cleaning & Security	153
Operating Lease Rental	488
Telecommunications	2
Rates & Utilities	-
Equipment & Furniture	2,932
Scholarships Grants & Prizes	38,698
Practicum Expenses & Overseas Health Cover	-
Fees & Subscriptions	8,455
Legal & Professional Fees	1,507
Advertising & Marketing	832
Travel, Staff Development & Entertainment	21,706
Printing & Stationery	6,989
Consumables & Class Materials	4,793
Insurance & Bad Debts	1,878
Other Miscellaneous	41,546
Internal Expenses	936
Total Non - Salary Expenditure	131,467
Total Expenditure	217,198
Gross Margin	(211,194)
Gross Margin % of Revenue	(3,517.8)%
Less: Depreciation	25,235
Total Extraordinary Items	26,235
Net Margin	(236,429)



Victoria University
STUDENT UNION

