



RMIT University Student Union

Fourth Quarter Report

—
Reporting Period:
1 October – 31 December 2017

RUSU
RMIT UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION

President's Report



As we come to the end of the year, it's the perfect time to reflect on 2017 and the many fantastic things the RMIT University Student Union has been able to achieve. We're proud of the progress we have made throughout the year and the continued hard work of our student representatives and team of staff.

With the completion of the New Academic Street, RUSU was able to finally re-open our Realfoods cafe. The new space in Building 8 has been a long time coming, but it looks fantastic and we can't wait to really embrace it in 2018. It's important for students to have access to affordable healthy, ethical, and sustainable food and drinks on campus, and we're so pleased with how the new storefront has turned out.

Constitutional changes do not happen very often, but in 2017 we were able to make a very significant one with the introduction of an Indigenous Officer position on the Student Union Council. The first RUSU Indigenous Officer, Jedda Rocha Costa started her term on 1 November. Welcome Jedda!

On a personal note, I was honoured to be elected the President of RUSU for another year and will continue to advocate for the rights of all students while ensuring that RUSU upholds its high standards. We're looking forward to 2018 and working with the University to make sure the needs of students are always at the centre of decision making at RMIT.

Abena Dove
President,
RMIT University Student Union



Activities & Events



End of Exams: Rooftop Party

As the academic year drew to a close, November 9 saw the Activities Department take over the Building 80 rooftop for a massive end-of-exams party. Kicking off at 4pm, the event featured free Kentucky Fried Chicken plus free beer and cider on tap. This event was a sell-out and a great way for students to relax and unwind following the super stressful exam period!

Mooncake Festival

In early October we celebrated the mid-Autumn harvest with our annual Mooncake Festival in the Alumni Courtyard. An important event for RMIT's many international students, the festival features free dumplings, lanterns, and of course mooncake! Thank you to everyone that came along and made this event such a success.



Membership

At the end of 2017 RUSU had **4822** financial members, just shy of our **5000** target.

Not a bad result considering all of the technical problems we had with our online sign-ups.



Left: End of Exams Rooftop Party, Above: Chill N Grill

Volunteers

The NAS Project has impacted on the Realfoods component of our program this year, however we have seen growth in all other areas. RUSU was pleased to still be in the position to offer Food Safety Handler training to those who requested it, even though they did not have the opportunity to volunteer in the cafe. Volunteer satisfaction levels remain high with an unprecedented number of volunteers expressing an interest to continue in the program during 2018.

We saw better than ever participation at our recognition events over the course of the year, with the end of year Luna Park get-together being the most well attended. Requests for job references were also high with the SEO and other staff supervisors being approached to act as referees. It is great to report that past volunteers still keep in touch from time to time and request references as they move onto other opportunities.

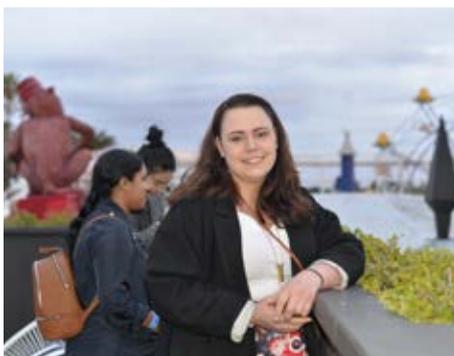


Training: Number of participants					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Program Induction	188	12	73	0	273
Responsible Service of Alcohol	20	51	36	0	107
Safe Food Handler	43	23	61	0	127
Youth Mental Health First Aid	0	23	0	3	23
TOTAL	251	109	170	3	533

Volunteer hours worked: City Campus					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Activities & Events	361	309	986	430	1889
Realfoods	0	0	0	130	130
Administration	75	184	488	78	825
Compass	66	78	160	114	418
Healthy Breakfasts	74	31	68	25	198
English Language Workshops	171	0	66	0	303
Student Rights	22	32	98	37	120
TOTAL	769	634	1866	614	3883

Volunteer hours worked: Bundoora Campus					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Activities & Events	21	76	48	12	157
Breakfasts	7	14	18	0	39
Realfoods	66	113	201	62	442
TOTAL	94	203	267	74	638

Below: Volunteer End Of Year Party



Across the Campuses

City

Building 8 Foyer Games Space

RUSU has been actively pushing to have a games space on campus, and in November 2017 this was achieved! We assisted in setting up, a large human-size chess board, Connect Four and Jenga. Students also now have access to a Dance Dance Revolution machine. These free games have been well received by the student body, with many students actively engaging with the new games space.

Board Games

We will continue to advertise the boardgames hire service we have at RUSU Central.

RUSU Activities Space

The RUSU Large Activity Space had 42 events bookings over the quarter and continues to be booked over the semester period. Utilisation reflects the semester period with few bookings made throughout December and the exam period.

RUSU Central

The November and December peak period was very busy with appeals against

assessment, show cause, and some very late exclusions from the prior semester, in addition to special consideration applications and our usual student rights workload. Student Rights Officers were available in RUSU Central from the start of the peak period in order to meet with students in need.

Ice Cream Day

Ice Cream Day was held on October 6 in Bowen Street and was an amazing treat for approximately 600 students! Two ice-cream vans delighted students with tantalising tastes, bringing the semester to a close.

City Chill 'n' Grill

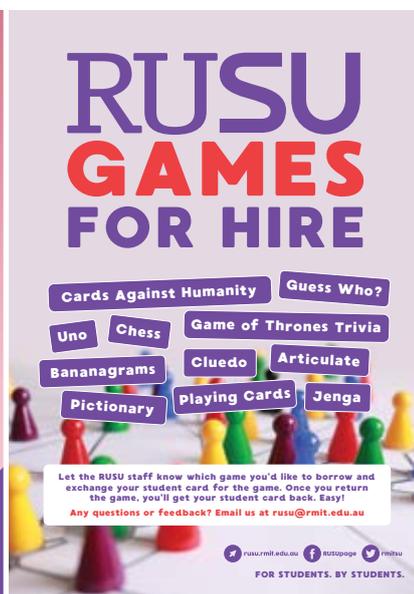
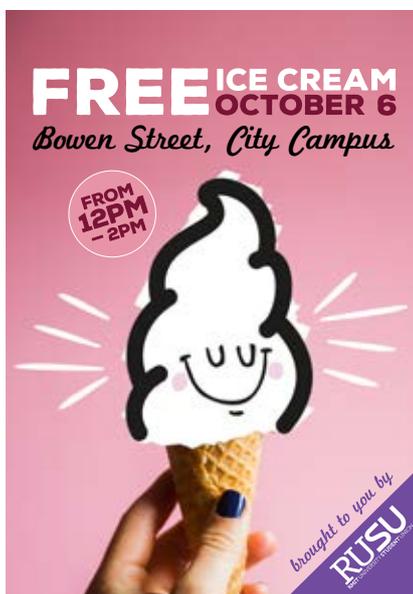
Drawing down into the final few weeks of the academic year RUSU hosted the last two Chill 'n' Grill events for 2017. Volunteers continue to keep turning up for the event bringing their smiling faces and massive amounts of assistance to the BBQ and bar machine. Week 12 saw Chill 'n' Grill host Compass Stress Less Week again. A superb event with massages, face painting, delicious food trucks and

over 1000 extremely relaxed students. The addition of the Compass Marketplace to Chill 'n' Grill in the fourth quarter was a roaring success, with a vast amount of positive feedback from students on this new program. RUSU hopes to see this event return to Chill 'n' Grill in the new year.

2017 has been a great year for the City Chill 'n' Grill program seeing a range of diverse bands and DJs coming to RMIT to showcase their talents. RUSU would like to take this opportunity thank our student representatives, staff and RMIT Events and Property Services staff who have supported this program over the last year. This event continues to offer quality food, drinks and entertainment to students each week and we are very grateful for all of the support that it receives.

Last but by no means least RUSU extends its never ending thanks to all of its amazing student volunteers. Without their hard work on a weekly basis it would simply be impossible for us to provide this incredible service which is certainly at the centre of student life in the City campus.

City Promotions



RUSU Activity Space





Bundoora East & West



The Bundoora Big Breakfast

The end of the year is usually a quieter time at the Bundoora campus. But this year, RUSU made it exciting by bringing some new events to the campus during the fourth quarter. We kicked off October with the Compass Marketplace, which was a huge hit. The Compass Co-ordinator did a fantastic job with the event and the marketplace ran successfully. There was a recipe station, a pantry food station, and a fresh food station and all the free food was given away quickly with no leftovers or wastage. The initiative was much appreciated and students are keen to see the marketplace again next year. The objective of the marketplace was to equip students with resources that would help them cook for themselves in an affordable and healthy way. The event was attended by approximately 1000 students.

RUSU provided students with Free Ice cream alongside Chill 'n' Grill at both East and West in week 11.

In the second week of October, Compass brought Stress Less Week to the Bundoora

campus, along with the petting zoo, free massages, and important resources and advice on stress management. These resources were also distributed during the Big Bundoora Breakfast, also held during the same week where a variety of delicious vegan pizza, pastries, cookies, muffins, fruit cups, Realfoods hot drink vouchers and organic juices were provided. Over 250 students attended this event and look forward to the return of the free breakfasts in 2018.

During SWOTVAC, RUSU ran the Exam Survival Giveaway on two days at the Bundoora West campus. A lot of RUSU branded merchandise, aimed to relieve stress and be useful during the exam period, were provided to the students, with important student rights information, and free food. November was a quieter time for RUSU at Bundoora as regular events for the year finished up at the end of October, and the offices shut down for the year at the end of November. 2018 promises to be exciting with RUSU moving

into brand new offices in February. The new space will be more central and accessible to students and RUSU looks forward to bring more exciting events to the campus.

Bundoora Events & Clubs

Bundoora Chill 'n' Grill continues to be as successful as ever feeding approx 650 students every week at the West campus and 120 students at the East campus. Compass Stress Less Week and the Sustainability Marketplace roadshows made it to the West campus on October 4 and 11, events which created fantastic engagement opportunities and supported students at this stressful time of the year. We had an increased number of Bundoora volunteers in 2017 who have helped immensely in executing this years lunch program. RUSU extends its thanks to our Bundoora volunteers and hope to see them all again next year.

Carlton

The Carlton office was kept busy through the final quarter of 2018 with the heightened activity that comes during the exam period and subsequent release of final grades. Many students approach the student rights service with issues relating to appeal against assessment, academic misconduct (including plagiarism), and special consideration. With so many students seeking our assistance it was necessary to create group information sessions to handle the significantly increased load that the peak period introduces.

As we have learned over the years, the most efficient way to help so many students is through introductory information sessions that explain the critical details to students before they begin drafting their letters to the University. The Carlton Student Liaison Officer was responsible for co-ordinating the logistics for these sessions. The Carlton Student Liaison Officer also continued to prepare and serve the weekly Healthy Breakfast Program in the Building 57 courtyard. This very popular program continued for an extra 2 weeks in Carlton to cater for the vocational education students.

Point Cook

RUSU continued to run a fortnightly free lunch event at Point Cook on Mondays during semester. The Point Cook students also worked with RUSU to plan an end-of-year party for Point Cook students, which was held on the weekend at Alumni Courtyard. RUSU also set up a Point Cook RUSU games box for the student lounge, filled with fun games including various board games, cards, Jenga, and more.

Compass Marketplace, Alumni Courtyard, RMIT City Campus





Brunswick

Compass Marketplace, RMIT Brunswick

The fourth quarter was a very lively and event-packed quarter for RUSU and the Brunswick students. Highlights included:

The Compass Marketplace, held in Week 11, was a huge success with our Brunswick students. With an estimated 1000 students in attendance, over 650 students picked up fresh vegetables and fruits, pantry items and environmental grocery bags. These items were paired with cheap and healthy vegan recipe booklets, with the aim of the marketplace to provide students with the inspiration and the tools to get creative in the kitchen and cook sustainably for themselves.

Stress Less Week brought by Compass in Week 12 provided students valuable information regarding how to manage stress and where to find support on campus. To further add to the 'stress less' experience, RUSU provided free massages, stress less tools and freebies, and a petting zoo as well, because nothing cures stress like cuddling baby animals!

The RMIT Fashion Students Association continued to be a presence on campus this quarter, running several activities alongside the weekly Chill 'n' Grill, to spread awareness of their services, activities, and events. This quarter's highlights included a cupcake and massage stall, which students highly enjoyed.

The Exam Survival Giveaway was held during SWOTVAC in Brunswick and was a two-day event. RUSU provided free

giveaways in the form of merchandise (RUSU-branded pens, pencils, stress balls and lollipops), healthy food, snacks and drinks. It was also a wonderful opportunity to provide students information on RUSU, our events, and services.

RUSU's weekly lunchtime yoga and meditation class continued to be popular amongst our Brunswick students this quarter, allowing them the opportunity to slow down, relax, breathe, and practice mindfulness, especially during the stressful end-of-year period.

The Healthy Breakfast Program and Chill 'n' Grills continued to be a great hit with students with the combined events attracting up to 450 students each

week. The inclusion of vegan options at both weekly events has been received extremely well by the Brunswick cohort. This quarter's Chill 'n' Grills also provided a variety of options in the menu, including hot chicken rolls and beef burgers.

As the semester draws to a close at the beautiful Brunswick campus RUSU prepares to deliver it's last two Chill 'n' Grills of 2017. Welcoming the Compass sustainability market and Stress Less Week roadshows to campus over these final two weeks, the Compass and Activities Department has had a brilliant year with its events in 2017. Brunswick campus recorded the first in its volunteer hours in second semester and RUSU hopes that this positive motion will continue into 2018.



RUSU Departments

Education & Welfare

From November 29 to December 1, the Education Officer had the privilege of attending the second annual Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency conference, focused on students, quality and success. There was much discussion about the challenges faced by students from low-SES backgrounds facing the financial reality of moving out of home. The conference also brought to light the issues facing regional, indigenous and international students, and making sure that 'no student gets left behind'. Other points of interest included:

- Meet ever changing industry challenges
- Maintain good practice and transparency
- Create platforms for education online
- Students as co-creators and engaging students as partners in curriculum management
- Assessment integrity and the role of examinations.

The Education Department also worked closely with the Academic Registrars Group in the finalisation of the new Assessment and Assessment Flexibility Policy and Assessment Process before the end of the year.

The end of semester is one of the busiest for the Welfare Department. In October, Compass ran the hugely successful Compass Marketplace at City, Brunswick and Bundoora campuses. The marketplaces distributed recipe cards for nutritious and

filling meals along with the fresh fruit and vegetables and pantry items necessary to prepare them.

In Stress Less Week the animal petting zoo was particularly popular with students looking to relax and take a break from their studies. The Welfare Department also gave away exam survival packs. The Welfare Officer attended Youth Mental Health First Aid Training alongside RUSU staff and volunteers.

The Welfare Trolley

RUSU provided the Welfare Trolley service for students after-hours in the Swanston Street Library. We have served approximately 500 serves of food per week in the Library starting every week up to week 12. During SWOTVAC RUSU held three special Welfare outreach events in the library (reaching around 3,000 students). We had a stall with information, give-aways and free food, while the Welfare Trolley roamed the library with free packaged snacks. This service was very popular with students and a welcome treat for those studying hard in the library!

Healthy Breakfast Program

The Healthy Breakfast Program continued up to Week 12 (and Week 14 for VE at Carlton). We provided a range of free breakfast foods including: yoghurt cups, muffins, fresh fruit, fruit salad cups, hummus and veggies. In 2017 we provided 65,000 serves of free breakfasts across the campuses!

Below: Welfare on Wheels promotion



International

The last few months of 2017 saw the International Department run a number of successful events for international students on and off campus. Crowds of students gathered in Alumni Courtyard at sunset on the October 5 for the annual Mooncake Festival. Other well attended events for this quarter included the international student mixer at Holey Moley, in which international and local students enjoyed pizza and mini-golf together, and an international student movie night before the end of semester.

English Language Workshops

The RUSU English Language Workshop program was an eight-week series of workshops - including out of campus activities, which serviced four groups of students in RMIT City campus, two groups in RMIT Bundoora, and two groups at RMIT Training, located in Building 108, Bourke Street. There were over 205 students enrolled in the eight groups, with 114 attending sessions during the program.

The primary objective of this program is not to teach English, but rather to motivate the participants to practice the language, and ideally form relationships which would make studying in Australia a more enjoyable experience. Thus, our principal focus is on providing fun and interactive classes meant to ensure participants feel a desire to communicate.

The survey conducted at the end of the workshops, as well as ongoing student feedback and facilitator observation of group dynamics, indicate the success of our initial objectives through the various friendships and connections resulting from students interacting. This has proven especially important to those students with more reserved personalities, and those with a limited network of compatriots in Melbourne.

Postgraduate

This was an extremely busy quarter for the postgrad department! We introduced a wider variety of events into our program, and consequently had even more students participating in RUSU activities.

Two postgrad careers seminars were held in conjunction with RMIT Careers. This event was a practical seminar to assist postgrad students in their search for work following the completion of their degree/candidature. A wide range of topics were covered including, industry mentoring and networking, general dos and don'ts when job hunting, applying for jobs, how to write cover letters, and your resume, employer perceptions, and how to overcome these, and finally additional services offered by RMIT Careers. One seminar was held at the Bundoora campus, with what was a record attendance for a Bundoora careers event with 25 students. Another was held at the city campus, and had 45 students attend.

A postgrad networking dinner was also held, and was a great success. Twenty

students attended this dinner which was both a social and a networking event. No one who attended came with someone they knew, but by the end of the night lots of friendships had formed which was so great to see. This event was particularly well attended by international students, a cohort who can be more isolated in their postgrad studies.

At the end of October, the postgrad department ran a new event called a 'Sit & Write'. This was a day where students could come and study as a group, in a supportive environment. Postgraduate study can be isolating and stressful, so to try to alleviate this, this event aimed to give students new skills in coping with postgrad study. The day of study was broken up with massages, yoga, relaxation and dance, and students were provided with morning tea and lunch. We had 25 students attend this event, and received extremely positive feedback. Due to its huge success, the Sit & Write will be held again in 2018.

"Superbly organised. I felt loved and cared for."

"Today was incredible. The combination of 'brain' and 'body' work was really effective and something I will practice daily in my studies."

"Thanks for a very productive day. One of the best event/seminar/workshops I have attended."

The postgrad department also participated in the Compass marketplace, and in Stress Less Week.

And finally, the postgrad department held an end of year party, so postgrad students could celebrate the successes of their academic year. This event once again was very popular - the 200 free tickets sold out a week before the event. RUSU postgrad department looks forward to the new academic year, with many exciting things planned.

Queer

The Queer Department ran a massively successful 'Enrol to Vote' campaign, encouraging students to respond to the marriage equality plebiscite. This cross-campus campaign was followed by the enthusiastically received 'RUSU Says Yes' campaign. This consisted of activities at each campus, with origami at Brunswick, doodling at Bundoora, and finger painting in the city. All the activities were popular with students and the Queer Department used this opportunity to talk with students about the importance of their yes vote.

In December the department also organised an event to help our LGBTQIA students stay in touch over the summer break. The Department was especially pleased with the turnout for an event held outside of semester.

Enrol to Vote, Yes! Campaign



VE

The VE Officer was involved in detailed conversations with the Office of the Executive Director of Vocational Education to plan a new census date communications strategy for 2018. VE students can have different census dates for each subject they study and keeping track of which census date is when can be time consuming and forms a large administrative burden for students. Working closely with communications staff has allowed the VE Officer to give them some great insight into how VE students engage with the LMS and some ideas on how best to target VE students with information that is essential to their studies.

RUSU supported the VCE students to have a graduation party at Father's Office.

Sustainability

The Sustainability Department has long been advocating for a way in which students can interact with green spaces on campus. Following the success of Environment Week the department has pushed hard for RUSU to actively support the creation of more opportunities for students to participate in the greening of their campus. RUSU is keen to pursue this interest further next year and has already been actively advocating for student run edible gardens on each campus.

Women's

The Womens Department focused on empowering women on campus by designing slogan t-shirts. Slogans included 'Well Behaved Women Rarely Make History' and 'Strong Unions Need Strong Women'. The t-shirts were designed to amplify the voice of women on campus.



Right: Holey Moley Student Mixer



Realfoods

The brand new Realfoods City with Billy and Anna

City & Bundoora

The long-awaited brand new Realfoods store opened in October as part of the NAS redevelopment project. Construction was quite delayed therefore the cafe was only operational for two weeks before the semester came to a close, however feedback from customers and volunteers was very positive and the new site is looking amazing.

A new cook, Ricky, and barista/cafe assistant, Billy, were recruited for the City site, both bringing with them years of experience and knowledge working with vegan, organic food ready to pass on to our new team of volunteers. A new team of student casual barista/cafe assistants was also recruited for both sites, Kimberly, Ellie, Fawez, Cassie, Briony, and Arthur joined our existing team. Realfoods employed a total of 14 staff in 2017, of which 10 are current RMIT students, including the Realfoods Co-ordinator and the Bundoora barista/cafe assistant, two key roles.

Bundoora Realfoods ceased trading for 2017 on October 20, with the new trading hours of 8am to 2.30pm (Monday - Thursday) and 8am to 2pm (Friday) proving a success.

City Realfoods reduced its trading hours as usual after SWOTVAC, to 9am to 3.30pm (Monday-Thursday) and 9am to 3pm (Friday) with traffic heavily reduced on campus. The senior City staff have utilised this down time in the cafe to construct an exciting catering menu ready to launch in Semester 1, 2018. Requests for catering have been frequent over this period which has helped generate business while the students are on break.

Realfoods is very grateful to all of the staff and volunteers who have made 2017 such a success and look forward to the exciting things to come in 2018.

Clubs & Societies

RUSU Club Grants

RUSU Clubs & Societies accessed **\$26,777.25** of Clubs Grants funding during the fourth quarter of 2017.

RUSU Clubs Activity

RUSU Clubs Activity Affiliation

As at the end of the 4th quarter, RUSU has 105 fully-affiliated student clubs and societies. The distribution of clubs across our different categories breakdown is as follows:

Spiritual	10
Social	20
Political	4
Cultural	22
Academic	49



EESA 2017 Graduation Dinner

New Clubs

RUSU welcomes the following fully affiliated new clubs:

RMIT University Jewish Student Society (RUJSS)

RMIT Ahmadiyya Muslim Students Association (AMSA)

We also welcome back a lapsed club:

RMIT Food & Fun Club



RTSA Community Service Day

Achievements in the Spotlight

RMIT Thai Student Association (RTSA) Community Service Day 2017

As many international students from Thailand return home for the summer break, the RTSA decided to demonstrate their RMIT spirit and organise an in-country activity to support some primary school students.

The Association organised a mini-bus to transport its members to the Wat Chumalane primary school in Ayuthaya, a couple of hours north of Bangkok.

Twenty RTSA members participated in the activity, brightly painting some external walls and a range of colourful games and designs on the outside concrete areas for the children to enjoy.

RUSU congratulates RTSA for this lovely initiative supporting school children and thanks them for presenting such a positive image of RUSU clubs and RMIT University in Thailand.



Achievements in the Spotlight

Student Landscape Architecture Body (SLAB) 'Mungo Man - Return to Country' Field Trip

In November, members of Student Landscape Architecture Body (SLAB) accompanied by a couple of their academics, travelled to Capra Station at Lake Mungo in Mildura to witness and participate in the return to country of the cremated remains of a 40,000 year old ancestor, discovered in the dry lake in 1970s and removed to Canberra without the permission of the Indigenous people of the region. The ancestor is known as Mungo Man.

Many years of negotiation between the First Nations, the scientific institutions involved in the removal and storage of the remains and the NSW and Federal governments, finally saw the ancestor returned to his country.

The students, as guests of the Culpra Milli Aboriginal Corporation, were formally welcomed to country by the community and invited to set up camp on community land and share a community meal. The group attended both the formal welcome home ceremony for Munga Man as well as the celebratory concert that evening. Elder Sophia Pearce hosted a tour of sacred sites on Culpra Milli Station for the group with the Elders and community giving the students a formal farewell to country before they (the students) headed back to Melbourne after their four-day adventure.

RUSU assisted this event with Special Program and Event Grant funding of \$2000 to cover the students' camping fees, some of the meals and the guided cultural experiences. Additional funding by the School of Architecture & Design covered the transport ensuring the participation cost for students was affordable (primarily for meals). Although the activity could only afford the cost of a mini-bus, the success of the trip demonstrated that RMIT students are enthusiastic about engagement with both the land and Indigenous Australians and opens up possibilities for future field trips and activities in this area.

RUSU congratulates 2017 SLAB Executive members Millicent Gunnner and Louella Exton who coordinated the funding arrangements and the trip itself. We thank Landscape Architecture Course Coordinator Jock Gilbert for the he provided to this project.



Lake Mungo (Image by Will Zu)



Lake Mungo Ceremony Womens Dance (Image by Will Zu)



Culpra Station (Image by Bruce Partland)

Highlight quotes from some of the student participants:

"Highlight of the trip: being exposed and a part of a powerful experience of culture, of connecting people and through recognition and ceremony. It was an incredible, life-enriching experience of this landmark event; as well as exploring 'country' and its history through walks with Sophia and conversation in a fantastic energetic environment." [Leonardo Meister](#)

"The last four days cannot be distilled into a single highlight ... there were so many special moments including swimming in the Murray River, waking up early to watch the sunrise over Lake Mungo, Walking through Culpra Station with Sophia Pearce, learning about the cultured landscape and of course having the privilege to witness the return of Mungo Man ceremony. I would jump at the opportunity to participate in a similar trip in the future." [Matthew Kneale](#)

Club Activities Quarter 4, 2017

Academic Clubs

RMIT Accounting Students Association (ASA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Association of Chemical Engineers (ACES) & RMIT Aerospace Engineers Association AESA End of Semester Rooftop Party @ RMIT Building 80 Rooftop

RMIT Aerospace Engineers Association (AESA) paintball event @ Paintball Coldstream, Coldstream

RMIT Aerospace Engineers Association (AESA) free parma lunch @ Universal Restaurant, Carlton

RMIT Aviation Society Post Exam Go Karting @ Fun Galore, Braybrook

RMIT Biomedical Engineering RMIT Student Society (BERSS) Annual General Meeting @ RUSU Activity space Building 10.3

RMIT University Biosciences Society (RUBS) Peter Mac tour @ Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Carlton

RMIT University Biosciences Society (RUBS) end of year social @ Queensberry Hotel, Carlton

RMIT Business Student Association (BSA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Business Information Systems Student Association (BISSA) & RMIT Supply Chain Student Association (SCSA) end of year social @ RMIT Building 80 Rooftop

RMIT Civil Engineering Student Association (CESA) Week 12 social @ Fathers Office, City

RMIT Civil Engineering Student Association (CESA) co-hosted RMIT Engineering Masters Info Session @ RMIT Building 8

RMIT Civil Engineering Student Association (CESA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 12

RMIT Economics, Finance and Marketing Student (EFMSA) @ Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Electric Racing & RMIT Racing (petro) 2017 Launch @ RMIT Storey Hall – see video at <https://www.facebook.com/RMITElectricRacing/videos/1336632279778614/>

RMIT Electric Racing & RMIT Racing (petrol) FSAE-A 2017 Competition @ Calder Park, Keilor

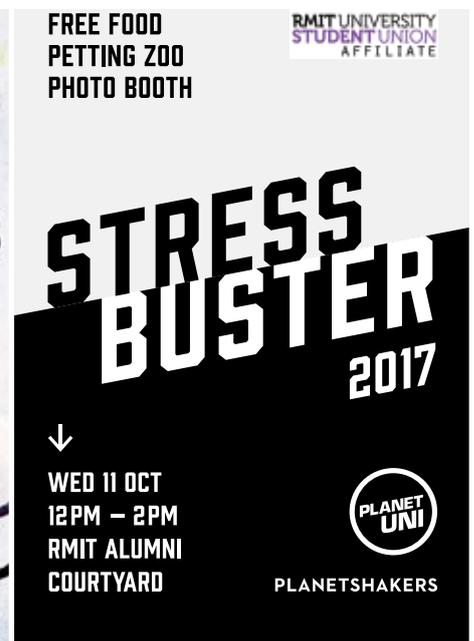
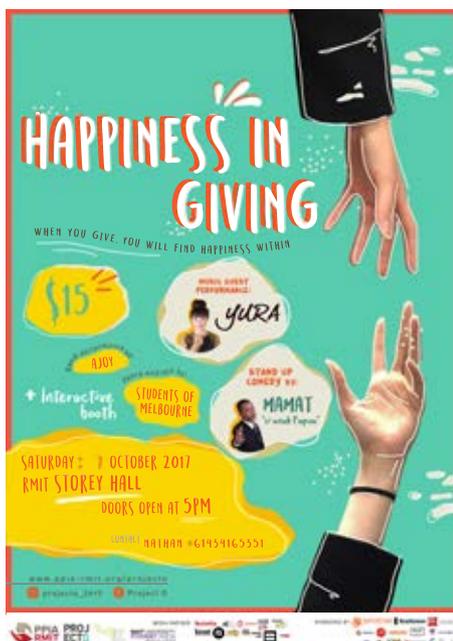
RMIT Environmental Engineering Student Association (EESA) End of Year BBQ @ RMIT Building 10 Garden Terrace

RMIT Environmental Engineering Student Association (EESA) Graduation Dinner @ Imperial Hotel, City

RMIT Geospatial Science Students Association (GSSA) Annual General Meeting & end of year celebration @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10

RMIT Human Resources Association (HRA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 80

Clubs event posters



RMIT Interior Design & Decoration TAFE (IDD) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 4
RMIT International Student Association (ISA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 80
RMIT Law Students Society (LSS) release of 2017 McPherson Papers (LSS Law Journal)
RMIT Law Students Society (LSS) End of Year Party @ Highlander, City
RMIT Master of Fine Arts Club (MFA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 49
Management and International Business Student Association (MIBSA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 80
Management and International Business Student Association (MIBSA) End of Year Cocktail Party @ RMIT Building 80 Rooftop
RMIT Master of Fine Arts Graduating Club Annual Graduate Exhibition @ RMIT Building 2
PSYCHED! @ RMIT (Psychology Students Assoc.) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Bld 10
RMIT Photonics Society (formerly RMIT OSA Student Chapter) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 80
RMIT Racing launch of new website @ rmitracing.com.au
RMIT Racing Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 253
RMIT Racing Post GM Social BBQ @ Bundoora East BBQ Area
RMIT Racing End of Year Event @ Meadow Inn Hotel

RMIT Supply Chain Student Association (SCSA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Bld 80
RMIT Urban Planning Society (RUPS) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 80
RMIT World Congress of Chiropractic Students (RMIT WCCS) free cakes and information about spine care as part of Stress Less Week and in support of World Spine Day @ RMIT Bundoora East Campus

Cultural Clubs

RMIT Chinese Students & Scholars Association (RCSSA) Mooncake event @ RMIT Bld 80
RMIT Club of Pakistan Annual General Meeting @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10.3
RMIT Filipino Association, Uni Melb Filipino SA & the Filipino-Australian Student Council Annual End of Year Salo Salo (banquet) Party @ La Di Da, City
RMIT Hong Kong Student Association (HKSA) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 9
RMIT University Society of Hellenes (RUSH with the LaTrobe and Uni Melb Greek clubs After Exam Party @ St Hotel, St Kilda

RMIT Indian Club Annual General Meeting @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10
RMIT University Korean Association (RUKA) monthly meeting @ RUSU Multipurpose Room Building 57
RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) "Wokks Away from Exams Dinner" @ Wokks Restaurant, City
RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA), Deakin, Monash Caulfield, Monash Clatyon and Uni Melb Malaysian clubs combined End of Exams Party @ Alumbra Nightclub, Docklands
RMIT Singapore Student Association (SSA) Mid-Autumn Festival and new Executive Welcome @ private residence, Carlton
Vietnamese International Students at RMIT (VISAR) end of semester party "Defrost" @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10
RMIT Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) "Charity Café" – fundraiser for The Lifestart Foundation - helping disadvantaged families, the complexly disabled and underprivileged children in Vietnam @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square

Clockwise from top left: RMIT Racing, VISAR Defrost Party, Filipino Club , MIBSA Rooftop Cocktails





From Left: HKSA, VSA Charity Cafe

Social/Special Interest Clubs

RMIT AIESEC hosted "YouthSpeak Forum" @ RMIT Storey Hall

RMIT AIESEC summer volunteering information session @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Asian Association (RAA) & MCCC (Members of Chinese-Australian Cultural Community) End of Exam Party @ Xe54 Nightclub, Southbank

Beer Brewers and Connoisseurs Club (BBCC) AGM & End of Year Party @ private residence

CAINZ RMIT Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 12

RMIT Chess Club weekly meeting @ RMIT Building 13

RMIT Chinese Debating club monthly training and debate @ RUSU Multipurpose Space Building 57 10

RMIT Fossil Free End of Year meeting @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard

RMIT Games Manga and Anime Society (GMAS) Weekly Games and Anime Screening @ RMIT Building 12

RMIT Games Manga and Anime Society (GMAS) Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Bld12

RMIT Science Fiction & Gaming Association (SFGA) twice weekly gaming sessions @ RMIT Building 57 RUSU Multipurpose Room and the B57 Cafeteria

RMIT Science Fiction & Gaming Association (SFGA) Annual General Meeting @ RUSU Multipurpose Room Building 57

Spiritual Clubs

RMIT Bundoora Islamic Society (RBIS) Weekly Jumaa Prayers @ RMIT Building 202

Catholics @ RMIT pre exam Mass @ RMIT Spiritual Centre

Catholics @ RMIT Annual General Meeting @ RMIT Building 57

Catholics @ RMIT end of year social @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10

RMIT Christian Union (CU) Weekly Bible Talk and lunch @ RMIT Building 9

RMIT Christian Union (CU) Tuesday Nights @ Lygon Christian Chapel, Carlton

RMIT Christian Union (CU) Design & Social Context social @ Desert Kitchen, City

RMIT Christian Union (CU) College of Business laser tag event @ Strike Melbourne Central

RMIT Christian Union (CU) Annual General Meeting @ Lygon Christian Chapel, Carlton

RMIT Christian Union (CU) Annual Dinner @ Angliss Restaurant, City

RMIT Islamic Society weekly meeting @ RUSU Multipurpose Room Bld. 57

RMIT Planet Uni weekly gathering @ RUSU Multipurpose Room Building 57

RMIT Multicultural Student Fellowship (MSF) weekly gathering @ RUSU Multipurpose Room Building 57

RMIT Overseas Christian Fellowship @ weekly gathering @ RUSU Multipurpose Room Building 57

Political Clubs

RMIT Greens Annual General Meeting and end of year social @ John Curtain Hotel, Carlton

Student Media

Catalyst

Catalyst held a successful end-of-year party to thank their contributors, section editors and design team for the year. As this work is all done on a volunteer basis, we think it's incredibly important events like this are thrown so we can express our gratitude for all the hard, unpaid work that is put in each year to make Catalyst as great as it is.

The new Catalyst team started on 1st November and has been busy planning their vision for the magazine for 2018.



Catalyst End of Year Celebration

RMITV

In 2017, RMITV celebrated 30 years of student community television, continuing to engage RMIT students and alumni through training, production experience, social events and a strong industry network.

Industry Employment

Antonio Cafasso (RMIT Alumnus) - Video Producer/Editor at domain.com.au, **Glenn Delaney** (RMIT Alumnus) - Account Manager at NewsCorp, **Seonaid Drummond** (RMIT Alumnus) - Assistant Producer at Passion Pictures, **Anthony Furci** (RMIT Student) - Editorial Assistant at Beat magazine, **Bronte Godschalk** (RMIT Student) - Employee at Techly

RMITV Content

Currently programming

The Leak Quiz Night: RMITV's Flagship Production returned for a second season in 2017, with a twist! The new quiz show format allowed for more free-flowing conversations built around topical news. The first season was a massive success and received widespread praise for its fresh take on the quiz show formula.

RMITV Presents: Season 2 of the new Flagship Model concluded with three interesting and different productions. OneFall!, the wrestling news show exponentially grew in popularity throughout the season and is currently courting a partnership with the WWE. Learning With Difficulties, the motion captured animated series, was produced at remarkable speed and proved to be a hidden gem. The quirky news show, The Snake Pit returned for a second season and displayed considerable improvement in quality from season 1.

Good Morning Melbourne: RMITV's first ever morning show had a very successful year, producing online content and building their audience. In 2018, we are excited to start utilising RMIT's new media precinct and television studios.

In Pit lane : IPL is gearing up to produce their first season of 2017! With a format change and a new focus on more international

events, IPL looks to set itself apart from the competition and break new ground before anyone else!

Formula SAE: In mid-December, RMITV with support from RMIT University and In Pit Lane broadcast the student engineering competition, Formula SAE. We went bigger than we have in any previous year and there was a clear overall improvement in production value. If Formula SAE returns in 2018, we look forward to seeing RMITV produce yet another successful broadcast.

New Game Plus: A new partnership with RMITV centered around video gaming, New Game Plus came to us in the final quarter of 2017, bringing with them over 10 years of community broadcast experience. There are big plans for 2018, expanding not only the NGP brand but also branching out into eSports broadcast content, which presents a huge growth in viewership and engagement..

Upcoming shows

7 Deadly Struggles: A new documentary series showcasing people who have struggled through adversity to find success. Production is slated for 2017 with release looking like early 2018.

Cluster Programming: Our co-productions with Catalyst have started to pick up again as we gear up to produce the series Beyond Mi Goreng as a joint production between Catalyst, RMITV and RUSU.

RMIT Alive: Our co-production with RMIT University had its first broadcast at the end of July. It was a huge success for all stakeholders and ignited discussion about producing more episodes. Our first broadcast had nearly 7000 views! Currently we're working with the University and the School of Communications to finalise the details on producing a full season slated for 2018.

RMITV Training

2017 brought with it a lot of changes for the training department. It put more control into the hands of the members, bringing workshops and training opportunities that transcended the

traditional format. For the first time at RMITV, courses and talks were offered online, giving access to members wherever and whenever they wanted. Quarterly information nights were also held to better grasp what the member wanted and to have transparency when it came to goal making, and the progress the department was making towards achieving those goals.

Offbeat

RMITV's training show, Offbeat, was the primary focus of the last quarter of 2017. Airing live four days a week, the production provided comprehensive studio and broadcast training for producers and crew alike. Offbeat ran for five weeks and was a huge success. It was met with accolades from all that worked on it with one of the producers now going onto work on a major upcoming tv show.

2018 will see more big changes, taking what the department learnt this year and improving on it. There will be a greater focus on online courses and mentoring. Offbeat will also return as a primary broadcast training program that will run twice over the next year. The training department looks forward to what the new year will bring.

RMITV Technical Update

Equipment Utilization

Q4's equipment usage remained strong; consistent with the strong number of running shows. There was also increased uptake of our flagship cinema camera, the Sony FS5, with members demonstrating a steadily improving confidence in its operation.

New Equipment

The end of the year saw a number of key purchases by RUSU on behalf of RMITV. These were made with the primary goal and expanding and improving our basic production capabilities with equipment such as cameras and lighting. This will allow RMITV to provide for even more shows, with even higher production values.

First and foremost was the cutting edge Sony A7s mk2 camera, featuring top notch image quality and some of the best low light capture capabilities in the whole industry in a small, lightweight package. The A7's play well with our existing Sony cameras, and are ideally suited for capturing things such as live events.

As well as this, we have upgraded our Sony X70 cameras with 4K recording - essentially allowing them to capture four times the level of detail. This is a format that's seeing a lot of uptake in the online space, and goes a long way towards future-proofing RMITV's gear.

Finally, a new LED light has been purchased - the Aputure LS1-C. This is a high powered, yet portable light that can be powered via a battery for extreme flexibility. It is also capable the tone of its light output, making it highly adaptable and capable of working with a broad range of existing lighting conditions.

Community Heritage Grant Archival Project

Though Q4 did see a notable setback in the tape archival project in the form of the National Library of Australia's unexpected rejection of RMITV's application for funds to go towards digitization, huge progress was made on other fronts via the efforts of our volunteers, who obtained support from personnel at RMIT's School of Information Management and are now in talks with a number of major organizations regarding the future of the collection. Though nothing is set in stone yet, there are numerous exciting possibilities ahead.

RMITV Marketing

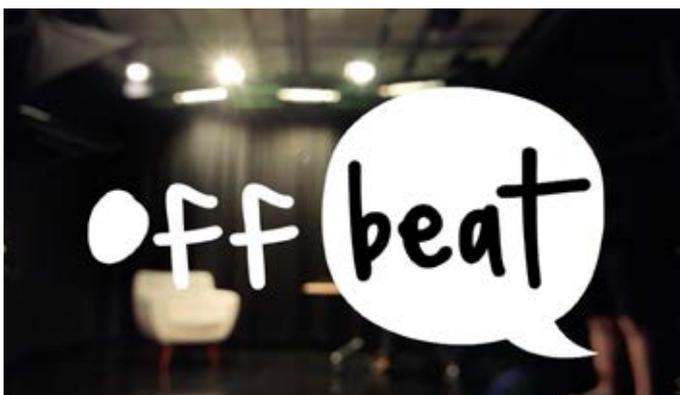
Throughout 2017, RMITV held monthly movie nights on the first Thursday of every month. These have been one of the most consistently requested events in responses to member satisfaction surveys. In response to previously low turnouts, posters were spread across the University and giveaways were offered on the night of the screenings. In the new year, we will consider making these movie nights quarterly rather than monthly. This may improve attendance by making the event seem less common, thereby encouraging people to go lest they miss out.

Social media statistics are continuing to improve, with a few extra likes on Facebook every week.

The End of Year/30th Birthday Party was held at Holey Moley on December 11. The evening ran very well, with a sell-out attendance and positive feedback from all.

An end-of-year show reel was recently released on all social media platforms to celebrate the hugely successful year that 2017 brought to RMITV.

RMIT Programs, Off Beat and The Leak



Social Media & Publications



Above and below: RUSU promotional posters for a variety of events

Social Media

Facebook
 19,654 likes (up 95 from previous quarter, and 2031 from this time last year). Facebook still serves as our number one social media engagement tool, and our presence on the platform continues to grow stronger than ever with our likes, engagement and reach continuing to increase. Facebook serves as a platform for event advertising for both RUSU events and for Clubs & Societies. Our reach, reactions, comments and shares have also increased in the last quarter.

The average number of people who were served any activity from our page, including our posts, posts to our page by other people, page like

adverts, mentions and check-in this period is 698 (organic).

Website
 The website continues to be a great resource to consolidate all that that RUSU offers into once place. We have made it as simple as possible for students to locate up to date information on our upcoming events, student support and student rights.

Newsletter
 Our monthly newsletter continues to be a great source of quick bites of information delivered directly to students inboxes. With simple and direct messaging to help students know all that is on offer at RUSU.

Promotional Material

The Compass Marketplace: A classic and humble marketplace feel, with illustrated characters carrying the bounty of the free Compass food.

Postgrad Sit & Write: The very successful 'Sit & Write' was promoted with a clear and simple message with illustrated students sitting on the text and writing on their laptops.

Global Experience Farewell Rooftop Party: Going for an Australian feel, the GlobEx kangaroo is jumping into the future, wishing the students a fond farewell.

Mooncake Festival: A favourite event of RUSU, this poster emphasises the moon, the twilight and the lanterns, all on display in this evening event.

Stress Less Week: We've continued another year with the consistent and simple branding for Stress Less Week - a relaxed smile on the face of the poster.

Representation & Advocacy

Compass

The final quarter of the year at Compass was filled with creative ways to support our student cohort. This quarter has seen the birth of Compass Marketplace and the Plush Toy Petting Zoo, as well as bringing new life to our Stress Less Week. Compass balanced working with one staff member across three campuses delivering these campaigns, as well as supporting students who were presenting with an array of issues. This quarter saw a number of students present with concerns around access to food, academic performance and mental health. This has emphasised that Compass, with the guidance of the student representatives, continues to provide relevant services and outreach events focused around skill development and widening knowledge and support networks for individuals.

The Compass Marketplace's overarching aim was to provide students with the

inspiration and the tools to get creative in the kitchen and cook sustainably for themselves. Compass Marketplace exceeded our expectations and provided students with the opportunity to experiment with their cooking skills and break down any barriers that they may have around cooking bulk meals for themselves whilst at Uni and into their adult lives.

The campaign's event were facilitated in the form of a free market at the Brunswick, Bundoora West and City campuses. Of the estimated 1000 students who attended, around 650 picked up healthy, cheap vegan recipes, collecting an enviro bag, pantry food items and fresh fruit and vegetables. Overall the event was a huge success with students in awe of the work we did to provide them with more sustainable free food opportunities

- definitely complemented by the Chill 'n' Grill that was running at the same time.

The Plush Toy Petting Zoo in the IDS space was another success for Compass, seeing many students interact with the space through our social media, organically receiving 8500 views and 178 likes, with a large amount of foot traffic, and people taking photos and engaging with the display and literally staying in the space to chill out.

Compass also ran Stress Less Week, which definitely brought joy and helpful distraction to the students of Brunswick, Bundoora and the City. Petting zoos, chilled music, delicious food, important self care and student life information and freebies added to the overall stress less experience.

Stress Less Week





Representation

City Chill N Grill

Election of RUSU President

In accordance with the RUSU Constitution the Student Union Council elects the President and Media Officer from its elected members. The SUC elections were held on October 2.

- Abena Dove was elected as SUC President for a second term.
- Shiona Raj was elected as Communications Officer.

This meeting also elected SUC members to a range of RUSU internal committees such as Staffing Committee, Classification Committee, Finance Committee and the Occupational Health & Safety Committee. Participation in these committees enables student representatives to build their skills and experience in organising and managing an organisation, and reflects RUSU's commitment to being a student controlled organisation.

2018 Student Union Council Induction

The 2018 Student Union Council attended six days of intensive induction sessions on campus (November 13 to 15) and off-campus (November 16 to 19) at Illawong Lodge, Robertson's Beach.

The induction training for the new student representatives included topics such as:

- Meeting the legal requirements of RUSU as board (SUC) members including Workplace Behaviour Laws (bullying and sexual harassment)
- RUSU in Context: the departments, roles and responsibilities of student representatives, role of RUSU staff, services, activities and events of RUSU past and present
- Planning and organising events at RMIT

- Finance Made Easy - reading a department budget, P&L reports, RUSU funding and SSAF requirements
- Writing motions and reports (including quarterly reports)
- Essential office and organisational skills
- Strategic planning and goal setting for 2017 (including organisational priorities, student engagement and membership targets)
- RUSU Top 20 Priorities
- Calendar and event planning for Semester 1, 2017

NUS Conference

The 2017 NUS National Conference was held from December 12 to 16 at the Deakin University Waurn Ponds campus, with RUSU sending a large delegation of students, including seven NUS delegates. The NUS National Conference is a great way for our student representatives to connect with other student leaders from around the country, and unite around common goals for the year ahead.

RMIT Graduation

RUSU President (and University Council member) Abena Dove and RUSU General Secretary, Ella Gvildys both attended the very hot but enjoyable RMIT graduation ceremony at Melbourne's Etihad Stadium on December 14.

Student Voice

RUSU elected student representatives provided a student voice on a range of RMIT committees during this quarter, including Academic Board.

RUSU Internal Meetings

Elected student representatives have been supported and resourced to manage RUSU as a student-controlled organisation, including:

- 4 Student Union Council Meetings
- 4 Secretariat meetings
- Student representatives gaining governance experience on internal Student Union Committees, such as Staffing Committee, Finance Standing Committee and OH&S Committee.
- Elected student councillors supported to work as governors and managers.

Student Rights

The October to December period has typically been a busy one for the Student Rights Team and this year was no exception. This period sees students winding up with their academic studies, getting ready for the summer break, and putting in place their academic or graduate plans for 2018. Sadly it can be an extremely stressful time for many students as final grades are released. Students can face the complexity of navigating RMIT Assessment Policy when challenging a final grade through an assessment appeal. They may also need to reflect on any academic progress issues they have had during the year, and begin the preparation of a show cause submission.

The Student Rights Team runs numerous group information sessions for students preparing an assessment appeal and/or show cause submission. These sessions help students better understand the relevant policy and requirements of their applications. In addition to this, more detailed, case relevant and in depth one-on-one advice, support and advocacy is provided by a student rights officer where needed.

The Student Rights Team has seen a significant uptake in the number of students that were about to graduate, requiring advocacy support, where issues had arose impeding the conclusion of their program. Attending graduation is often a significant life event for students, and it is a great reward to be able to publicly celebrate their achievement with family and friends at the end of their study. The team helped advocate for urgent supplementary assessments, informal assessment appeals and the waiving of fees which enabled many students to complete the semester and graduate.

Finally, some programs have been discontinued at the end of 2017, leaving students who have not completed their respective programs requiring advocacy support to have a completion plan put in place. This is proving to be quite a complex issue for both students and staff, with the Student Rights continuing to be involved with the matter into the start of 2018.

The HDR student rights officer was also very busy, assisting students with issues they were experiencing in their candidature. More students are being referred by their peers, which is great news in terms of more students being supported by the service. Strong patterns

continue to emerge of systemic issues with supervision, including bullying behaviours, in the PhD space. Many students present to the HDR student rights officer with concerns about supervisory behaviours. Often the students have tried to address issues at a school level, but have been unsuccessful, so then turn to RUSU student rights for help.

Desk space continues to be an ongoing issue for PhD and masters by research students. There is a lot of confusion among students on what their rights are in regards to this issue. The School of Graduate Research has a space management principle which covers desk space, however it is in draft form, and not readily accessible to students.

RUSU provided:

2 Student Representatives to
3 University Appeals Committee Hearings

9 Student Representatives to
9 Student Conduct Appeals Committee Hearings

2 Student Representatives to
2 College Appeals Committee Hearings

Issues	
HDR Issues	
Candidate Action and Support Plan	4
HDR At Risk Issue	7
Milestone Review Issue	1
Scholarship Issue	3
Supervisor Issue	14
Discipline (University Level)	
Academic (Plagiarism) Misconduct	3
General Misconduct	3
Complaint	
RMIT Ombuds	2
School Level	17

University Level	5
Victorian Ombudsman	1
Discipline (School Level)	
Academic (Plagiarism) Misconduct	26
General Misconduct	2
Uncategorised	
Admin Issue	3
Admission Issue	5
Appeal Against Assessment	60
Assessment Issues (Other)	27
At Risk	3
Bullying	4
Disability	14
Enrolment Issue	14
Equitable Assessment Arrangements (EAA)	9
Exclusion	8
Fees Issue	14
Group Work Issue	1
Leave of Absence (LOA)	6
Mental Health Issues	17
Other Issues	35
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	2
Remission of Debt	21
Sexual Harassment	2
Show Cause	41
Special Consideration	68
Supplementary Exam Request (Pass By Compensation)	7

Outcomes	
Appeal Against Exclusion University Appeals Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	3
Appeal Upheld	4
Exclusion Withdrawn by School before the hearing	11
Fee Remission	
Fee Remission Approved	6
Fee Remission not approved	1
Special Consideration Granted	
Alternative Assessment	3
Deferred Exam	6
Extension of time	10
Future Assessment Arrangement	1
Late withdrawal without Academic Penalty	7
Special Consideration Not Granted	2
Supplementary Exam	2
Referral - External	
See note	
Appeal Against Special Consideration University Appeal Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	2
Appeal Upheld	1
Special Consideration Granted without a hearing	1
Complaint Outcome	
Alternative Resolution Reached	1
School level Complaint Dismissed	3
School Level complaint Resolved	5
University Level Complaint Dismissed	1
University Level Complaint Resolved	2

Late Enrolment Outcome	
Late Enrolment achieved	1
Referral - Internal	
Counselling Service	25
Disability Liaison Unit	20
International Student Services	5
Study and Learning Centre	9
Contacted School Issue Resolved	
Contacted Academic Administrator	4
Contacted Course Coordinator	5
Contacted Head of School	3
Contact Program Manager	10
Other	
Advice given - Student able to proceed with the case themselves	74
Attended group session	22
Other Outcomes	20
Student doesn't want to pursue with the case	10
Discipline/Plagiarism Meeting Case School Level	
Other Penalty	1
Student asked to resubmit the assessment	10
Student Reprimanded	3
Student was given a fail for all or any part of any assessment	6
Leave of Absence (LOA)	
LOA Granted	5
Discipline Board Hearing Academic Misconduct	
Case Dismissed in favour of Student	3

Student was asked to repeat an assessment session	2
Appeal Against Assessment CAC Decision University Appeals Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	2
Fee Issue Outcome	
Issue Resolved	4
Supplementary Exam	
Supplementary Exam Granted	4
Appeal Against Assessment (AAA) College Appeals Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	2
Appeal Upheld	3
Informal Review of Assessment Resolution	4
Discipline/Plagiarism Meeting Case School Level	
Student found not guilty	1
Discipline Board Hearing General Misconduct	
Other Penalty	2
Show Cause Outcome	
Show Cause approved by SPC	8

Cases	
Opened Cases during the last quarter	317
Closed Cases during the last quarter	233
Total issues created during the last quarter	433
Total outcomes achieved during the last quarter	303

RUSU Governance, Administration & Services

RUSU's operations are supported by the Governance, Administration and Finance staff. Some key projects during this period include:

- Negotiation of the 2018 RMIT/RUSU deed agreement
- Assisting and resourcing RUSU student representatives in meetings with RMIT University
- Assisting with the operations for the opening of the new Realfoods cafe in NAS
- Planning, development and delivery of finance, governance and administration components of the 2018 student representative induction
- Legal Responsibilities of Board Members training delivered to SUC members by Justice Connect
- Updating the Finance Made Easy Manual for RUSU student representatives and staff. Finance made Easy Induction training provided to SUC members by RUSU's external financial consultant and RUSU finance staff
- Development of the 2018 budget in accordance with the RUSU funding agreement and SSAF grant requirements
- Preparations commenced for the end of financial year audit
- Administrative and payroll tasks associated with terminating the 27 outgoing elected student representatives and setting up systems for the 27 incoming elected student representatives
- Conducting Probity checks for incoming SUC members
- Sourcing and resourcing student representatives to university appeals committees.

Financial Overview

RUSU SSAF Funding 2017	
RUSU funding from RMIT for 2017 is made up of the following:	
Base grant	\$2,705,350
SSAF Committee Grants	\$881,500
2017 TOTAL GRANT	\$3,586,850
2017 GRANT RECEIVED TO DATE	\$3,586,850

The 2017 RMIT/RUSU Deed Agreement has been signed. The 2017 grant was received as a lump sum payment in late January. This upfront payment enables RUSU to generate additional income to supplement the grant.

In order to meet legislative requirements, the RUSU financial reports match expenses with 'allowable items'. Please note that Table 1 below is based on SSAF allowable items and expenditure of SSAF funds on these areas. It categorises the SSAF expenditure from the Base grant and SSAF Committee projects into the

allowable items. This table does not include activities and services funded by non-SSAF expenditure.

RUSU also receives some funding from other sources. While some of the activities funded through these sources are reported on in the narrative section of this quarterly report, due to the overlap with other representative, advocacy, administrative, governance and publicity functions of RUSU, expenditure on these projects is not included in the expenditure reported below as it is not SSAF funded.

**Table 1: RUSU SSAF Grant Expenditure on Allowable Items
1 January – 31 December 2017**

Allowable Item	Item Description	YTD Expenditure (SSAF Funded)
Giving students information to help them in their orientation	» Orientation specific events	\$105,971
Caring for children of students	Nil	\$0
Providing legal services to students	Nil	\$0
Promoting the health or welfare of students	» All activities and events from advocacy and welfare collectives: Queer, Women's, Post-Graduate, Environment, Welfare, Education » Campaigns, events, honorariums, programs, marketing » All Compass Centre, programs and staff » Healthy Eating SSAF Grant	\$374,042
Helping students secure accommodation	Nil	\$0
Helping students with their financial affairs	Nil	\$0
Helping meet the specific needs of overseas students relating to their welfare, accommodation and employment;	» All activities and events from International student department and International Support SSAF Grant	\$50,521
Helping students obtain employment or advice on careers	Nil	\$0
Helping students obtain insurance against personal accidents	Nil	\$0
Helping students develop skills for study, by means other than undertaking courses of study in which they are enrolled	» Induction programs/Student Representative Professional Development » Volunteer Program & Program Staffing » Student Engagement Officer » Student Union Council Elections » Secretariat Honorariums » All of SUC campaigns	\$386,573
Providing libraries and reading rooms (other than those provided for academic purposes) for students	Nil	\$0
Supporting the production and dissemination to students of media whose content is provided by students	» RMITV operations, honorariums, special projects, productions, training, website » RMIT Flagship Program » Catalyst magazine operations, student honorariums, publication (online and print) » Communications/Graphic Designer Staff	\$279,436
Providing food or drink to students on a campus of the higher education provider	» Campus specific events and marketing (all campuses) » RUSU Realfoods	\$347,274
Supporting a sporting or other recreational activity by students	» Major events and intervarsity recreational activities and competitions » Activities and Events Collective including administration, student honorariums, marketing and staff support	\$221,089
Supporting an artistic activity by students	Nil	\$0

**Table 1: RUSU SSAF Grant Expenditure on Allowable Items
1 January – 31 December 2017 (Continued)**

Allowable Item	Item Description	YTD Expenditure (SSAF Funded)
Supporting debating by students	» Grants paid to debating club are included with clubs reporting	\$0
Supporting the administration of a club most of whose members are students	» Administration, grants, equipment and support to student run clubs and societies » Clubs and Societies Staff and other support	\$358,537
Advising on matters arising under the higher education provider's rules (however described)	» Administration and Support staff members: Administration, Governance and Finance » 5 x Information counter staff and operations (including Bundoora East and SSAF Project)	\$701,528
Advocating students' interests in matters arising under the higher education provider's rules (however described)	» Student Rights Officers » Student Advocacy materials, campaigns, research and training for staff and student representatives on committees	\$718,511
YTD SSAF EXPENDITURE		\$3,543,482
YTD 2017 SSAF FUNDS RECEIVED		\$3,586,850
2017 GRANT UNDERSPEND (note this underspend is specifically on the SSAF Committee specific grants. See table 2 below)		\$43,368

**Table 2: 2017 SSAF Committee Grant Financial Report
1 January – 31 December 2017**

Program Title	Grant Amount	Expenditure YTD
RUSU Volunteer Program	\$183,000	\$163,943
RUSU Flagship Production (Live on Bowen) and RMITV training program	\$42,316	\$60,654
RUSU International Student Support - conversation classes and city tours	\$45,500	\$35,517
Bundoora Common Lunch Hour (including SRO & BE)	\$72,552	\$81,674
RUSU Orientation Package	\$123,727	\$105,971
RUSU Free Healthy Breakfasts including nutrition & sustainability awareness	\$56,373	\$56,996
Post-grad Support Program (including SRO)	\$43,000	\$33,367
Brunswick Common Lunch Hour	\$38,824	\$35,118
RUSU VE Awareness & Support	\$33,842	\$46,421
SSCC Mentoring Program	\$30,000	\$18,621
Compass Bundoora & Brunswick	\$110,000	\$99,655
City Campus Events Boost	\$49,784	\$63,021
Point Cook Student Life Boost	\$22,988	\$5,042
RUSU Clubs Grants	\$30,000	\$32,132
TOTAL	\$881,500	\$838,132
DIFFERENCE		\$43,368 (underspend)

RUSU

RMIT UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION

 RUSU.RMIT.EDU.AU  [RUSUPAGE](#)  [RMITSU](#)  [RMIT_RUSU](#)  [RUSUONLINE](#)