



RMIT UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION: THIRD QUARTER REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD:
1 JULY – 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

RUSU
RMIT UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION

A large photograph of a steam train crossing a wooden trestle bridge. The train is emitting a large plume of white steam. Passengers are visible sitting on the open-sided train cars. The background is a lush green forest.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Ariel
ZOHAR

The third quarter was a busy one for the RMIT University Student Union, with September hosting the annual student council elections, a variety of important campaigns, and of course numerous events across all three Melbourne campuses. With new tickets running and more than 3000 votes cast, the 2016 RUSU elections again saw students making the most of the opportunity to have a say in how their student union is run.

On a more personal note, I was very pleased to be elected to the University Council. It is with great gratitude and humility that I accept the responsibility of advocating on behalf of all RMIT students. I look forward to bringing to light the numerous challenges, issues, and problems faced by the University's large and diverse student body. While I am sad to be finishing my role of RUSU president in the near future, I am excited for what 2017 may bring for both RUSU and myself.

Sadly, RUSU recently said goodbye to professor Owen Hughes, whose door was always open to us, and whom always lent a respectful and listening ear during his five years as Dean of Students. With his support, advice, and mentoring, the student voice has continued to grow at RMIT. Owen has been a great ally, and a great friend. He will be missed, but his legacy won't be forgotten. We greatly appreciate his efforts, and thank him for his support of our organisation.

Ariel Zohar
President
RMIT University Student Union

*Puffing Billy with the English Language Workshop Students
(Front & inside cover)*

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



Clockwise from left: Sn'O Camp, The Bundy Games

GLOBAL MOBILITY WELCOME EVENT - PARTNERSHIP WITH GLOBAL MOBILITY

Brunswick Warehouse Party, 22nd July 2016

This sold out event was held in the unique Rubix Warehouse space in Brunswick, with attendees dancing the night away amidst the finest industrial chic to be found north of the Yarra. This event provided valuable opportunities for RMIT student DJs to hone their craft in front of a large and appreciative audience.

Mid Year Sn'Orientation Camp

With more 100 applications for RUSU's second ever mid-year orientation camp, a 40% increase on the year before, a great bunch of students was sure to attend. The camp, tagged as Sn'Orientation Camp, as it includes a day trip to Lake Mountain Alpine Resort, was once again a successful way for new students at RMIT to meet and bond in the beauty of the Victorian countryside. In the end the 50 places available were filled with a mix of new international and local students with many connected to the Global Mobility program or living in the new Walert House residences. In other words, a group that had lots to offer each other and different experiences to talk about. In addition to the Saturday spent tobogganing in the snow, students also challenged themselves at the annual camp trivia

night, in team building activities, and while scaling the climbing wall and hitting the bikes to ride along the Taggerty river. Sitting around the campfire on Friday night provided a chance to talk about what students were hoping to achieve at RMIT, and how forming new friendships on this trip would help to get them through their time at university.

RIO COMES TO RMIT - RUSU GETTING INTO THE OLYMPIC SPIRIT

The RUSU student life team tried something a little different in second semester, a week of different events, across all campuses, that brought the spirit of the Games and South American culture to RMIT. End result? A huge and colourful Week 3!

Brazil 'n' Chills

During this great week building up to the Olympics, we provided Brazilian and Latin American food trucks at all campuses. Bringing the flavour of Brazil and South America to VE students in Carlton as part of their Tradies 'n' Chill event and to Brunswick, Bundoora and the City campuses as part of the regular Chill 'n' Grill. Despite battling wind and rain, there were plenty of smiles to be found with empanadas, tacos and spicy chilly corn!



The 2016 Bundy Games

The 2016 Bundy Games

What a week!

Monday: Opening Ceremony with mascots, Brazilian capoeira performance and workshop, free food and more all happening in the Bundoora West library courtyard. There's nothing like watching super fit athletes flip and high-kick as you munch down on some Argentinian barbecue.

Tuesday: In conjunction with Link Sports, students got involved in zorb soccer, pool, table tennis and volleyball competitions. Of course the mascots got involved too, as who doesn't want to see a six-foot kangaroo bounce around inside an inflatable soccer ball.

Wednesday: At Bundoora West the mini food truck festival and bar were a huge hit, even if the weather was trying at times! But everyone seemed to decide braving the intermittent downpours for tacos, charcoaled corn and Brazilian cheesy bites! There was also the first, but hopefully repeated 'Bundoora Gift' race, where our faithful mascot was beaten to the finish line by some speedy students, but regained its pride beating all at coits. At Bundoora East, students competed against each other to be crowned foosball or pool champion in building 254.

Thursday: Bundoora East students showed the basketball court who was boss with some truly impressive half-court free throws,



winning not only glory but Gold Class double passes. The food truck on site also went down a treat, and unlike the day before the winter sun was out in all its glory so most the campus came out to enjoy the sports at the new courts and table tennis facilities. At Bundoora West students spent the final day of the games racing against their friends on a giant inflatable obstacle course or wrestling in padded sumo suits.

Overall, the whole week was a great success and had high participation numbers come rain, almost hail, or shine. A huge development and expansion from the inaugural Bundoora Games last year and a tradition both students and RUSU would love to see continue in the future.

Festa das Olympiadas, 4th August 2016

RUSU got into the Olympic spirit with our first major party in Storey Hall for many years. This event saw around 500 attendees celebrate with the most elaborate staging and decor seen at a RUSU event in many a season. This event provided RUSU with valuable insights into how to best utilize the Storey Hall space, with more events planned for 2017.

Opening Ceremony Breakfast at Walert House

Finally, we saw the week off with a catered breakfast and Rio Olympics opening ceremony viewing at Walert House early on Saturday morning. The residents had a chance to cheer on their home or chosen countries while digging into freshly made crepes and with juice, tea or coffee.

Mooncake Festival, 15th September 2016

This annual event saw around 500 students celebrate the mid-Autumn harvest with RUSU in partnership with the Vietnamese International Student Association. Food, mooncakes and lanterns were provided for the event, which proved popular as always, being one of the best attended cultural events on the RUSU calendar. More information about this event can be found in the Clubs and Societies section of this report.

Chill 'n' Grill

Our weekly free lunch was in demand this semester. Campuses have seen growth this semester and we are now feeding over 1000 students every week.

Membership

Membership grew by **727** in the 3rd quarter, while total membership for 2016 stands at **3780** financial members.



Above: Festa Das Olympiadas, Mooncake Festival

VOLUNTEERS



Volunteer Camp

July to September is a period of high service demand and RUSU volunteers were able to support us as well as ever. It is pleasing to see that Bundoora students are beginning to look at volunteering as a possibility with numbers starting to rise. The volunteer leadership camp was held in August and provided a great opportunity for team building and socialising. Volunteer feedback is that they appreciate the benefits of belonging to a strong, high-performing team.

Volunteers at the Super Chill 'n' Grill



Training				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	YTD
Program Induction	121	58	48	227
Responsible Service of Alcohol	60	32	20	112
Safe Food Handler	60	29	16	105

Volunteer hours worked City Campus				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	YTD
Activities & Events	506	499	802	1807
Realfoods	390	582	834	1806
Administration	202	193	185	580
Compass	93	98	104	295
Healthy Breakfasts	43	44.5	55	142.5
English Language Workshops	35	9	38	82
Student Rights	25	69	96	190

Volunteer hours worked: Bundoora Campus				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	YTD
Activities & Events	61	12	20	93
Realfoods	55	44	60	159

ACROSS THE CAMPUSES



Super Chill 'n' Grill, CBD

CITY

RUSU information counters at building 5 and 57 continued to function as important information and contact points for RMIT students this quarter. Our team of 30+ admin volunteers helped staff the Building 5 and 57 offices during peak periods of the day, providing them with experience in administration and student-focused customer service. They were also joined by our team of eight student casual Info Counter Assistants, who assisted in front counters and at regular weekly events throughout the quarter.

Chill 'n' Grill

RUSU's flagship event continues to go from strength to strength as each semester passes. We have seen sustained numbers of over 1000 students on average attending for free lunch, with around 300 RUSU financial members attending the bar and entertainment area to socialise with friends old and new.

The second Super Chill 'n' Grill of 2016 in week eight saw RUSU play host to local Melbourne band Kooyeh. The reggae and dub eight piece put on an incredible show which had students heading straight for the dance floor. Having listened to feedback amongst students and the SUC, it was truly great to bring live music back to RUSU's on-campus events.

Week 10 saw the return of our ever popular Oktoberfest event. We had specially created halal bratwurst to fit the dietary

requirements of many RMIT students, super salty pretzels and of course authentic imported German beers. Brass band Horns of Leroy provided the entertainment with their exceptional street band style. This was without a doubt our busiest Chill 'n' Grill of the year!

BUNDOORA (EAST & WEST)

This quarter has seen Bundoora staff and representatives working together to bring a range of new events and services to the students on both the East and West campuses. The regular Chill 'n' Grill at West continued to provide healthy Realfood soups until the weather warmed enough for barbecues to commence again. Students at Bundoora East, as part of their weekly free lunch, chow down on a range of vegetarian curries on Thursdays. At Bundoora West we serve over 600 students per week, while at East we serve over 150 students.

There has also been the opportunity to expand the services we can offer out of both campus counters, now providing recreational equipment and supplies for students to borrow - whether it's a basketball to throw around, table tennis bats and balls or even a barbecue box to use on the new fixed barbecues at Bundoora East. In addition, the free Healthy Breakfast program is increasingly popular, and has been a great chance for RUSU to talk with students as we hand out fruit salad or muffins.



Above, from top: Brunswick Ball, Wallert House Cooking Class, New Brunswick RUSU Office

The volunteer program at Bundoora has continued to grow with lots of volunteers eager to get involved and learn new skills at the on-site Realfoods cafe, which itself has gone from strength to strength.

'Meat-Free Monday' Cooking Class

The amazing chef at the Realfoods cafe also used her knowledge of fresh and healthy meals to run a 'Meat-Free Monday' cooking class for the Walert House residents in early September. Students got a chance to learn new knife skills and how to whip up three delicious and quick meals - vegetarian bolognese, a Thai red curry pumpkin soup and a mushroom dish. This was the last in a series of RUSU and Walert House collaborations in the second semester, including special welcome packs for all new residents, an Olympics breakfast, and a fun day out over the mid-semester break, where RUSU took a bus load of residents go-karting and to play lazer tag. There is a good relationship developing between the Walert House staff, residents, and RUSU and we are really excited to work with them on more engagement opportunities for 2017.

The Bundoora Student Rights Officer has been busy conducting outreach to students during events and through campus-based contacts. This has resulted in really spreading the message, with more and more students aware of the services we provide at both the East and West campus.

BRUNSWICK

RUSU was proud to open the counter at our new (and very purple) offices at Brunswick. We are excited to be in such a high-traffic area and look forward to what we will be able to deliver for students from this new location. A huge thanks to Jey Ramathanasan and Mathew Alexander from Property Services and to Evie and Ed from Hinge Architects for delivering such amazing offices in a very tight timeframe.

Brunswick Ball, 2nd September 2016

The annual Brunswick Ball underwent a massive makeover, becoming very formal and very chic. This event was held at the opulent San Remo Ballroom, with a three-course sit-down meal and premium drinks package. Approximately 250 students attended and got their fancy on with us.

CARLTON

With the release of official results in early July, the building 57 office saw a large increase in the number of students with student rights issues. We had hundreds of enquiries in person and by phone regarding special consideration, appeal against assessment, and show cause notices. Using group sessions followed by one-on-one appointments with our experienced student rights officers, we were able to help a large number of students and achieve some very positive outcomes.

Tradies 'n' Chill

This bi-weekly lunch for students at building 57 in Carlton continued to see increased numbers and student engagement across the second semester, with food quantities being increased in this quarter to attempt to meet demand.

RUSU DEPARTMENTS



Sustainability Ball 2016

WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

The Women's Department has had an active third quarter in supporting the 'Respect. Now. Always' campaign as well as planning an additional RUSU-led campaign focusing on calling on bystanders to step in when they see sexual assault happening. This campaign will take the form of a video, and will be shared via social media.

The Women's Department also hosted two Stitch 'n' B*tch crafternoon (one at the Brunswick campus and the other at the City campus). Both events were successes as those who attended expressed both an enjoyment of the event and a desire to participate again.

QUEER DEPARTMENT

The Queer Department had a busy third quarter! During Week 3 the Queer Department held a start of semester party at Hares and Hyenas in Fitzroy. Approximately 20 people attended the party, enjoying board games in a relaxed, informal environment, including a group from the Rainbow International Student Network. It is hoped that their group will attend more events, and help us to build links with more international students within RMIT.

On the August 26, we celebrated Wear it Purple Day, which recognises the contribution of LGBTIQ+ people, and the right to be proud of who you are. Stalls were held in Bundoora, as well as City (building 8) and Carlton (building 57) campuses. In all, more than 700 cupcakes were handed out across campuses, as well as purple lollipops and other lollies, and of course information about queer activities at RMIT and other information about how to be a good ally. In addition, many staff groups at RMIT held morning teas to celebrate, and the library staff in Bundoora also handed out flyers and wore purple.

During mid-semester break, the Queer Department hosted the family of an RMIT alumni in the Queer Lounge, who had sadly took his life two years ago. His family appreciated the

importance that the lounge had been in this young man's life, and wanted to honour him by hanging a painting of his in the Queer Lounge. It was a joyful event overall, and timely to remember how important safe spaces are, and how important our RMIT community can be to students.

The Queer Department continued to hold weekly Monday crafternoon in the City throughout the third quarter and there has also been the addition of a craft morning in Bundoora on Tuesday, as well as Friday lunch in Bundoora. Thursday evenings there has been a good group of people along to Hares and Hyenas for the regular Wine & Whine event. Thursday afternoon workshops have also been well attended, with our themes in the past month including: safety and rights at RMIT (with Student Rights and Compass), Bisexual Alliance Victoria, and Undercurrent Victoria, who ran a workshop around consent.

SUSTAINABILITY

Over the third quarter, the Sustainability Department has actively engaged in the following activities:

- » Sending fortnightly emails to mailing list on sustainability activity at RMIT
- » Met with Tehmina Khan, School of Business lecturer re: business students getting involved in sustainability at RMIT
- » Attended weekly Sustainability Ball planning meetings as well as carrying out various associated tasks
- » Met with RMIT Fair Trade Coordinator to plan and put on RMIT Sustainability Showcase
- » Attended Greening RMIT workshops
- » Attended RMIT Academic Board Meeting
- » Attended and presented at RMIT Sustainability Committee meeting
- » Met with student and assisted the setup of a student group focusing on food waste reduction



Clockwise from top left: English Language Workshop - Puffing Billy, Workshop, Bowling, Farewell Dinner

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Throughout the third quarter the VE Department actively engaged with students at the fortnightly Tradies 'n' Chill event assisting Caspar Cumming, Student Rights Officer and Sarah Firth, Campaigns Officer, deliver important student rights information specific to vocational education.

The VE Department also delivered a special social event for RMIT dental students on September 16 at the Lincoln Hotel to provide this student cohort with an opportunity to relax, celebrate their achievements, network with their peers and learn about RUSU's free, confidential student rights service.

INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

English Language Workshops Semester 2

Compass hosted six groups of English Language Workshop (ELW) classes across the City and Bundoora West campuses over a six week period. The program was very successful this semester, signing up a total of 124 students. The workshops had 11 Compass and RUSU volunteers to support our facilitator

in delivering an engaging and educational English language skills workshop for (mostly) international RMIT students.

As a part of our workshops, we provide students with the opportunities to connect with one another and create a community. Part of the community-building aspect of the program comes from our excursions to beautiful parts of Victoria. This semester we travelled to the historic Puffing Billy train and explored the eastern region of Melbourne. The students enjoyed learning about Puffing Billy and eating in nature. For some of the students, this was a once-in-a-lifetime experience and one that created very fond memories.

We also came together to strengthen and celebrate the community we created this semester, bonding through bowling, lazer tag and kicking off the end of the workshops with a lovely group dinner.

Student's thoughts on the ELW program:

"Most of the students I met there are so friendly. They are approachable and easy to talk to."

"(The workshops) have a very friendly, beautiful atmosphere."

"The teacher and teaching assistants are very patient and helpful."

POSTGRADUATE DEPARTMENT

It has been another busy quarter for the Postgraduate Department and the RUSU Postgraduate Association (RPA).

Between July and September, the RPA coordinated a series of events and outreach activities for postgraduate students across the Bundoora and city campuses, including:

- » Semester 2 speed-friending, following on from the success of this event in Semester 1.
- » A Postgraduate brunch and a film night at the Bundoora campus.
- » A well-being for postgrads information session .
- » A reinvigorated version of our highly popular postgraduate masterclass - 'Unlocking Your Potential' - which was a professionally-facilitated personal and professional development workshop.
- » A bowling and pizza night at Strike Bowling to wrap up the semester.

The Department also launched its very first higher degree by research (HDR) students' forum, entitled 'Thinking Outside Your Thesis', which saw HDR students from across the University come together to hear from three esteemed academics, participate in a lively discussion, and network.

In terms of policy and advocacy, the Postgraduate Department has participated in ongoing engagement with the School of Graduate Research and other arms of the University about policies, processes and issues pertaining to postgraduate students. Recently the Department provided extensive feedback on the incoming Space Allocation Principles for HDR students, as well as amendments to the recently enacted Higher Degree by Research Policy. The Student Rights Officer (HDR) continues to work with postgraduate and HDR students on issues not limited to appeals against termination of candidature; fees; student-supervisor relationships and complaints; and has provided support and representation to postgraduate students at a range of School, College- and University-level hearings and meetings.

Postgrad Speedfriending



REALFOODS

Realfoods continued to operate at the City and Bundoora campus this quarter with increases to both our sales and volunteer participation. The City campus is open from 8.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday during semester time with slightly reduced trading between semesters. Our Bundoora site is now currently open from 8.00am to 3.00pm and is operational only during semester time. Both Realfoods sites have been a huge success this semester.

We've expanded our menu a little and our new turmeric lattes have been an absolute hit during winter. All food at the City campus continued to be freshly prepared off site at Invita Living Food who share our ethos in providing organic, vegan, sustainable food.

Realfoods continued to provide hands-on hospitality and customer service experience to RMIT students and assisted them in increasing their employment prospects, with most students requesting references for their resumes, and many reporting back that they have found employment.

Realfoods is now looking toward 2017, as the excitement grows about having a new space to permanently call our own.

Realfoods Smoothies and Toasties



CLUBS & SOCIETIES

RUSU CLUB GRANTS

RUSU Clubs & Societies accessed \$28,411 in clubs' grants this quarter.

RUSU CLUBS ACTIVITY

Affiliation

As at the end of third quarter of 2016, RUSU has 100 fully affiliated student clubs and societies. The distribution of clubs across our different categories breakdown is as follows:

Spiritual Clubs	10
Social Clubs	19
Political Clubs	4
Cultural Clubs	22
Academic Clubs	45

Brand New Clubs

RUSU welcomes the following new clubs:

- » World Chiropractic Students Society RMIT Chapter
- » RMIT Communication Design Association
- » PSYCHED! @ RMIT (RMIT Psychology Students Society)
- » RMIT Thai Student Association

3RD QUARTER CLUB ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Club Achievements in the Spotlight

RUSU Clubs & Societies Department held its third annual Clubs Trivia Night. The venue was Captain Melville in Franklin Street. More than 25 clubs attended and a fun night was had by all (with the possible exception of one club who didn't know how to find Pokemon!). The winners received a special grant for their clubs, and were: 1. The RMIT League of Gamers Club: 2. RMIT Liberal Club, and 3. RMIT Students Association for Sustainable Systems (SASSE).

Congratulations to the RMIT Islamic Society for a fabulous program of activities for their 2016 RMIT Islamic Awareness Week, held in August. The week included a street dawah and hijab booth, a sisters night, a lecture, 'Overcoming Uncertainty in a Muslim Heart, with Dr Ahsan, a trivia night and a futsal tournament at RMIT Swanston Street, RMIT Building 80, RMIT Building 8, BNASC.

Another great week of activities, 'Careers Week: Getting Down To Business', was organised through the combined efforts of RUSU Academic Clubs situated within the College of Business under the banner of their collective club, the RMIT Business Student Association (BSA).

The program was as follows:

- » RMIT Accounting Student Association (ASA) 'EY Guest Speaker Night & Networking' RMIT Building 13
- » RMIT Economics, Finance and Marketing Student Association (EFMSA) Industry Mixer @ Rydges on Swanston, City
- » RMIT Human Resources Association 'Navitas Networking Workshop' @ RMIT Building 80
- » RMIT Management and International Business Student Association (MIBSA) Networking Skills Session with Marcus Powe @ RMIT Building 12
- » RMIT Supply Chain Student Association (SCSA) Industry event 'A Day in the Life of Mainfreight' @ RMIT Green Brain, Building 16

Second semester is auction time! Five of our fine arts-based academic clubs each hold auctions of student work to raise funds for their graduating student exhibitions. These exhibitions are essential for this cohort as a means to promote their skills and talents to industry. Unlike other groups of creative students who can carry their creative portfolios around, students who have gained qualifications in ceramics, gold and silversmithing, sculpture, interior design, etc, depend on these exhibitions to show the world what they have achieved and what they have to offer. Both the auctions and the exhibitions are also an opportunity for our students' friends and family to support and celebrate the hard work involved. With support from RUSU including event equipment, the borrowing of our EFTPOS machines, event guidance and the design and printing of promotional material, our fine arts clubs raised over \$80,000 (including \$63,000 raised using the RUSU EFTPOS machines).

Congratulations to the following RUSU Clubs for their successful auctions:

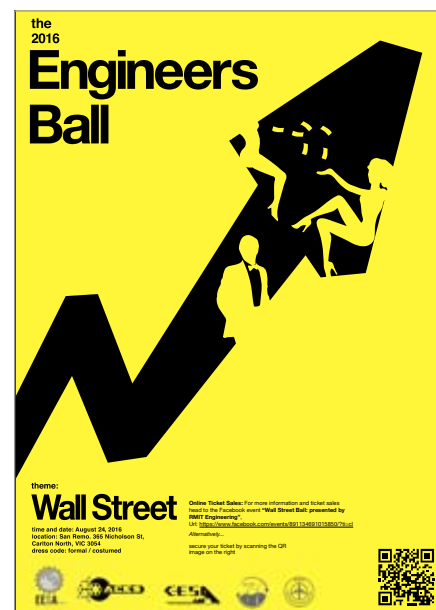
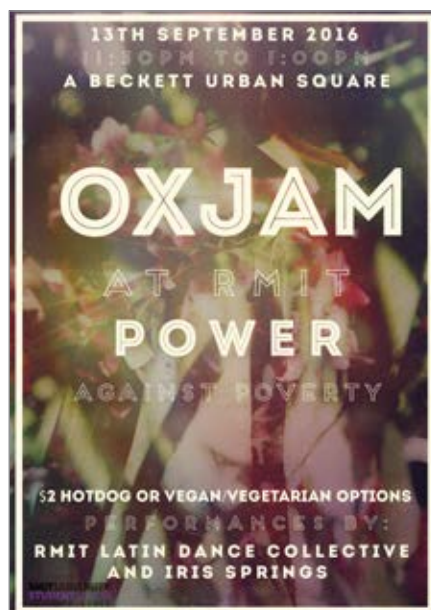
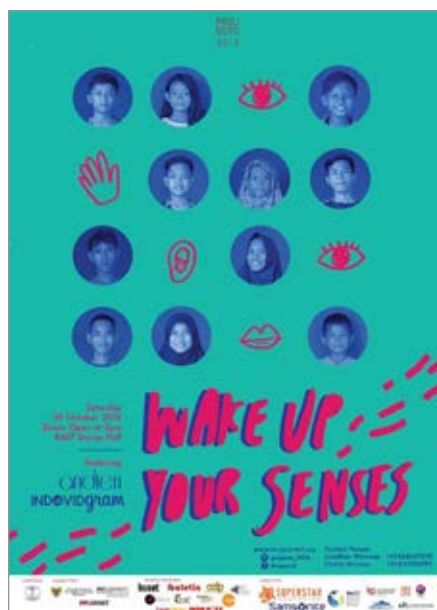
- » RMIT Master of Fine Arts Graduating Club
- » RMIT Expanded Studio Practice Club
- » RMIT Ceramics Student Association
- » RMIT Basement Club (Sculpture)
- » RMIT Open Bite (Print Image Practice)

We wish them continued success with their exhibitions!

Special thanks to RMIT International Vietnamese Students at RMIT (VISAR) for their assistance with the 2016 RUSU Mid-Autumn (Mooncake) Festival.

Engineers Ball





Club Activities this Quarter

Mid-Year Orientation – 69 RUSU Clubs across five events

2016 RMIT Open Day – over a dozen RUS Clubs participated at the City campus event

The annual RMIT Engineering Ball 'Wall Street' – combined event by RMIT Association of Chemical Engineers (ACES), RMIT Environmental Engineering Student Association (EESA), RMIT Aerospace Student Association (AESA), RMIT Students Association for Sustainable Systems (SASSE) and RMIT Civil Engineering Students Association (CESA) @ San Remo Ball Room, Carlton North

RMIT Civil Engineering Students Association (CESA) & RMIT Students Association for Sustainable Systems (SASSE) "Sustainable Bridge Building" social event @ The John Curtain Hotel, Carlton

RMIT Civil Engineering Students Association (CESA) @ RMIT O'Grady's Place

RMIT Environmental Engineering Student Association (EESA) Trivia Night @ RMIT Building 12

RMIT Environmental Engineering Student Association (EESA) fortnightly social @ Workshop Bar City

RMIT Planning & Environment RMIT Student Society (PERMITSS) Welcome Back to Second Semester Social @ The John Curtain Hotel, Carlton

RMIT Planning & Environment RMIT Student Society (PERMITSS), RMIT Urban Planners Society (RUPS) and Melbourne University Planning Students Society (MUPSS) Melbourne Urban Debating Tournament Rounds 4, 5 and 6 @ Sidney Myer Asia Centre Melbourne University, RMIT Building 80 and The Last Jar Carlton

RMIT Planning & Environment RMIT Student Society (PERMITSS) Trivia Night @ Captain Melville in Franklin Street City

RMIT Planning & Environment RMIT Student Society (PERMITSS) Introduction to GIS (Graphic Information System) Workshop with GIS Analyst Steve Zoljan @ RMIT Building 80

PSYCHED! @ RMIT Welcome BBQ @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square

RMIT Information Security Collective (RISC) industry workshop "Making GDB fun again" – with Chris Alladoun @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Information Security Collective (RISC) Industry Workshop on 'Penetration Testing' with Ester Lim from Hinvit @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Association of Pharmacy Students (RAPS) Annual Ball @ Crown Casino, Melbourne

RMIT Information Security Collective (RISC) professional development workshop "Working with Recruitment Agents in the Information Security Industry" @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Accounting Students Association (ASA), Monash [University] Accounting Students Association and [Melbourne University] Accounting Student Association combined "Corporate Cocktails" networking event (with attendance from Industry representatives from CPA Australia, CA ANZ, PwC, EY, Deloitte, KPMG, CIMA, RSM, Pitcher Partners, DPM, Korda Mentha, Navitas, ShineWing & BDO @ Sofitel Hotel, City

RMIT Association of Pharmacy Students (RAPS) educational event with Sports Medicine Australia @ RMIT Building 2015

Club Activities this Quarter (Continued)

RMIT Business Student Association, RMIT Entrepreneurship Association & RMIT College of Business Global Mobility & Entrepreneurship professional development session @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Business Association (BSA) Annual Ball incorporating the following RUSU affiliate clubs: RMIT Accounting Students Association (ASA), RMIT Economics, Finance and Marketing Student Association (EFMSA), RMIT Human Resources Association (HRA), RMIT Entrepreneurship Association, RMIT Management and International Business Student Association (MIBSA) and RMIT Supply Chain Student Association (SCSA) @ The Peninsula, Docklands

RMIT Geospatial Science Students association (GSSA) Ball and Awards Night @ Lincoln of Toorak

RMIT Human Resources Association (HRA) Pancake Lunch @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square

RMIT Human Resources Association (HRA) Trivia Night @ The Provincial Hotel, Fitzroy

RMIT International Studies Association (ISA) fortnightly social @ Queensberry & John Curtain Hotels, Carlton

RMIT International Studies Association (ISA) Internship & International Exchange Information Session @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT International Studies Association (ISA) Trivia Night #2 @ the Eureka Hotel, Richmond

RMIT Law Students Society Legal Skills Workshop with the Leo Cussen Centre for Law @ RMIT Tom Smith Library

RMIT Law Students Society Legal Minster Ellison – How to - Clerkship Applications and Interviews @ The Rialto, City

RMIT Management and International Business Student Association (MIBSA) 'An evening with Huawei' information session @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Management and International Business Student Association (MIBSA) 'Jump the Queue Employability Fair' @ RMIT Storey Hall

RMIT Mechatronics Society (Team MSOC) participation in the 2016 National Instruments Autonomous Robotics Competition winning 3rd place @ UTS Sydney (venue for final)

RMIT Students Association for Sustainable Systems (SASSE) Industry networking Night #2_2016 @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Supply Chain Student Association (SCSA) Student Mixer @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Student Landscape Architecture Body (SLAB) Welcome to Semester 2 Social @ the John Curtain Hotel

RMIT Australia-China Youth Association (RMIT ACYA) Movie & Pizza Night @ RMIT Building 10

RMIT Australia-China Youth Association (RMIT ACYA) & RMIT Asian Association Mid-Autumn Festival Cocktail party @ Alumbra/Precinct Nightclub, Docklands

RMIT Australia-China Youth Association (RMIT ACYA) Catch Pokemon around the City activity @ Melbourne CBD

RMIT Indonesian Students Association (PPIA) Welcome to Semester 2 BBQ @ RMIT Building 8

RMIT Indonesian Students Association (PPIA) Sports day @ Whitten Oval, Footscray

RMIT Hong Kong Student Association in conjunction with the HKSA's at Monash, Melbourne & Deakin Universities 'The Mysterious Journey' Boat Cruise @ Victoria Harbour, Docklands

RMIT Hong Kong Student Association in conjunction with the HKSA's at Monash, Melbourne & Deakin Universities Dance Party @ OMG Nightclub, Melbourne City

RMIT French Club Crepes Night @ Breizoz French Creperie, Fitzroy

RMIT Japan Club weekly gathering for Japanese games and food @ RMIT Building 13

RMIT Singapore Students Association (SSA) National Day Dinner @ NL House, Carlton

RMIT Singapore Students Association (SSA) Semester 2 Welcome Dinner @ City of Melbourne Multicultural Hub

RMIT Singapore Students Association (SSA) GFo Karting event @ Fun Galore, Braybrook

RMIT Thai Students association (RTSA) participation in combined Thai Student Clubs Sports Day @ VU Community Sports Centre, Footscray

RMIT University Korean Association (RUKA) new students dinner @ Oriental Spoon, City

RMIT University Korean Association (RUKA) Welcome Back Pizza Party @ RMIT Building 8

RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) Social Night @ Old Town White Coffee Restaurant, City

RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) Raya Open House @ City of Melbourne Multicultural Hub

RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) 'Minute to Win It' competition activity @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square

RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) & Melbourne University Malaysian Association (MoMU) Halloween event @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) Free Pandan Waffle Day @ RMIT Building 80

Club Activities this Quarter (Continued)

RMIT Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) Games Night @ RMIT Building 8

AIESEC RMIT Cultural Day @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard

AIESEC RMIT Global Talent - Teaching in Taiwan Information Session @ RMIT Building 8

CAINZ RMIT Welcome Back BBQ @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square

CAINZ RMIT Professional Development Activity 'My Career Unearthed' @ RMIT Storey Hall

CAINZ RMIT Professional Development Activity 'Two Faces of Innovation' @ RMIT Building 5

CAINZ RMIT Professional Development Activity 'Start Up Marketing Essential' @ RMIT Building 5

Greening RMIT Workshops including 'Build a Terrarium', 'Grow your own Business', 'Sustain Your Business' @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard

Greening RMIT 'Blackhole' documentary screening @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Australia Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC) Social @ Workshop Bar, City

RMIT Australia Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC) Documentary Screening 'How to Change the World' @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Beer Brewers & Connoisseurs (BBC) Fortnightly Program including visits to breweries, Tap Clean Outs & How to Brew sessions @ various locations around town

RMIT Beer Brewers & Connoisseurs (BBC) Workshop 'Introduction to Beer' @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Chess Club Weekly Meetings @ RMIT Building 56

RMIT Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Documentary Screening DamNation @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Weekly Bike Repairs and Commuting Advice Program @ RMIT Bike Hub Building 51 or Alumni Square

RMIT Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Information Sessions as part of National Volunteers Week @ RMIT Building 8

RMIT Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Trivia Night in conjunction with EWB Uni Melb @ The Clyde Hotel, Carlton

RMIT Entrepreneurship Association (REA) 'Future Founders' professional development series # The Savoy Hotel, City

RMIT Entrepreneurship Association (REA) 'Connect' weekly networking events @ The Oxford Scholar, City

RMIT Games Manga and Anime Society (GMAS) weekly games, karaoke and anime gatherings @ RMIT Building 57

RMIT Games Manga and Anime Society (GMAS) and Monash Caulfield Anime Club combined event @ RMIT Building 57

RMIT Games Manga and Anime Society (GMAS) table at Animaga Convention @ Melbourne Showgrounds, Ascot Vale

RMIT League of Legends Club (RMIT LOL) Weekly Community Night @ OP Internet Gaming Centre, City

RMIT Motorcycle Club Charity Ride Fundraiser for The Starlight Foundation including BBQ @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square

RMIT Motorcycle Club Monthly Club Rides @ various locations

RMIT GO! Club tri weekly game meetings @ RMIT Building 14

OXFAM RMIT 'OxJam' (performances and free vegan lunch @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square)

OXFAM RMIT documentary screening "The Taxing Truth" and The UK Gold" @ RMIT Building 227

RMIT Society for Women In Information Technology (RMIT SWITCH) Professional Development Event 'Careers in Australian Tech Companies and Security' @ RMIT Building 13

RMIT Science Fiction and Gaming Association (SFGA) Twice weekly Gaming Sessions @ RMIT Building 56

World Congress of Chiropractic Students RMIT Chapter Information Night @ private residence, Bundoora

World Congress of Chiropractic Students RMIT Chapter Social Night @ private residence, Bundoora

RMIT Greens Homelessness in Melbourne: An Expert Panel Discussion including the CEO of Launch Housing @ RMIT Building 56

RMIT Socialist Alternative 'The Politics of George Orwell' Discussion Session @ RMIT Building 80

Catholics @ RMIT Semester 2 Welcome Event @ Zen Apartments, City

Catholics @ RMIT Weekly Meetings @ RMIT Chaplaincy RMIT Building 47

RMIT Christian Union Weekly Bible Discussions & meal (5 sessions held per week including at Bundoora Campus) @ various locations at RMIT University, City Chapel Lygon Street & private residences

RMIT Islamic Society Islamic Awareness week including hijab booth, sisters night, lecture: 'Overcoming Uncertainty in a Muslim Heart' with Dr Ahsan, trivia night, sports event @ RMIT Swanston Street, RMIT Building 80 & RMIT Building 8.

RMIT Islamic Society Eid Festival 2016 @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square

RMIT Methodist Christian Fellowship (RMIT MCF) Mooncake Festival event @ UniLodge, Carlton

RMIT University Jewish Students' Club Monthly Catch Up @ Max Brenner, QV

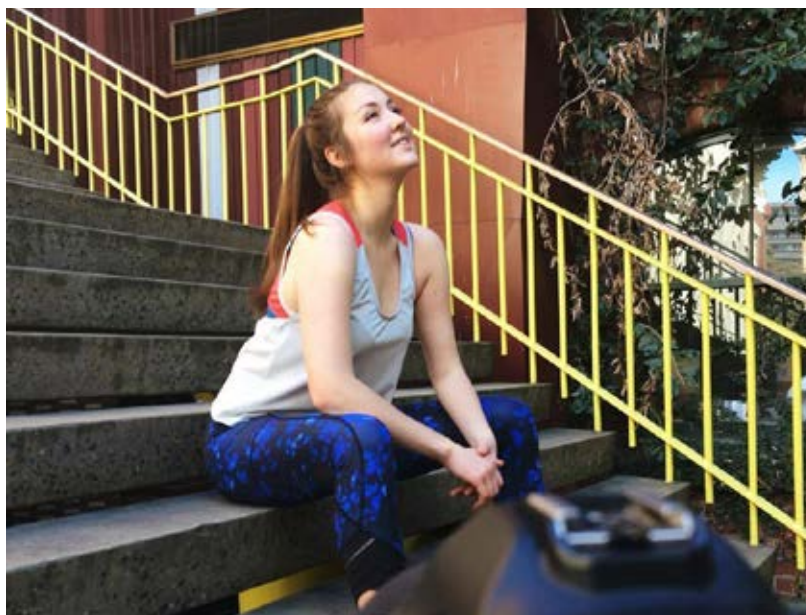
Information to RUSU Clubs

- » Process to book space at RMIT Open Day distributed to all RUSU clubs
- » Updated On-Campus Space Booking information sheet after further changes to University booking processes (twice this quarter)
- » RUSU club executives were invited to attend a range of the sessions available at the RUSU SSCS Student Leadership Summit
- » 2017 re-affiliation document, AGM and reporting templates and process information sent to all calendar year affiliating clubs
- » 2017 Semester 1 orientation booking information and form link sent to all clubs
- » Club executive Google folder updated with resources to assist club with the planning and delivery of camp activities

Clockwise from left: Greening RMIT Workshop, Med Rad Ball, Islamic Society BBQ, RAA & ACYA Mid Autumn Cocktail Party



STUDENT MEDIA



Left: Catalyst photo shoot, Right: Issue 72, The Australia Issue

CATALYST

Catalyst is very pleased to have expanded our contributor base again in the third quarter, taking on 40 new contributors across our print, radio and web publications/programs. We published three print editions during the quarter, with the themes of Australia, Youth, and Ritual. The latter two were published in a bumper double-issue format that has proved quite popular! Catalyst currently has 2,341 followers on Facebook, and 2135 on Twitter. We're using our social platforms (including Snapchat) to conduct giveaways and put up sponsored posts for our advertisers. As always, we're continuing to monitor and review our social media content plan to maximise reach.

RMITV

RMITV brought two new members on to their Senior Leadership Team during this quarter. In August, RMITV welcomed aboard their new Marketing and Communications Manager, Jessica Irvine. Jessica has worked on a number of RMITV productions in various capacities, including her role as Head of Marketing for flagship production, The Leak, in which she led their marketing team and coordinated all live studio audiences. As a current student of the Bachelor of Communication (Professional Communication) at RMIT, Jessica brings knowledge of creating marketing materials for a wide range of existing and new platforms.

RMITV has also recruited David Latham as the new Reviews Coordinator for our reviews website, In Review. David is about to complete Professional Screenwriting at RMIT and also currently works as a freelance journalist (Vice, The Guardian, Crikey).

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

- » **Grace Cunningham (Current RMIT Student):**
Studio Operator for Racing.com Market Updates, CrownBet, Casual
Production Coordinator for 'Before The First', CrownBet, Casual

- » **Joseph Potter (RMIT Alumni):**
Assistant Floor Manager for The Chase, Seven Network, Casual
Audience Runner for Family Feud, FremantleMedia, Casual
- » **Seonaid Drummond (Current RMIT Student):**
Production Assistant, Method Studios, Full Time
- » **Taylor Lightburn (Current RMIT Student):**
Videographer, Hunting With Pixels, Casual
- » **Sarah Hagan (Current RMIT Student):**
Production Runner for MasterChef Australia, Endemol Shine Australia, Casual
- » **Edward Hirst (Current RMIT Student):**
Radio Trainer, SYN Media, Casual

RMITV TRAINING

The Training Department within RMITV continues to develop, with the implementation of a levels-based training program on the horizon. It is anticipated that the gamification of an individual's skillset within the RMITV community will help boost self-advancement, commitment and competence across all programs, whilst also assisting producers when selecting their crew based on the appropriateness of the applicant's relevant training level.

Aside from the development of the new training program, regular training workshops given by industry professionals have still been conducted to keep members engaged and develop their skills even further. RMITV's recent training workshops include:

Using Audience Feedback Workshop

Kylie Eddy is the co-founder of Lean Filmmaking and also runs the largest filmmaking meetup group in Australia. On July 11, she presented a workshop exploring the importance of using feedback to help improve content of a TV program, web series or film. It's nerve-racking enough to show films to an audience when finished, let alone in the early stages before it's 'perfect'. This workshop demonstrated the significance of using feedback to improve content and find the right audience.

Ideas Generator Workshop

Kylie Eddy of Lean Filmmaking returned to RMITV for a second workshop; this one being more hands-on and involved, focusing on creating ideas for a series. The workshop was fun, fast and highly collaborative. Using a structured process attendees each created a 30-second micro-pitch to a small group, received feedback, improved, then repeated the cycle! Participants valued this workshop as it was a fantastic way to meet new people and develop creative ideas.

EVS Workshop

EVS is the system utilised in the RMIT Studios to play pre-recorded packages whilst also recording the entirety of a show to a hard-drive. It is a crucial skill needed for every RMITV production, so EVS expert, Mike Young, was invited to the studios to conduct a training workshop to elucidate the required skills and knowledge. Attendees were imparted with Mike's expertise and left feeling confident and earnest.

RMITV CONTENT: CURRENT PROGRAMMING

In Pit lane

Australia's longest running prime-time motorsport show In Pit Lane is in its 20th year on air. IPL has been broadcasting live online followed by a rebroadcast on Channel 31 this season, as an initial test season before it moves entirely online next year.

Uplate with Charlie Ranger

Uplate with Charlie Ranger brings you the best live late-night entertainment that Melbourne has to offer, with live music, comedy and guest interviews. Uplate attempts to capture the magic of live late night talk shows which have been sorely under represented on Australian television for a long time. The show has nearly finished its live production run and has been a huge success with audiences and RMITV member participation.

The Assenders

The Assenders come together from a unique group of Melbourne-based wannabes. Now burdened with the glorious purpose of becoming a successful online sketch-comedy troupe, the team has to reconcile their performance styles and personal agendas in order to succeed. The Assenders is currently in the final stretches of completing post production. We are in talks with Channel 31 for a 2016 broadcast timeslot for The Assenders, in C31's final season of productions.

GAMMA

GAMMA is a documentary series on young successful migrants who have moved to Australia and have made it their permanent home. GAMMA is currently moving through production of their pilot episode! This is incredibly exciting due to the cultural significance of the project.

The Leak

RMITV flagship and comedy news satire, The Leak, has begun pre-production for their final season of the year, and is set to begin broadcasting in November. While this is going to be a shorter season, it is shaping up to be one of our most ambitious and high quality.

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, RUSU, and RMITV.

RMITV CONTENT: IN DEVELOPMENT

Learning with Difficulties

RMITV's first ever animated series. Learning with Difficulties tells the story of Willy, who, in seven days, will suffer from the biggest mental breakdown ever recorded in medical history. He just doesn't know it yet. Utilising new motion capture technology we plan to streamline our production pipeline to ensure we can produce episodes as quickly as possible. Currently going through pre-production and character design. Production is slated to begin in October.

NEW RMITV EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Q3 has seen RMITV make one of its most exciting new acquisitions in recent history. One piece of equipment that was pointedly lacking was a production style camera package suitable for filming higher end content, such as episodic location dramas and comedies. This somewhat limited members who, using RMITV equipment, were unable to easily achieve things such as shallow depth of field and repeatable focus pulls in a single camera setting.

To resolve this, a Sony FS5 was ordered; a cutting edge, future proof camera capable of 4K recording and super slow motion, along with supporting accessories in order to build a complete, usable package. This represents a potent piece of kit that most students would not have an opportunity to otherwise get hands on with, and one that is more than capable of matching and beating a large proportion of popular cameras currently being used in the industry - it is much, much more than a DSLR, which are commonly seen in the independent film and television sector.

Below: The Leak, Uplate with Charlie Ranger



CURRENT RMITV EQUIPMENT UTILISATION

Currently, RMITV's equipment is being well used, with popular items including our Sony RX10 mk2 cameras, Aputure HR672 LED lighting kit and various pieces of audio equipment.

RMITV COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANT PROJECT

In anticipation for the impending office move, as well as the next round of NLA Community Heritage Grant submissions, RMITV has formed an Archival Team to systematically catalogue and label the tape collection. This must be done before they are put into storage in order to aid in retrieval, and progress has been good, with over one hundred tapes being catalogued in just three weeks. Based on this, doing the entirety of the collection by the end of the year should easily be achievable, which will pave the way towards a quicker and easier digitization process and a thorough, correctly organized final archive for future access.

RMITV EVENTS

30th Anniversary Gala

Next year RMITV will celebrate its 30th Anniversary, and in celebration RMITV will be holding a 30th Anniversary Gala. The Gala will be held at Storey Hall in April, 2017. We hope to have both current members attend as well as alumni of the organisation. The event will not only celebrate the history of RMITV but also provide a fun night for members, and strengthen the sense of community in the organisation.

Sausage Sizzle

RMITV held a sausage sizzle at A'Beckett Square on September 6. The primary drive behind the sizzle was to start fundraising for the 30th Anniversary Gala, which will be held later next year. The sausage sizzle really highlighted RMITV community as we had a lot of members come down and help out for a few hours. The sausage sizzle was a good starting point of fundraising for the gala.

RMITV Trivia Night

RMITV held their annual trivia night at the Queensberry on October 11 to great success. Anthony McCormack (one of the co-hosts of The Leak) hosted the night and 30 RMITV members attended. The night consisted of three rounds, focusing on the topics of general knowledge, movie knowledge and RMITV knowledge. The night received very positive feedback from members, and we hope to implement bi-annual trivia nights in the future.

SOCIAL MEDIA & PUBLICATIONS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook

17,583 LIKES (UP 168 LIKES from Q2). Facebook engagement continues to grow, and is still our biggest form of social media engagement with students. Our page likes, promotions, interactions and overall reach is continuing to grow steadily as the year goes.

Facebook serves as a platform for event advertising for both RUSU events and for clubs and societies, and allows students to interact with RUSU directly via wall posts, direct messages, photo tagging and to RSVP to events. A great feature of Facebook is the ease in which students are able to communicate and send direct messages. We have a 100% response rate to messages, usually within the same day.

We have posted hundreds of photos of students this quarter and event photo galleries continue to be a major drawcard for students. It's a great way to showcase the fun and vibrancy of our events and connect with students. Our Facebook events and photo galleries are attracting a reach of approximately 6500 users.

Website

Our current website continues to be a great asset for promoting events, activities and providing students with a wealth of information. The website is still functioning, but will soon be replaced with an amazing new website - no more black background and white text!

We are continuing our extensive process of the development of the new RUSU website. The old site will be completely removed and the exciting fresh new website will take its place. The concepts for the new design have been signed off and the website is currently being built. Not only will there be a new look, but a vastly improved functionality which will vastly improve the engagement with students, providing better navigation and direction to a range of information, from events, clubs and student rights resources.

Email Campaigns

RUSU's new look email has been well received. The email campaign focus is to promote our major events and news and keep students in the loop. It continues to be popular, with more than 5000 subscribers to date, and a readership engagement rate of around 50%, which is far higher than the industry average. To date, there has been six major issues so far in 2016.

Other Social Media

RUSU's presence on other social media remains strong. Twitter has reached 1,868 followers and Instagram is staying steady at 331 followers. Our most recent addition to social media is Snapchat, giving students the ability to instantly engage with RUSU and keep up to date with what's going on in a quick, real-time visual and fun way. We have also had videos created by the student rights team, which can be viewed on our YouTube channel.



PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

The RUSU Media Department produces a wide variety of publicity materials for RUSU departments, events and clubs. To ensure their suitability over a broad range of printed and digital media, publicity materials are always made in a range of formats. Some of the highlights from this quarter include:

Festa Das Olimpiadas

Our biggest event of the semester and the biggest party to be held at Storey Hall in years! This required a big push, bold promotion and an iconic poster. A bright and eye catching graphic poster with a Brazilian flare was created, tying in with the fever of the 2016 Rio Olympics.

The 2016 Bundy Games

The Bundy Games are always a fun and inclusive event, less about competition and much more about participation. It was decided early on that a kangaroo and parrot would be the mascots and be wandering around at the events. These characters were then illustrated and incorporated of on all the promotional material, along with the Brazilian theme to represent the fun and excitement of the games.

5 Weeks of Wellness

The 5 Weeks of Wellness was a new initiative created by RUSU and Compass to promote a variety of ways for students to relax and achieve an overall sense of wellness. To promote the weeks, a new branded look was designed for what was ultimately dubbed as #5WoW. A set of five posters was created to promote the events running across the five week. It was massively popular, with all events selling out.

Oktoberfest - Featuring Horns of Leroy

Who doesn't love German food and beer? One of the students favourite events, Oktoberfest was promoted with a very traditional Oktoberfest feel and German illustrations on the back of a wooden beer barrel. The addition of an amazing brass band, helped us to promote the event, linking in videos of the band performing to help build hype.

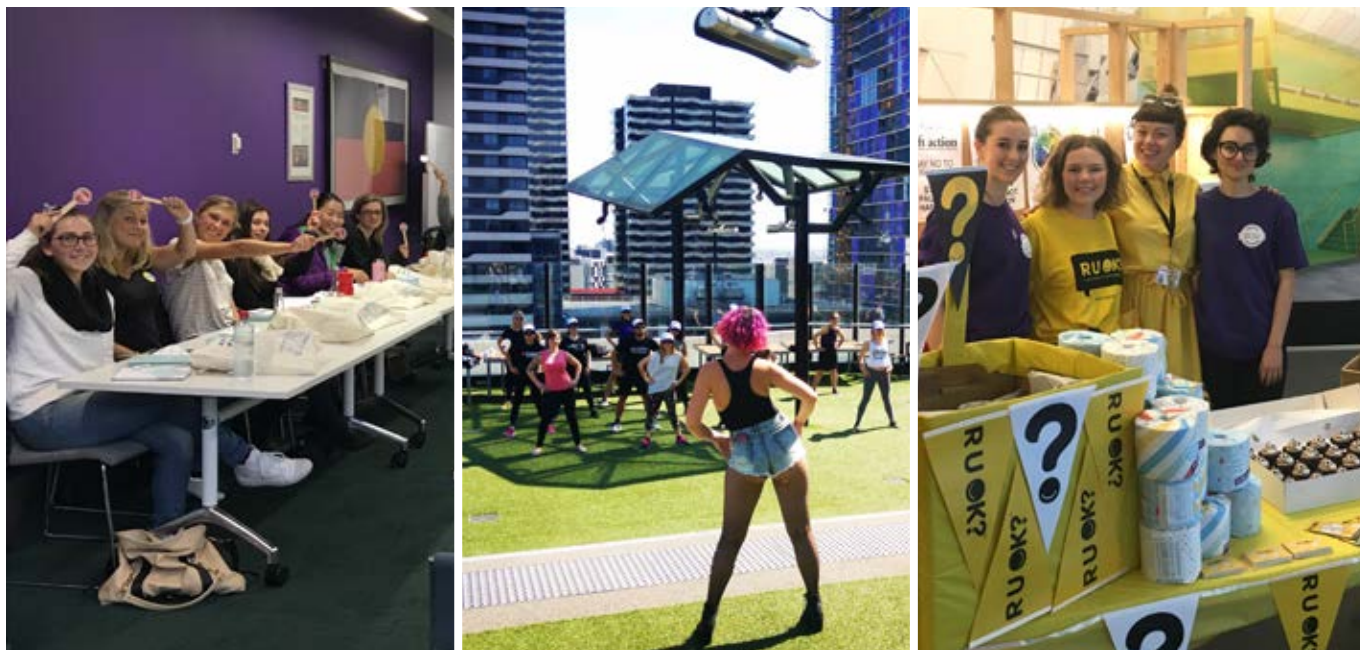
The Brunswick Warehouse Party

A big mid-year party was held in a Brunswick warehouse. As a change of direction, we decided to go all black and white for the promotions. with hand drawn sketches to capture the Brunswick feel.



Third Quarter Promotional Posters

REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY



5 Weeks of Wellness, from left: Mindfulness and Self-Care Workshop with Kikki K, Rooftop Beyonce Dance Lesson, RUOK Day

COMPASS

Compass has had a very active quarter, reporting **277 student drop ins** over the quarter. Each quarter we collate information to determine what main themes or needs have presented for RMIT students. This quarter we saw an increase in students seeking access to food and support with their mental health. Supporting these students were 11 newly trained student volunteers, who took up their positions staffing the Compass Drop-in space four days per week. Our wonderful volunteers have stepped up and have engaged professionally with each student who has accessed Compass.

Compass Initiatives and Campaigns:

Compass introduced the new emergency food assistance initiative, Compass Cupboard. Since opening, Compass has supported over 150 students, providing immediate, short term food options, information and referrals to relevant services and longer-term food options.

Compass also hosted the 5 Weeks of Wellness (5WOW) program. Each event sold out, seeing approximately 140 students attend and enjoy the campaign. Compass volunteers and staff worked hard to produce a five-week campaign that was inclusive and engaging.

- » Week 1: RUOK Day
- » Week 2: Hip-Hop Yoga
- » Week 3: Mindfulness and Self-Care Workshop
- » Week 4: Art for Wellbeing Session
- » Week 5: Beyonce Dance Lesson - Stress relief through dance

Compass volunteers and RUSU admin and student rights volunteers also assisted with the English Language Workshops which were again a great success, receiving some wonderful feedback from both volunteers and participants.

RUSU's free yoga program has remained a huge part of students' self-care, with each session very well attended. Students have called for us to expand our space and increase sessions next semester.

REPRESENTATION

RUSU Annual Elections

RUSU annual elections for the Student Union Council, Catalyst student newspaper editors and National Union of Students delegates were held from September 5 to 9. Polling was held across all campuses.

Student participation was high, with 3203 votes cast over the week.

A total of 63 nominations were received from four teams. The election results are available at www.su.rmit.edu.au/about/elections

Appeal Committees Reps

RUSU has supported students on the following RMIT hearings:

- » 7 Student representatives sat on 25 GUSS Show Cause hearings
- » 6 Student representatives sat on 14 College Appeals Committee hearings
- » 3 Student representatives sat on 6 University Appeals Committee hearings
- » 5 Student representatives sat on 18 Student Conduct hearings.

RMIT Vietnam Student Council

Three Student Representatives (Nguyen Hoang Phuong, Vice President, Saigon South; Nguyen Minh Anh, Vice President, Hanoi and Phan Tien Nghia, President) from the RMIT Vietnam Student Council visited Melbourne from August 1 to 6.

This trip provided the Vietnam Student Council representatives with an invaluable experience in further developing their relationships with RUSU student representatives, meeting key university stakeholders including the Vice-Chancellor as well as gaining insights into the Australian student experience at RMIT as well as RUSU's operations.

The trip was scheduled for the Higher Education Calendar Week 3, Semester 2 to provide the Vietnam Student Representatives with exposure to a number of important RUSU events including:

- » Academic Board and a meeting with Vice Chancellor Martin Bean CBE
- » A RUSU SEC meeting
- » SSCC Student Leadership Summit (focused on leadership and critical feedback skill development)
- » Bundy Games (Bundoora) and the Rio Olympics Party at Storey Hall
- » Attend a Chill 'n' Grill event (RUSU's weekly free lunch event)

The RUSU student representatives took the Vietnam students on a tour of the City, Brunswick and Bundoora campuses as well as social activities outside of the university including the Melbourne Aquarium, a CBD tour and Southbank.

RUSU CAMPAIGNS

RUSU has been an active voice for change at RMIT leading campaigns on issues important to students. Key campaigns that took place throughout the second quarter included:

National Day of Action

RUSU joined hundreds of students from universities across Victoria on August 24 in rallying against deregulation of flagship courses, lowering the HECS repayment threshold and urging the Liberal government to invest in young Australians through a fully funded higher education system.

Students were provided with a free pre-rally pizza lunch, t-shirt and post-rally networking drinks. The rally was peacefully conducted at the State Library and included a march down Swanston and Elizabeth Street drawing both attention from the general public and media outlets.

Increased Student Access - The Vault and the Bundoora West Library

RUSU has strongly advocated and campaigned the University for increased access hours for students to safe study locations across all campuses throughout the entire year. In early September, RUSU was informed by Property Services that student access to the Vault would be extended from 8am to midnight, Monday to Friday.

Similarly, as a result of RUSU's ongoing advocacy in hand with the broader RMIT Bundoora student community requesting increased access to the Bundoora Library, the Bundoora West Library announced that it would be trialling extended opening hours for the remainder of the semester.

Students were informed that as of September 12, the Bundoora West Library would be open until midnight from Monday to Thursday and 10am to 5pm on the weekends until the end of semester. Whilst RUSU will continue to campaign for the

permanency of the extended hours at the conclusion of Semester 2, 2016, the University will make a determination on the increased hours based on student usage which will be measured during this time.

RUOK Day and 5 Weeks of Wellness

RUSU's Compass Drop-In centre and Welfare Department brought RUOK Day to the RMIT City campus on Thursday, September 8, to encourage student to check in with themselves, their friends, family and peers and asking "Are you OK?"

RUSU invited the entire RMIT community to celebrate this national event and talk about real issues through information provision, give-aways, and three walls on which students could write messages of encouragement, support or solidarity.

RUOK Day also launched the Welfare Department's brand new campaign, 5 Weeks of Wellness, as discussed earlier in this report.

Respect. Now. Always

RUSU has collaborated with the RMIT Safer Community team as well as the broader RMIT community in actively supporting and sharing the Respect. Now. Always campaign focused on preventing and addressing sexual assault and harassment throughout the university sector.

RUSU's Campaigns Officer partook in a webinar facilitated by Universities Australia and the Human Rights Commission to discuss the Respect. Now. Always national university student survey on sexual assault and sexual harassment and its promotion across Australian universities.

In August and September, RUSU's President (Ariel Zohar), General Secretary (Abena Dove), Women's Officer (Ella Caulfield) and Queer Officers (Madeleine Bullock and Liam Reoch) joined the Vice-Chancellor (Martin Bean) and other key university stakeholders in creating a powerful video promoting this important campaign and spreading the message of 'Respect. Now. Always' to the broader community.

This important video was shared via social media on the RUSU Facebook page on September 4 and has had over 1263 views from student members from the RUSU page alone (the video has a total of 29,731 views across numerous Facebook pages, including the official RMIT Facebook page). Information pertaining to this important survey was also communicated

August National Day of Action



to RUSU members via the newsletter on the 27th September and directly via the Women's Department and the Queer Department.

Update on RUSU Priorities

RUSU has continued to collaborate with key RMIT stakeholders in achieving its 2016 Priorities (two meetings were held during this time) throughout the second quarter, with particular note to the following achievements:

Improved University Communication to Students: RUSU provided recommendations to ARG in regards to what circumstances messaging students via SMS may be appropriate and beneficial for students (namely high risk/ emergency situations or important academic progress issues).

Improved Timetabling: RUSU received updates from the Office of DVC E with 'quick win' timetable improvements to be on track with student experience improvements in both Semester 1 and 2, 2017.

Group Work Working Group: The Group Work Working Group (led by RUSU) met four times in the third quarter with progress on track for an advisory document with key recommendations to be communicated to DVC E by the end of the year.

SSCC Student Leadership Summit and Leadership Workshops

RUSU successfully delivered the second SSCC Student Leadership Summit on August 3 at Storey Hall. This summit was a full-day program and included panel discussion hosted by the Vice-Chancellor with guests including Andrea Chester, Ariel Zohar, Stacey Campton and Georgia Beattie (RMIT Alumni, CEO of Beattie Wines). The topic of the panel discussion was: Connectivity, Belonging and Innovation: The role of student leaders in shaping the RMIT experience.

Student attendees were also provided with a keynote presentation focusing on young leaders by engineer and economist turned social entrepreneur, Simon Griffiths (CEO of Who Gives a Crap) as well as a professionally facilitated leadership workshop.

The summit concluded with RUSU hosted drinks and nibbles to provide the students with an opportunity to continue networking with their peers and RUSU student representatives.

In addition the summit, RUSU collaborated with Alignments Australia and delivered two additional leadership development workshops on September 12 and 14. These workshops were open to all SSCC Student Representatives and focused on further developing student leadership skills by exploring the key qualities of successful leaders, tactics for overcoming power imbalances, problem solving, rapport building and presenting a persuasive argument. Attendees were also provided with a catered meal and additional SSCC support materials and resources.

STUDENT VOICE

RUSU elected student representatives provided a student voice on a range of RMIT Committees during this quarter. These included but were not limited to:

- » Academic Board

- » Action on student satisfaction project
- » Education Quality and Innovation Committee (formerly Education Committee)
- » Vocational Education Committee
- » Student Engagement Bundoora Campus Committee
- » Monthly catch-up meetings with the Dean of Students
- » Orientation and Transition Steering Group
- » RMIT Sustainability Committee
- » RMIT Fair Trade Steering Committee
- » Student Experience Advisory Committee

During the third quarter, RUSU has also been leading a working group with various University stakeholders in regards to improving group work and group assessment at RMIT. Five working group meetings were held during the third quarter with an advisory document to be produced for DVCE by the end of November.

RUSU / RMIT MEETINGS

The RUSU President and General Secretary have continued the regular meetings with both Vice-Chancellor Martin Bean and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Education Belinda Tynan this quarter. A focus of these meetings has been on improving the student experience at RMIT. We have continued our monthly catch-up meetings with the Dean of Students, Owen Hughes and Acting Dean of Students, Fiona Ellis.

RUSU representatives attended the Farewell event for Owen Hughes, with the RUSU President delivering a heartfelt speech and token of RUSU's appreciation to Owen for the support he has provided to RUSU over the last five years.

The RUSU President has had regular meetings with Executive Directors including Chris Hewison, Executive Director Property Services, and Paul Oppenheimer, Executive Director for ITS.

RUSU Internal Meetings

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

- » 3 Student Union Council meetings (including one SUC on the Bundoora Campus)
- » 9 Secretariat meetings
- » Student representatives gaining governance experience on internal RUSU committees, such as Staffing Committee, Finance Standing Committee and OH&S Committee
- » Elected student councillors supported to act work as governors and managers

This quarter RUSU has special guests present to two of the Student Union Council meetings. On August 17, the Vice Chancellor, Martin Bean made his bi-annual presentation to the SUC on the Top 20 Priorities. On 28 September Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education Belinda Tynan attended the SUC at Bundoora deliver a presentation to RUSU on Lecture Capture, and micro-credentialing. RUSU thanks both Martin and Belinda for their presentations to SUC and for engaging with RUSU on these important issues.

STUDENT RIGHTS

The Student Rights service has been busy advocating for, providing advice and representation to students throughout the third quarter.

Some of the key activities the Student Rights Team has been involved with include:

- » Advocacy on behalf of concerned students for increased privacy in the new Bundoora campus counselling area. The degree of frosting in the rooms is now being reviewed to ensure privacy. Students can now request to move elsewhere on campus they feel uncomfortable in the new space.
- » Providing student rights feedback on the 55 page enrolment process to the university, particularly emphasising the rights of international students to transfer provider as per the Education Services for Overseas Students Act, and the rights of students to be fully informed and have compassionate circumstances taken into account regarding their fees.
- » Providing feedback on the University's draft student conduct policy and draft complaints policy.
- » Assisting Advanced Diploma of Oral Health students with complaints about understaffing, disorganisation and poor quality teaching.
- » Advocacy that has led to changes to safety procedures at the Bundoora student health sciences clinic.
- » The recording of short student rights information videos about assessment appeals and academic progress for RUSU's website.
- » Providing advice, advocacy and representation to students attending University hearings for issues including exclusion, appeals against assessment, appeals against special consideration, academic and general misconduct.

Assisting several students with successful remission of debt applications, saving students thousands of dollars and improving their academic transcripts to reflect their true achievements.

Outreach and events that the Student Rights team has been involved with this quarter include:

- » Overview of RUSU and Student Rights service delivered to approximately 200 computer science and information technology students.
- » Information session about RUSU, student rights and the RUSU Postgraduate Association delivered to approximately 80 students commencing higher degree by research programs in Semester 2.
- » Promoted student rights and other RUSU services to dental students at social event.

Student Rights Officers have also maintained their regular outreach activities and engagement with the broader University through:

- » Ongoing Student Rights outreach to students at the Wednesday common lunch time Chill 'n' Grill at Bundoora West.
- » Ongoing outreach and promotion of the Student Rights service to Vocational Education students at building 57 lunches.
- » Attendance at monthly Assessment Support Unit Liaison Meetings.

Some quotes from students who accessed the Student Rights service this quarter:

"I just can't thank you enough. This is life changing, and means so much to me."

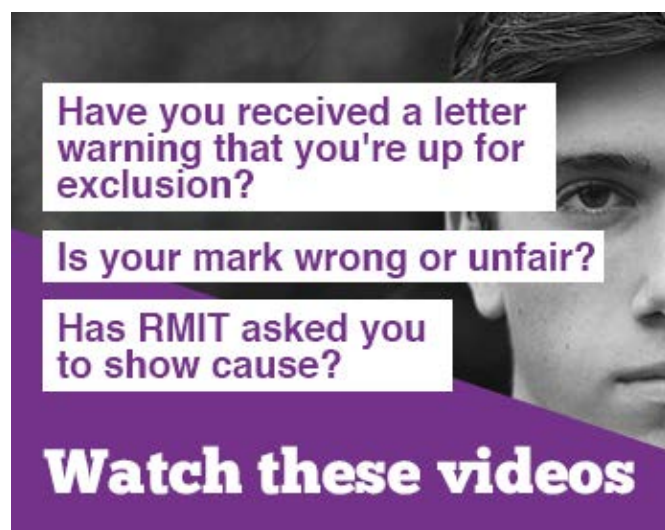
"This is literally the best day of my life. Thanks a lot. I will never forget what you did for me."

"It is really a great relief for me, knowing that I could get my tuition fee back. Thank you very much for your help in this matter."

"I just want you to know that I really appreciate the time that you spent listening to me and for your help. You did an excellent job and your help has meant such a lot to me."

"Thank you for everything yesterday! You went so well about everything I said and helped me out so much. So once again I thank you."

Student Rights information videos on YouTube



ISSUES	
HDR Issues	
Candidate Action & Support Plan	2
HDR Appeal final mark	1
HDR At Risk Issue	3
Milestone Review Issue	1
Research Candidate Progress Committee	1
Scholarship Issue	1
Supervisor Issue	5
Discipline (University Level)	
Academic (Plagiarism) Misconduct	1
General Misconduct	1
Complaint	
RMIT Ombuds	1
School Level	33
University Level	5
Discipline (School Level)	
Academic (Plagiarism) Misconduct	12
General Misconduct	1
Uncategorised	
Admin Issue	5
Admission Issue	2
Appeal Against Assessment	84
Assessment Issues (Other)	19
At Risk	4
Bullying	10
Disability	13
Enrolment Issue	14
Equitable Assessment Arrangements (EAA)	4
Exclusion	32
Fees Issue	19
Leave of Absence (LOA)	9

Mental Health Issues	10
Other Issues	18
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	7
Remission of Debt	15
Show Cause	78
Special Consideration	42
Supplementary Exam Request (Pass By Compensation)	1

OUTCOMES	
Appeal Against Exclusion University Appeals Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	1
Appeal Upheld	8
Exclusion Withdrawn by School before the hearing	9
Fee Remission	
Fee Remission Approved	7
Fee Remission not approved	6
Special Consideration Granted	
Alternative Assessment	8
Deferred Exam	20
Extension of time	12
Late withdrawal without Academic Penalty	12
Special Consideration Not Granted	5
Supplementary Exam	4
Referral - External	
External	6
Appeal Against Special Consideration University Appeal Committee	
Appeal Upheld	2
Special Consideration Granted without a hearing	2
Complaint Outcome	
Alternative Resolution Reached	13
School level Complaint Dismissed	5
School Level complaint Resolved	11

University Level Complaint Dismissed	1
University Level Complaint Resolved	4
Vic Ombuds Complaint Dismissed	2
Late Enrolment Outcome	
Late Enrolment achieved	3
Referral - Internal	
Compass	1
Counselling Service	12
Disability Liaison Unit	8
Legal Service	1
Student Well Being	3
Study and Learning Centre	3
Appeal Against RPL/RPL Issue - College Appeals Committee	
RPL Granted before the hearing	1
Contacted School Issue Resolved	
Contacted Academic Administrator	3
Contacted Course Coordinator	4
Contacted Head of School	5
Contact Program Manager	15
Other Outcomes	
Advice given - Student able to proceed with the case themselves	141
Attended group session	32
Other Outcomes	75
Student doesn't want to pursue with the case	28
Discipline/Plagiarism Meeting Case School Level	
Student asked to resubmit the assessment	7
Student Reprimanded	3
Student was given a fail for all or any part of any assessment	3
Leave of Absence (LOA)	
LOA Granted	6

Discipline Board Hearing Academic Misconduct	
Case Dismissed in favour of Student	4
Fail recorded in an assessment session	3
Student Reprimanded	2
Student was asked to repeat an assessment session	1
Appeal Against Assessment CAC Decision University Appeals Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	3
Appeal Upheld	3
Fee Issue Outcome	
Cancellation of program due to non-payment of fees	1
Issue Not resolved	2
Issue Resolved	11
Appeal Against Assessment (AAA) College Appeals Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	6
Appeal Upheld	14
Informal Review of Assessment Resolution	11
Discipline/Plagiarism Meeting Case School Level	
Student found not guilty	7
Discipline Board Hearing General Misconduct	
Student suspended	1
Show Cause Outcome	
Show Cause approved by SPC	33
Show Cause Rejected by SPC	1

CASES	
Opened Cases during the last quarter	363
Closed Cases during the last quarter	449
Total issues created during the last quarter	454
Total outcomes achieved during the last quarter	595

RUSU GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION & SERVICES

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

- » RUSU Annual Elections were held across all campuses from September 5 to 9 in accordance with the SUC Constitution and Regulations.
- » The Administration Coordinator was Assistant Returning Officer in the lead up to and during the elections.
- » Assisting RUSU President with base funding submission and negotiations and coordination of the RUSU SSAF Competitive grant applications.
- » Assisting and resourcing RUSU student representatives in meetings with RMIT University.
- » Development of briefs with Property Services for RUSU locations in NAS.
- » Managing the RUSU end of the design and logistics for the new Brunswick RUSU offices which opened at the start of September.
- » Working with Property Services on the designs for Realfoods cafe in NAS.
- » Finance Standing Committee meetings held.
- » Providing advice to the RUSU management on IT related issues.
- » Participation in the UniOne RUSU website project.
- » Coordinating and attending Student Rights and Welfare Department team meetings.
- » Providing first point-of-contact Student Rights advice for RMIT students (both on-shore and off-shore).
- » Sourcing and resourcing student representatives to RMIT Appeals Committees.
- » Providing training for new student rights volunteers.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

RUSU Funding from RMIT for 2016 is made up of the following:	
Base Grant	\$2,586,714
SSAF Committee Grants	\$620,000
Non-Recurring Grant	\$110,300
2016 TOTAL GRANT	\$3,317,014
2016 Grant Received to Date	\$3,317,014

The 2016 RMIT/RUSU Deed Agreement has been signed. The 2016 grant was received as a lump sum payment in late January. Like in 2015, this upfront payment will enable 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 2 reports on the specific grants approved by the SSAF Committee.

RUSU is committed to continuous improvement of our financial systems to ensure we both work within our budget provisions as agreed through our funding agreement and to satisfactorily achieve our annual audit of statutory accounts by a registered company auditor.

TABLE 1: RUSU SSAF GRANT EXPENDITURE ON ALLOWABLE ITEMS: JANUARY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30 2016

Allowable Item	Item Description	YTD Expenditure (SSAF Funded)
Giving students information to help them in their orientation	» Orientation specific events » Re-Orientation Events	\$120,609
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	\$217,724
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	\$39,168
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	\$301,037
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	\$162,859
Providing food or drink to students on a campus of the higher education provider	» Campus specific events and marketing (all campuses) » RUSU Realfoods	\$192,905
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	\$131,224

TABLE 1: RUSU SSAF GRANT EXPENDITURE ON ALLOWABLE ITEMS: JANUARY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30 2016 (CONTINUED)

Allowable Item	Item Description	YTD Expenditure (SSAF Funded)
Supporting an artistic activity by students	Nil	\$0
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	\$233,417
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)	\$572,181
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	\$466,452
YTD SSAF EXPENDITURE		\$2,437,576
YTD 2016 SSAF FUNDS RECEIVED		\$3,317,014

TABLE 2: 2015 SSAF COMMITTEE GRANT FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30 2016

Program Title	Grant Amount	Expenditure YTD
RUSU Volunteer Program	\$178,000	\$136,866
RUSU Flagship Production (Live on Bowen) and RMITV training program	\$40,000	\$19,502
RUSU International Student Support - conversation classes and city tours	\$33,000	\$24,425
Bundoora Common Lunch Hour (including SRO & BE)	\$76,000	\$58,214
RUSU Orientation Package	\$100,000	\$120,609
RUSU Free Healthy Breakfasts including nutrition & sustainability awareness	\$70,000	\$51,257
Post-grad Support Program (including SRO)	\$36,000	\$21,343
Brunswick Common Lunch Hour	\$27,000	\$30,473
RUSU VE Awareness & Support	\$32,000	\$21,757
SSCC Mentoring Program	\$28,000	\$21,110
TOTAL	\$620,000	\$505,556

