



RMIT University Student Union

Third Quarter Report

Reporting Period:
1 July – 30 September 2017

RUSU
RMIT UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION

President's Report



What a massive quarter for the RMIT University Student Union! This period is always an exciting one for RUSU, as it means it's election time - a fantastic opportunity for students to express what kind of leadership and direction they want from their student union. The election was hard-fought, as usual, but fair, as always. This year saw a significant increase in the number of votes posted from last year, a sure sign that students are actively aware of RUSU but also that students across RMIT's campuses are being heard. We look forward to welcoming a new group of student advocates later in the year, and we can't wait to see what kind of energy they bring.

Speaking of RMIT's various campuses, we have seen great progress this quarter in our engagement plan for Point Cook. We are now proudly running a free regular lunch event at Point Cook, something students attending this campus have missed out on for a long time! Bundoora has seen a huge amount of events and activities this quarter, as has Brunswick. We're really pleased with the way RUSU has engaged with these outer campuses, and it's a great credit to the staff and student representatives who work with and represent these particular student communities.

On the City campus, RUSU was proud to open our new activity space in the NAS precinct. Located just beneath our new front office, the space will give our clubs and departments the room to hold large-scale events and training sessions that would not be possible in our other spaces. The opening was attended by Belinda Tynan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education, who enjoyed cutting a massive purple RUSU cake with me! Also in the City, the Queer Room found a new home in Building 5, joined by a second Women's Room. These spaces are an integral part of the University's infrastructure, allowing all students to feel secure while at RMIT.

On a more personal note, I am pleased to announce that I have been elected to University Council, and students can be sure that I will also be in their corner over the coming year.

Abena Dove
President,
RMIT University Student Union



Activities & Events



Clockwise from top left: Winter Wonderland, Indigenous Chill 'n' Grill, Super Chill 'n' Grill, Boat Party

Winter Wonderland: Mid-Year Orientation Party

This event was truly magical, with the Building 11 Courtyard transformed with fairy lights and lovely warm heaters. A cosy winter night with a warm mulled wine.

PJ Boat Party

RMIT students pulled on their PJs and set sail on a fun-filled boat cruise.

International Week: Chill 'n' Grill

Week 6 saw RUSU host International Week at Chill 'n' Grill. We had beautiful South American and Indian food trucks at Brunswick, Bundoora and the City campus with a range of RMIT cultural and international student groups attending the events to promote and sign up members. We also had music and dance performances from the RMIT Japan Club in the City which were very well received from the students. This edition of the City Chill 'n' Grill also played host to PBS 106.6FM world music and Bhangra superstar DJ Richi Madan. Delivering his eclectic selection of tunes from all over

the globe and keeping our culturally diverse student cohort moving on the dance floor!

Super Chill 'n' Grill: featuring Cable Ties & Other Places

Super Chill 'n' Grill was held on the September 14. This super-sized version of the event featured extra food, longer opening hours and high quality live music on the Alumni Courtyard stage. For this edition RUSU welcomed the incredibly powerful punk trio Cable Ties to the Alumni Courtyard stage with support from eccentric electric solo drummer/performer Other Places. This was a fantastic afternoon of live music, enjoyed immensely by all students (and RMIT staff!) that attended. ASOS fashion partnered with this event to offer great online discounts to students alongside their own food truck supplying hot dogs and nachos. The famous RUSU volunteer BBQ was also in full swing, supplying juicy beef and vegan burgers with all of the trimmings!

Oktoberfest

Prost! Prost! Prost! Oktoberfest returned to Brunswick, Bundoora and the City campus in September. An event which has

proved immensely popular in recent years. In order to bring Munich to RMIT, RUSU supplied specially made halal bratwurst, imported German beers and super salty pretzels. Horns Of Leroy were also invited back for their second Oktoberfest show in Alumni Courtyard in as many years. Like in 2016 they did not disappoint and had the members bar gripped with their originals and classic covers belted out in brass!

Welcome to Country & Indigenous Chill 'n' Grill: featuring Philly

September 28 marked the last Chill 'n' Grill of the third quarter, but by no means the least. The event marked a momentous occasion with RMIT Events and Ngarara Willim partnering with the RUSU Activities Department to deliver a beautiful welcome to country event leading into a special version of RUSU's weekly BBQ. The event included an inspired and gripping performance from Indigenous Australian rapper Philly and his band. Kangaroo burgers were on the menu courtesy of the ever tasty Kombi Burger alongside a vegan and halal BBQ cooked by RUSU volunteers.

Volunteers

Training: Number of participants

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Program Induction	188	12	73	-	273
Responsible Service of Alcohol	20	51	36	-	107
Safe Food Handler	43	23	61	-	127
Youth Mental Health First Aid	0	23	0	-	23
TOTAL	251	109	170	-	530

Volunteer hours worked: City Campus

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Activities & Events	361	309	986	-	1656
Realfoods	0	0	0	-	0
Administration	75	184	488	-	747
Compass	66	78	160	-	304
Healthy Breakfasts	74	31	68	-	173
English Language Workshops	171	0	66	-	237
Student Rights	22	32	98	-	152
TOTAL	769	634	1866	-	3269

Volunteer hours worked: Bundoora Campus

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Activities & Events	21	76	47.5	-	144.5
Breakfasts	7	14	18	-	39
Realfoods	66	112.5	201.75	-	380.25
TOTAL	94	202.5	267.25	-	563.75



RUSU Volunteers have contributed **3,913 volunteer hours** to RUSU Program and events so far in 2017. There have been **530 student participants** in RUSU Volunteer program training.

Above: Our amazing Chill 'n' Grill Volunteers in action.



Membership

At the end of the third quarter RUSU had **4719** financial members for 2017.

Across the Campuses

city

City Campus

The City office was kept busy with student rights cases at the start of semester. The majority of issues were special consideration, enrolment related issues, appeal against assessment, show cause and exclusion appeals. Students also continue to present with many directional questions over this period.

Board Games

RUSU now has a collection of board games including Cluedo, Connect 4, Pictionary and card games. We have had a handful of students use these and we will continue to advertise this additional service to RUSU members and the wider RMIT student body in the next quarter. RUSU has also been working with RMIT to support the games space in the foyer of Building 8.

NAS/Founders' Day Event

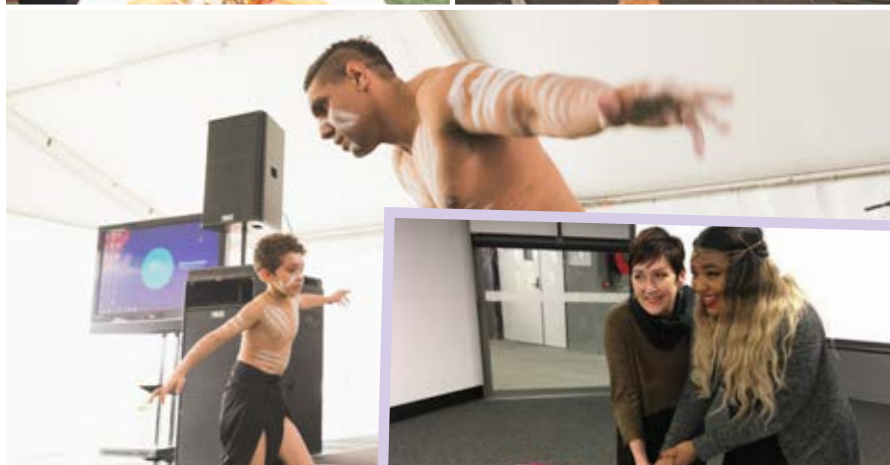
The whole day went really well with thousands of students participating in the festivities and food! Students lined up out the front of RUSU Central to spin the RUSU wheel for a prize. Approximately 600 students received free merchandise from RUSU. It was a fun day and a welcome break to the normal semester grind on campus!

New Women's and Queer Spaces in Building 5

The new Women's and Queer spaces have been well received by students, with improvements in safety due to being nearby security and generally being further out of the main thoroughfare of campus. The new rooms have comfy couches and great amenities.

The Welfare Trolley

We launched the welfare trolley service for students after hours in the RMIT Swanston Street Library. We have served approximately 500 serves of food per week in the Library starting every week since Week 3 in Semester 2. This service has been very popular with students and a welcome treat for those studying hard in the library! We are confident that we are reaching new students who may not attend our regular events on City campus due to their study commitments.



Above: Welcome to Country, Right: Opening of RUSU Activity Space

Building 10 RUSU Large Activity Space

The RUSU Activity Space in NAS was formally launched on 11 July by Abena Dove and Belinda Tynan. RUSU took the opportunity to thank RMIT, Property Services and the NAS Team for their support with this important student space. The RUSU Large Activity Space continues to be booked out regularly by RUSU clubs, departments and RMIT Link clubs for ongoing and one off events and activities. 113 bookings have been made in the space over the quarter.

Healthy Breakfast Program

The Healthy Breakfast Program continues to provide thousands of students with free breakfast every week across the city campuses and remains very popular at Carlton, on Bowen Street and in the SAB! It's not unusual to have a line up in the SAB with students eagerly awaiting a muffin,

organic fruit or tasty yogurt granola treats. We are expecting to reach 60,000 serves across all campuses this year!

Chill 'n' Grill

Chill 'n' Grill has enjoyed continued success in the third quarter, with up to 1200 students attending the Alumni Courtyard on Thursdays for the free BBQ and RUSU members' bar. The event continues to grow and attract more attention from RUSU clubs as well as external organisations. We have had a number of interesting sponsors in this quarter with ASOS fashion coming on site to offer student discounts on clothing, as well as not-for-profit Vision Super who have had great success in offering students sustainable and smart superannuation choices. RUSU has also been able to show great support for overseas student programs such as AISEC who have attended numerous events.



Bundoora East & West

Clockwise from left: Journalling, Hoola Hooping, Walter House Cooking

RUSU at Bundoora had a really good semester packed with events. July was a busy period for the Student Rights Officer with back-to-back appointments in the second half of the month. The popular Wild Wild West information booklet was revamped and released with updated information about the campus and flyers for all the regular RUSU events throughout the year. These booklets were distributed at our weekly Healthy Breakfasts, which continue to be popular with students. We serve around 250 students at the breakfasts Bundoora. The kitchenette continues to be well-used, and we have served over 5000 cups of tea, coffee, hot chocolate, chai, and green tea to students free of cost.

The weekly yoga now has a group of regular students. The wellness workshops in August were very well received by the students. 'Bundy Games' was well attended this year, and we also took it to the East campus, where the students enjoyed Archery Wars.

We've been able to engage with more students this quarter and have received good feedback for all the new events and workshops we brought to the Bundoora campus.

Bundoora Events & Clubs

The third quarter was a jam-packed one at Bundoora. It saw the creation of

several new events and the return of some old favourites. In Walert House RUSU organised a start of semester Paint & Glow Party that gave more than 50 students a chance to touch base, catch up and have a dance with friends before the semester kicked into gear. It was a great night with everyone covered in paint and glow sticks by the end.

RUSU also brought the Enrol With Us campaign to Bundoora encouraging students to enrol to vote. This proved a good platform to engage with students around current issues and the importance of having their voices heard.

Over August we ran four wellbeing workshops in conjunction with Compass to engage students over the communal lunch hour and to add a sense of community on campus. These were well received by students who enjoyed having the chance to take a break and de-stress mid-week with a range of workshops catering to different interests.

The workshops included:

- Hula-hooping where dancing, hula hooping and glitter were all combined culminating in a fully choreographed hula hoop dance.
- Bullet journalling provided students with a chance to develop skills in time management, organization and goal

setting through keeping task-oriented journals.

- Soy candle-making was our most popular event with over 20 students taking home a beautiful soy candle that they had made themselves from scratch.
- Self defence gave students a chance to work on their self defence skills in a safe and fun environment.

In conjunction with Realfoods Bundoora two cooking classes were hosted at Walert House. We had 15 attendees in each class who all learnt to make healthy and affordable vegan meals like miso soup and eggplant parmigiana. The students loved being able to ask a variety of questions from how best to cut up a cauliflower to the best ways to make their favourite meals more affordable or varied for more exciting mid-week meals.

As Realfoods has been growing more and more so has the need to grow the volunteer team. Realfoods and RUSU set up a stall alongside Chill 'n' Grill to have a chat about volunteering at Realfoods in Bundoora. The students responded really well with 10 sign ups directly because of the stall. The students also enjoyed the range of free Realfoods sweet treats on offer!

To continue in supporting and engaging with Walert House students, Q3 saw



The Bundy Games 2017

Carlton

The Carlton office was kept busy as the Student Rights Team saw the beginning of the Semester 1 peak period. With final results released on Monday, July 10, we saw a steady increase in the number of student seeking our assistance. Phone enquiries, in-person presentations, and email correspondence all grew considerably. We were able to help many student facing problems around special consideration, appeal against assessment, and also show cause and exclusion letters. The entire Student Rights Team did a wonderful job during what is often a difficult time of year for students.

The Carlton Student Liaison Officer oversaw the design and implementation of a new room booking system during this time. Using a simple online form, students can now book RUSU-run rooms across the City campus, including the new activity space in Building 10 and the multipurpose room in building 57. Both rooms were very busy during the third quarter, with yoga, English language classes, training sessions, and dozens of RUSU club events utilising the spaces. The Building 10 activity space was used on average 32 hours a week through July and August - a great result for such a new space!

VE Chill

RUSU's dedicated VE lunch and outreach event has continued to attract a group of over 200 students. With different food vendors supplying the event each fortnight, a range of dietary requirements and tastes are catered for. This event has potential to be grown considerably in 2018 and has provided an excellent platform for RUSU services such as Student Rights and Compass to engage with the VE cohort located in the Carlton area of the City Campus.

the start of free weekly yoga sessions at Bundoora on Wednesday afternoon hosted in the Walert House Hub. It was great to see students and staff at Walert House get a chance to take up a moment of mindfulness and relaxation.

The Bundy Games returned in 2017 with great success despite a couple of days of bad weather earlier in the week. The highlights included the giant inflatable Wipe Out jumping castle and Soccer Darts on Wednesday that saw several hundred students take up the challenge of completing the obstacle course or goal-kicking test. Another highlight was the Archery Warz at Bundoora East on the Thursday which had nearly 100 East students trying to capture the flag over two hours dodging inflatable arrows on the Building 254 lawn.

Q3 also saw the continuance of the ever popular Healthy Breakfasts delivered with the help of RUSU volunteers and the Queer Lunch program with food provided by Realfoods.

Bundoora has also had a new club start up, the RMIT Food Sciences Club. The club has already been engaging students with events and activities on and off campus and have undertaken RASCAL, the Clubs Department's training program. City clubs have also had the chance to expand their activities to Bundoora. This has seen a great effort by the Science Fiction and

Gaming Association to host several games sessions at Bundoora loaded with plenty of snacks for students to enjoy. Bundoora clubs have also been making use of the equipment on offer to them, borrowing the BBQ equipment and marquees as needed.

The Bundoora East Chill 'n' Grill continues to grow. In Q3 the average amount of serves was increased to cater for 150 students with some bigger days catering to nearly 200. The East students continue to enjoy a range of food from Indian and Turkish food trucks to salad rolls and wraps, pizza and, of course, vegan burgers and sausages. The students have been enjoying lunches and take the opportunity to sit and relax on the lawn and seating available while listening to some music. We have also had several East campus students sign up to become volunteers due to the popularity of the East Chill 'n' Grill.

Bundoora's Chill 'n' Grill events continue to be as popular as ever, with the West campus event seeing 650 students receiving free lunch every Wednesday. Increased variety in our BBQ offerings has been incredibly well received alongside vegan options. RUSU Realfoods delicious vegan soup has also been well received in the colder winter months. RUSU roadshows for International Week and Oktoberfest also made it to Bundoora in the third quarter.

Point Cook

RUSU's program of events at Point Cook commenced early in Semester 2. RUSU has been delivering fortnightly lunch events at Point Cook (five free lunch events this quarter), with various RUSU staff and departments including Compass and student rights visiting the campus.

Our plans to deliver a fortnightly breakfast haven't been possible due to some logistical issues (being a RAAF base, plus the distance from the City campus creates some issues). We hope to come up with a solid plan for delivering breakfasts for 2018.

RUSU also established a RUSU/Compass snack box in response to requests from students, who want to be able to grab quick snacks before flights.

RUSU is working with the students to plan an end of year party for Point Cook students.

One of the big benefits of visiting Point Cook has been getting feedback from the students and sharing that with RMIT. This has meant that Property Services has been able to make some quick improvements which students have appreciated.



Brunswick

Brunswick Networking Gala and Makers Market

The third quarter at the RUSU Brunswick campus was a very vibrant and exciting one, packed full of events, workshops, and wellness activities for our students.

Highlights included:

- RUSU's weekly lunchtime yoga and meditation class, which allowed students the time to slow down, relax, and breathe. Q3 saw an increase in participation with every potential space that would fit a mat being taken up for the session.
- Our '8 Weeks of Wellness Workshops,' where RUSU provided free weekly workshops on campus to enhance students' health and wellness. The workshops included floral crown making, laughter zen yoga, soy candle making, mindfulness and hula hooping. The Brunswick students particularly enjoyed the chance to use their creative skills in a fun and relaxed environment. We had over 20 students take home beautiful flower crowns and candles from each workshop. The building 514 courtyard was also full of amazing hula hoopers during the Chill 'n' Grill entertaining those lined up.
- RUSU held its second Brunswick Makers' Market, after the first one in semester one was such a hit. Students were able to showcase and sell a range of their design and homemade goods. We had several returning stalls and 10 new applications for stalls this time around. It was a great chance for students to show off their hard work and creativity while creating a buzzing and fun atmosphere on campus.
- RUSU held its very first Networking Gala, which took place in the brand new Activities Space at the Brunswick Campus. Sixty-five students attended plus guest speakers and key staff members at the Brunswick campus. It was a fashion industry networking night, and featured presentations by keynote speakers and influential leaders in the fashion industry. Students not only heard some great advice during the speakers' presentations but were also given the chance to talk and network with guests throughout the night. It was a spectacular evening and RUSU received really wonderful feedback regarding the event.
- Brunswick students also had the chance to don their best double denim ensembles this quarter for the Brunswick Pub Crawl. Students were taken around four venues in Brunswick. It was a great night, we had a diverse group of students attend who were able to make new friends and get to know their suburb a little better.

The Queer Lunches have also continued in Q3 with food provided by Refuel and enjoyed in the campus Queer Room.

The RMIT Fashion Students Association continued to be a presence on campus with several activities run in conjunction with Chill 'n' Grill to continue to make students aware of their services, activities and events.

Chill 'n' Grill at Brunswick has been fantastic in this third quarter, the event continues to attract up to 450 students for free lunch. The excellent Refuel Cafe continues to supply delicious vegan soup for lunches in the colder months which are a wonderful winter warmer. The inclusion of vegan BBQ options was extremely well received at Brunswick with students also praising the changes in the BBQ menu, with hot chicken rolls and beef burgers a welcome addition to RUSU's recipes.

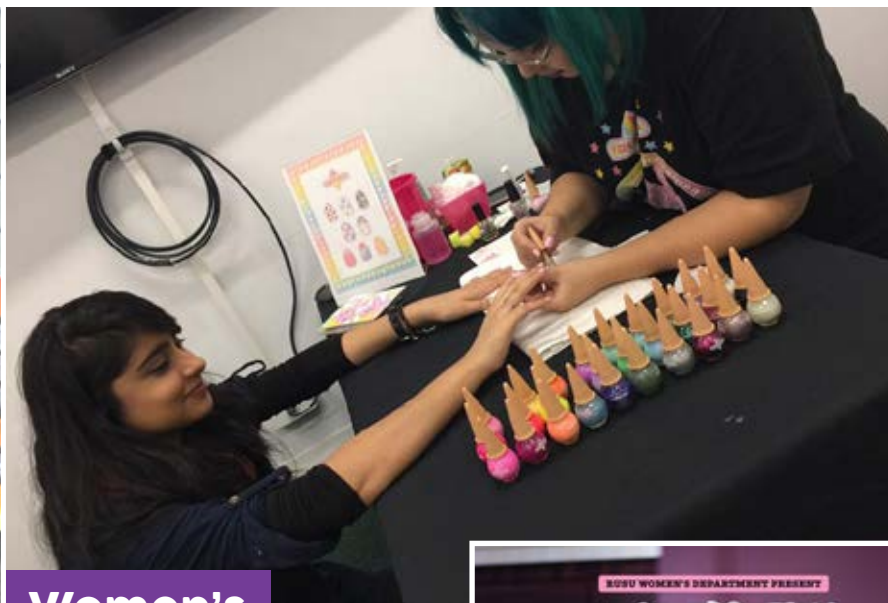
RUSU Departments



Queer

The Queer Department has devoted much of its time in the third quarter to campaigning around the marriage equality plebiscite. We ran an enrol to vote campaign across all three Melbourne campuses, encouraging students to make sure their details were registered with the Australian Electoral Commission. We received hundreds of enrolment brochures from the AEC and made these available to students at all our front office counters. The next step, of course, will be actively campaigning for the YES vote!

The third quarter also saw Wear It Purple Day on August 25, with free lunches and stalls happening at Chill 'n' Grills across the three campuses. The Queer Department also held an 80s/90s-themed party at Hares & Hyenas, which was a great success - everyone seemed to have a wonderful time, and we saw many new and old faces at the event.



Women's

The last quarter has been very busy for the Women's Department. We organised a table with the Queer Officers at RMIT City, Bundoora and Brunswick campuses on Welcome Days, which was a great way to engage with students and let them know about the support and fun that is available at RMIT.

The Women's Department was active in the making of the Respect Now and Always video, which was in response to the survey into sexual harassment from the Australian Human Rights Commission. The video aimed to spread awareness about sexual harassment on campus and what RUSU in collaboration with RMIT University is doing to help the victims and the support that we can provide.

On August 8 the Women's Officer hosted a Getaway Spa Day for the beautiful women of the Women's Department, with free massage, face masks, manicures, nail art and snacks. It was enjoyed by all attendees! We also hosted a karaoke night that went for five hours - everyone sang their hearts out in a safe and nurturing environment that encouraged self-expression and fun. Twenty-five students attended, making it a big success.

The Women's Department also celebrated International Week, organising Bengali and Jamaican dance classes that encourage students to celebrate and embrace cultures different from their own. Both classes were well attended, and everyone earned a cool drink afterward!



*Above: Getaway Spa Day,
Left: Enrol to Vote campaign.*

VE

The Vocational Education department continued to advocate for RMIT's many VE students across a range of issues. On the lighter side, the very popular VE Chill event kept students in Building 57 happy with a bi-monthly free lunch. Students enjoyed delicious international cuisines such as Indian curries, Turkish gozleme, and Mexican tacos. While it's always great to feed hungry students, this is also an important outreach event, enabling RUSU to discuss serious issues that are sometimes unique to VE students.



Above: Trash Puppet Workshop, Postgrad Masterclass
Below: Student Welfare on Wheels trolley

Sustainability

August saw some of the biggest events in the Sustainability Department's calendar, with Environment Week including fun and workshops across the three Melbourne campuses. Held from the 14th to the 18th of August, the event aimed to make sustainability accessible to all kinds of students. The first workshop showed students how to design and make their own terrariums. A terrarium is kind of like an aquarium, but for plants instead of fish! It is made in just about any glass container. It is planted to look like a miniature garden or forest enclosed in its own little world.

On day two students enjoyed a session with Melbourne-based group Trash Puppets, who demonstrate how to recycle everyday items into awesome hand puppets! Trash Puppets believe that the key to sustainable living is in finding creative solutions to problems. They also believe in the power of individual creativity to inspire and transform. The final event of the week was a screening of the film *Before the Flood*, a documentary looking at the dangers of climate change, and how we might change the world by changing our habits. The week was a fantastic success, and we look forward to doing it again next year.

Postgraduate

Once again, it was an exciting few months for the postgrad department. The HDR student rights officer was busy assisting students with issues, but also working on effecting policy changes that will serve HDR students better in the future. This included collaborations with the School of Graduate Research, and the Equitable Learning Service to try to ensure that ELS plans are more effective for this part of the student body.

On the social side of things, the speed friending event was held once again, and was a great success. Over 100 students attended, and it was great to see everyone engaging with their fellow students! The postgraduate masterclass was also held again in this quarter. This time, over 20 students attended and once again, provided great feedback about the event. Planning was also well under way for many upcoming events for postgrads in the next quarter!

Education & Welfare

The Education department said goodbye to Campaigns Officer Sarah Firth in September. A dedicated and hard-working staff member over a number of years, she will be sadly missed and we thank her for her service. Sarah will be replaced by Helen Cook, who has previously worked with RUSU in a student rights role. Welcome back, Helen! Meanwhile, the Education Officer was busy advocating for students in meetings of the Academic Board, particularly around issues relating to mental health.

In an exciting development, the Welfare Department launched its Student Welfare Trolley program in August. The program is focused on mobile support and outreach to students who are hard at work in the library, offering free food, drinks, and information. It quickly proved a great success, and the budget adjusted to allow the Welfare Officer to run the program every single week instead of every second week. This is a great way to reach students and let them know about all the services and support that RUSU can provide.



International

Week 6 saw RUSU host International Week at Chill 'n' Grills across the campuses.

The RUSU English Language Conversation Workshops program for Semester 2 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 Bundoora, and two groups at RMIT Training. There were over 205 students enrolled in the eight groups, with 124 attending. All sessions except for the lunchtime session at Bundoora were well attended.

ELW social events included:

- Melbourne museum visits: RMIT City Groups A (August 15-16)
- Games Nights: RMIT City Groups B (August 15-16)
- Archery & Gresswell Reserve: Bundoora (August 17)
- Immigration Museum visit: RMIT Training (September 4)
- Puffing Billy steam train visit: All groups (August 26)

A big thanks to the ELW facilitator Rod Cellibos and our ELW student volunteers: Ali Iftikhar Choudhary, Lily Xia, Julian Chan, Thuy Bui, Anxiang Shi, and Menura.

Realfoods

Realfoods Bundoora continued to operate this semester while construction continued on the Realfoods City site as part of the NAS redevelopment. Realfoods Bundoora again closed for the holiday period this semester to accommodate the reduced traffic on campus. Sales increased and the adjusted operating hours opening from 8am to 2.30pm, Monday to Thursday and 8am to 2pm on Friday have proven successful.

A number of departments within RUSU and greater RMIT approached the café for coffee cards, vouchers and catering of sorts and were thrilled with the service provided to them.

The Realfoods Co-ordinator returned from extended leave and Realfoods were invited to have two pop-ups in NAS keeping volunteers engaged and promoting the up and coming new cafe to the staff and students at City campus. The first involved providing a free vegan lunch to over 500 students on campus, the crowd extending through Buildings 8 and 10, receiving great feedback in anticipation of the new cafe opening. The second was for celebrate RMIT, also a hit, both events engaging a total of 10+ new volunteers. RUSU Realfoods also brought Bliss to the new NAS spaces with roving volunteers handing out free vegan 'Bliss Balls' to students in NAS.

A Realfoods relaunch party was also held in the new RUSU Large Activity Space in Building 10, which was an absolute hit with volunteers across Realfoods, Activities & Events and Compass, and approximately 65 students in attendance.

In preparation for the new City site, recruitment was conducted and five new student casuals and a new Realfoods Cook and Barista/Cafe Assistant were added to the team.

Realfoods continued to provide hands-on hospitality and customer service experience to RMIT student volunteers and assisted them in increasing their employment prospects. All volunteer time is LEAD accredited.

Below: English Language Workshops, Right: Realfoods Launch Party



Clubs & Societies

RUSU Club Grants

RUSU Clubs & Societies accessed \$53,684 of clubs grants funding during the third quarter of 2017.

RUSU Clubs Activity

RUSU Clubs Activity Affiliation	
As at the time of writing, RUSU has 104 fully affiliated student clubs and societies. The distribution of clubs across our different categories breakdown is as follows:	
Spiritual	9
Social	22
Political	4
Cultural	22
Academic	50

New Clubs	
RUSU welcomes the following fully affiliated new clubs:	
Students for Christ RMIT (SFC)	
Fossil Free RMIT	
RMIT Food Sciences Club	
RMIT Omani Students Club	
New clubs provisional affiliation applications received and approved for 2018 calendar affiliation:	
RMIT University Jewish Students Society	
RMIT Ahmadiyya Muslim Association	

New Developments & Support to RUSU Clubs

- Training offered to all RUSU clubs - Food Safety, Responsible Service of Alcohol, Managing People & Relationships, Running Successful Clubs and Respect Now Always Training (through RMIT Safer Communities).
- Met with Future Edge staff to discuss the development of greater opportunities for and participation by club leaders in the program.
- Development of a 'Do you need a liquor licence for your club event?' Google form to assist clubs to clearly identify their licensing requirements (to be released in 2018).

Achievements in the spotlight

Mid-Year Welcome Events

Over 65 RUSU clubs attended the Semester 2 welcome events. Despite the wintery weather at City Welcome Day, our clubs came out in force to offer a friendly (although somewhat soggy) welcome to new and returning students.

SLAB Symposium

With the assistance of a \$2000 SSF Special Program Event Grant, RUSU affiliate Student Landscape Architecture Body (SLAB), presented a three-day landscape architecture design symposium at Siteworks in Brunswick. Entitled 'ROLE: A design symposium of landscape architecture?', the symposium was a series of discussions, presentations, exhibits, installations and gatherings bringing together designers, artists, and spatial practitioners.

The event explored the tensions that exist within the act of practicing landscape architecture through a series of spatial and social compositions and sought to break down the idea of the 'role', ranging from that of the discipline within the context of the world, to that of the participating individual within the discussion space.

RMIT Landscape Architecture students not only organised the event but contributed exhibited, curated and installed works and hosted discussions around the various roles landscape architecture engages with - the role of the discipline, the International, the cinema, the studio, the garden, the critique, the personal, the office, the edge and others.

The symposium brought in professionals in the field from Victoria, interstate and

visiting international experts including Claire Martin, Associate Director of Oculus magazine, Snøhetta's senior architect Kåre Krokene and astronomers specialising in Indigenous knowledges, Drs. Duane Hamacher (Monash University) & Javier Mejuto (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras).

Attended by several hundred participants and gaining national attention and the support of Landscape Magazine, the Australian Landscape Architecture Institute and Planning Institute Australia, the event was a testament to the dedication of SLAB members to their industry, their learning and their community. Special congratulations to key SLAB organisers Louella Exton, Millicent Gunner, Will Muhleisen and Matthew Calder and the many SLAB general volunteers who assisted.

Semester 2 Welcome Event Special Initiative Grants (SIG)

The success of the additional funding available to assist clubs to host start of semester welcome events for their members was again evident for start of Semester 2. Over 1400 RMIT students benefited from 24 Special Initiative Grants for Semester 2 welcome events with the funding being open to academic clubs and cultural clubs this semester.

Events funded included lawn bowling (very popular this year), ten-pin bowling, BBQs (or alternative to BBQs given the weather), dinners, local pub socials, a Greek festival, an Indian Independence Day Biryani celebration, a Persian party, and a 'How2Uni' information session followed by a mixer.

The grant assisted established clubs to deliver new events or to expand regular events. Many of the clubs hosting new events commented they hoped to be able to offer the events in 2018 given the great feedback they received from members, both new and old.

SLAB Symposium





Clockwise from top left: BSA Ball, Geospatial Ball, RAPS Ball, Thai Association Hot Pot

Feedback from clubs about the value of this additional funding included:

"The funding was extremely useful. Normally, we would purchase sausages/vegan burgers for our BBQ. However, given the rain on the day, running the BBQ was not an option. The funding provided allowed us to easily purchase pizza for everyone attending the event!"

"The funding helped us to run an event to break the ice between first years and older students."

"The Welcome Events Special Grant (Semester 2) was extremely useful for the club. With the funding, we are able to get a decent venue to hold the welcoming event as well as offering scrumptious Malaysian cuisine for the students. Moreover, we were able to afford the photobooth hire which was the highlight of the event which the members couldn't get enough of. The funding also allowed us to create a budget for the decoration team to transform the venue with cultural details to allow the participants to feel more at home. Thanks to the special grant to RUMA, we were able to organise quality event for the members without having them to pay a lot."

"The grant was used for catering and games which encouraged more members to attend as there was something for everyone."

"The funding was really useful as we were able to subsidise a new event - our first year dinner, which was a five-course degustation menu at the Lincoln Hotel."

We were also able to provide food and drinks for all new students at the first Introduction weekend. This was a really great way to welcome our new students to post-grad life and law school life."

"The funding was very helpful mainly for Facebook advertising, printing, catering and other admin expenses. Without it we would not have been able to put on such a high quality event for students."

"The event was a great success with all the food gone within the first hour and around 60 RMIT students were able to enjoy a little bit of Greece at RMIT."

"Without the Welcome Events Special Grant it would have been impossible to provide food to such a large amount of students. Getting all the students together and having a bit of chat, enjoying food and dancing is a great way to meet and interact with fellow students."

"The party gave the new RMIT international students and continuing ones a chance to meet each other and make friends and feel more welcome to a new city and environment. The funding helped us to have a support for this event for all students in the beginning of the semester."

"This funding helped us create a great start to the semester. It allowed for us to come together as senior and younger students. Share what we expected to get out of the club. Share where we plan to take our club in the future. We learnt more about each other as people besides what we're trying to get out of academia."

Club Activities Quarter 3, 2017

Academic Clubs

RMIT Accounting Students Association (ASA) professional development event - 'Interview Do's & Don'ts with CPA' @ CPA Head Office, City

RMIT Accounting Students Association (ASA) in conjunction with University of Melbourne Accounting Students' Association (ASA) and Monash Accounting Students' Association (MASA) Corporate Cocktails Event @ Eureka 89, Southbank

RMIT Accounting Students Association (ASA) professional development event 'An evening with McGrathNicol' @ McGrathNicol Melbourne Office, City

RMIT Accounting Students Association (ASA) pop-up donut stand to promote the CA Achiever Programme @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Aviation Society & Swinburne Aviation Society 'Aviation Industry Night' @ AMDC Skylounge, Hawthorn

Annual Engineering Ball 'Fire and Ice' (AESA, CESA, SASSE, ACES & EESA) @ San Remo Ballroom, Carlton North

RMIT Basement Club (Sculpture) Annual Graduate Exhibition Fundraising Auction @ RMIT Bld 37

Biomedical Engineering RMIT Student Society (BERSS) 2 x professional development guest speaker events @ RMIT Building 80

Biomedical Engineering RMIT Student Society (BERSS) Bowling & Laser Tag Extravaganza @ Strike Bowling QV, City

Biomedical Engineering RMIT Student Society (BERSS) Movie Night @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10

RMIT Business Information Systems Student Association (BISSA) Networking and Careers Events @ RMIT Building 80

Club Activities Quarter 3, 2017 (Continued)

RUSU College of Business Clubs participation in the College of Business Future Day @ RMIT Building 80 (BISSA, ASA, Management and International Business Student Association (MIBSA), Human Resources Association (HRA) and RMIT Entrepreneurs and Start-Up Association (RESA) 'How2Uni' workshop for new and returning students @ RMIT IDS Building 12

RMIT Business Student Association (BSA) networking breakfast 'We Are You' @ the State Library of Victoria

RMIT Business Ball @ Shed 14 Peninsula, Docklands

RMIT Ceramics Student Association Annual Graduate Exhibition Fundraising Auction @ RMIT Bld 4

RMIT Civil Engineering Student Association (CESA), RMIT Student Association for Sustainable Systems Engineering (SASSE) & PSYCHED! @ RMIT social @ Red Love, City

RMIT Civil Engineering Student Association (CESA) tour of Jacobs Melbourne Office (including talks about job opportunities, working at Jacobs) for final and penultimate year students @ Jacobs Melbourne Office, City

RMIT Economics, Finance and Marketing Student (EFMSA) Advocacy Seminar with Jon Burgess (founder of KWAN Management Consultancy) @ Village Roadshow Theatre, State Library of Victoria

RMIT Electric Racing & RMIT Racing (petrol) @ RMIT Open Day

RMIT Environmental Engineering Student Association (EESA) social @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard

RMIT Expanded Studio Practice Annual Graduate Exhibition Fundraising Auction @ RMIT Building 2

RMIT Gold & Silversmithing Student Association Annual Graduate Exhibition Fundraising Auction @ RMIT Storey Hall

RMIT Geospatial Science Students Association (GSSA) 'Life After Uni' seminar featuring guest speakers from the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute @ RMIT Building 12

RMIT Geospatial Science Students Association (GSSA) Annual Ball and School of Science Student Awards Night @ Carlton Brewhouse, Abbotsford

RMIT Human Resources Association (HRA) Networking & Employability Night @ RMIT Storey Hall

RMIT International Student Association (ISA) monthly social @ Workshop and Lounge, City

RMIT Law Students Society (LSS) 10th Anniversary of the RMIT JD Ball @ The Trust, City

RMIT Law Students Society (LSS) Legal Career Information Night (with pizza) @ RMIT RMIT Master of Fine Arts Graduating Club Annual Graduate Exhibition Fundraising Auction @ RMIT Building 49

RMIT Maths, Analytics and Statistics Society (MASS) & RMIT Mates Trivia Night @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Maths, Analytics and Statistics Society (MASS) Movie Night @ RUSU Activity Space, RMIT Building 10

RMIT Open Bite (Print Image Practice) Annual Graduate Exhibition Fundraising Auction @ RMIT Building 49

RMIT Medical Radiation Student Association (MRAD) 2017 hoodies release

RMIT Medical Radiation Student Association (MRAD) Annual Ball 'Winter Wonderland'

Planning & Environment RMIT Students Society (PERMITSS) Trivia Night @ Captain Melville, City

Planning & Environment RMIT Students Society (PERMITSS) & Uni Melb Planning Student society (MUPPS) Melbourne Urban Debating League #8 @ The Last Jar, City

Planning & Environment RMIT Students Society (PERMITSS) club outing to Open House Melbourne 2017 and documentary screening @ ACMI and various locations city and surrounds

PSYCHED! @ RMIT (Psychology Students Assoc.) Inaugural Ball @ San Remo Ballroom, North Carlton

RMIT Association of Pharmacy Students (RAPS) Annual Ball @ Melbourne Pavilion, Flemington Racecourse

RMIT Social Work Alliance Project (SWAP) Social Night @ RUSU Activity Space RMIT Building 10

RMIT Student Association for Sustainable Systems Engineering (SASSE) Industry Mixer @ RMIT Building 80

RMIT Supply Chain Student Association (SCSA) speed networking event with employees from all divisions of Mainfreight 'A Day in the Life of Mainfreight' (second instalment of this activity) @ RMIT Storey Hall Green Brain

RMIT Supply Chain Student Association (SCSA) Pizza Night @ Building 80

RMIT Supply Chain Student Association (SCSA) career insights night with

RMIT World Congress of Chiropractic Students (RMIT WCCS) Info Night @ private residence, Bundoora

Cultural Clubs		
<p>RMIT Afghan Student Society Eid Celebration @ RUSU Activity Space RMIT Building 10</p>	<p>RMIT Hong Kong Student Association (HKSA), Deakin HK Society, Monash HKSA, and UniMelb HKSA Ball "Secret Garden" @ Showtime Events Centre, South Wharf Docklands</p>	<p>RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) "Great Minds Think Alike" LinkedIn Workshop @ RMIT Building 80</p>
<p>RMIT Chinese Students & Scholars Association (RCSSA) Flea Market @ The Drill Hall, City</p>	<p>RMIT Indian Club Independence Day Celebration @ RUSU Activity Space, RMIT Building 10</p>	<p>RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) x UEM Engineering careers professional seminar @ Multicultural Hub, City</p>
<p>RMIT Chinese Students & Scholars Association (RCSSA) Badminton Day @ Stormers Badminton centre, Tottenham</p>	<p>RMIT Indonesian Students Association (RMIT PPIA) MALAMPIR (Malam Pintar) networking event to draw together RMIT students from different degree levels @ RUSU Activity Space, RMIT Building 57</p>	<p>RUMA x ExxonMobil Engagement Session @ Multicultural Hub, City</p>
<p>RMIT Chinese Students & Scholars Association (RCSSA) Boat Cruise 'The Rolling Dice' @ Central Pier, Docklands</p>	<p>RMIT Indonesian Students Association (RMIT PPIA) Ice Skating Event @ Docklands</p>	<p>RMIT Omani Student Club 'Exchange of Experience' event @ RMIT Bld 80</p>
<p>RMIT Club of Pakistan Independence Day Celebration @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10</p>	<p>RMIT Italian Society in conjunction with Monash, Swinburne, Latrobe, VU and Uni Melb Italian Societies inaugural Victorian Italian-Australian Tertiary Association Ball 'Carnivale' @ San Remo Ballroom, Carlton North</p>	<p>RMIT Singapore Student Association (SSA) iDarts event @ iDarts QV, City</p>
<p>RMIT Club of Pakistan Annual BBQ (to celebrate Eid) @ Yarraville Gardens, Yarraville</p>	<p>RMIT Japan Club Mask Making Workshop @ RUSU Activity Space RMIT Building 10</p>	<p>RMIT Singapore Student Association (SSA) National Day Parade Live Screening @ RMIT Building 80</p>
<p>RMIT Filipino Association BBQ @ RMIT A'Beckett Square</p>	<p>RMIT University Korean Association (RUKA) monthly social gatherings @ RUSU Multipurpose Space RMIT Building 47</p>	<p>RMIT University Sri Lankan Students Association (RUSLSA) emergency supplies drive for Sri Lanka flood relief</p>
<p>RMIT Filipino Association Boogie Fight (traditional Philippine military style feast) @ RUSU Activity Space RMIT Building 10</p>	<p>RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) Volunteer Appreciation Night @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10</p>	<p>RMIT University Sri Lankan Students Association (RUSLSA) Annual Charity Fundraiser - this year it was a Trivia Night for the Manasha Foundation @ Skyways Hotel, Airport West</p>
<p>RMIT French Club Cheese & Wine Tasting @ Milk the Cow, Carlton</p>	<p>RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) Welcome Party @ RMIT Bundoora Campus</p>	<p>RMIT Taiwan Club Social @ RUSU Activity Space RMIT Building 10</p>
<p>RMIT French Club French Wine Night @ Father's Office, City</p>	<p>RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) RUMA Raya Welcoming Party at Drill Hall, City</p>	<p>RMIT Thai Student Association (RTSA) Welcome Back Meet Up @ RUSU Activity Space Building 10</p>
<p>RMIT French Club French Conversation Session @ RMIT Building 59</p>	<p>RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA), Uni Melb Malaysian Association (MoMU), Monash Caulfield Malaysian Association (MASS) and Monash Uni Malaysian Association (MUMSU) combined boat cruise @ Central Pier, Docklands</p>	<p>RMIT Thai Student Association (RTSA) & Melbourne Uni Thai Club Siam Temple Fair House Party @ private residence, City</p>
<p>RMIT Hong Kong Student Association (HKSA) and Monash Uni HKSA Sports Day @ Monash University Caulfield Campus, Caulfield</p>	<p>RMIT University Malaysian Association Basketball Match @ RMIT A'Beckett Urban Square</p>	<p>RMIT Thai Student Association (RTSA) Hot Pot Night @ private residence, City</p>
<p>RMIT Hong Kong Student Association (HKSA) Board Games Social @ Marche Board Game Café, City</p>		<p>RMIT Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) Badminton Sports Day @ Altona Badminton Centre, Altona</p>
		<p>Vietnamese International Students at RMIT (VISAR) Mid-Autumn Moon Festival @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard</p>
		<p>Vietnamese International Students at RMIT (VISAR) Club Social @ RUSU Activity Space RMIT Building 10</p>



Clubs event posters

Social/Special Interest Clubs	
RMIT AIESEC China internship opportunities information session @ RMIT Building 8	League of Gaming (LOG) Weekly Community Gaming Night @ RMIT Building 80
RMIT AIESEC Global Fest @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard	League of Gaming (LOG) Weekly Community Gaming Night @ OP Gaming Internet Café, City
RMIT Asian Association (RAA) 'Midnight Melody' open mic event @ Black Rabbit, City	RMIT Oxfam screening of 10 Canoes @ RMIT Building 80
RMIT Asian Association (RAA) Traffic Light Party @ La Di Da, City	RMIT Science Fiction & Gaming Association (SFGA) twice weekly gaming sessions @ RMIT Building 57 RUSU Multipurpose Room and the Building 57 cafeteria
Beer Brewers and Connoisseurs Club (BBCC) Fortnightly Meet Up @ Beer Deluxe, Fed Square	Students for Sensible Drug Policy RMIT (SSDP RMIT) First Official Get Together @ Workshop Bar, City
RMIT Chess Club weekly chess sessions @ RMIT Building 13	
RMIT Chess Club participation in the fourth round of the Victorian Inter - Uni Chess Tournament @ UniMelb, Parkville	
RMIT Chinese Debating Club (CDG) training sessions and competitions @ RUSU Large Activity Space RMIT Building 10	
RMIT Engineers without Borders (EWB), Greening RMIT and RMIT Fossil Free screening of Seed - The Untold Story @ RMIT Building 80	
RMIT Games Manga and Anime Society (GMAS) weekly games & anime sessions @ RMIT Building 12	
Greening RMIT Degraives St, Recycling Tour @ Degraives St, City	
Greening RMIT weekly skill share sessions (unless another activity is offered instead - see above) @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard	
RMIT IAESTE traineeship information sessions (x2) @ RMIT Building 12	

Spiritual Clubs	
Catholics @ RMIT Welcome BBQ @ Flagstaff Gardens, City	
Catholics @ RMIT Fortnightly discussion group @ RMIT Chaplaincy	
RMIT Christian Union Weekly Bible Talk @ Building 8	
RMIT Christian Tuesday Nights @ Lygon Christian Chapel, Carlton	
RMIT Christian Union Pizza Night @ RMIT Building 80 Rooftop	
RMIT Christian Union Trivia Night @ Crossculture Church of Christ, Little Lonsdale Street, City	
RMIT Christian Union Business Faculty High Tea @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard	
RMIT Christian Union Snow Day @ Mt Baw Baw, Victoria	
RMIT Christian Union Mid Semester Get-away @ Caringal Scout Centre, Erica	

RMIT Christian Union Lan Party @ North Ringwood Uniting Church, Ringwood
RMIT Islamic Society Welcome Back BBQ @ RMIT Alumni Courtyard
RMIT Islamic Society 'Islamic Awareness Week' including information stalls, lectures, workshops and social gatherings @ various RMIT City campus locations
RMIT Islamic Society Futsal Tournament @ RMIT Bundoora Netball and Sports Centre, Bundoora
RMIT Multicultural Student Fellowship (MSF) weekly gathering @ RUSU Multifunction Room, RMIT Building 57
RMIT Overseas Christian Fellowship Welcome Back Night @ RUSU Large Activity Space RMIT Building 10
RMIT Students for Christ (SFC) First Gathering @ RUSU Large Activity Space RMIT Building 10

Political Clubs	
RMIT Greens Semester 2 Welcome Event @ the John Curtin Hotel, Carlton	
RMIT Greens information and Q&A session about the Greens financial policy @ RMIT Building 80	
RMIT Socialist Alternative Club 'Marriage Equality Speak Out' @ State Library Lawn, City	
RMIT Socialist Alternative Club Marriage Equality Speak Out Working Bee @ RUSU Large Activity Space, RMIT Building 10	
RMIT Socialist Alternative Club Forum 'The Red in the Rainbow: Socialists and Gay Liberation' @ RUSU Large Activity Space, RMIT Building 10	

Student Media

Catalyst

Catalyst provides the opportunity for RMIT students to gain experience in writing, editing, producing and designing magazine content, both for print and online.

The last few months for the Catalyst team were busy, but incredibly productive! We saw the creation and distribution of three hardcopy issues around the university, featuring the writing, design and artwork of current RMIT students.

This year saw over 125 RMIT students contribute to the magazine, website, and monthly podcast. One of our big focuses for this year was to get more than just the media and communication school involved and contributing, and we've done that - with students from fields including social work and marketing getting involved. Our contributor base is continually diversifying, and it's something we're looking to continue in 2018 by branching out into all areas (and campuses) of the university.

This is something we've been able to achieve this year through our social media presence. In 2017 we surpassed 2500 likes on Facebook, and 2200 followers on Twitter. We're currently sitting at 584 Instagram followers - a jump of nearly 100 since this time last year.

Industry Employment

Claudia Long (Catalyst editor 2016)
Producer at RN Drive and content producer at ABC Fact Check.

Finbar O'Mallon (Catalyst editor 2015)
Reporter at Canberra Times

Richard Ferguson (Catalyst editor 2015)
Reporter at The Australian

Rachel Dexter (Cataclysm EP 2015)
Reporter at The Age & producer on ABC 774

Broede Carmody (Catalyst editor 2014)
Reporter at The Age

Allison Worrall (Catalyst editor 2014)
Reporter at The Age and Domain

Catalyst Content

This year we produced five issues of the magazine. Each edition had a theme picked by the editors, and then engaged with our editorial committee each month (made up of RMIT students across different schools) to work out what sort of content they would like to see in the magazine. The magazines featured written and visual



Catalyst Launch Party

content from students, and was then designed by our creative director (also an RMIT student) before being sent off to external printers. This magazine was a great way of engaging an expansive range of students, and giving them the opportunity to get some experience in the production of a magazine.

Website

This is where we post online versions of the articles and artwork featured in the hardcopy magazine, as well as more time-sensitive campus news and reviews that don't always fit into the print magazine.

Cataclysm - The Catalyst Podcast

Our monthly podcast underwent a few changes this quarter. Rather than it being an hour long episode released every two months as it previously was, it is now a 30 minute episode released every month. We changed this because we all felt students would be more engaged with the product if it was shorter and released more frequently. There is definitely still a lot of work to be done on Cataclysm, however this will be a big focus for the editors of 2018. Listen here: <https://cataclysm.podbean.com>

Events

In 2017 we were able to throw a number of parties and workshops for current and potential Catalyst contributors.

Our first party of the year - to launch issues one and two of the magazine - went

incredibly well, and we had a great turnout of contributors, and other interested students drop by and enjoy the night.

We were also able to conduct a workshop where our reviews coordinator, Ben Madden gave out some tips to our contributors on how to conduct an interview and to make your review a little more interesting. We had around 20 people turn up for this workshop from various year levels and courses, and received highly positive feedback.

Another successful event was our 'pitching at the pub' night, where we invited everyone to sit down for a casual drink at the John Curtin Hotel. The editors gave a quick explanation of what makes a good pitch, how to write it, what to include, and what catches our attention, geared around creating a friendly community to bounce ideas around. Like the reviews workshop, this was received really well, and it was a good chance for our contributors to meet the editors and feel as though they are part of a community rather than just something they send an email to every now and then.

In the coming week, Catalyst will also be hosting our end-of-year party which is a way of us thanking all of our 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.

Advertising

2017 was a great year for advertising in Catalyst. This year saw the expansion of our advertising footprint through the creation of a new role within our team - the Marketing Co-ordinator - who was given the task of liaising with advertisers, building relationships with clients, and ultimately bringing in advertising revenue. In past years this was handled by the editors, but we felt this new role would allow for the best possible outcomes - the dedicated coordinator could focus all their energy on sending out emails to potential clients, then communicating with them promptly upon an advertising request. The editors would then handle the paperwork in the office.

While we didn't meet our \$10,000 advertising target by mid-year, we made significant headway - something which will certainly carry on into 2018 as the coordinator's role develops and evolves. We've forged strong relationships with the Sydney Road Brunswick Association and LendLease, showing that advertising in Catalyst doesn't just bring some money in, it also establishes a positive name for the brand within these companies (alongside all the companies who advertised with Catalyst for just one issue.)

RMITV

Providing production experience, training and social events to over 455 active volunteers, RMITV continues to engage RMIT students, alumni and industry practitioners.

Industry Employment

Mike Beckham (RMIT Alumnus)
Runner at Endemol Shine Australia

Dylan Knoll (RMITV Volunteer)
Camera Operator and Video Editor at Sports Recording Services

Moses Muldoon (RMIT Alumnus)
Digital Content Producer at Edrolo

Scott Hudson (RMITV Volunteer)
Director at Knapsack

RMITV Content

Current programming

RMITV Presents: Season 2 of RMITV's new flagship program is underway with three interesting and different shows, each pitched by our volunteers. The three shows include: OneFall!, the wrestling news show; Learning With Difficulties, the motion captured animated series; and the



quirky news show The Snake Pit returns for another season.

Good Morning Melbourne: RMITV's first morning show continues to produce fantastic content, showcasing the city of Melbourne. Focused on producing online content and building a strong audience, we are excited to start utilising RMIT's new media precinct and television studios.

In Pit Lane: RMITV's longest running show is back for 2017! With a format change and a new focus on more international events, the show looks to build their online audience, whilst providing an integral training experience for our volunteers.

In Development

RMIT Alive: Our co-production with RMIT had its first broadcast at the end of July. It was a huge success for all stakeholders and has everyone talking 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.

SuperRate: RMITV's movie review program is in pre-production for their second season. The new season will be taking a new approach to the format, with a focus on recent, more modern movies.

Formula SAE: Following the success of last year's Formula SAE Student Engineering Competition, which garnered over 8000 viewers, RMITV are set to broadcast the event again in 2017. Plans are already underway with the Universities' support to go bigger and better than last year!

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.

RMITV Training

This quarter has seen a growth in members wanting to create their own content, thus the training department has been focusing on providing members with the tools to do just that. Ranging from an industry talk on content creation to a proposal writing workshop to a producing workshop. Providing members with the essential tools to create their own content for television, film and online media platforms.

Offbeat Season 4: Offbeat was put on hiatus at the end of last year. However due to the demand for more studio training in a live broadcast environment the training department has developed it into a fourth season. Offering training opportunities for budding producers, editors, writers and crew members. In quarter three producers were brought onto the project and underwent training to prepare them for the upcoming season. Q4 will see the show go live to air with training from industry professionals.

The Panel Chat: Paul Walton: Paul Walton offered insight into the current media climate and the future it is heading in with a focus on online content creation. It sparked a large conversation with the audience offering engagement and networking with one of the most sought after producers in the industry. It was livestreamed onto the RMITV Facebook page garnering up to over 1000 views.

Create Your Own Content Workshop: Nowadays everyone wants to create their

own content but they don't necessarily know how to approach it. This workshop offered insight on how to start and what is involved in creating a proposal - from genre, to classifications, to summaries.

Producing Workshop: The producing workshop was centered around production management. It offered an interactive learning experience to creating your own paperwork. It included breaking down a script, scheduling, location scouting, call sheets and budgeting among others.

GMM Field Workshop: A field workshop centered around Good Morning Melbourne was held to provide crew members with better insight into the new equipment at RMITV. Ensuring the best quality in all work produced.

Training Learning Management: The training website is undergoing a facelift. The training department is currently looking into more efficient learning management systems that are more user friendly and that can support the online training courses which are currently still in development.

RMITV Technical Update

Equipment Utilization

Equipment use by RMITV productions continues to stay strong, averaging about five hires per week. Q3 saw more use of Sennheiser G3 wireless lapel packs, following our purchase of three additional units to meet demand.

Future Purchases

Currently, a large portion of RMITV's programming is studio based. In light of this, the equipment acquisition strategy for the remainder of 2017 will focus on supporting location based shoots that are part of these shows, as these represent a large portion of our weekly equipment hires.

These shoots are usually interviews and event coverage, both of which require very efficient operation - simple lighting setups, flexible cameras etc. More powerful, battery powered LED lights would fit the bill for lighting. Our current cameras work well as jack of all trades units, but more variety in our offerings, such as specialist cameras for low light shooting, could be a good option. Another item that could greatly improve production values with minimal effort would be a camera slider.

Community Heritage Grant Archival Project

Q3 saw tremendous progress on the CHG archival project. Currently, around 95% of

the tape collection has been successfully catalogued and we are officially ready to progress onto the final stage of the process - digitization. The final stage of the grant will kick off in November, so said digitization will occur in Q1 2018, in-house and at FATS Digital, who have offered us a tremendous deal for their services.

After digitization, this content will hopefully be stored on RMIT servers, which RUSU and RMITV are currently seeking access to. This will be managed through a digital asset management system, and be made publically available for research and entertainment purposes online via platforms such as YouTube and archive.org.

RMITV Events

Throughout 2017, RMITV has continued to hold 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. RMITV hosted a stall at the RMIT 130th Anniversary Celebration, providing engagement from passers-by and excellent exposure to the organisation.

To celebrate RMITV's 30th Anniversary, a special end-of-year celebration is in the works for the final quarter of the year.

RMITV Marketing

Our social media statistics have improved - at the end of April RMITV had 1992 likes on Facebook with a reach of 750 and post engagements sitting at around 200. We are now at 2163 likes with a reach that's been as high as 4806 and frequently sits at over 800. In terms of Twitter, we've grown to 2259 likes (an increase of around 15 since the last report). Growth on Twitter is slower than on Facebook, but nonetheless, our reach is increasing.

Social Media & Publications

Social Media

up to date information on our upcoming events, student support and student rights.

Facebook

19,559 likes (up 148 from previous quarter, and 2,043 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 2,389 (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

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.

Snapchat

Snapchat has quickly become one of our most popular social media experiences with students, capturing RUSU moments in real-time. There has been a large promotional push to get students to use the RUSU snap code to follow us. We have continued to use event specific geo-filters to help enhance the branding of RUSU to share on Facebook.

The RUSU Communications & Publications 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.



Promotional Material

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

Winter Wonderland

A cosy winter night with a warm mulled wine. The artwork was designed to reflect the starry night and the beautifully lit wonderland.

Postgrad Speed Friending

Always a popular event, the speed friending artwork had another revamp with the design of the happy emoji-faced stopwatch.

The Bundy Games

A fresh new look for the Bundy Games, with a slick new logo - move over Ninja Warrior.

Life Hack Week

Helping student piece together life and RMIT, this IKEA-inspired instructional design.

PJ Boat Party

Get your PJs and set sail! Might be a bit cold in Melbourne, but that didn't worry the students or the artwork for this tropical inspired boat poster.



Representation & Advocacy

Compass

Awareness of the new Compass space in NAS has increased with more students dropping into the centre and students accessing the free food from the Compass Cupboard.

The City Compass Coordinator staff member, Thea Lamaro commenced a 12 month secondment with RMIT Safer Communities at the start of September. The Bundoora/Brunswick Compass Coordinator, Sarah Duff has been increased to full time to cover the City Drop In Centre as well as outreach and programs on the outer campuses.

Compass is busily preparing for our peak outreach period, with the Compass Marketplace to be held across all campuses the first week of November, Stress Less Week in Week 12 and a SWOTVAC program of exam support stalls in the libraries on all campuses.

Compass Yoga & Wellness

Compass Free Weekly Yoga in our new activities space has been extremely popular with many students attending every session. Yoga sessions are held twice per week during semester and are open to all students.

Compass has delivered 5- 8 week wellness programs of events at City, Bundoora and Brunswick (see campus specific sections of the report). Free sessions have included flower crown making, hula hoop lessons, self defence, journal writing and lots more.



Above: Compass Cupboard, Right: RUOK Day across all campuses



Representation

2017 RUSU Elections

The RUSU Student Union Council elections were a key event this quarter.

Sixty-one nominations were received. Of the 32 positions for which nominations were called (including five General Representatives and seven NUS delegates), 20 positions were contested and 12 were declared elected unopposed.

Polling was conducted across the campuses from Monday, September 4 to Friday, September 8. A total of 3430 votes were cast (including 1 postal vote). This represents a 6.8% increase on 2016.

The Connect ticket had a landslide victory. The election results are available at: www.rusu.rmit.edu.au/electionresults.

University Council Elections

RUSU President, Abena Dove was elected as the student on the RMIT University Council this quarter.

Appeal Committees Reps

RUSU has supported students on the following RMIT hearings;

1 student representative sat on 1 University Appeals Committee hearing

7 student representatives sat on 6 Student Conduct Board hearings

15 student representatives sat on 19 College Appeals Committee hearings

Student Voice

RUSU elected student representatives

provided a student voice on a range of RMIT committees during this quarter.

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

11 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.

Oktoberfest, Alumni Courtyard



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:

- Providing group information sessions and individual case support to Students who have been placed at risk and required to show cause, as well as students who have been recommended by their College for Exclusion.
- Providing group information sessions and individual case support to Students wanting to appeal an assessment outcome.
- Attending appeal hearings with students and advocating on their behalf.
- Supporting students with fees issues, including late course withdrawals, remissions of debt, and refunds.
- The new RMIT Complaints portal

launched in the third quarter and the team has been helping students navigate some the technical and policy change surrounding this.

- Contribution made to the comprehensive review of Food Quality Assurance course within the School of Science and support for students pursuing appeals in relation to the course.
- Student Rights Officers have maintained their regular outreach activities and engagement with the broader University through:

- Ongoing Student Rights outreach to students at the Wednesday common lunchtime 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 Assessment Support Unit Liaison Meetings.

What are students saying?

"I am pleased to tell you that I am extremely happy with the decision taken by the committee. With regards the entire appeal process, I would like to thank you for all the timely help, guidance and support provided to us while dealing with this issue. Your efforts and time are highly appreciated and I personally feel (we) wouldn't have been able to present our case appropriately without your valuable assistance."

"My appeal have been approved! Best birthday gift ever! Thank you for your help."

"Thank you so much to both of you, for the all the genuine support and advice today. It is so comforting to have such caring and understanding people within the RMIT community. I really appreciate all your help."

"Thank you for all the support you and the rest of the RUSU team have provided throughout this process. I have no doubt that I would have been hard pressed to reach this positive outcome without your help."

Brunswick Workshops



Issues	
HDR Issues	
HDR Appeal final mark	1
HDR submission/ Examination Issue	2
Scholarship Issue	1
Supervisor Issue	5
Discipline (University Level)	
Academic (Plagiarism) Misconduct	2
General Misconduct	3
Complaint	
School Level	21
University Level	6
Discipline (School Level)	
Academic (Plagiarism) Misconduct	16
General Misconduct	7
Uncategorised	
Admin Issue	3
Admission Issue	5
Appeal Against Assessment	54
Assessment Issues (Other)	34
At Risk	3
Bullying	4
Disability	18
Enrolment Issue	14
Equitable Assessment Arrangements (EAA)	8
Exclusion	32
Fees Issue	22
Group Work Issue	2

Leave of Absence (LOA)	9
Mental Health Issues	22
Other Issues	35
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	2
Remission of Debt	20
Show Cause	34
Special Consideration	64
Supplementary Exam Request (Pass By Compensation)	6

Outcomes	
Appeal Against Exclusion University Appeals Committee	
Appeal Upheld	1
Exclusion Withdrawn by School before the hearing	3
Fee Remission	
Fee Remission Approved	1
Special Consideration Granted	
Alternative Assessment	1
Deferred Exam	4
Extension of time	4
Late withdrawal without Academic Penalty	4
Appeal Against Special Consideration University Appeal Committee	
Special Consideration Granted without a hearing	2
Complaint Outcome	
School level Complaint Dismissed	2
University Level Complaint Dismissed	2
University Level Complaint Resolved	2
Late Enrolment Outcome	
Late Enrolment achieved	1

Referral - Internal	
Compass	1
Counselling Service	11
Disability Liaison Unit	7
Contacted School Issue Resolved	
Contacted Academic Administrator	1
Contacted Course Coordinator	8
Contacted Head of School	1
Contact Program Manager	8
Other	
Advice given - Student able to proceed with the case themselves	55
Attended group session	7
Other Outcomes	10
Student doesn't want to pursue with the case	12
Discipline/Plagiarism Meeting Case School Level	
Student asked to resubmit the assessment	1
Student Reprimanded	1
Student was given a fail for all or any part of any assessment	2
Leave of Absence (LOA)	
LOA Granted	2
Discipline Board Hearing Academic Misconduct	
Case Dismissed in favour of Student	2
Fail recorded in an assessment session	1
Other Penalty	2
Student was asked to repeat an assessment session	3

Appeal Against Assessment CAC Decision University Appeals Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	3
Appeal Upheld	3
Fee Issue Outcome	
Issue Resolved	3
Supplementary Exam	
Supplementary Exam Granted	2
Appeal Against Assessment (AAA) College Appeals Committee	
Appeal Dismissed	7
Appeal Upheld	2
Informal Review of Assessment Resolution	3
Discipline/Plagiarism Meeting Case School Level	
Student found not guilty	1
Discipline Board Hearing General Misconduct	
Case Dismissed in favour of Student	1
Fine Imposed on the student	1
Other Penalty	1
Student Reprimanded	2
Show Cause Outcome	
Show Cause approved by SPC	11
Show Cause Rejected by SPC	4

Cases	
Opened Cases during the last quarter	322
Closed Cases during the last quarter	155
Total issues created during the last quarter	455
Total outcomes achieved during the last quarter	212
Total number of SIM (Offshore Cases) handled	2

RUSU Governance, Administration & Services

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

- Assisting and resourcing RUSU student representatives in meetings with RMIT University.
- Regular Meetings with RMIT University and Property Services especially regarding NAS, Student Experience Projects and RUSU Top 20 projects.
- Ongoing support for establishing RUSU Central and Compass in NAS including the development of Operating Procedures for those locations.
- Setting up the RUSU Activity Space in NAS and preparation for a launch of the Activity Space.
- Supporting the RUSU Queer and Women's Officers to work with Property Services to design and establish the Women's and Queer rooms in Building 5. Creating Operating Procedures for these spaces.
- Development and implementation of RUSU website facility and back end procedures to enable students to book RUSU bookable spaces in NAS and Building 57 via the RUSU website.
- 2016 Annual financial audit finalised.
- RUSU Annual General Meetings held across all campuses including the preparation and distribution of the RUSU 2016 Snapshot report.
- RUSU Constitution and regulations changed to create the position of Indigenous Officer on the Student Union Council.
- Reporting on SSAF-Funded projects.
- RUSU Investment Strategy monitored and implemented.
- Coordinating and implementing RUSU actions to ensure compliance with the Child Safe Standards, including organising Working with Children Checks for relevant RUSU staff.
- Providing advice to the RUSU management on IT-related issues
- Coordinating the RUSU Administration & Student Liaison Officer Team Meetings.
- Providing first point of contact Student Rights advice for RMIT students (onshore and offshore).
- Sourcing and resourcing student representatives to RMIT 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 – 30 September 2017**

Allowable Item	Item Description	YTD Expenditure (SSAF Funded)
Giving students information to help them in their orientation	» Orientation specific events	\$98,825
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	\$242,185
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	\$48,931
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	\$239,833
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	\$182,975
Providing food or drink to students on a campus of the higher education provider	» Campus specific events and marketing (all campuses) » RUSU Realfoods	\$188,182
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	\$200,281

**Table 1: RUSU SSAF Grant Expenditure on Allowable Items
1 January – 30 September 2017 (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	\$275,785
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)	\$522,845
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	\$529,281
YTD SSAF EXPENDITURE		\$2,559,123
YTD 2017 SSAF FUNDS RECEIVED		\$3,586,850

**Table 2: 2017 SSAF Committee Grant Financial Report
1 January – 30 September 2017**

Program Title	Grant Amount	Expenditure YTD
RUSU Volunteer Program	\$183,000	\$103,089
RUSU Flagship Production (Live on Bowen) and RMITV training program	\$42,316	\$17,600
RUSU International Student Support - conversation classes and city tours	\$45,500	\$34,772
Bundoora Common Lunch Hour (including SRO & BE)	\$72,552	\$58,243
RUSU Orientation Package	\$123,727	\$98,825
RUSU Free Healthy Breakfasts including nutrition & sustainability awareness	\$56,373	\$41,818
Post-grad Support Program (including SRO)	\$43,000	\$15,788
Brunswick Common Lunch Hour	\$38,824	\$26,244
RUSU VE Awareness & Support	\$33,842	\$28,938
SSCC Mentoring Program	\$30,000	\$17,231
Compass Bundoora & Brunswick	\$110,000	\$57,784
City Campus Events Boost	\$49,784	\$23,148
Point Cook Student Life Boost	\$22,988	\$2,972
RUSU Clubs Grants	\$30,000	\$16,632
TOTAL	\$881,500	\$543,084

