



THIRD QUARTER REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD
01/07/2013-30/09/2013

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RUTSU
RMIT UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION



President's Report



James
Michelmore

July to September has been a booming quarter for RUSU, with the success of the first half of the year continuing. Student volunteers completed over 1,000 hours of accredited service this quarter, with over 70 new volunteers joining our team. This quarter also saw RUSU add two new training opportunities and a camp to the volunteer program. Funding

has been secured for the continuation and expansion of the volunteer program in 2014, with a focus on improved professional development opportunities. Three RMIT students have also joined the RUSU team at Bundoora to complete placements as part of their studies.

Almost 20,000 free lunches were handed out to students this quarter. The addition of free fresh fruit to many of our weekly events has been welcomed by students across the University. Over 8,000 pieces of fruit and hundreds of healthy cookbooks have been given away to students as part of our Healthy Eating Program.

A number of new student clubs joined RUSU's ranks this quarter as almost \$25,000 in grants were distributed to support student activities on and off campus.

Student rights cases continue to be an area of growth; up over 50% on last quarter, with the number of new cases opened already surpassing last year's total. The department continues to focus on concerns about the University's proposed 'Fitness For Study' policies as part of the proposed changes to the Student Conduct Regulation.

Financially, the Student Union is tracking well to effectively spend funds received as grants from RMIT University by the end of 2013. In 2014 RUSU looks likely to again secure a number of projects funded by the Student Services and Amenities Fee, including the continuation of successful programs such as the Compass Drop-In Centre and campus Orientation events.

Annual elections for the Student Union were held in the second week of September, with 59 nominations received for various positions. 5 days of polling across all Melbourne campuses saw voter turnout rise - over 2,000 students participated and voted for their 2014 representatives. Areas of greatest interest to students were on-campus services, facilities and volunteer opportunities. Other key points of discussion included transport concessions for international students, the recording of lectures and regular free events on campus.

Thousands of students have shown their support for RUSU's work this year with membership now surpassing 3,000 financial members - well above 2012's figure. A \$10 membership to the Student Union provides students with benefits including additional giveaways, promotions and a newsletter subscription. Students can join by visiting www.su.rmit.edu.au/signup or dropping by a front counter on their campus.



Activities and Events

Activities

The third quarter of 2013 gave us a Federal Election, a RUSU election, avian premiers in both major football codes and the transition from the frigid Melbourne winter to the jasmine scented spring.

National Campus Band Competition (RMIT Heats and Regional Final)

Once again, RUSU participated in the annual AACA National Campus Band Competition. This event saw 12 bands, representing the cream of RMIT's musical creativity battling it out across 4 nights in July at the Public Bar in North Melbourne. Ben Foldsian indie trio Guests won the day, scoring a custom merchandise pack to go along with their (considerable) bragging rights.

The regional final was held at St Kilda's iconic Esplanade Hotel, with groups from RMIT, Victoria University and North Melbourne Institute of Technology battling it out for a place in the state final. Our entrant did not make it through to the next round, but this did not stop the assembled throng from partying late into the night.

'Noah's Ark' Boat Cruise

Our boat cruise was held on September 26 and saw around 250 students, dressed in the fashion of those passengers on the inaugural voyage of Noah's famous Ark, set sail aboard the Victoria Star for a nautical party the likes of which have been rarely seen.

Market Days

RUSU has continued with the practice of previous years of holding fortnightly market days on Bowen Street to coincide with the Wednesday Chill n' Grills. Four merchants have been attending each week, contributing to a vibrant sense of community amongst the student body.



'NOAH'S ARK' BOAT CRUISE

RUSU Membership

Being a RUSU member has certainly had its perks this quarter with 80 free ticket giveaways to movies including: *2 Guns*, *White House Down*, *Elysium* and *The Way Way Back*.

271 students became RUSU financial members during this quarter, bringing total membership to 3107 students.

Volunteers

RUSU Volunteers go on Camp!

The opportunity to evaluate the first six months of the RUSU volunteer program was taken this quarter. Staff who directly supervise volunteers were invited to appraise the recruitment, induction training and retention processes and contribute to continuous program improvement. Areas of high turnover, more tailored training, leadership development and program evaluation were discussed and are being developed.

Volunteer Camp

In early August about 40 of our volunteers joined in on the 2013 volunteer camp to Log Cabin Camp in Creswick. As well as an opportunity for volunteers to meet and socialise, program feedback was sought and the beginnings of the RUSU volunteer's orientation committee was established. This camp was organised by volunteers themselves for the enjoyment of all RUSU helpers. To the organising team: THANK YOU for your great work and enthusiasm.

Realfoods held a very successful specific 'Realfoods Café Skills' training trial. Volunteers were invited to join the café co-ordinator to learn more about the operations and requirements of the Realfoods project with a view to better retention rates, increased customer service and kitchen skills and even higher quality service delivery.

Volunteer Professional Development

RUSU added 2 new trainings to our volunteer program this quarter; Manual Handling & Realfoods Café Skills training. We continue to get frequent requests from students for references and to be included on their CVs, indicating the importance of our programs in assisting students seeking employment, particularly in areas such as hospitality.

RECRUITMENT	JULY-SEPT	YTD
Students registering interest to volunteer	108	448
TRAINING (COMPLETIONS)	JULY-SEPT	YTD
Volunteers inducted	73	183
Volunteers trained in Food Handling Level 1	20	70
Volunteers training in RSA	0	33
Volunteers registered for Youth Mental Health First Aid	0	21
Realfoods Café Skills training (NEW)	38	38
Manual Handling (NEW)	8	8

1000+ Volunteer Hours Worked this Quarter

At the end of the third quarter, RUSU volunteers had contributed approximately 1004 working hours to RUSU services. This brings us to a total of 2666 volunteer hours this year.

Across the Campuses

City

The RUSU Information Counter in Building 8 continues to be an important 'go to' information point for students and also visitors to RMIT, with approximately 100 queries a day during this quarter. Our 10 RUSU Front Office volunteers continued to staff the office during peak periods.

Wednesdays @ Chill 'N' Grill Chill & Grill gets even healthier

Chill'n'Grill is held weekly during semester in Bowen Street, with a special Alumni Court event once a month. Chill'n'Grill continued to be RUSU's major regular event, feeding 1000 -1,200 students in 2 hours with sausages, vegie burgers, fried onions, bread and salad. Nine Chill'n'Grill events were held this quarter.

This quarter Chill'n'Grill became even healthier, linking with the RUSU Healthy Food Choices program to provide free fresh organic fruit to students. The Pedal Powered Smoothie bikes were a feature of our most recent event. These are a healthy and fun way to engage students who create their own smoothies and then cycle to power the blender.

Between 10-15 of our trained RUSU Events volunteers continue to assist our Activities staff from 10am-3pm every Wednesday to set up, run the event and do the pack up and post event cleaning.

RUSU has teamed up with the RMIT music industry course to provide student coordinated gigs, with student bands performing weekly at Chill'n'Grill. The RUSU branded beer pong tables continue to be a hit with students.

Bundoora

Starving Students: Every Thursday Bundie BBQ Season begins

RUSU continues to provide healthy free meals to students at the Bundoora West campus. With the start of Spring, RUSU switched our Thursday free lunch program from hot soup, bread rolls and fresh fruit (outside building 202) to the Bundoora Barbeque in the courtyard of building 204. The BBQ provides free halal sausages and vegie burgers with onions, salad and bread. Both have been very popular and students have been very appreciative of these events, despite the inclement weather. Over 4,000 students have enjoyed the free lunch program this quarter.

Building 204 Coffee break

The free tea and coffee service provided by RUSU in the kitchen of building 204 is still extremely popular. Students come in on a regular basis to make tea, coffee, hot chocolate, green tea and chai tea. Between 100 and 150 hot drinks are made each day within this kitchen.

Building 204 Information Counter

The information counter had a number of student rights enquiries and students booking in to see the Student Rights Officer across a range of issues such as Appeal Against Exclusion, special consideration, concern over placements and fee waivers. The complexity of the issues and cases meant that some students required a lot of support and multiple appointments to prepare their cases.



TAFE BRUNCHES



CHILL'N'GRILL

Free Breakfast program expands to 2 locations

RUSU continued to provide free healthy breakfasts in semester two. Breakfasts are now being set up in the foyer of Building 202 between the library and the cafeteria - 8.30am to 10am. The breakfasts include muesli with milk or yoghurt and fresh fruit.

The free breakfasts have been really popular with many students who return each week bringing their classmates and friends. It has been a great opportunity to hand out flyers regarding other RUSU events and services we offer as well as a collection point for 'Catalyst'

While this is great for students on the run, we also cater to the students who prefer to sit down with each other in the 'chilled out' atmosphere of Building 204 and eat a late breakfast together. We set the building 204 breakfasts up from 10am onwards. Over 2,200 students enjoyed free breakfast at Bundoora this quarter.

Bundoora Student Placements

In semester 2, three final year Social Science students commenced placements with RUSU at Bundoora. Two Social Science (Psychology) students are completing research projects, one on student usage of Building 204, and another on student leadership within RMIT. These projects will culminate in reports which will be distributed to key stakeholders within RMIT. Another Social Science (Legal and Dispute Studies) student is researching Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Bundoora East Rejuvenation Comes to a Stand Still

RUSU is extremely disappointed that plans to turn building 254 at Bundoora East into a focal point of student life have slowed to a snail's pace, despite the enthusiasm shown by RMIT for RUSU's plans to breathe some life in Bundoora East. RUSU will keep pushing for this project approval with Property Services.



Brunswick

RUSU welcomed Amber-lea Drinnan to the team in August, with Amber commencing as the Student Liaison Officer for Carlton and Brunswick. Amber is already becoming a familiar face on campus through her involvement in the free breakfast programs.

Free Lunch Tuesdays @ Brunswick

4000 students enjoyed free healthy lunches this quarter at Brunswick. The winter warmer soup program was successfully run during July and August with a great response and turnout from students, feeding 400 students each week. The soups provided sit well with the RUSU healthy eating initiatives, being both vegan and gluten free. Freshly baked bread rolls are also available. BBQ's returned to campus in September replacing the free soup. A crowd, 400 strong lined up each week for the BBQs which served Halal meat and vegetarian burgers on fresh bread rolls and cider.

Brunswick Healthy Breakfast

The Brunswick Healthy Breakfast continued on campus, providing muesli and Greek yoghurt with fresh fruit to around 150 students per week. In September, we expanded the program to include organic vegan fruit muffins enabling us to provide free breakfasts to 200 students per week. Over 1,700 students accessed the free breakfast program this month.

RUSU Fresh Fruit Program

September saw the first delivery of fruit from Organic Empire to Brunswick RUSU as part of the Healthy Eating program. The fruit has been extremely popular; often running out the day it arrives.

Brunswick Lockers

After years of campaigning and negotiations RUSU has finally overseen the installation of 50 lockers on campus. RUSU began leasing these lockers to students for the remainder of 2013 and expects that they will be extremely popular in 2014. This project was made possible by a specific 2012 SSAF Grant.

TAFE (aka Carlton)

TAFE Brunch Hour@ Carlton

Carlton's Brunch Hour at Building 94 has successfully continued and emerged in September as RUSU's only all organic and vegan event, offering a variety of organic vegan muffins, muesli slices, scones, fruit and salad rolls for students to start their day and to sample some of the goodies on sale at Realfoods. The event has serviced around 250 students each week, with students regularly awaiting our arrival. 6 Carlton's Brunches were held this quarter, serving 1,500 students.

RUSU DEPARTMENTS

Environment

The Environment collective meetings have become more streamlined and regular with active students who want to create sustainable change at RMIT. Various campaign and project ideas were discussed in these meetings. There were 4 meetings this quarter with an average of 10 students per meeting.

Clothes Swap

Held every year by the Environment Department, clothes/shoes and anything that can be given away is collected in a box outside RUSU for a month. Around 70 students received free clothes which were given away as a part of World week.

Double Screening:

Do the Math/Mining the Truth' Movie Night

This movie night was a successful collaboration between the Environment Department, Social Environment Network and the Fossil Free RMIT student clubs. 'Do the Math' looks at the Fossil Free Divestment movement started in Nov 2012 on tour around the US, gathering a wave of grass roots support to keep emissions below the limit to keep global warming to 2 degrees. 'Mining the Truth' documents the story of 60 young people travelling to mining affected communities in Australia. 40 students attended the movies which were followed by discussions amongst students about sustainability and other issues at RMIT.

Greening RMIT Project

This project looks into establishing a range of moveable gardens/green spaces in RMIT University that illustrate principles of sustainable urban planning, involve students from various schools and utilise their diverse skills to help build this project. With support from RUSU Enviro Collective members and Realfoods volunteers, this group campaigns for garden spaces to become 'Environmental Hubs' that provide educational opportunities for students. Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Greening-RMIT/230206440461689>

25 students/staff attended the first planning meeting in September. Creative workshops were conducted where students collaborated to build beds from reclaimed wooden pallets, learning garden planning skills in the process. Gardening tips and professional help was provided by KIIVA. 40 students have participated in the workshops.

Free Bike Maintenance Sessions

RUSU partnered with Good Cycles to train groups of 15 students in basic bike maintenance skills on August 6, 13 and 20. The first workshop was attended by the RMIT Engineers without Borders student group, who have gone on to run free bike safety checks at Chill n Grill, passing on their skills to their peers for free.

Enviro Furniture Cage

Second hand Computers provided free to students

The RMIT Furniture Collective is dedicated to collecting discarded RMIT University Furniture and redistributing it FREE to students. It is open every Wednesday afternoon during semester and was open 9 days this quarter.

"Just wanted to say thanks for organising these bike workshops. I attended a workshop last week and it was really great. I learned a lot" Zoe, student

Recycling furniture helps in two ways:

1. Students can acquire useful items of furniture that they otherwise would not be able to afford;
2. It helps the environment by preventing perfectly good furniture from rotting away in landfill.

This quarter had been very busy as the Furniture Cage received computers and implemented a free second hand computers program for RMIT students. The hard drives were wiped and the computers with all the parts including the monitor, CPUs, keyboards and mouse were distributed free to RMIT students through the furniture cage. The students were very happy as they felt it was very thoughtful of the Student Union as otherwise the computers would have been very expensive for students to buy.

Free computer case studies

Student A came from overseas for studies and said that she could not afford to buy a computer as her parents were already paying a lot for her study fees and so these free computers were a blessing for her.

Student B said that the laptop he already had, had a very small screen which would strain his eyes while working on his assignments. He was trying to buy a new computer for himself so this free computer had saved him money.

RUSU Realfoods

Realfoods Café reopened for semester 2 on 22 July and has been open from 11am - 4pm Monday to Friday for 9 weeks this quarter. Realfoods daily operations continued to be support of a large team of trained student volunteers.

Burger Tuesday / Falafel Friday specials continue to be our busiest days each week, and customers often enquire after these menu items on other days!

Realfoods World Week Menu

RUSU Realfoods was excited to take part in World Week for the first time this year to showcase cuisines from all corners of the globe. Our Café Co-ordinator and chef worked together to create a daily changing menu and our team of volunteers enjoyed getting involved with the preparation of new foods, such as learning how to roll sushi.

"Had so much fun with sushi prep...hope Japanese day is going well :)" volunteer, via sms

Volunteer Fair & RMIT Health and Wellbeing Expo

Realfoods had a booth at the RMIT Volunteer Fair in September promoting volunteering opportunities at RUSU and Realfoods, signing-ups prospective future volunteers for 2014.

RUSU Realfoods also engaged in some Café promotion at the RMIT Health and Wellbeing Expo.

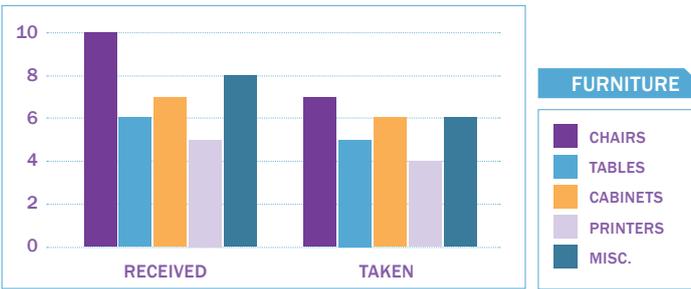
Volunteer On-Site Kitchen Skills Training

All Realfoods volunteers were requested to attend a 2 hour On-Site Kitchen Skills and Equipment Use Training sessions, which counted towards their RMIT LEAD certification. This new group training model enables us to provide a more thorough orientation to the café its operations and the key equipment used, including OH&S issues related to working safely in a kitchen. The training was also a great way to have the volunteers become more familiar with other team members who work in the Café.

RUSU Realfoods hit the 1000 Facebook likes this quarter 1,082 Facebook Page Likes at September 30, 2013.

"It's SO nice to know there are places in this city that accommodate for strict vegetarians like myself." N- student via email

FURNITURE CAGE INFO



FURNITURE CAGE

REALFOODS WORLD WEEK MENU

RUSU Realfoods organic cafe is showcasing cuisines from all corners of the globe for World Week. Make sure you head to the RMIT Swanston St campus cafeteria (5.43) to get your tana buds traveling!

MEXICAN MONDAY
Monday 16 September
Enjoy the colourful fresh flavours of this region and celebrate Mexican Independence Day today!

BURGER TUESDAY
Tuesday 17 September
It's always Burger Tuesday at Realfoods, but for World Week we will be expanding our Healthy Zone on fast food featuring more of those familiar favourite ingredients like U.S. or A.

JAPANESE WEDNESDAY
Wednesday 18 September
This cuisine is so naturally tasty and healthy, that even though "Japanese" doesn't rhyme with "Wednesday", we just had to pay homage to all things sushi, eggs, and beyond!

UK THURSDAY
Thursday 19 September
We haven't invited Gordon Ramsay over to cook for you. But his face is the scary, but we'll be doing our damndest to bring you the most satisfying soulfood inspired by the United Kingdom.

FALAFEL FRIDAY
Friday 20 September
Every Friday Realfoods does delicious falafel wraps, but as it's Israeli National Day, and the RUSU Israeli club are doing a movie night, our menu will be going all out Middle Eastern!

WORLD WEEK MENU



REALFOODS VOLUNTEERS



ENVIRO CLOTHES SWAP



ENGLISH LANGUAGE WORKSHOPS LUNCH



QUEER DEPT. COLLABORATIONS CONFERENCE



MID-AUTUMN HARVEST FEST.



WORLD WEEK



WOMYN'S DEPT. 'I AM A GIRL' SCREENING



WORLD WEEK LUNCH



RUSU Queer

QC (Queer Collaborations), July 8-14, Sydney

RUSU subsidised 11 RMIT students to attend the QC conference in Sydney. QC is the annual not-for-profit Australian Queer conference that provides week long education and training in queer-related issues. QC ran for 7 days and consisted of workshops, discussions and networking opportunities, bringing together queer students who wanted to discover themselves, create change and connect with other queer students.

Saints and Sinners Themed Beginning of Semester Party

70 students attended this party in the Queer Lounge which welcomed students back for the second half of the year.

Queer Video Games Night, August 5

A dozen students enjoyed free drinks and food at the RMIT Games Lounge.

Wear It Purple Day, August 30, Building 51

RUSU collaborated with RMIT Equity & Diversity to celebrate 'Wear It Purple Day' at the Carlton VCE Campus. Dozens of students attended the event and enjoyed free food, drink and 'Wear It Purple' wrist bands. Wear It Purple Day exists to support and empower sexuality and gender-diverse young people.

'RMIT It Gets Better' video

The It Gets Better Project's mission is to communicate to LG-BTIQ youth around the world that it 'gets better', and to create and inspire the changes needed to make it better for them. The Queer Department filmed their own It Gets Better video during the mid-semester break in collaboration with RMITV, with over a dozen participants from staff and students at RMIT. The project is currently in post-production, to be distributed through RUSU and The Queer Department's social media upon completion. We also wish to screen the final product at this year's End of Semester Party.

Free Screening 'Laurence Anyways' Kaleide Theatre

Queer students were treated to a free screening of the French Canadian feature film, 'Laurence Anyways', in collaboration with RUSU's World Week. 'Laurence Anyways' tells the story of an impossible love between Frédérique and her long-term boyfriend Laurence, a man who reveals his inner desire to become his true self: a woman.

Regular Queer Collective Events

Mondays Collective Meetings at city campus queer lounge, 3.30pm, can reach up to 15 students per week

Wednesdays Wednesday Workshops at city campus queer lounge, 2pm, can reach up to 20 students per week- the department invites community service providers, such as VIC AIDS council to facilitate workshops for the Collective.

Fridays Whine and Wine at city campus queer lounge, 6pm, can reach up to 30 students per week.

RUSU International

World Week 2013 (16-21 September)

World Week is our chance to showcase our multicultural and pluralist society, and celebrate the contribution that people from diverse cultural backgrounds make to our university community.

The event was officially opened on Monday the 16th of September with a morning tea and Welcome to Country on Bowen Street.

The week featured a program of free film screenings, featuring films curated by RUSU's Queer Department, Womyn's Department and Iranian Students Association.

The weekly BBQs at the Brunswick and Bundoora campuses were expanded, with the omnipresent sausage sizzle replaced with felafels, kebabs, lavash bread and an assortment of dips and salads.

Wednesday the 18th at the city campus saw a free bbq, a cultural clubs expo and performances from a West Africa drum troupe and a traditional Greek folk dancing demonstration.

In 2013, World Week coincided with the Mid-Autumn Harvest festival, celebrated by many cultures in Asia, and RUSU marked this occasion by providing traditional 'mooncakes' as well as paper lanterns. Turnout at this event was particularly impressive, with many international students remarking on how much this event reminded them of home.

There were also subsidised classes throughout the week, including Afro-Brazilian Drumming, Capoeira Angola Classes and Salsa classes.

LEAD Accreditation for RUSU English Language Workshop volunteer program

In July RUSU completed accreditation of a program involving student volunteers in our English Language Workshops, to enable more peer to peer learning, to allow for an increase in capacity of the workshops and to give students an opportunity to assist peers struggling with English, or to further improve their own communication skills. This program involves 12 volunteers per program, who will also contribute to ongoing evaluation of the workshops.

English Language Workshops

This program started on August 5th, with 4 classes per week over 6 weeks. Students practice and gain confidence with spoken English in a fun and social setting, facilitated by a professional with the assistance of volunteers. RUSU provides a free lunch with each class. The workshops also help to connect students with other support on campus such as Compass, Student Rights and the English Ready Centre.

International Lunches

The International lunches continued weekly this quarter. This event is for International students who may not have strong social networks at RMIT to make new friends over a free lunch provided by RUSU.

RUSU Postgraduate

This quarter the postgraduate department has collaborated in student support initiatives and begun to develop more initiatives that specifically focus on the postgraduate cohort.

The Student Union Higher Degree by Research Association had its inaugural meeting with presentations from the President and representatives from the School of Graduate Research. Many HDR Association members also have roles on RMIT committees and the student union has been able to provide these members with resources regarding their role and CAPA advice on being an effective committee member.

As part of the Student Union wide 'Healthy Choices' project fresh fruit has been available to postgraduate students in the postgraduate lounge on a weekly basis, it has been extremely popular with postgraduate students.

We are also finalising our affiliation to CAPA and are hoping to work alongside other postgraduate associations in providing further information sessions for postgraduate students in 2014.

RUSU Womyns

This quarter the Womyn's Department has continued to improve its promotion of events, gain more interest from students, and offer a wide variety of events to cater for diverse students. We've also continued:

- » Puzzles in the Womyn's Rooms for students to complete together
- » Facebook and website activity,
- » Supplying Moxie sanitary products which are still very popular (and handy!),
- » Maintenance of the Womyn's rooms at City, Carlton and Bundoora
- » Womyn's department section in Catalyst Magazine

NOWSA Conference July 15-19

Network of Women Students Australia (NOWSA) is an annual conference that has been running for 25 years, giving activist women an opportunity for networking and skill sharing. The Womyn's Department were able to subsidise 7 students to attend the 2013 NOWSA conference- Problem? Patriarchy! Solution? Smash It! The 4 day conference was hosted by Melbourne Uni and focused on:

- » Women & Society
- » Women & Wellbeing
- » Women & Culture/media
- » Women & the Workplace

Speakers included Melba Marginson, Kerry Arabena, Leslie Cannold, Kerry Greenwood and Clementine Ford. Each day included a keynote address, a concurrent Autonomous Caucus and Pro-Caucus for allies, followed by a workshop.

"I found NOWSA really inspiring and interesting. My highlights were the keynotes Melba Marginson and Kerry Arabena about their lived experiences as women from marginalised groups as well as the energy-filled workshop run by Rey Khan on how to be an ally to Muslim Feminists. I found the caucus/pro-caucus sessions of real value too as I had never been involved in that sort of thing before."
Feedback from student

RUSU Womyn's Department Welcome Back Semester 2

A welcome back event was held at both Bundoora and the City. These involved discussions on the department, feedback and discussion from the NOWSA conference in the City Womyns Room.

World Week

The Womyn's Department participated in World Week with a free screening of the feature-length documentary I AM A GIRL. This film follows the journey of 6 girls from diverse cultures and societies around the globe including Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Cameroon, Afghanistan, USA and Australia and highlights the reality of what it means to be a girl in the 21st century. Over 40 Collective members attended.

Hollaback! Anti-Street Harassment Workshop

The Womyn's Department and Queer Department collaborated to bring 'Hollaback! Melbourne' to RMIT to run an anti-street harassment workshop. The workshop aimed to spread awareness about the work of 'Hollaback! Melbourne', educate students on the problems of street harassment, and equip participants with effective strategies to tackle street harassment. 'Hollaback!' is a project dedicated to combating a particular form of violence that designates subordinated groups as targets in public spaces or otherwise vulnerable people to unsolicited, non-consensual encounters with strangers.

Bundoora End of Year Break Up

This event focused on discussing what students want from the Womyn's Department for 2014, supplying snacks for stressed students throughout the day and discussing the importance of eating regularly particularly in the lead up to exams.

Regular Womyn's Department Events

City Collective meetings & soup lunches (20 students/meeting)

Bundoora Collective meetings and soup lunches (15 students/meeting)

RUSU Womyn's Department Afternoon Tea (one event held on both Bundoora and City Campuses in September)

Fortnightly Womyn's Discussion Groups - Thakshila, the City Womyn's Room Convener has successfully instigated a fortnightly Discussion Group meeting. This group is a safe, supportive and inclusive opportunity for womyn to discuss films, books, media or issues, share experiences and translate problems into actions.

Womyn's Department Key Stats

Facebook Group Members:	144 (up from 116)
Facebook Page Likes:	123 (up from 110)
Registered Collective Members:	119 (up from 112)

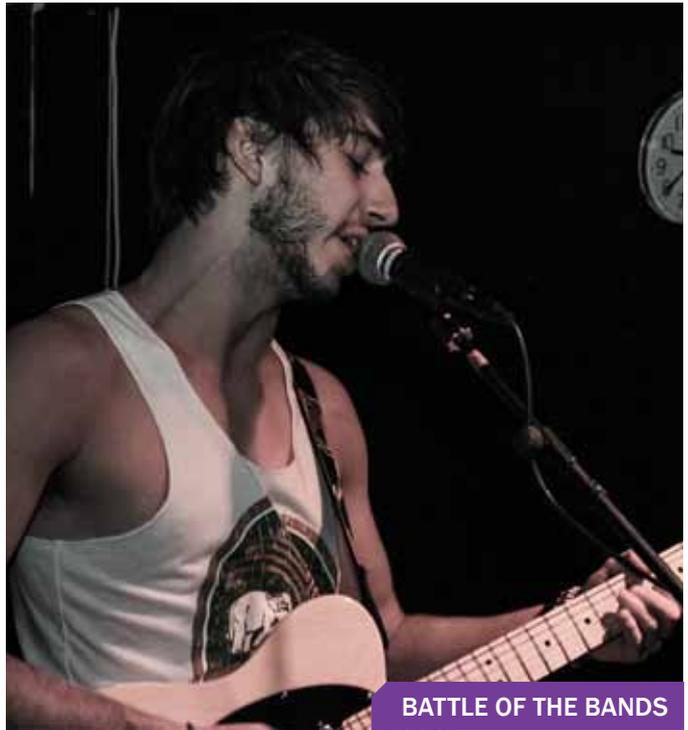
RUSU Welfare and Education

Healthy Eating Campaign

- » 13,500 free healthy breakfasts given away this quarter
- » Over 8000 pieces of fruit distributed this quarter as part of our free fruit on campus program
- » A second print run of our first student recipe booklet Beyond Mi Goreng distributed at Mid-Year Orientation
- » A healthy breakfasts edition of our student recipe booklets, Beyond Cornflakes was launched in August and distributed at Free Breakfast events to target students who may need assistance sourcing and preparing a cheap and nutritious breakfast before Uni.
- » Our subsidised home delivered fruit and vegetable boxes continued to be popular with 250 boxes ordered this quarter.



PJ DAY



BATTLE OF THE BANDS



WOMYN'S DEPT. BUNDOORA COLLECTIVE MEETING



WORLD WEEK



WORLD WEEK



BOAT PARTY

Clubs and Societies

\$24,493 of RUSU Clubs Grants were awarded this quarter.

RUSU CLUBS ACTIVITY

There are 82 Clubs & Societies Affiliated to RUSU as at September 30, 2013 across the following club types:

RUSU Academic Clubs	37
RUSU Cultural Clubs	17
RUSU Special Interest Clubs	12
RMIT Spiritual Clubs	10
RUSU Political Clubs	8
TOTAL	82

The complete list of RUSU affiliated clubs can be found at www.su.rmit.edu.au/clubs

RUSU Political clubs are not funded through SSAF funds.

NEW CLUBS:

- » RMIT FIFA Club - a special interest club for RMIT students who enjoy console based games, particularly FIFA. RMIT FIFA Club aims to provide a place for console gamers to get together to play as well as to discuss all things (European) football! Club activities include on and off campus gaming, competitions and social events.
- » RMIT Chess Club –a special interest club established to provide chess enthusiasts and beginners at RMIT with a social environment to learn the game of chess and hone their skills with like-minded people. Open to members of all skill levels. Meeting on campus to play social chess weekly with regular on and off campus tournaments.
- » Thread Share (Brunswick)
- » RMIT Nursing (Bundoora)
- » RMIT Liberal Society
- » Association of Biomedical Science Students (Bundoora)

RE-AFFILIATED CLUBS

- » RMIT French Club
- » VISAR
- » RMIT Ceramics Club
- » RMIT Master of Fine Arts Graduating Club
- » RMIT Interior Design & Decoration TAFE
- » RMIT Sports Chiro Club

CLUB EVENTS & ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 2013

- » RMIT AESA (Aerospace Engineering Students Association) Build & Fly Competition – on campus
- » RMIT ISA (International Studies Association) Semester Welcome Back Event – John Curtin Hotel
- » RMIT Accounting Students' Association/CPA co -presentation of the professional development program “Qi Grads” consisting of online & on campus workshops
- » RMIT EFMSA (Economics, Finance & Marketing Student Assoc.) professional development workshop on campus
- » RMIT Buddhist Society Meditation Retreat – Mendip Centre Reservoir
- » RMIT Racing tours for Year 12 students - RMIT Bundoora East
- » RMIT Nursing Society members participation in RMIT Mates Training
- » RUMA (RMIT University Malaysian Association) Ski Trip Falls Creek
- » RMIT Greens “Bike Blend” smoothie giveaway – Bowen Street City Campus

AUGUST 2013

- » RMIT University Malaysian Association (RUMA) Welcoming Raya Open house at Melbourne’s Multicultural Hub
- » RMIT Gold & Silversmithing Society – Fundraiser Auction – Mercy Bar & Eatery Melbourne
- » RMIT CESA (Civil Engineering Student Association) Pub Crawl – Melbourne city
- » Combined Engineering Clubs (AESAs, CESA & ACCESS) Jungle Ball – San Remo Ballroom
- » RMIT GSSA (Geospatial Science Students Association), RMIT Electric Racing, RMIT Racing, BA Textile Society, RMIT Nursing Society and more at RMIT Open Day
- » RMIT ISA (International Studies Association) “Our Say” event Building 80
- » RMIT SLAB (Student Landscape Architecture Body) Journal “Kerb 21” launch – RMIT Design Hub



JAPAN CLUB @ WORLD WEEK



TEXTILES POP UP SHOP



RUMA “SHAVE FOR A CURE”

- » RMIT MIC (Music Industry Club) Wednesday night gigs series at the John Curtain Hotel
- » RMIT EFMSA (Economics, Finance & Marketing Student Assoc.) networking social at Father's Office, City
- » RMIT Christian Union Prayers & Brunch series – RMIT Spiritual Centre
- » RMIT & Melb UNI Engineers Without Borders Trivia Night – Clyde Hotel
- » BA Textile Society pop up shop at Harvest – Lygon Street and Makers Market RMIT Brunswick
- » RMIT Engineers Without Borders Secondary School Outreach Program
- » RMIT Ceramics Fundraising Auction – City Campus
- » RMIT Chinese Methodist Christian Fellowship Welcome BBQ- City campus
- » RMIT Association of Debaters Intermural First Year Tournament (RUM)
- » RMIT Pakistani Association Day Trip to Gumbaya Park
- » RMIT Buddhist Society – Introductory Dharma Talk Series
- » RMIT PPIA (Indonesian Students Association) Welcoming BBQ
- » RMIT Iranian Association – Persian Dance Party – Pugg Malones, Carlton
- » RMIT Japan Club Shodo Workshop (Japanese Calligraphy)
- » RMIT Christian Union Girls Night of Fun

SEPTEMBER 2013

- » RUMA (RMIT University Malaysian Association) Mid-Autumn Weekend Festival
- » RMIT AESA (Aerospace Engineering Students Association) combined with their Monash and Australia counterpart to present the Victorian Aerospace Careers Evening – Telstra Conference Centre, City
- » RMIT GSSA (Geospatial Science Students Association) Awards Night Regal Ballroom
- » RMIT Accounting Students' Association Annual Party held at Undergrounds Venue. Melbourne City
- » RMIT EWB Bike BBQs series (BBQ and bike repairs) – Fig Tree Courtyard
- » RMIT PPIA (Indonesian Students Association) 'Project 0: REBOOT' cultural & charity project – Melbourne Town Hall
- » RMIT MIC (Music Industry Club) Wednesday City on campus gig series
- » RMIT Master Fine Arts Club Fine Art Auction – Gossard Project Space
- » RMIT ACCESS (Applied Chemistry & Environmental Science Students) Scavenger Hunt – City
- » RMIT ABSS (Association of Biomedical Science Students) Meet & Greet BBQ – Bundoora Campus
- » RMIT French Club social cultural evening at Breizoz Crepiere Fitzroy
- » VISAR (Vietnamese International Students At RMIT) Cultural Evening
- » RUKA (RMIT University Korean Association) Spring Break Party (with Monash & Melbourne Uni Korean Clubs) at Even Nightclub, Melbourne City
- » RMIT Italian Society Masquerade Ball (Intermural Italian clubs event) – Lincoln of Toorak
- » RMIT World Week – 12 RUSU Cultural Clubs participated at the City Campus Event

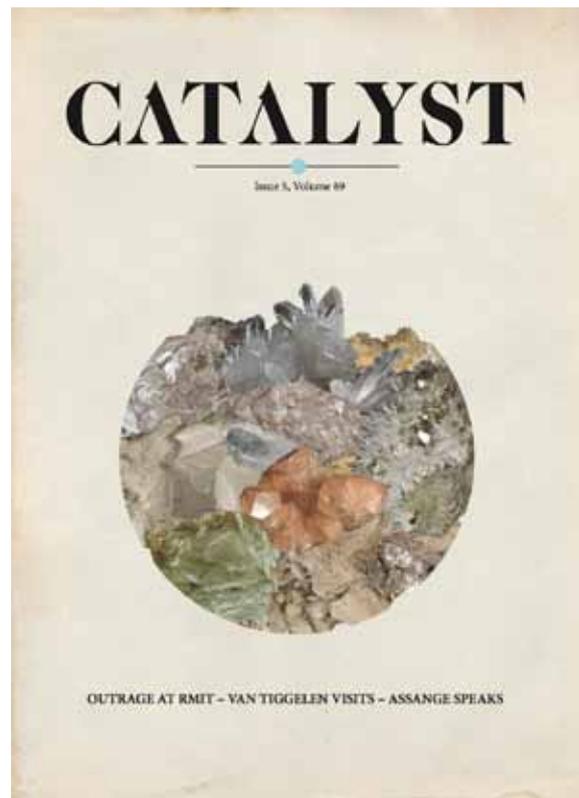
Commune at Brunswick 24 August 2013

This was a massive day of craft, sustainable food and wears and workshops. RUSU worked alongside RMIT Link Arts and Crafts to help students and our Clubs and Societies participate in the makers markets, by staffing an EFT stall. It was great to see both Brunswick and City clubs getting involved. The RUSU Brunswick and Environment departments supported a drop in bike repair workshop during the festivities, which tied into the bike repair workshops we had been running in the city this semester. Student union staff, volunteers and infrastructure (tables, sound equipment, etc.) were provided to support the event.

OTHER SUPPORT PROVIDED TO CLUBS

- » More than 85 support meetings held between clubs and RUSU Staff
- » 2 sessions of Food Safety Training delivered
- » Safe Manual Handling Training delivered
- » RUSU Quick Reference Supplier Guide, updated Insurance information, Annual General Meeting templates, Resource Guide for Political Clubs and related activities added to the Clubs Resources Section of the RUSU web page
- » Updated Model Constitution prepared for consideration by Student Union Council
- » Brunswick and Bundoora clubs were surveyed about their needs to enable us to further support and develop clubs on these campuses in 2014
- » Over 1500 pages of posters and fliers printed by RUSU for Clubs
- » More than 45 Club events supported by borrowed RUSU practical event equipment





Student Media

Catalyst

www.rmitcatalyst.com.

Catalyst publishes 5,000 copies of each edition which are distributed across all campuses.

In late July Catalyst released its fourth edition for the year and it's only themed issue. Covering the Federal election, the issue featured dozens of articles explaining the various parties involved, the processes of parliament, the importance of voting, various policies, and comparing the prime ministerial candidates. We feel the edition gave first time voters (of which there are many at RMIT) some genuine insight into the events surrounding the election, and we're really proud of it.

The fifth issue featured some great stories from RMIT including a visit from the editor of the Monthly, and a report about the video link Julian Assange did with students in August. We also sold out first back cover for the year, which was a nice boost to the coffers.

Our new (and expanded) blogging team took the reins in August and have been providing us with quality online content all through the semester. We're proud of the work we've done this year and wish next year's editors all the best.

RMITV

New Flagship Production Team

After two highly successful seasons of RMITV's Flagship Production 'Live on Bowen', the beloved producers pass on the torch. Together Jessica and Lisa, turned a crew into a family and provided training and guidance to over 50 crew members. Together with the crew, they put in tireless hours to make the show professional and successfully air around Australia.

The new producers include Jenny Bae, as Series Producer, and Riyana Kasmawan, as Line Producer, who are both enthusiastic about the upcoming season. With hundreds hours of broadcast experience between them, the new producers have some big plans in mind. Stay tuned to find out what happens on the next season of Live On Bowen!

Training

RMITV loves providing learning opportunities from seasoned industry professionals, some of which are returning to RMITV where their careers began. With the support of RUSU, members are provided free training, workshops, and production tours which members use to develop their skills and knowledge.

Film and television industry experts from Channel Seven, ABC, Network Ten and industry freelancers are all joining RMITV to give a comprehensive outlook on launching careers in the industry. Production tours, at Network Ten and Channel Seven, will provide great insight into professional workplace environments for inspiration into media careers.

The full slate of RMITV Training will ensure members are given expert hands on advice and experience!

Archival Footage

RMITV produces about 100 hours of student created content per year. There are years of archive footage dating back to the 80s on formats ranging from VHS, DVDs, mini DV, U-Matic and Beta-max. RMITV is known for producing outstanding Australian media talent, including Hamish & Andy's first venture into televised sketch in 'Raucous' and 'The Loft Live' being Roves' first television production. Over the years, thousands of students have contributed to making these productions a success, preserving this work is imperative. With a thousand tapes, it is an exhilarating adventure to restore the gems that RMITV produced!

Productions

Flagship Production - Live on Bowen:

Recently concluding its second season, the live-to-air studio-based variety show is currently in pre-production for a third prosperous season. The show is set to broadcast live throughout November and December, with an outside broadcast special also planned. Each week provides the opportunity for industry people to join the live studio audience and see RMIT students practicing at what they love. As RMITV's flagship production, it garners a tremendous scope for crewing roles and production experience both in technical and production team positions.

In Pit Lane

Continuing into its eighteenth season, In Pit Lane is Australia's longest running prime-time motorsport journalism series and RMITV's longest running production. This show provides a rare opportunity to gain live-to-air television experience from aspects such as floor managing, to camera operating, to even production management. Live television experience is a highly sought after skillset in the media production industry.

Tough Times Never Last

Commencing its tenth season in September, Tough Times remains as one of the best basic training productions for first time RMITV members. Members involved are fully versed in training for roles from camera, sound, lighting to even directing and production management under the leadership of ABC employees.

31 Questions

Airing in Perth, Sydney, Melbourne, and New Zealand 31 Questions was a huge success. With its second season recently concluded, plans for this quiz-tacular show to film its third season in 2014 are already underway.

Fergus In Hell

Coming into its third humorous season, Fergus In Hell provides an exceptional opportunity for members interested in on-location-based field production. With a production schedule branching into the latter half of 2013, the project is an excellent chance to gain insight in on-location lighting and sound and other crewing capacities.

HRTV

RMITV was approached by RMIT University's Centre for Innovative Justice for a studio-based production based around discussions of Human Rights Issues, fronted by former Attorney General Rob Hulls and the organization 'Right Now'. The project remains in early stages of preproduction at present, with plans developing for a pilot early next year.



Social Media & Publications

Facebook - 6,100 Facebook Likes

Our online photo galleries continue to be a strong draw card for our Facebook visitors, with 347 photos of RUSU events tagged on the site. These galleries also continue to serve as a repository for promotional materials and offers such as workshops and free events.

TWITTER

Twitter remains a strong force for RUSU's continued engagement with students, with real time responses to questions and concerns, as well as timely promotion of events and offers. Chill'n'Grill, our Mid-Autumn Festival and World Week were popular topics on the social media platform.

WEBSITE

RUSU's site continues to be a great platform for delivering news, updates and information about RUSU events and activities.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

The RUSU Media Department produces a wide variety of publicity materials for RUSU departments, events and clubs. Highlights this quarter include:

Beyond Cornflakes Cookbook

A companion piece to RUSU's Beyond Mi Goreng, this publication offers up exciting and healthy breakfast options for students on a budget.



Work Rights

In collaboration with Compass, RUSU devised a series of posters drawing attention to rights in the workplace. An afternoon workshop targeted at apprentices and trainees was also promoted, and materials developed for the workshop including an information & tips sheet.

Enviro Department Events

Posters and online materials were developed to promote free film showings, workshops and offers. These included a free showing of Chasing Ice, with a Q&A session; and a poster to advertise a workshop/collective meeting for planning future events.

Good Cycles Workshops

Presented in conjunction with Good Cycles, RUSU developed posters and online media for promoting free bicycle maintenance sessions for RMIT students.

Greening RMIT

RUSU produced posters and flyers for this workshop, alongside handouts which were presented to students to gauge interest in greenifying RMIT's public spaces.



Representation & advocacy

Compass

The Compass Drop in Centre has been busy as ever this quarter with 96 students attending for support and 10 newly trained volunteers starting their regular weekly shifts staffing the space. Compass volunteers were also supported to take on some fundraising activities for amazing charitable organisations working in Melbourne. These events not only raised money but awareness of some important issues such as homelessness and addiction.



Know Your Work Rights Campaign

RUSU and the Compass Centre conducted a massive outreach campaign across all campuses promoting Compass as the place to go on campus for questions or information about workplace safety, fair pay, bullying, conditions, apprentice and trainee rights and placement issues. Free pizza helped the important information make an impact! Compass will evaluate service inquiries to determine the success of the campaign.

Compass Review and First Year Experience Project

RUSU launched the Compass Service Review 2013 in July and received wonderful feedback from many University service providers who found this research useful and applicable. RUSU met with a representative of the First Year Experience and Transition Project, to discuss implications of the research on first year experience investigations. The Compass Project Officer has also met with key stakeholders within the University such as representatives from Counselling, Student Success Program and Health Promotion regarding the findings drawn out of the Compass Service Review.

Other Highlights

- » Compass supported RUOK Day on the 12th September with 2 for 1 coffee vouchers at outlets over all Melbourne Campuses. This was to encourage students to share a cuppa and ask each other "RUOK?" The day was very successful and the Compass Project Officer looks forward to collaborating with the University again next year.
- » A donation box for ST Kilda Gatehouse, an organisation that supports street sex workers in Melbourne, was running for the month of September in the Compass Office. This was a collaboration between Social Work students and Compass and came about as a response to the recent murder of a street sex worker. Loads of fabulous items were donated by the whole University community, which will assist those struggling with life controlling addictions.
- » Compass volunteers were poached to assist the RMIT's health promotion team in their Gratitude Project which gives students an opportunity to write down what they are grateful for in their lives. These are then displayed around the campus and generate lots of positive discussion.
- » Super Compass volunteer Michelle Ginnivan organised and ran PJ Day where people were sponsored to wear their pyjamas to Uni for a day to support homeless people. Over \$650 was raised for Melbourne City Mission's homelessness programs. Well done Michelle!
- » The Weekly Yoga classes continue to be well received at the City campus with full classes twice per week.

Representation

RUSU Annual Student Elections

The Annual Student Union elections were held from 9 – 13 September for the 25 positions on the RUSU Student Union Council and the seven delegates to the National Union of Students. The elections were conducted by Doug Wellington and Election Desk with polling occurring on all campuses. Fifty nine nominations were received for the elections. The polling areas were a hive of activity with 2285 votes cast across all of the campuses. This was a great opportunity for candidates to engage with students about the issues that are important to them at RMIT.

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
- » Bundoora Campus Advisory Committee
- » Student Engagement Bundoora Campus Committee
- » First Year Experience Committee
- » Monthly Catch Up Meetings with the Dean of Students
- » Orientation and Transition Steering Group
- » Policy and Programs Committee
- » RMIT Sustainability Committee
- » Student Experience Advisory Committee
- » SSAF Steering Committee

Appeal Committees Repts

RUSU has supported students on the following RMIT hearings;

- » 6 Student representatives on 19 UAC hearings
- » 4 Student representatives on 15 Discipline hearings
- » 5 Student representatives on 19 CAC hearings

The RUSU Student Rights (Appeal Committee representative) Volunteer program has been accredited with RMIT LEAD following program development and liaison with LEAD this quarter.

A 3 hour Student Rights training for Appeals Committee representatives was held this quarter.

RUSU Collectives Review

As part of RUSU's commitment to continuous improvement practices we have been conducting an internal analyses of processes and support mechanisms for student Collectives. Consultation has been conducted this quarter with the Environment, Queer and Womyn's Collectives. We hope to finalise this review next quarter so that recommendations can be implemented for 2014.

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 and Classifications Committee.
- » Elected Student councillors supported to act as governors and managers.

Campaigns

Fitness for Study Campaign

The Student Experience Advisory Committee discussed the proposed Fitness for Study policy at their September 24 meeting. A student representative on the committee approached RUSU for further information on this policy as she had concerns after hearing about Fitness for Study through the media. The student representatives at the meeting expressed concerns about how the policy may impact upon students with mental health issues.

Student Representation on University Council

Previously, two students were elected by and from all students at RMIT to represent the interests of the university's biggest stakeholders on the university's board. RUSU is deeply disappointed with the state government's recent decision to remove students and staff representation from university boards, but welcomes RMIT Council's decision to reinstate roles for these cohorts despite the difficult legislation. The Student Union Council's Secretariat has been engaged to shortlist applicants for the now single student appointment available on RMIT Council. RUSU will continue to advocate for the re-establishment of mandatory student representation on university boards.

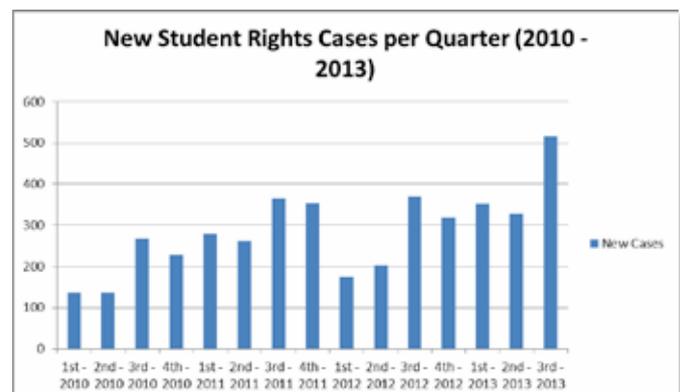
Student Rights

"[We] had our hope restored that someone at the University could see the injustice and was determined to assist in conveying this" Student Feedback on the Student Rights Service

As the table below demonstrates there has been a huge surge in demand for Student Rights support this year, in particular this quarter. Special Consideration, Appeal Against Assessment and exclusions have been key issues.

The number of new student rights cases in the third semester of 2013 represents a 57% increase on the second quarter of 2013. Most significantly, this is a 39% increase on the corresponding quarter of 2012. Until this quarter, caseloads had been steadily increasing, however this represents a significant jump in new student rights cases being handled by Student Rights Officers employed by RUSU.

As a result, caseload numbers for 2013 have already exceeded figures reached for the whole year in 2012 and 2010, and will end up exceeding 2011 statistics by a considerable margin.



STUDENT RIGHTS CASES: 1 JULY–30 SEPTEMBER 2013

Year	Number of new cases
2010	770
2011	1261
2012	1067
2013*	1196

The increased awareness of the Student Rights Service at Bundoora has been evident with the SRO routinely seeing 5-7 cases per day, even more in the peak time. Importantly RMIT staff at Bundoora are increasingly referring students to RUSU for support.

"I think that the demand for student rights help out here in the past week (week ending 26 July) was about 5 times higher than it has ever been in my time at Bundy." Patrick O'Keeffe - Bundoora Student Liaison Officer

The Student Rights Service receives many mails, calls and drop-ins every quarter from students expressing their appreciation for the assistance that we have provided them to address their issues and to navigate the complex environment of policies and procedures at RMIT.

Some great Student Rights outcomes

"I am so glad to let you know that I have been offered the special consideration (late course withdrawal without academic penalty) for all three courses. Thank you so much for all the help and encouragement along the way. I could have not done it without your help and time." Student email to SRO.

"Thank you for all the effort you have put in my case, finally I got my Graduate Certificate from the RMIT and that is all from the support and help I received from you." Student email to SRO

"I would just like to thank you for all the efforts you put into helping us get our actual marks back." Student email to SRO

Student Rights Workshops & Training

Various Student Rights Officers have attended forums and workshops this quarter, in particular attending RMIT DevelopMe workshops. These include:

- » City of Melbourne - Forum on mental health and International students
- » Student Complaint Handling at RMIT training
- » ESOS (Education Services for Overseas Students Act) Compliance in the RMIT context: Managing and advising enrolled international students training
- » RMIT Governance and Academic Policy for Effective student advising
- » Privacy Compliance in Everyday Work

Problems created during the last quarter	Number
Admin Issue	28
Admission Issue	1
Agent Gave Incorrect or Misleading Advice	7
Appeal Against Assessment	49
At Risk/Academic Progress	17
Bullying	6
Complaint	42
Course Issue	16
Disability	32
Discipline Issue	8
Enrolment Issue	19
Exclusion	54
Fees Issue	25
Graduation Issue	2
Group Work Issue	6
Leave of Absence	12
Mental Health Issue	20
Ombusman Complaint	5
Online Enrolment Issue	3
Payment Plan	4
Placement Issue	12
Plagiarism	30
Problem with Course Advice	16
Problem with Exam	4
Refund/Remission of Debt	9
RPL	5
Sexual Harassment	4
Special Consideration	69
Transcript Error	5
HDR Supervision Issue	2
HDR Completion Issue	1
HDR Change Institution	1
HDR Extension	1
TOTAL	515

STUDENT RIGHTS CASES:

1 JULY–30 SEPTEMBER 2013

Problems outcomes during the last quarter	Number
Academic Misconduct (Discipline Board): Student Penalised	2
Academic Misconduct (Discipline Board): Case Dismissed	4
Academic Misconduct Reprimand	2
Appeal Against RPL: Appeal Upheld	1
Appeal Against Special Consideration: Successful	5
Appeal Against Special Consideration: Unsuccessful	2
Assessment Change Revoked	1
At Risk advice given	12
At Risk Withdrawn (Appeal Against Max. Time)	3
CAC Appeal Against Assessment: Appeal Dismissed	6
CAC Appeal Against Assessment: Appeal Upheld	21
Contacted Academic Administration: Issue Resolved	7
Contacted Course Coordinator: Issue Resolved	11
Contacted Head of School: Issue Resolved	13
Contacted lecturer/tutor: Issue Resolved	2
Debt Issue Resolved	9
Debt Remains	1
Discipline Board: Outcome in Favour of Student	2
Discipline Board: Student Penalised	2
Exam Timetable Amended	1
Exclusion Withdrawn – by school	15
Group Session Booked	1
Informal Review of Assessment Resolution	3
Late Enrolment Achieved	2
Leave of Absence	9
Ombudsman Complaint	3
Other Referrals (CASA, Housing, Legal, Compass)	4
Payment Plan Approval	3
Plagiarism Meeting Case: Dismissed Against Student	3
Plagiarism Meeting Case: Upheld against student	9
Plagiarism Meeting Case: Reprimand	13
Recognition of Prior Learning Achieved	3
Recognition of Prior Learning Not Granted	1
Referral Given: Counselling Service	22
Referral given: DLU	18
Referral Given: Legal Service	5

Problems outcomes during the last quarter	Number
Referral Given: SLC	10
Referral Given: Outside Agency	5
Referral given: Compass	4
School Level Complaint Made: Outcome Successful	10
Show Cause Letter approved by SPC	24
Show Cause Letter rejected by SPC	12
Special Consideration Granted	54
Student Transferred to New Program	2
Subject Withdrawn	2
UAC Appeal Against Admission: Upheld	3
UAC Appeal Against Exclusion: Dismissed	1
UAC Appeal Against Exclusion: Upheld	2
UAC Appeal Against Special Con: Approved without Hearing	11
UAC Appeal Against Special Con: Dismissed	1
UAC Appeal Against Special Con: Upheld	10
University Level Complaint Made: Outcome Successful	1
Visa issue advice/Referral Provided	4
HDR: Compensation and Extension Awarded	7
TOTAL	382

Problems created during the last quarter	515
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Problem outcomes during the last quarter	384
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Offshore Student Rights Outcomes	Number
SIM - Appeal Against Assessment : Appeal Dismissed	1
SIM - Appeal Against RPL Decision: Appeal Dismissed	1
TOTAL	2

RUSU Governance, Administration and Services

RUSU Governance, Administration and services

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

- » Review and update of a range of governance and human resources procedures at RUSU to ensure best practice.
- » Asset Register update
- » Reporting on SSAF Funded projects
- » Negotiation on indicative figures and inclusions for the 2014 RUSU Deed Agreement negotiations.
- » Implementation of a new IT program for distributing monthly budget reports to staff and representatives. This improves efficiency and communication about budget matters.

Finance overview

RUSU SSAF Funding 2013

RUSU Funding from RMIT for 2013 is made up of the following:

- » \$1,766,664 (Base grant) and
- » \$673,000 (SSAF Committee Grants)
- » 2013 TOTAL GRANT \$2,439,664
- » 2013 GRANT RECEIVED TO DATE \$1,829,748

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 (both Base grant and SSAF Committee project funds) on these areas.

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

RUSU also receives some funding from other grants. While some of the activities funded through these grants (e.g. Furniture Collective, Bike Project) 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 the Student Union, 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 under the Corporations Act.



PJ DAY

TABLE 1: RUSU SSAF Grant expenditure on Allowable Items 1 July -30 Sept 2013

Allowable Item	Item Description	YTD Expense (SSAF Funded)
Giving students information to help them in their orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • O'Book operations, honorariums, publication (online and print) and distribution • Orientation specific events • Re-Orientation Events 	\$36,390
Caring for children of students	—	\$0
Providing legal services to students	—	\$0
Promoting the health or welfare of students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All activities and events from advocacy and welfare collectives: Queer, Womyn's, Post-Graduate, Environment, Welfare, Education • Campaigns, events, honorariums, programs, marketing • All Compass Centre, programs and staff 	\$151,185
Helping students secure accommodation	—	\$0
Helping students with their financial affairs	—	\$0
Helping meet the specific needs of overseas students relating to their welfare, accommodation and employment	All activities and events from International student department	\$23,635
Helping students obtain employment or advice on careers	—	\$0
Helping students obtain insurance against personal accidents	—	\$0
Helping students develop skills for study, by means other than undertaking courses of study in which they are enrolled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction programs/Student Representative Professional Development • Volunteer Program + program staffing • Student Engagement Officer • Student Union Council Elections • Secretariat Honorariums • All of SUC campaigns 	\$170,065
Helping students obtain insurance against personal accidents	—	\$0
Supporting the production and dissemination to students of media whose content is provided by students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RMITV operations, honorariums, special projects, productions, training, website • RMIT Flagship Program • Catalyst magazine operations, student honorariums, publication (online and print) • Communications/Graphic Designer Staff 	\$152,414
Providing food or drink to students on a campus of the higher education provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus specific events and marketing • Activities and Events collective including administration, student honorariums, marketing and staff support • RUSU Realfoods 	\$98,008

Continued over

TABLE 1: RUSU SSAF Grant expenditure on Allowable Items 1 July -30 Sept (cont.)

Allowable Item	Item Description	YTD Expense (SSAF Funded)
Supporting a sporting or other recreational activity by students	Major events and intervarsity recreational activities and competitions	\$128,539
Supporting an artistic activity by students	—	\$0
Supporting debating by students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grants paid to debating club are included with clubs reporting. 	\$0
Supporting the administration of a club most of whose members are students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration, grants, equipment and support to student run clubs and societies Clubs and Societies Staff and other support 	\$166,564
Advising on matters arising under the higher education provider's rules (however described)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration and Support staff members: Administration, Governance and Finance 5 x Information counter staff and operations 	\$424,398
Advocating students' interests in matters arising under the higher education provider's rules (however described)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Rights Officers Student Advocacy materials, campaigns, research and training for staff and student representatives on committees 	\$373,795
	YTD SSAF Expenditure	\$1,724,993
	YTD SSAF Grants Received	\$1,829,748
	Underspend	\$104,755

TABLE 2: 2013 SSAF Committee Grant Reports 1 July -30 Sept 2013

Project Title	Grant Amount	YTD Expense	Comments
RUSU 2013 staffing continuations	\$330,000	\$220,442	Covers Student Rights Officers (1.8FTE), Clubs & Societies Officer Bundoora/Brunswick (0.8FTE), Student Engagement Officer (0.8FTE)
12a) Rejuvenate the student lounge at Bundoora East	\$50,000	\$99	RUSU has been ready to deliver on this all year. Property Services hope to advise on plans next week. RUSU will request any remaining funds at year end be rolled into 2014 for development of the student spaces/ RUSU offices.
6b) Compass welfare information and referral drop in space	\$100,000	\$71,779	Budget on target for 2013
6c) Neighbourhood Volunteer Program	\$14,000	\$548	This will underspend for 2013 as most of program rolls out for pre-Orientation 2014. Will request roll over of funds for pre-O 2014.
15c) RUSU Volunteer Training Program and Orientation Camps	\$50,000	\$29,859	Volunteer end of year events, evaluation and recognition still to come.
18b) Orientation Handbooks	\$50,000	\$2,009	For 2012/2013 O'book launch. 2013/2014 O'book expenses will start to occur October 2014. This budget will be spent.
18c) Re-orientation events	\$40,000	\$34,381	Remaining funds to be used on end of year student social event.
14a) RMITV Flagship Show - Live on Bowen	\$39,000	\$25,944	Season 3 to be delivered in Nov/Dec. Budget on target
TOTAL	\$673,000	\$385,061	

