

# MONSU CAULFIELD INC. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING (SGM) 2021

Held on Friday 20th August 10:00 am AEST via Zoom

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

MONSU Caulfield acknowledges and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging of the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri peoples of the Kulin nation, the traditional owners of the land on which MONSU Caulfield operates.

## **SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

### **MOTION SGM 21.1-1**

*Preamble: See report attached. This report has been accepted and moved by the MONSU Student Council.*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Amend C20.2 to insert C20.2(k) "People of Colour Officer" below C20.2(j) and re-number proceeding subclauses accordingly.

Carried  
YES/NO

### **MOTION SGM 21.1-2**

*Preamble: This amendment will allow all Caulfield students to have participatory rights in their student union, not just members, as is the duty of MONSU Caulfield. This clause will become redundant upon the acceptance of the proposed amendments below.*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Repeal C5.5(c)

Carried  
YES/NO

### **MOTION SGM 21.1-3**

*Preamble: This amendment will remove exclusive rights of members and allow all students to vote in a referendum.*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Amend C11.1 to replace the word "member" with "student"

Carried  
YES/NO

**MOTION SGM 21.1-4**

*Preamble: This amendment will allow all students to request a referendum, rather than just members.*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Amend C12.2 to replace the word "member" with "student"

Carried  
YES/NO

**MOTION SGM 21.1-5**

*Preamble: This amendment will remove exclusivity of referendum voting, allowing all students to vote.*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Add C14.3 below C14.2 (14.3 All students may vote in referendums)

Carried  
YES/NO

**MOTION SGM 21.1-6**

*Preamble: This amendment will remove exclusivity from compliance, in accordance with other amendments*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Amend C24.4 to replace the word "members" with "students"

Carried  
YES/NO

**MOTION SGM 21.1-7**

*Preamble: This amendment will remove exclusive rights of members to elect Student Council and will instead allow all students to participate in the election of their student union representatives.*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Amend C34.4 to replace "elected by members" by "elected by students"

Carried  
YES/NO

**MOTION SGM 21.1-8**

*Preamble: This amendment will remove the exclusive rights of members to stand and vote in the MONSU Caulfield elections and instead allow all students to participate in the elections. This change will ensure the elections are accessible to all Caulfield students, not just members, thus greatly expanding and preserving democracy on our campus.*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Amend C34 to replace with the following:

**C34. Eligibility to Stand and Vote**

34.1 All students may stand in MONSU Caulfield elections except for

- a) Students who are full-time staff of MONSU Caulfield or the University;
- and;
- b) Officers who have ceased to be enrolled students of the University

34.2 All students may vote in MONSU Caulfield elections

34.3 C34.1 and C34.2 do not prevent this constitution or the regulations from limiting the eligibility to stand and vote in particular elections to a specified group or groups of students

Carried  
YES/NO

**MOTION SGM 21.1-9**

*Preamble: This amendment will provide MONSU Club Executives with the opportunity to hold a position on MONSU Student Council.*

Motion: This Special General Meeting of MONSU Caulfield Inc. resolves by special resolution to amend the MONSU Caulfield Constitution as follows:

Amend C35 to replace with the following:

35.1 A student may stand for but not hold

- a) morethanone (1) officer position; or,
- b) morethanone (1) position on the same MONSU Caulfield body

Carried  
YES/NO

# PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A POC OFFICER AT MONSU CAULFIELD

## OVERVIEW

We are proposing the establishment of a People of Colour (POC) Officer at MONSU Caulfield.

## BACKGROUND

Earlier in the year, the Student Council held a goal-setting session in which they outlined various goals to be achieved before the end of 2021. One of these goals was the establishment of a POC Officer at MONSU Caulfield.

This goal was developed amid discussions regarding organisational growth in line with diverse and inclusive representation of the Caulfield student body.

Following this session MONSU General Representatives Tiana Schurmann, Nan Jiang and

Bridget Lee formed a working group aimed at compiling data and gathering feedback for consideration in regard to potential POC Officer establishment. However, data was not collected due to the inability to quantify this element of identity. Although we were able to gather feedback.

Anna reached out to the MONSU Crew with an expression of interest message for students of colour. She then spoke with some students one on one to talk about the goal and overall representation at Caulfield for people of colour. These students were excited at the prospect of the POC Officer role being created.

As a result, Anna discussed this proposition with the Student Council Executive at their meeting on July 6th. It was concluded that she would prepare a formal proposal to be presented at the next Student Council for the Representative's consideration.

## VALUE OF POSITION

As the peak representative body for Undergraduate students at Monash Caulfield, it's integral that MONSU represents students across all identities of race, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and gender. Having this representation on the Student Council has tangible effects on the functioning of democracy.

A truly representative student union enables more mindful, inclusive and comprehensive policy making and event and initiative planning while better achieving equity. Importantly, having a POC Officer on Council enables this individual to elevate the voices of their peers through their unique experiences, opinions and thoughts on academic and social matters, subsequently enhancing MONSU's ability to serve the needs of its members.

More specifically, there is an opportunity for a MONSU POC Officer to sit on various University committees. And, if not themselves, they will be able to collaborate with the MONSU representative on each Council to ensure the voices of students of colour are considered in all discussions at all levels.

Put simply, no one understands the needs of a community better than the people in it. With a POC Officer established, Caulfield students of colour can look to MONSU and feel confident that they have an individual representing their interests who will be able to provide opportunities and resources specific to their needs.

Lastly, the establishment of this role fits with MONSU's diversity and inclusion vision; to grow the organisation in an equitable manner while amplifying the voices of all students safely and responsibly, and celebrating the unique community of Monash Caulfield.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend that the MONSU Student Council moves to establish a People of Colour (POC) Officer.

*Anna Purtill*, President

*Nan Jiang*, General Representative

*Bridget Lee*, General Representative

*Tiana Schurmann*, General Representative