

Meeting Minutes



LTSA Annual General Meeting

August 21, 2025

Online via Zoom

Attendees :

Thomas Prince
Jayne Manna
Hannah Moodley
Yashoda Adhikari
Zainab Alam
Sahil Mehta

Gopi Krishna Putchakayala
Monty Kellett-McHughes
Anatta Traiwongyoi
Beth Gray
Shey Tatterson
Vy Tran

Senith Waduge
Avnoor Thind
Aaryan Sehgal
Robyn Eames

Apologies:

David Friswell

Welcome :

Thomas, Governing Board Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting, and gave an overview of the agenda. It was confirmed that quorum had been reached. Thomas invited students to introduce themselves.

General Business:

Thomas called for any general business. None was forthcoming. Thomas advised that general business could be spoken to throughout the meeting.

Minutes of previous AGM

Thomas noted that the minutes of the previous AGM had been distributed, and called for any questions or discussion around those minutes. None arose.

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Motion One

That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting be accepted as true and correct”

MOVED: Beth Gray

SECONDED: Senith Waduge

OBJECTIONS: NIL - Motion passed

Chair's Report

Coming off the back of a stabilizing 2023, it was important to look at some fundamentals that were going to provide stronger footings to help support strategic growth in the coming years. The Chair and the Governing Board did this in a number of ways, as outlined in the Annual Report.

Relationships

With new leadership at the University and the new structure in the Student Experience and Employability team, it was a great opportunity for us to build stronger connections with La Trobe and provide input on key strategies that would affect our students. Contributing to various pieces of work such as the Anti-racism taskforce and the University of the Future project

We also sought to re-establish a relationship with La Trobe Student Union (LTSU). The Chair has been encouraged by the direction this relationship has taken and welcomes further discussions with future leaders of both groups.

Campus Committees

A key focus in 2024 was to see growth in campus committees that would support sustainable outputs from our committees. Key to this was ensuring each committee had more membership than the previous years and growing the understanding of what was required of each individual

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Chair's Report *(Cont.)*

Campus Committees

Although there is still some work to be done in these areas, it is exciting to see that the majority of campus committees have near-full memberships. Membership of committees should continue to be a key marker for growth and awareness of the work that is done. Along with that, the volume of nominations for each campus election should provide another healthy measure for desired growth.

Campus committees also saw an increase in output from members, resulting in more events for our students. The more active members on our committees, the more work is undertaken. In this case, our board looked at guiding our committees in organising more deliberate events.

Looking ahead

With renewed relationships with key partners, a strong team and campus committees experiencing some carryover to assist with future growth, the Chair is excited to see what 2025 holds for the LTSA

The 2025 Chair and board would be well-positioned to look at ways it can support and upskill each executive of each campus committee while guiding the identification of further key partnerships on each campus and the local community. Along with further membership numbers across our committees, this will position LTSA strongly to start considering key strategic work that can help guide our student advocacy voice to La Trobe University.

Motion Two

“That the Chair's Report be accepted as true and correct”

MOVED: Beth Gray

SECONDED: Zainab Alam

OBJECTIONS: NIL - Motion passed

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Financial and Annual Report

Robyn wished to echo Thomas's thoughts about the growth of LTSA, and congratulated the Student Council on their hard work, not only for this year's crop of students, but for the groundwork they are laying for future students.

The GOO reminded students that LTSA is funded by SSAF, money that all students pay to the University for non-academic services like library, wellbeing services, clubs and societies, and also student organisations. With an initial SSAF allocation of \$586,900 going to LTSA in 2024, to be used on Student Representation, Student Engagement and Food Relief through the Student Pantry program. This represents around 6% of the SSAF collected.

Robyn noted the breakdown of the financials as outlined in the Annual Report

- \$110,000 to Sitting Fees
- \$41,600 to Student Engagement
- \$10,400 to Food Relief
- \$425,00 operational costs

The Governing Board then again voted to allocate a portion of their sitting fees to student engagement, for the benefit of all students, taking the student Engagement Fund to \$71,400, or around \$11,000 per council per year. There was also an additional \$30,000 of rolled over SSAF approved for Engagement also.

Outside of this, there was a total of \$66,882 provided in Sitting Fees.

In terms of food relief the full allocation saw around 19,000kg of food handed out from food relief partners, as well as an additional \$7,000 spent on topping up supplies.

The full audited financial reports are available in the Annual Report, outlining retained earnings which is inclusive of the rollover discussed earlier. It was also noted that there is a page on the LTU website outlining how SSAF is allocated by La Trobe if anyone wishes to access that information.

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Motion Three

That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting be accepted as true and correct”

MOVED: Thomas Prince

SECONDED: Monty Kellet-McHughes

OBJECTIONS: NIL - Motion passed

Other Business

Thomas discussed other business and asked if anyone had anything to discuss.

Thomas thanked Robyn for her work, and spoke highly of the Student Support and Engagement Officers in the work that they do.

Beth thanked Thomas for the work he has done and for his efforts in travelling to the campuses and getting to know students in person.

Meeting Closed: 2:36pm