



# 2021 Annual Report





# A message from the 2022 SSU President

2021 presented significant challenges for the Swinburne Student Union (SSU) in managing our commercial activities and support for Swinburne students during several COVID pandemic lockdowns throughout 2021. Notwithstanding these challenges, the SSU has been agile so as to limit the impact of our operations on the student experience. In 2021, SSU has continued to meet Swinburne's requirements to provide high quality support to Swinburne students despite a significant period of the year impacted by COVID.

Our transition to online events and activities reached thousands of engagements during 2021 and this program is testament to our strong focus on student welfare, events and engagement.

Our focus on student welfare including Foodbank and our 'Free Feeds' Program has delivered food and personal care support to hundreds of Swinburne students throughout the year.

Our financial surplus for the 2021 year is based on unprecedented state and federal stimulus support that will not be repeated into the future as well as sound financial management by the SSU Council and management.

On behalf of the SSU, I want to thank all our elected representatives, officebearers and staff for another strong year of support to Swinburne students.

**President**

**Nidzam Shah Hussain**



**SSU President (2022)**

Nidzam Hussain



**SSU General Secretary (2022)**

Isobel O'Dwyer

# Financial Summary

Sound financial management and once-off COVID stimulus has led to a **surplus of \$134,269** for the financial period of 1 January 2021 ending 31 December 2021. The SSU are not expecting a financial surplus of this size to be repeated in future years.

The bulk of the SSU's funding is derived from an annual agreement with Swinburne University to provide funding from the Student Services and Amenities (SSAF) fee.

This SSAF funding is linked to stringent governance and reporting requirements to Swinburne. All SSAF funds were spent in areas permitted under the *Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities) Act 2011*. Our 2021 financials were **independently audited** by Collins & Co Audit Pty Ltd.



## 2021 Financial Results Summary

Total Revenue for 2021	\$1,012,852.00
Total Expenditure for 2021	\$878,583.00
Operating Surplus	<b>\$134,269.00</b>

Total SSAF received from Swinburne University (2021)	\$620,500.00
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% of overall Swinburne SSAF funding collected	<b>11 cents of the dollar collected</b>
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# Key Initiatives

## Events and Activities

- ✓ Successful implementation of O Week events including a blended program of both online and on campus events for Semester 1 2021, seeing over 2,500 engagements for our live streamed events and a wholly online O'Week in Sem 2, 2021
- ✓ Swinburne Pride Week: management and implementation of a variety of events, promoting and spotlighting our Queer Collective and Swin Pride community.
- ✓ Continuous provision of educational workshops spanning across a diverse range of topics to cater for our student communities in times of financial hardship, job uncertainty and lack of in person collaboration and connection. Notable online workshops have included:
  - o Literary Panel in collaboration with Swine and Dept. of Media and Communication
  - o Sexual Wellness workshop and discussion
  - o Live music streams supporting local and emerging artists across our student communities
  - o Linked in Tips and Tricks
  - o Financial Coaching with Good Shepherd
  - o Career Success with Swin Career Services
  - o International Student Visa Information Session with ECLC
- ✓ Creation of the 'SSU's Swin Discovery Series' highlighting and promoting a range of services across Swinburne.

## Welfare and Leadership

- ✓ Continuation of the SSU FoodBank/Free Feeds Program - providing access to free food and personal care items with hundreds of volunteer hours throughout the year (impacted by COVID) supporting domestic and international students.
- ✓ Implementation of Welfare Hub offering students the chance to meet with and participate in SSU Collective led activities, as well as offering information on Swinburne services such as Health Services and Safer Community, alongside offering free lunch and recipe pack options for students (including grocery bags with assigned easy recipes for students struggling with food insecurity).
- ✓ Continued delivery of our SWINE media enterprise with thousands of magazines distributed and increasing online readership.
- ✓ Delivering thousands of transactions at Croydon Cafe and Hammer & Swine despite reduced operating periods arising from COVID.
- ✓ SUT advocacy, advice & collaboration on policy & support measures (GPA, ISSEF, FAP, No Fail, etc.)
- ✓ Conducted the 2021 SSU election through postal election.





ssu.org.au



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