



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

# University of Melbourne Council Election

*Student elected members of Council*  
Candidate Information Session 28 April 2026

# Ballot process

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Ballot open 12pm Tues 28 Apr 2026

Ballot close 12pm Fri 1 May 2026

- Deputy Returning Officers have been appointed by the Returning Officer: Charles Richardson, Stephen Luntz, Patrick Clearwater, and Ciara Griffiths (Above Quota Elections), and Gabrielle Ostberg (University Governance)
- Ballot conducted via BigPulse, standard preferential voting and Robson rotation
- Provisional declaration Fri 1 May 2026
- Public declaration Mon 4 May 2026



# Campaign Conduct

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Candidates and campaigners must comply with all applicable laws, University statutes, regulations and policies, and any reasonable direction of the Returning Officer, including the [Election Campaign Conduct Guidelines](#)

Candidates are expected to conduct themselves with integrity and in a manner consistent with the standards of the University community and with University policies and guidance, including

- Student Charter
- Student Conduct Policy (MPF1324)
- Provision and Acceptable Use of IT Policy (MPF1314) and the Rules for Student Email
- Guidelines for placing posters or chalking



# Campaigners and campaigning

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- Campaigning only permitted during the ballot period.
- Register campaigners with the Returning Officer 24 hours prior to them starting to campaign
- Share all campaign material with the Returning Officer for authorisation
- Campaign material must not be untrue, misleading, defamatory, deceptive or discriminatory
- Consequences and penalties for breach



# Campaigners and campaigning

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- This role is for position on Council and Council members are expected to treat all members of the University community with respect at all times
- No harassment, intimidation or bullying
- Don't put pressure on people to vote or offer inducements
- Don't infringe the secrecy of the ballot
- Consequences for breach include, but are not limited to: warnings, bans from campaigning either generally or for a set period, taking down of campaign material for a set period of time, and in the most serious cases, disqualification of candidature and misconduct referral



# Declaration and next steps

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- Provisional declaration Fri 1 May 2026
- Public declaration Mon 4 May 2026
- Induction for the new member Mon 4 May or Tues 5 May 2026
- First Council meeting week commencing Mon 4 May
- Term of office 5 May 2026 until 30 Nov 2027



# Questions?

University Governance website:

<https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance>

Contact: [uni-elections@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:uni-elections@unimelb.edu.au)