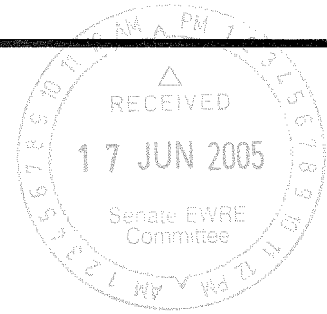


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**From:** m.bubnic@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au  
**Sent:** Friday, 17 June 2005 4:36 PM  
**To:** EET, Committee (SEN)  
**Subject:** VSU



Dear Senate Committee,

I am currently a student of the Victorian College of the Arts and am concerned about the impact VSU will have on student life.

Studying full-time means that students have to survive on youth allowance payments and whatever casual work they are able to find. The discounted and free services the union provide make full-time study a viable option. I use the union bulkbilling health clinic, the discounted dental service, the employment and housing office, and am grateful to know that legal, counselling, childcare and a range of other support services are available if I ever required them. If the student union is unable to provide these services, the ability of students to study full-time is severely compromised.

As a VCA student, I am especially concerned about the impact VSU will have on cultural life on campus. I have been heavily involved with Union House Theatre activities. Union House Theatre supports student theatre initiatives by offering funding, guidance and the opportunity to work with industry professionals. I have learned so much from working with great theatre directors, writers and actors which ultimately benefits me in becoming a better artist. Without the support of Union House Theatre, students will find it incredibly difficult to put on their own plays and performance pieces and will not have access to the talent, experience and contacts of industry professionals.

I have participated in many functions and special events offered by different clubs and societies, all of which have provided me with a much richer university experience.

University is still one of the few places where people can actually feel like they're part of a community. VSU will destroy that.

Kind Regards,

Melissa Bubnic  
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