RMIT Link Arts Council Constitution

1. Name

There shall be a committee of RMIT Link known as the RMIT Link Arts Council.

2. Definitions

"Arts Council Coordinator" means the full time member of RMIT Link staff appointed to that position by the RMIT Link Manager;

"Board" means RMIT Link Board;

"Collective" means RMIT Link Arts Council Collective affiliated with RMIT Link;

"Council" means RMIT Link Arts Council; and

"Link" means RMIT Link.

3. Objectives

3.1 To support students in the promotion of their collectives, arts and cultural projects.

3.2 To act as the peak body for those members of the RMIT community interested in collectives, arts and culture projects to the RMIT Board.

3.3 To facilitate the development of arts projects, arts collectives and cultural programs through the management of an annual grants program.

3.4 To facilitate student participation in the development of RMIT Link Arts & Culture Policy, Projects and Arts Program through the provision of Creative Forums.

3.5 To facilitate an annual professional development program for students in arts and culture activities.

3.6 To provide an active voice concerning arts programs and affairs to the broader RMIT community and environment.

3.7 To provide a network for students to enjoy the diverse arts and cultural programs and practices on campus.

3.8 To facilitate access to arts and cultural programs for students from all courses within RMIT.

3.9 To encourage the growth of a broad and diverse audience in arts and cultural programs.

3.10 To support emerging and student arts practitioners to develop knowledge of and professional practices relevant to the wider arts community.
4. Membership

4.1 Arts Council

The Arts Council shall be made up of:

4.1.1 An elected student representative of each collective; and

4.1.2 A student representative from each Arts Council funded Arts Project;

4.1.3 Two general RMIT Link Arts & Culture student members elected at RMIT Link's Annual General Meeting;

4.1.4 The Arts Council Coordinator, shall be an ex-officio member, who will also act as the Executive Officer and Secretary to the Council.

4.2 Collectives

4.2.1 Collectives shall be made up of RMIT Link Arts & Culture members, in any art form, who elect to form a Collective;

4.2.2 Collectives shall register with the RMIT Link Arts Council and re-register in November each year, to be eligible for recurrent funding;

4.2.3 Collectives may submit an annual or half yearly arts program for funding;

4.2.4 Collectives will be funded in accordance with RMIT Link's Arts Council annual programme priorities and guidelines;

4.2.5 Collectives shall operate under and in accordance with the RMIT Link Arts Council Constitution;

4.2.6 Arts Council Representatives can serve a maximum of two terms.

4.3 Art Projects

4.3.1 Any individual or group of students who are RMIT Link Arts & Culture members, in any art form or combination of art forms, may register an Art Project and submit for funding under the Arts Council's Grants Program.

4.3.2 Art Projects are funded on a project-by-project basis and in accordance with program priorities and guidelines.
5. **Executive**

There shall be an Executive made up of:

5.1 The President, who shall be elected by and from the members of the Council and who shall chair meetings of the council;

5.2 The Vice-President, who shall be elected by and from the members of the Council and who shall chair meetings of the council in the absence of the President;

5.3 The convener of the Arts Grant Sub-Committee who shall be elected by and from the members of the Council; and

5.4 The Secretary, who shall be the Arts Council Coordinator

6. **Functions of the Council**

6.1 To act as a consultative committee to the Board on Art and Culture matters;

6.2 To act as the peak body and to advice the Board on all matters relating to the activities of the Arts Council, Collectives and Arts and Culture Projects;

6.3 To promote arts and cultural activities across all campuses of RMIT;

6.4 To create opportunities for participation in all arts and cultural activities whether as practitioners or consumers;

6.5 To promote a culture of enjoyment, membership, equity and involvement in the Council and its affiliated groups;

6.6 To be ambassadors and facilitators of student arts and cultural programs across all of RMIT's campuses;

6.7 To facilitate the development of new student arts projects and collectives through the development of program priorities and the management of an annual Arts Council Programme;

6.8 To facilitate the development of RMIT Link Arts & Culture Policy and Professional practice through the provision of an annual program of Creative Forums and Professional Development Programs for arts practitioners and consumers;

6.9 To provide two rounds for Arts Council Grants each year, on a semester basis except that a Collective may submit a program and budget for an annual arts program;

6.10 To establish and maintain an Arts Council Grants Standing Sub-Committee to consider applications for Arts & Culture Council Grants and to establish other Sub-Committees as required;

6.11 To maintain an annual register of Collectives and Arts Projects;

6.12 To establish funding and program guidelines and outcome statements for funded projects, Collective’s art programs, Creative Forums and Professional Development Programs;

6.13 To monitor, review and evaluate the provision of these programs each semester;
6.14 To facilitate the development of industry based project management skills in Arts Council members and student art practitioners;

7. **Arts Council Sub-Committees**

The Arts Council shall establish specific sub-committees as required;

7.1 Sub-Committees shall be convened by a member of the Arts Council;

7.1.2 The Arts Council will constitute sub-committees by publicly calling for membership from RMIT Link Arts & Culture members;

7.1.3 Membership shall be set at six members including the convener;

7.1.4 All sub-committee members will be provided with a professional development and training program;

7.1.5 The Arts Council Grants Sub-Committee shall be a permanent sub-committee constituted annually to consider grant applications, in accordance with the Arts Council priorities and criteria, and recommend projects for funding to the Arts Council for endorsement;

7.1.6 In respect to the Arts Council Grants Sub-Committee membership shall be independent of grant applications.

7. **Meetings**

7.1 The RMIT Arts Council shall meet at least twice in each semester and shall meet more often if called upon to do so by the President or secretary;

7.2 The Executive shall convene as required between meetings but shall have no delegated authority other than that specifically conferred by RMIT Link Arts Council.

8. **Constitutional and Constitutional Change Provisions**

8.1 The provisions in this Constitution shall be consistent with those contained in the RMIT Link Constitution and where they are at variance the provisions in the RMIT Link Constitution will prevail;

8.2 This Constitution will be subject to annual review by the RMIT Link Board.