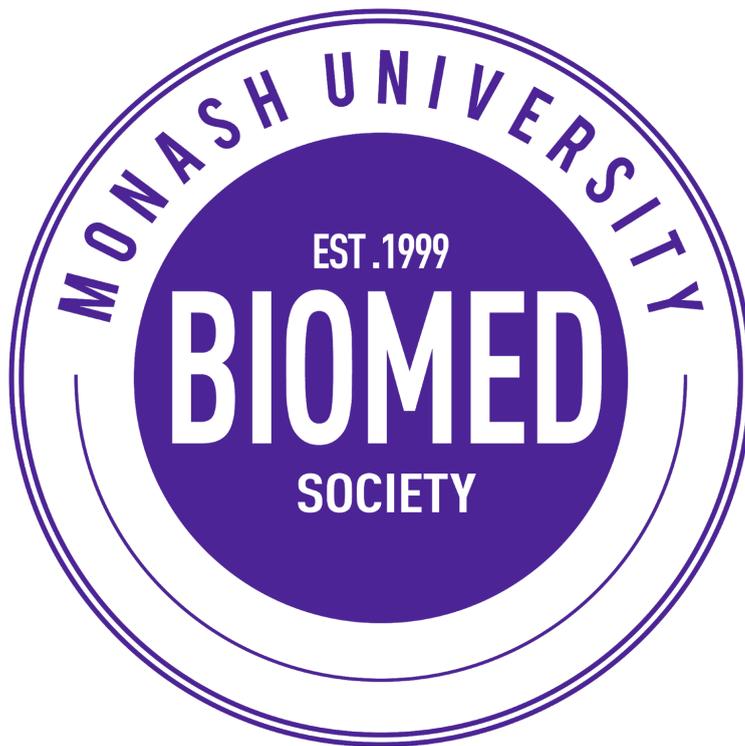


# Monash **BIOMED** Society

Survival Guide 2021

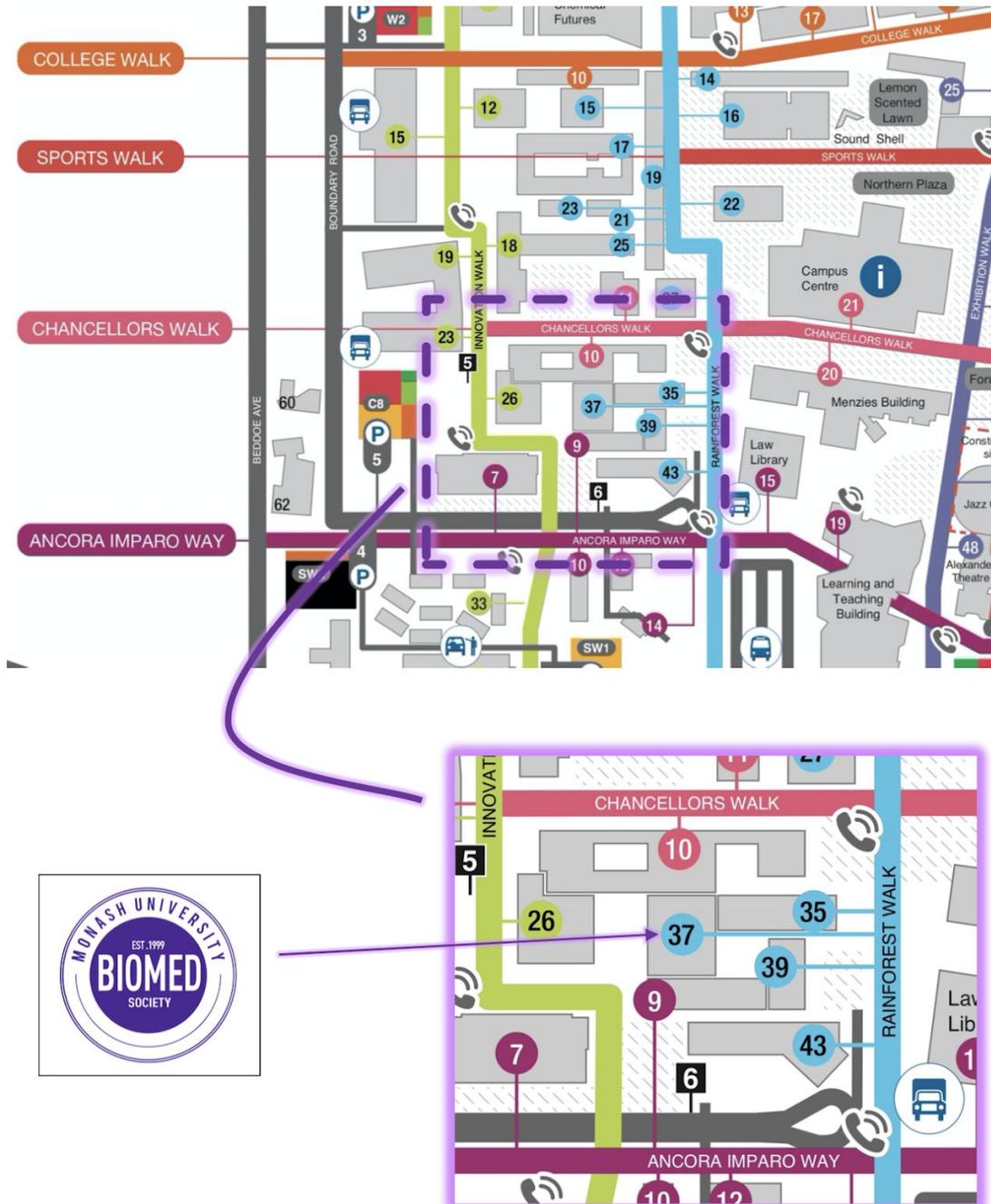


# Where to find us!

## Room AG01D

37 Rainforest Walk (Building 13A)

Monash University, Clayton VIC 3800



# How to join the Biomed Society!

1. Go to <https://clubs.msa.monash.edu/joinnow/>
2. Log in with your student information through Okta.
3. Click on 'Clubs & Societies', then scroll down.
4. Search for 'Biomed' in the search bar or
5. Scroll down and choose 'Biomedical Society'.
6. Complete your purchase by reviewing your shopping basket.

**Note:** Non-MSA memberships are \$15, and MSA memberships are \$10. Buy your MSA Rewards membership first to receive \$10 Biomed Society membership.

## Biomed Society member perks:

- FREE GAMSAT Masterclass and Interview Workshop run by Fraser's GAMSAT
- Exclusive free access to all our academic events and discounted tickets to all of our social events throughout the year
- Regular peer mentoring updates
- Keep in the loop with regular tips and tricks for surviving Biomed
- Be part of an amazing community made of like-minded friends and peers
- Receive a goodie bag with the infamous stylish Biomed logo T-shirt, and discount for selected restaurants on campus
- A guaranteed fun time
- and more!

## How to keep up-to-date...

**FACEBOOK:** Monash Biomed Society

**INSTAGRAM:** @MonashBiomedSociety

**WEBSITE:** <http://monashbiomedociety.org>

**EMAIL:** [clubbiomed@monashclubs.org](mailto:clubbiomed@monashclubs.org)

**LINKEDIN:** Monash Biomed Society

# President's Warm Welcome

Hey lovely Biomed friends!

My name is Ella O'Connell, an excitable fourth year Biomed student, and I am absolutely over the MOON to be the President of the Monash Biomed Society in 2021!

I want to give a massive welcome to all of the JAFFYs of 2021 (and 2020 first years of course, welcome to campus at last!) Monash is the absolute best place to study and I hope I can assure you that you've made the right choice. The jump from high school to university life can look like a big one, but trust me, it will be the most fun you've ever had. If you're a returning student, HEY! Welcome back, let's do this!!

If it makes you feel better - I came to Monash knowing barely a handful of people, and threw myself into as many uni events as possible (including our renowned Biomed cAMP). I came out of first year having met the most incredible bunch of people who I can now call my best friends, and it's my goal to ensure that all of you have the same experience too.

Joining the Biomed Society was the best choice I made while studying at uni, and it isn't hard to see why. We provide the grooviest social events around, including a Booze Cruise, annual Biomed Ball at Crown Palladium, super mysterious Mystery Bus, lots of funky pub crawls, and tons of hangouts in between. On top of the rowdy nights out together, you have access to the latest academic information, free revision sessions and GAMSAT prep, and plenty of networking opportunities with academic professionals.

If you want to know more about what we do - feel free to shoot myself, any of the committee members, or our Facebook page a message and we'll be happy to chat! In the meantime, check out our Facebook and Instagram pages (linked below) for a sneak peek of your years ahead at Monash...

If you made it this far, hopefully I'll catch you at our O-week stall, or on the dancefloor at our long-awaited Toga Party this Thursday 25th (hurry, tickets are selling fast!!)

Lots of love to you all (and stay sexy),

Ella xxxx <3

# Your 2021 committee

## ELLA O'CONNELL | President



Loves a cheeky bowl of curry and absolutely loves to remind you of it too. Will always find her drinking a glass or 10 of pink Moscato—take note, her favourite brand of Moscato is Brown Brothers. Loves a chat on the phone, unless your name is Ryan, and then you will always go to voicemail. Her mum is her biggest wing woman. No doubt you'll bump into her at her daily Sushi Sushi pilgrimage on campus. Claims that she did 15 years of dance lessons to learn ballet, but really it was preparation for the uprising of her TikTok dancing fame.

**Fun fact:** Ella has a secret Taylor Swift fan account where she worships her one and only queen.

## AINSLEY SOMERS | Academic Vice President



We know that this year's academic events are going to leave your brains swollen with information with Ainsley as your Academic VP. The purest and most wholesome girl you will ever come across at Monash—that is until you get to know her better. Ainsley is infamously known for her alter ego Arabella, who can pop out on the sesh after a few too many mojito jugs. Still yet to bring her sausage dog Molly to uni. Easily convinced to leave lectures midway for Neptune's chips loaded with chicken salt (would recommend).

**Fun fact:** Ainsley has a twin brother, however, it is yet to be confirmed or denied whether he actually exists as he has never been seen by any other member of Biomed.

## STEPH RIXON | Social Vice President



Honestly a goddamn NERD. Steph is one of THE MOST dedicated students to Monash university EVER. This can be confirmed by her almost losing her job because she was studying while at work. Steph is well known to down an entire bottle of vodka when running late to any event and having to be picked up by her sister 10 minutes later because she passed out on the bathroom floor. Steph's nerd skills are going to come in handy as the queen of activities as she makes sure that all the events this year are meticulously planned to perfection and that they all run smoothly.

**Fun fact:** Steph did not say goodnight to her parents on Biomed cAMP in first year, which is an extremely serious and convictable crime!

## TIM MILES | Secretary



If you weren't happy last year having a Biomed/Eng nerd as your secretary, then I've got really bad news for you... Anybody who knows Tim knows that he loves group projects, if you ever bump into him you should ask him all about it! Tim is a total sports nut, so when not on the sesh with the Biomed committee, you can find him in the gym getting absolutely no gains.

**Fun Fact:** Tim survived a barrage of bricks being thrown through his window - superman in disguise?

## GAVIN ASHFORD | Treasurer



Gavin, Gav or the G-Man as some say is the money man for the biomed committee. After several run ins with the IRS for alleged tax evasion as the assistant treasurer in 2020, Gavin has sworn to make sure this year is done by the books. Gavin is always down for a bev, whether that is a glorious cup of papua new guinea single origin, or something a little stronger. If you see a tree looking man falling off of a longboard that's probably him. Nonetheless, the man is a guitar wiz and a bit of an icon.

**Fun fact:** Gavin ate his sister in utero. Do not cross him. He has the souls of two human beings inside him.

## KATE ROBINSON | Activities Officer



Kate is one of the more energetic members of the committee. Considering a strong dislike for exams and a stronger affection for the sesh, there's no wonder why Kate is THE person you want by your side at one of our many famous events (except maybe Mystery Bus). Watch out for the best year of activities yet, Kate's love for the sesh is going to help the 2021 events make you forget that 2020 even existed!

**Fun fact:** Kate has a history of yelling at people when they do not know her name, so pay attention to this face to avoid future conflict.

## AUSTIN HOLLINGSWORTH | Activities Officer



Austin, otherwise known as Aussie, Aus, or "that tall unco bloke", is a certified weapon on the sauce - or so he likes to think. Having devoted his entire liver to biomed, he is quite appropriately an Activities Officer. He shunned the med pathway and picked up engineering after realising he enjoys physics more than anatomy (and broken bones freak him out). The giraffe is easy to spot on campus, and will happily talk your ear off about his penny stock portfolio.

**Fun fact:** Only grows his hair long cos he knows he's gonna go bald

## SASKIA MULDER | Assistant Secretary



Saskia, or Sas as she likes to be called, is a meticulously organised party girl who is the go to for train times home on a Saturday night making her perfect as our assistant secretary. When she's not rapping Hamilton or singing along to a random musical she's sure to tell you about how she 'discovered' herself in Europe. She's a cross between the briiiighton girl and a beach bum so you'll either find her at the nearest happy hour or reading a book in the sun. Be sure to ask for pictures of her golden retrievers and if you

ever have a zoom with her you're sure to spot her 3-legged cat Randall who tries to sit on her laptop.

**Fun fact:** Not shy of making some fabulous cocktails and using her dogs to get votes.

## **BRIAN LIU** | Assistant Treasurer



A man of diverse music taste; techno, acid techno and techno. Will be taking on the most demanding role in the committee; assistant treasurer. Besties with his local police station after they evicted a home invader for him, could call in favours to turn a blind eye to our money racketeering scheme. Rumour has it Brian loves a good bev, but don't ask him to do a shotgun, he should definitely stick to managing our money. As a big music snob, he will probably ask for your Spotify playlist before asking your name.

**Fun fact:** Brought up in a stingy asian household so knows how to make the most of every cent, tax evasion is his middle name.

## **LARA OZENIR** | Academic Officer



Being half of the academics team, we can expect great things from Lara as she not only supports biomed students but double degree eng students alike! No matter how many times she treks to a biomed sesh after swim teaching, Lara always manages to arrive fashionably late, even if it means showering at work. Although she strives in academics, Lara struggles to withhold from her shopping addiction and can never say no to a good sale. Usually you will find her bingeing Netflix in her bed after 9:30pm. If u give her a bev don't worry about her drink driving cause she doesn't have her licence anyway (she will get it sooner or later).

**Fun fact:** Head to [@hireoutfitmelb\\_](#) on instagram to rent your outfit for biomed ball x

## **MEG RUYTERS** | Academic Officer



Meg might just be the biggest superstar of our whole society, if you ever want to meet with her, you better book ahead! Meg is the student representative on the Academic Board, so

we're definitely punching above our weight by securing her as part of our Academic team. But don't be fooled by her huge brain and ambition, Meg absolutely loves the sesh and won't be able to miss her drinking egg beer bong on cAMP.

**Fun fact:** Meg is deadly afraid of spiders, and has pulled together a team of Ghostbusters to defeat the huntsmans.

## **KATRINA YOUNG** | cAMP & Launch Coordinator



Katrina is the one stop shop for all things cAMP, and for the first time in Biomed Society History, running not one but TWO cAMPs (thanks COVID). Catch her on the dancefloor every night out making a mockery of a tik tok dance, be sure to get her signature before she leaves Monash to pursue her celebrity career. Works 25 hours a day at her 3 jobs (excluding her generous volunteer work). \*Found herself\* in Europe on about 10 Contiki tours in 2019 doing solo travel. Can't find her without her mum Vanessa for more than 10 mins... Ray of sunshine—almost impossible to catch her without a smile.

**Fun fact:** She can recite every word of Disney's Frozen and Frozen 2 with perfect accuracy in both English and French.

## **EUAN JENKINS** | Sponsorship & Publicity Officer



This guy loves getting his hands on free stuff so is the perfect fit for being in charge of Sponsorships. Euan's a cocktail making enthusiast who claims to make 'the best' espresso martinis. While also being the most awkward dancer, Euan's always up for a cheeky boogie or two -

especially if he's the one spinning tunes. Although his shaved head throws off a 'tough guy' vibe, Euan secretly loves curling up on the couch with a block of top deck and watching 10 things I hate about you. Euan's keen to redeem himself as best dressed at the 2021 Biomed ball so fellas... don't even bother trying.

**Fun fact:** 100% success rate at picking the perfect avocado.

## CHIMMY ADAMS | Peer Mentor Coordinator



Chimmy aka, Chimichanga aka, honorary group mum has assumed her role as peer-mentorship coordinator and your official biomed mum. Whether you're lost on campus, need a week 9 pep talk or someone to ask that one question you thought was stupid, Chimmy is your woman!

Chimmy's strengths include making To-Do lists, getting the best campus parking and mumma-bear hugs and her weaknesses include clumsiness, due dates and Absolut Vodka.

In her spare time Chimmy can be found in the kitchen baking up a storm or breaking out in dance for no absolute reason.

**Fun fact:** Chimmy's ongoing identity crisis means you will find her with a different hairstyle each week so good luck finding her.

## HOW TO BE A GOOD JAFFY

**1. Don't** try to shrug off the title of 'JAFFY'. If we had to live through it, so do you. This title lasts until your first lecture of second year. This is non-negotiable, even if you have second-year units in first year.

**2. Say 'yes'** to everything that makes sense: **cAMP** (especially cAMP, more than anything else!), parties, balls, boat cruises and unusually rowdy bus rides. Our activities

officers put their heart and soul into organising these spectacular events and they are the best way of getting to know your peers in first year. If you go but don't really like it, all you've lost is a bit of money. If you don't go, you'll never know how many new mates you could have *almost* made.

**3.** There are many drinking chants at Monash. You will have plenty of time to learn them all. Don't be overwhelmed. #trueblue

**4.** The drinking culture at uni is very full-on for many people fresh out of high school. **Don't feel pressured** to drink beyond your borders, no matter how much other people are drinking. Your Biomed committee will likely go harder at the sesh than most people you know, but we will never judge you or exclude you if our level of intensity isn't your thing.

**5. Being 'too cool' for dress-up themes is uncool.** The more elaborate your costume at any event, the more you will fit-in. Rumour has it, Katrina spent 3 hours making a hat for one of her costumes in first year.

**6.** Apply to join the Biomed committee as one of our four **Jaffy reps** so you can assist us in organising many social and academic events. Being selected is through a democratic voting process, so make a name for yourself at our events. 95% of the time, attendees of Biomed cAMP are selected, but if you can't make it there, don't be dissuaded!

**7.** Sign up for Peer Assisted Study Sessions (**PASS**) and attend the sessions. PASS becomes available on Allocate+ around week 2, and you'd be silly to say no. These sessions are organised for certain first-year subjects that are considered a little more difficult and are run weekly. They aren't compulsory but are highly recommended as they're extremely helpful and well run.

**8.** If you haven't already met your peer mentor, then we think you should go log on to Chronus and get in touch with them - like seriously go do it right now (if you don't know how, keep an eye out for the Chronus 101 webinar in your inbox)! The peer mentor program is run by the Monash BDI Student Experience Team and is a great way to ease the transition into uni, which is usually a big and sometimes overwhelming experience - especially with all the changes that have occurred this year. As a first-year, you'll be paired with a volunteer second or third year student who has been selected by the program organisers. They've completed online modules in mentoring, diversity & inclusion and understanding mental health. We hope that having a Biomed mentor will mean that you are able to seek advice and support about settling into uni and your course. We've all been a first-year at some point in our university experience and we know how it feels. Make sure to keep in touch with your mentor and attend those online

zoom meetings to work through the immense amount of 'newness' that accompanies starting uni for the first time.

**9.** You don't have to attend all your lectures in person, there is an option to live-stream them from your laptop and they are recorded so you will always be able to watch a past lecture. **Unwatched lectures can easily snowball** into hours of eye-strain in the weeks leading up to exams so try to stay on top of them, as most need to be watched in consequential order (meaning if you miss one, it can sometimes be hard to keep up in the next lecture without watching the one you miss). Keep track of when your lectures are, how many you have a week and set aside twice the amount of time the lecture runs for to ensure you're able to get through it all.

\*\*\* Due to the current situation (thanks COVID-19 again), some of the advice regarding signing up for PASS and attending physical lectures may not be relevant for the time being. Hopefully we will be able to run as many sessions as possible in person, so keep an eye out for updates from the faculty!

# BIOMED SOCIETY EVENTS

## Social Events

❖ **cAMP:** Although the year long-anticipated 2nd year Jaffy camp was unfortunately postponed last minute because of daddy Dan, don't fear as we will ensure the TWO cAMPs will still be going ahead! The first year JAFFY cAMP is not a long wait at all, with this spicey weekend being hosted from the 12-14th of March. The one and only miserable feeling associated with cAMP (aside from the possible hangovers) belongs to the silly geese that don't come along when they hear the



awesome stories from our weekend of dancing and friendship making! We'll take you on an adventure to a campsite near Aireys Inlet where for three days, the booze is on us, the people are all who you'll be spending the next 3 years of Monash life with, the sun will shine and the dancing lasts all night. This is without a doubt the best way to meet your fellow Monashians and Jaffys. So let's do this!

❖ **Toga Party:** Biomed, Law and Commerce societies join forces to bring Monash students the amazing Toga party on the Thursday night of O-Week! Whether you've been Rome-ing the world(unlikely because of our mate COVID) or chilling in Melbourne this summer, there is no better way to kick off your Uni social calendar than a



boogie and a couple of refreshing beverages with friends both old and new. Get a hold of your mum's oldest bed sheets and Caesar a pair of Birks because this is an event you do not want to myth!

❖ **Mystery Bus (???)**: Albert Einstein once stated, “The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious”, and this couldn’t be more relevant for this event. Prepare yourself to be left in an awe as you wonder where the next venue will be every time you jump back on the bus during this night time tour of Melbourne!

Stopping at a variety of locations, this tour will fill you with feelings of anticipation and excitement... and potentially another hangover the next morning. Lined up to occur in Semester 2, you’d be silly not to lock in some tickets for a very mysterious and memorable night.

❖ **Booze Cruise**: This event sells out within 10 minutes - and I’m sure you can understand why. Cruising down the Yarra, killer tunes, cheap drinks, and all your biomed friends - its a pure recipe for fun.

Better yet, the Booze Cruise is locked in for Thursday the 1st of April, AKA the last day before the mid-sem break. Yep, that's right, no 8am lectures to worry about the next morning! Get your boat shoes and life jackets ready, cos you won’t wanna miss this boat!



❖ **Pub Crawl**: Trawling through Chapel Street on a Thursday night is fun. What’s more fun is trawling through Chapel Street on a Thursday night with ridiculous drink specials, provided by your Biomed committee? Dress up according to the theme... and then party so hard that you forget you’re even in costume. We hope you don’t have any Friday morning lectures because this isn’t the kind of night you want to go home early from.



❖ **Bar Night**: Beers and ciders priced no more than the gold coins in your pocket combined with our traditional theme of ‘Game of the Rings: Harry Potter Strikes Back’ (work

[Biomed Survival Guide 2021](#)



out the references) makes for an extravagant night out without the nasty “how much did I spend?” panic that always follows the next morning. The more extra the costume, the better... unless it’s Jar Jar Binks.

This cost effective night is lined up for Semester 2, with more details to come. But it's safe to say you might need to go costume searching...

❖ **Biomed Ball:** Biomed is known for many things. The Biomed Ball however, is the cherry on top.

The annual event is held at Crown Palladium (where those footy players go and get their little brownlow medal thing), and tickets sell hotter than our committee. With over 1000 people stunning attendees, you’ll enjoy an amazing fancy meal, unlimited drinks (as is the Biomed custom!), professional photography and of course free entry to our after party!



This is by far the highlight of our social events calendar but be prepared to camp outside South One as early as 6am to secure tickets for you and your friends.

## Academic Events

❖ **Electives Information Session:** Struggling to decide between Pharmacology and Developmental Biology? Wondering exactly what research units are available to you? Come along to our electives information session and get the answers to all your questions, directly from each unit



coordinator! A great summary of what is possible to study in addition to your Biomed core units. Heavily attended and certainly not to be missed!

❖ **Women in Medicine Night:** A brand new event for 2021! We see that there is a missing link in academic events catered towards all the wonderful women paving their way in the medical industry, so we've got you! With a panel of amazing and inspiring women, this is the perfect opportunity to network and learn about your future options after Biomed. This event aims to celebrate the women in medicine who are paving the way for students, and to encourage the women of Monash to pursue anything they want to. All genders are welcome to attend and learn from and about women in the medicine.

❖ **GEMSAS Information Session:** If a career in Medicine is your ultimate aim, don't miss our GEMSAS Information Session (Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System... you'll deal with these guys a bit if you're applying for a medical course after Biomed), information from this session is important and tailored to those coming from a Monash Biomedical Science degree. This session covers entry requirements for postgraduate Medicine courses, as well as how to fill out all the forms! There's also Q&A time with some current Med students with Monash Biomed backgrounds.

❖ **Medical Interview Session:** One of the key components of entry to Medical School is the interview! Here at the Biomed Society we collaborate with Fraser's GAMSAT and bring along an expert to tell you about the process and give you some great hints and tips for doing well!

❖ **GAMSAT Information Session:** Due to the interest of most Biomed students in postgraduate Medicine, we run an individual information session about the Graduate Australian Medical School Admission Test (GAMSAT). This day-long exam is a necessary trial to endure for entry into postgraduate Medicine. In 2021, we are again partnering with Fraser's

GAMSAT Tuition to provide a comprehensive information session, which deconstructs the three sections of the GAMSAT and provides preparatory advice for each. Highly recommended to complement your GAMSAT preparation.

❖ **Masters and Honours Information session:** Are you unsure of what further study options are available to Biomed graduates? If so, our Masters & Honours Information Session is for you. The session is run in a lecture format with the coordinators from multiple masters and honours courses from departments such as Physiology, Radiation Therapy, Embryology and more. This event is a great opportunity and platform for you to explore the range of options and alternate career pathways beyond your Biomedical Science degree!

❖ **Corporate Cocktails:** Dress up nicely at one of Melbourne's best venues, have a drink or two and learn all about some of your options post-Biomed! The fact of the matter is, there is such a wide range of careers that await you with a Biomedical Science degree under your belt, and what better way to learn about them than to talk to real people with experience in them? We invite professionals in health science, pharmaceuticals, education, research and the medical field... just to name a few. This is an event not to be missed and it will be bigger and better than ever. Let's make academics FUN together!



## FOOD HACKS

❖ **Joe's Pizzeria** — signing up as a member gives you access to discount cards for this yummy pizzeria!! For just a short walk from campus centre, this pizza is worth a bite!

❖ **Guzman y Gomez** — sign up to the app and get the first burrito free. Also, one of the tastiest feeds on campus, highly recommend the Cali burrito.

❖ **Taste Baguette** (under Menzies) — 10-15 mins before closing they offer their tasty baguettes, rice paper rolls, pizzas and salads for a very

appealing price of \$5. Very good if you're looking for a cheap study snack in the arvo. The brownies from this place are also damn tasty.

❖ **Wholefoods** is definitely the place to go if you love cheap, vegetarian and vegan food (located upstairs of Campus Centre). If you are particularly light on change, the \$3 dahl is the go. Also, such a funky and cute place to hang out.

❖ **Monash Merchant** near Monash Sport — Open late so perfect for a late-night study snack. Has many delicious delicacies including kombucha on tap (delicious depending on who you ask), freshly squeezed OJ as well as many tasty treats Oasis Bakery. Bonus hack: \$1.50 coffees!!

❖ **Neptune's Seafood Catch** — Cheap as potato cakes and very tasty chippies; self-serve chicken salt and saucy-sauce is also a massive win.

❖ **Malong Kitchen & Dumplings** — Cheap dumplings under Hargrave Library (yes, this library exists), very reasonably priced for a very satisfying meal.

# First year BMS units & potential electives...

**BMS1011: Biomedical chemistry:** This unit essentially builds on Year 12 chem knowledge. Make sure you come prepared with the workbook given to you at the start of the semester. Tutes are a good opportunity to ask questions and seek help if required from your tutor and peers if you want clarification on some of the more difficult concepts. Knowledge from this unit is assessed in the GAMSAT so make good notes and be sure to hold onto them for later reference!

**BMS1021: Cells, tissues and organisms:** It's back to the basics of biology with this unit, think 'mitochondria are the powerhouse of the cell', ribosomes, and Golgi apparatus. Depending on the topic, you will have seen some of the content before in VCE biology. Don't stress if you didn't study biology in VCE—there are extra resources made available and your unit coordinator is very aware of this situation. Ask your friends for help if you're struggling to understand a concept and try to stay on top of all the content. You can even allocate yourself to Peer Assisted Study Session (PASS) classes, to help keep you on track with extra support throughout the semester. It's an achievable unit without any previous bio knowledge. This unit will help to form the basis of your biology knowledge throughout the rest of the course and form the foundations of future units.

**BMS1031: Medical biophysics:** This unit is a little intimidating for those who didn't study physics in VCE. However, most people find this subject challenging and you are not alone if you feel a little overwhelmed from time-to-time in this unit. Seek help at the TAPAS sessions run in the PACE labs to clarify any questions or queries you may have with demonstrators and lecturers. Also, don't be afraid to ask your friends for help, contact lecturers via email or approach them after a lecture, as this is the best way to proactively help yourself better understand those tricky concepts. PASS is also offered for this subject. Use the practice exams and the practice questions available in the textbook to help you prepare for the exam.

**BMS1042: Public health and preventative medicine:** 1042 has two distinct yet complementary components, the public health aspect and the statistics aspect. The public health aspect can be really interesting yet is often the harder part to study for come exams. Stats is a contrast to the hardcore maths found in other parts of Biomed, being similar to year 12 further maths. If you didn't do further maths in VCE, pay attention to the concepts as it's a very different type of maths to Math Methods. Only a few of the tutes and workshops are compulsory, but it is recommended that you attend as many as you can.

**BMS1052: Human neurobiology:** This can be one of the more challenging units that you'll complete in first year for some students, but it is also one of the most interesting. It is a well run, and well-taught unit, that explores a remarkably interesting area of

human biology, our brains. You learn about an array of senses such as vision, and hearing, as well as how muscles work. The unit also equips you well for second year and is a great opportunity to develop your ability to answer short answer questions.

**BMS1062: Molecular biology:** 1062 builds off of the central dogma of molecular biology, exploring how our genes become proteins and all of the steps in between. You learn a lot about DNA and RNA, right from the very basics, and learn about how they duplicate and are translated and transcribed into the proteins found in the body. The labs in this unit are generally well run and are a good opportunity to build up some strength in semester marks. It's not necessarily the most interesting unit you will complete, but it equips you well for the rest of Biomed.

## Potential electives

**ATS1297: Academic Writing:** This subject is made to teach you how to write and work as a Uni Student. The style of writing used in high school is very different from the expectations put on you by Universities. You will learn key principles of grammar, and how to use sources correctly (finding, referencing, quoting, and paraphrasing) and avoid problems like plagiarism. You will also learn how to plan, research, edit, and proofread essays. This Unit also has no exams and comes highly recommended by many students.

**ATS1261: Understanding human behaviour:** Great subject if you're interested in an arts unit. Marks can be easily obtained by simply showing up for tutorials and there is no exam. Covers basic psychology concepts.

**CHM1011 and CHM1022 Chemistry:** The go to elective for the majority of Biomed students, these units are exactly what you expect. They're similar to year 12 chemistry, expanding on most topics and introducing one or two new ones. Coming to these labs after your BMS classes will be a relief, they'll be more in line with the difficulty you hoped uni would be. The one-hour tute is more pleasant than a fourth hour in the lab and come the end of semester exam you'll be glad you stuck to 1011/1022. If you hate writing lab reports this is not the elective for you.

**ENG1003: Engineering mobile apps:** An excellent elective to build upon your knowledge of Biolo... LOL, just kidding! Unless you're in the Biomed/Eng double degree, in which case Tim and Lara send their condolences.

**ENG1090: Foundation mathematics (MTH1020):** This unit is basically Specialist Maths and would suit the more mathematically inclined Biomed student.

**PSY1011 and PSY1022 Psychology:** Considered manageable subjects for those who have a VCE foundation in psychology. The second-semester unit is the more enjoyable

of the two, as it appears to be run better. Tutorials are not compulsory, and workshops are recorded so can be watched from home if contact hours are difficult for you.

**SCI1020: Introduction to statistical reasoning:** Similar load to BMS subjects. Very similar to further maths and thoroughly enjoyed by students—even considered the most favourite subject out of all of the first-year ones.

❖ Although all electives spoken about here are more Science and Maths based and complement the Biomed Course very well, don't be afraid to complete your electives from other faculties. Do you have a special interest in music, a language or some obscure obsession with rocks? Have a look at the **Monash Unit Handbook** and you'll be amazed at all the options available to you. Make sure you check all Units that you are interested in prerequisites, co-requisites and prohibitions as not all Units may be appropriate for you.

\*\*\* Please note that these are written at the discretion of committee members and represent their own opinions only. We definitely recommend consulting the official unit guides published in the Monash Handbook for more detailed descriptions. This guide is written for anecdotal advice and should be used in conjunction with picking the brains of your peers and checking out the MSA's Counter Faculty Handbook when deciding which units to select.

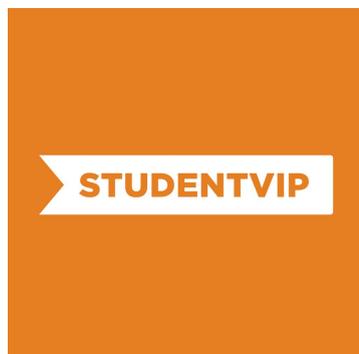
## A note on textbooks

The cost of all the prescribed and recommended textbooks for each semester can quickly add up, so we definitely recommend looking into a PDF/Ebook version of the textbook. Most can be found after a dedicated browse on the internet or by asking around. One of your Biomed buddies is sure to have a copy!

Keeping in mind that due to the prescribed workload for each unit, which often includes compulsory background/pre-reading as well as pre- and post- online lessons, most students find it difficult to find a spare hour or two to go through the content in the accompanying textbook. The lecture slides are sometimes comprehensive enough and if you're seeking additional notes/examples you are usually able to find a helpful tutorial on Khan Academy.

The suggested textbooks are prescribed for a reason and we recommend following the booklist if you decide on purchasing them. Overall, we think the best way to go about it is not to purchase them immediately, in case you decide you won't use it all that often.

## Special thanks to...



❖ **StudentVIP:** Shout-out to Australia's biggest student website for providing us with our highlighters and bottle openers once again! A great place to sell used textbooks, boost your exam prep with high quality subject notes and find a private tutor for your university studies.

**W:** <http://studentvip.com.au>



❖ **Remedy Kombucha:** Special thanks to these legends, providing us with the tastiest, healthiest live cultured drinks going 'round: chock-full of live cultures, organic acids and antioxidants that are good for your gut and overall well being.

**W:** <http://remedykombucha.com.au>



❖ **Moments Condoms:** The company for anyone who wants to have a good time; the company with a true passion for empowering women to celebrate and protect their sexual health; the company proudly supporting our cAMP this year to ensure the safest environment for our students.

**W:** <http://momentscondoms.com.au>



❖ **Fraser's GAMSAT:** The number one GAMSAT preparation company that truly cares for helping our students succeed in their passion for postgraduate Medicine. Keep an eye out for their events this year!

**W:** <http://frasersgamsat.com.au>



❖ **Joe's Pizzeria and Cafe:** The best pizza you can find on-campus, perfect for a well-deserved feast after class! Find them at 28 Sports Walk, Logan Hall, Clayton Campus, and look out for their amazing discounts.

**W:** <https://www.monash.edu/food-and-retail/vendors/joes-pizzeria>



❖ **The Fruity Co:** Fashionable, great quality apparel for affordable prices, designed by none other than a Monash student!

**W:** <https://thefruityco.com/>



❖ **Halad to Health:** An Australian charity that aims to close the gap in health through delivering free health education services. Halad provides Monash Biomed students with access to high quality unit revision sessions, as well as affordable GAMSAT and Med preparation classes.

**W:** <https://www.haladtohealth.org>



❖ **Uni Frames:** To get the best looking frames for your hard earned uni degree for the best price, check out Uni Frames who are giving 20% to biomed members when you use code BIOMED20

**W:** <https://uniframes.com.au/>

The logo for Stake, featuring the word "STAKE" in a bold, white, sans-serif font centered on a solid black square background.

**STAKE**

❖ **Stake:** If you're into personal finance and investing in your future, check out Stake for buying US shares and receive a free stock when you use code BMS to sign up!

W: <https://hellostake.com/au/>