

Impact Statements

Operations

In this time of crisis, students are needing connection. They're needing support. They need avenues for them to be heard. In reducing Student Association funding so dramatically, the university is actively limiting the capacity of La Trobe Student Union to provide students with what they need.

Student Theatre and Film

The funding cuts enforced by LTU has drastically changed how Student Theatre & Film operates. It has caused changes in staffing, with the role of Artistic Director ending in July, as well as reduced hours for other staff members.

We've faced huge cuts to our operational budget, which will impact our semester two planning and reduce our ability to create new, bold projects – projects that could have employed guest directors/artists and provided invaluable opportunities to students. Beyond these immediate changes, the greatest threat to STF, and LTSU more broadly, remains the lack of certainty around SSAF funding in 2021. Without this certainty, it is impossible to plan for the future of STF.

Clubs Program

The university consistently says that cuts have not affected clubs at La Trobe, and whilst their grant funding hasn't been touched, the reduced hours of staff is severely impacting staff ability to help

clubs. The reduced hours eliminates the ability for staff to pivot towards re-launching the LTSU clubs program in Semester 2 with online events as the norm.

This is due to these program alterations taking time to plan, and time for club assistance during implementation. That time is no longer available. With greater staff availability, we could perfect our online events and spend more time developing resources to empower clubs to move online and see the program flourish. As it stands, we will simply limp through to the end of the year, then work out how to start again.