

Tharunka Charter

Version	Approved by	Approval date	Effective date	Next review
10.0	Board	30 August 2023	1 December 2023	2 Years or as required.
Policy Statement				
Purpose	The purpose of the Tharunka Charter is to inform the operating parameters of the publication Tharunka.			
Scope	Arc Board, Arc Marketing, Arc Legal, Tharunka Editorial Team, Tharunka contributors.			
Policy Provisions				

1. AIM

Tharunka is an official publication of Arc @ UNSW Limited. The purpose of Tharunka is to be the political, social, and cultural voice of the UNSW student community while maintaining and supporting the mission of Arc.

2. GUIDELINES FOR PUBLICATION

2.1. Guidelines

- (a) The Tharunka editorial team, Arc employees and contributors involved in the production of Tharunka are expected to adhere to the Tharunka Charter, including the Tharunka Code of Ethics and the conditions outlined in the Editorial Guidelines, and the MEAA Journalist Code of Ethics.
- (b) All those involved in the production of Tharunka need to have and demonstrate a strong commitment to upholding the mission of Arc.

2.2. Operations

- (a) The Managing Editor and editorial team will be responsible for the planning, editing and design of Tharunka within the Editorial Guidelines.
- (b) Tharunka editorial appointees must be current UNSW students and members of Arc at the time of their appointment.
- (c) The Tharunka editorial team must attend regular editorial meetings organised by the Managing Editor.
- (d) The publication of Tharunka relies on the provision of resources by Arc. The editorial team must abide by the decisions of Arc as the publisher. Failure to abide by such decisions or purposely excluding Arc management from such decisions may result in the withdrawal of the contracted payment paid by Arc.
- (e) The Managing Editor and editorial team must meet with the designated Arc Marketing representative before commencement of the editing year and throughout the year upon request.

- (f) The Tharunka Managing Editor will work an average of 12-15 hours per week during the semester. The recommended hours for rest of the Tharunka editorial team should equal 8-10 hours per week during the semester.
- (g) Tharunka's print edition will be published at least once per term.
- (h) The editorial team will regularly post content to their website and their social media channels as articulated in the approved Editorial Guidelines.
- (i) Accountability metrics set out in the Editorial Guidelines, measure the timely distribution of Tharunka. The Editorial team will be expected to meet these requirements in order to continue to receive the contracted payment.

2.3. Content and Appearance

- (a) Tharunka should actively encourage and solicit contributions from UNSW students on a regular basis.
- (b) Tharunka shall endeavour to publish a representative selection of material submitted for publication.
- (c) The principal focus of Tharunka will be to journal and voice the political, social and cultural views and concerns of the students of UNSW.
- (d) A priority list has been included to give guidance to the kind of content that should be included within Tharunka. Priority stories should dominate the publication across print, digital and social.
- (e) Priority Categories:
 - SRC Office bearer reports;
 - UNSW student issues;
 - Student life;
 - Tertiary Sector issues;
 - Items of general interest to tertiary students;
 - Satire and parody centering on recent news events;
 - Letters to the editor;
 - Opinion pieces and editorials;
 - Local news;
 - Reviews of books, music, films and technology.
- (f) Tharunka should encourage content of informative and entertaining value but keeping in line with the conditions under '2.3 Exclusions'.
- (g) The Editorial Team has a right to publish material critical of Arc and events occurring within the university community provided that the content of this material is factually accurate and does not fall within the listed exclusions.
- (h) The Editorial Team has a right to publish material of a satirical nature provided that the content of this material does not fall within the listed exclusions.

2.4. Print

- (a) The delivery to the printer of Tharunka is the responsibility of Arc Marketing.

2.5. Exclusions

- (a) Material of an illegal, defamatory, pornographic or discriminatory nature, material which is prurient, or items deemed to be offensive, will not be accepted, and will be omitted from the publication.
- (b) Any material involving criticism of Arc's services, events or staff members will not be published without providing the Chair of Arc or CEO (or delegate) with the opportunity to respond. The response should

accompany the criticism in the same issue. If a response is not received within 2 business days, the response may instead be published in a later issue.

- (c) At the publisher's discretion, any material critical of the publisher that the publisher deems a risk to its reputation, organisation or relationships or material that the publisher deems unacceptable.
- (d) The Editorial Team should seek advice from the Arc Marketing representative concerning the suitability of material for inclusion in Tharunka.
- (e) In the event of dispute as to whether a particular contribution falls within the above exclusions, the Editorial Team and Arc will endeavour to achieve a resolution as rapidly as possible so as to avoid publication delays, preferably within five working days.

2.6. Political Coverage

- (a) Tharunka should endeavour to provide impartial political coverage, but, where relevant to the student audience, Tharunka is able to engage in partisan political discussion. The Editorial Team will present these contributions in a fair and accurate way and support the publication of a range of opinions.
- (b) Political campaign advertisements or advertorial will not be published in Tharunka.
- (c) Representations and/or images of Arc Board Directors or Arc Staff shall not appear on the cover of Tharunka at any time.
- (d) Any Tharunka Editors or Contributors must declare any conflicts of interest prior to the commencement of any coverage.
- (e) All declared conflicts of interest must be published in any related material.

2.5 Arc Election Coverage

- (a) Election coverage (including rolling coverage) of the SRC, PGC and Arc Board elections must be equally divided between candidates and/or parties.
- (b) All articles and coverage to be submitted prior to publication for sign off for approval by the Returning Officer and (only if required) Arc Legal.
- (c) Those editors and/or contributors with a declared conflict of interest must get approval from the Arc Marketing representative before contributing to election coverage.
- (d) Arc reserves the right withhold approval for any reason.

2.7. By Lines and Credit

- (a) The authorship of articles or the photographer is to be disclosed in Tharunka unless, in the opinion of the Managing Editor and the Arc Marketing representative, special circumstances exist. Anonymity is not to be promised to any author without the knowledge of the Arc Marketing representative. The Editorial Team shall take all reasonable precautions to satisfy themselves that the given author is the real author and that permission has been given to publish.
- (b) All images including photographs or artwork submitted to Tharunka must either be accompanied by the artist's consent for reproduction in writing; an 'assignment of copyright' contract, completed and signed by the artist prior to publishing; or the work must be accompanied by accreditation, in the form of the owner's name appearing within the article (adjacent to images) and as a contributor's listing within the contents page.

2.8. Autonomous Editions

- (a) SRC Office Bearers may request Arc Marketing to publish journals under the banner of Tharunka.

- (b) This is to be done so with the approval of the SRC President.
- (c) These “autonomous editions” must adhere to general Tharunka conventions as articulated by this Charter and Autonomous Tharunka Handbook, including final approval from Arc Legal and Arc Marketing.
- (d) The printing of Autonomous Editions must be financed from the budget of the relevant collective.

2.9. Advertising

- (a) No advertising may appear in Tharunka without the support of the Tharunka Editorial Team at the time. Internal advertising must be consistent with the objectives of the Arc and the Advertising Policy of the Arc Board.
- (b) Internal advertising must not exceed 30% of the publication. The Editorial Guidelines will set out the types of advertising, which will and will not be accepted for that year's Tharunka.

2.10. Disclaimer

- (a) All iterations of Tharunka (printed issue and on the relevant About pages on the Tharunka websites) shall contain the following disclaimer:

“Tharunka is published periodically by Arc @ UNSW. The views expressed herein are not necessarily the views of Arc, the Student Representative Council, the Postgraduate Council or the Tharunka editing team, unless expressly stated. Arc accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of any of the opinions or information contained within Tharunka. Any complaints should be made in writing to the Tharunka Managing Editor.”

2.11. Liability

- (a) No material which is defamatory or otherwise liable to legal objection shall be published in Tharunka. No material covered by copyright (including articles, photographs and artwork) will be published in Tharunka without prior license or assignment of copyright from the artist or the artist's legal representative. The Editorial Team and Designer will not necessarily be indemnified by Arc should it be proven that material published was defamatory or in breach of copyright.

2.12. Approval

- (a) Arc as the publisher reserves the right to approve or reject any article at any time.
- (b) Approvals must be received by both Arc Marketing and Arc Legal and in prior to publication, however following appropriate training approvals may be delegated as outlined below, Arc reserves the right to remove the delegation of approvals at any time.
 - (i) Content that bears no risk of defamation, reputational damage or strategic harm may be approved by the Tharunka Team
 - (ii) Content that bears risk of defamation or otherwise liable to legal objection must be approved by Arc Legal.
 - a. This includes but is not limited to articles about people and companies that could be materially harmed by representations in Tharunka.
 - (iii) Content that bears risk of reputational damage must be approved by Arc Legal and Arc Marketing
 - a. This includes but is not limited to articles about contentious political issues; articles critical of UNSW.

- (iv) Content that bears risk of strategic harm must be approved by Arc Legal and Arc Marketing and the Arc CEO or delegate.
 - a. This includes but is not limited to articles referencing Arc or Arc partnerships.
- (c) Arc will make every attempt to approve articles in a timely fashion, any urgent or critical articles should be marked as such and will be reviewed as a high priority.
- (d) The printed publication of Tharunka should be provided to Arc as a final version for approval 5 working days prior to the print deadline.
- (e) Any social media posts must be compliant with the Tharunka Charter and Arc's Social and Digital Media Policy (accompanying articles must follow the above approval process).
 - (i) The Tharunka team must undergo Arc Social Media training prior to being given access to Tharunka's social medias accounts.

3. DISPUTES

3.1 In the case of a dispute between Tharunka Editorial Team and Arc Marketing, grievances will be escalated according to the following stages:

- (a) Stage 1: Tharunka Editorial may lodge a grievance in writing to the Responsible Officer. The Responsible Officer will investigate and inform relevant parties the result of grievance in writing within 10 working days.
- (b) Stage 2: If either party is not satisfied with the outcome, they may appeal the decision in writing to the Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the Board. They will inform relevant parties the result in writing within 10 working days. Decisions of the CEO and Chair are final.

3.2 In the case of a dispute between an Arc Member or reader and Tharunka Editorial Team, grievances will be escalated according to the following stages.

- (a) Stage 1: Lodge a grievance in writing to the Responsible Officer. The Responsible Officer will investigate and inform relevant parties the result of grievance in writing within 10 working days.
- (b) Stage 2: If either party is not satisfied with the outcome, they may appeal the decision in writing to the Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the Board. They will inform relevant parties the result in writing within 10 working days. Decisions of the CEO and Chair are final.

4. POSITIONS, SELECTION & APPOINTMENT

4.1. The Tharunka team will be comprised of at least:

- Managing Editor (1)
- Sub-Editors (2)
- Designer (1)

4.2. The Tharunka team will be contracted to Arc, payments will be made as per the amounts in Appendix A.

4.3. Tharunka editorial vacancies will be advertised at the end of the preceding year for a period of not less than 3 weeks.

4.4. Should no applicants be received for a position the advertisement will be extended until such time that a suitable applicant is found.

4.5. The selection of the Tharunka editorial team will be conducted by a panel.

- (a) Selection Panel for the Managing Editor will be:
 - Student Representative Council President or delegate

- Chair of Arc Board or delegate
- Immediate past Tharunka Managing Editor or delegate
- Member of Arc Executive Team or delegate

(b) Selection Panel for Tharunka Sub-Editors and Designer will be:

- Student Representative Council President or delegate
- Appointed Managing Editor or Immediate Past Managing Editor or Delegate
- Media Coordinator or delegate
- Immediate past Designer or Sub-Editor or delegate

4.6. Appointment of the Tharunka Editorial team is subject to their agreement of: Tharunka Charter, Arc Social and Digital Policy, Arc Social Media Agreement and Arc Contract.

4.7. Arc is committed to providing appropriate training to the Tharunka team to ensure understanding of all relevant legal and organisational responsibilities and expectations.

5. CODE OF ETHICS

5.1. The Editorial Team commit themselves to the following principles adapted from the Media Alliance Code of Ethics.

- (a)** Report and interpret honestly, striving for accuracy, fairness and disclosure of all essential facts. Do not suppress relevant available facts, or give distorting emphasis. Do your utmost to give a fair opportunity for reply.
- (b)** Do not place unnecessary emphasis on personal characteristics, including race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, sexual orientation, family relationships, religious belief, or physical or intellectual disability.
- (c)** Aim to attribute information to its source. Where a source seeks anonymity, do not agree without first considering the source's motives and any alternative attributable source. Where confidences are accepted, respect them in all circumstances.
- (d)** Do not allow personal interest, or any belief, commitment, payment, gift or benefit, to undermine your accuracy, fairness or independence.
- (e)** Disclose conflicts of interest that affect, or could be seen to affect, the accuracy, fairness or independence of your journalism. Do not improperly use a journalistic position for personal gain.
- (f)** Do not allow advertising or other commercial considerations to undermine accuracy, fairness or independence.
- (g)** Do your utmost to ensure disclosure of any direct or indirect payment made for interviews, pictures, information or stories.
- (h)** Use fair, responsible and honest means to obtain material. Identify yourself and your employer before obtaining any interview for publication or broadcast. Never exploit a person's vulnerability or ignorance of media practice.
- (i)** Present pictures and sound which are true and accurate. Any manipulation likely to mislead should be disclosed.
- (j)** Do not plagiarise.
- (k)** Respect private grief and personal privacy. Journalists have the right to resist compulsion to intrude.
- (l)** Do your utmost to achieve fair correction of errors.

(m) Basic values often need interpretation and sometimes come into conflict. Ethical journalism requires conscientious decision-making in context. Only substantial advancement of the public interest or risk of substantial harm to people allows any standard to be overridden.

Accountabilities	
Responsible Officer	Director of Marketing & Experience
Contact Officer	Publications Coordinator
Supporting Information	
Legislative Compliance	Nil.
Supporting Documents	Nil.
Related Documents	Arc @ UNSW Constitution Arc @ UNSW Regulations Arc @ UNSW Social and Digital Media Policy
Superseded Documents	Nil.
Definitions and Acronyms	
Tharunka Charter	This charter refers to the Arc @ UNSW Limited publication known as Tharunka. This includes all versions of the publication including the printed publication, inserts, promotions, digital representations (including the Tharunka website and articles) and all Tharunka social media channels. The Tharunka Charter intends to be a permanent document which outlines the main operating parameters of Tharunka.
Editorial Guidelines	An operational document to be maintained by Arc Marketing that records annual or ad hoc changes to release dates, printing cost, circulation etc. This document is reviewed yearly in conjunction with the editorial team.
Managing Editor	Directly supervises the day-to-day operations of Tharunka. Including supervising the editors, designer and contributors.
Editorial Team	The people who are hired to the positions of Tharunka Managing, Sub-Editor and Designer by the selection panel
Sub-Editor	The persons who are hired by the selection panel to edit and contribute to Tharunka.
Designer	The person who is hired by the selection panel to design Tharunka.
Contributors	The person or persons who are sourced by the Editorial Team to provide journalistic content.
Selection Panel	The interviewers and selectors of Tharunka Managing Editor.
Publisher	Arc @ UNSW Limited.
Arc Marketing Representative	Arc marketing staff member appointed the primary contact for Tharunka's editorial team.
Arc Member	A UNSW Student or associate who has joined Arc @ UNSW.

Revision History					
Version	Approval date	Author	Approved by	Sections modified	Details of Amendments
[6.0]	30/9/18	SDC Convenor	Board	All sections	Changes to definitions. Formatting changes. Appendix A: addition of the contract payment schedule. Renumbering and reordering. Clauses 2.2.6 & 2.3.2 changes to right of reply. Clause 2.3.3 outline of discretionary power to not run the article. Updates to election coverage in 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3 & 2.5.4. Approval section added. Disputes process clarified. Section 2.10, updates to better reflect roles in approval: 2.10.1, 2.10.2, 2.10.3, 2.10.4, 2.10.6, & 2.10.7. Number of publications amended to 6 from 8.
[7.0]	20/8/19	Marketing Manager	Board	All Sections	Formatting and grammatical changes. Inclusion of Autonomous Editions. Expansion of the dispute clause.
[8.0]	31/8/20	Marketing Manager	Board	All Sections	Appendix A removal of sub-editor Minor formatting changes
[9.0]	17/11/21	Marketing Manager	Board	All Sections	Formatting and grammatical changes. Changes to the approvals.
[10.0]	30/8/23	Director of Marketing	Board	All sections	Update aim; Appendix payment schedule change. Removal "Editorial Plan" and replace with Editorial Guidelines for consistency.

APPENDIX A - THARUNKA CONTRACT PAYMENT SCHEDULE

1. Amounts will be paid in 12 equal instalments.
2. Payment will be made automatically by Arc upon fulfilment of
 - a. Substantive delivery of online content
 - b. Agreed print production
 - c. Delivery of Editorial Guidelines & Handover
 - d. Regular promotional activities such as launches and contributor training
3. Annual Contract Amounts:
 1. Managing Editor \$9608.37
 2. Sub-Editor / Designer outlined in Appendix B
4. Sub Editor titles and categorisation are at the discretion of the Managing Editor.
5. Payment schedule may be revised with written assent of Arc Marketing and all Tharunka editorial team.
6. It is Arc's intent that the Tharunka Sub-Editor Honoraria will increase incrementally (on an annual basis) from 2022-2024, to reach 75% of Managing Editor Honoraria at which time this clause will be automatically extinguished.

APPENDIX B - THARUNKA HONORARIA INCREASE STEPPED MODEL

0401-2457 Tharunka Honoraria	2021	2022	2023	2024
Managing Editor Total	\$9,608.37	\$9,608.37	\$9,608.37	\$9,608.37
Sub-editor/ designer Total	\$4,876.00	\$5,656.83	\$6,437.67	\$7,218.50
Tharunka Honoraria Total	\$24,236.37	\$26,578.87	\$28,921.37	\$31,263.87