



src activism
advocacy
representation

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University of Sydney**

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MINUTES:

of the 6th regular meeting of the 95th SRC held on **Wednesday the 5th of July 2023**. Meeting held in the ABS Lecture Theatre 2090.

*A quorum count was called at 6:16pm
The meeting was found quorate.*

A. Meeting open at 6:21pm

A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Tiger Perkins be elected Deputy Chairperson.

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

B. Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council acknowledges the traditional owners of this land (Sydney), the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. We stand on this land today as beneficiaries of an uncompensated and unreconciled dispossession that occurred over 200 years ago. Many of the descendants of those dispossessed live just down the road in abject poverty, and as young people it is important to recognise how this history of dislocation and disenfranchisement has contributed to the inequality we observe in modern society. We acknowledge both our privilege and our obligation to redress the situation as best we can: to remember the mistakes of the past, act on the problems of today, and build a future for everyone who now calls this place home, striving always for genuinely practical and meaningful reconciliation.

C. Apologies, Proxies and Leaves of Absence

Apologies and proxies were received from:

Zoe Coles to Iggy Boyd
Rand Khatib to Rav Grewal
Eliza Crossley to Alex McEvoy
Cooper Gannon to Aryan Ilkhani
Thomas Thorpe to Ivan Samsonov
Simone Maddison to Grace Wallman
Owen Marsden-Readford to Kiera Garland
Julius Whittford to Annabel Pettit
Honey Christenson
Tom Wilks to Henri Collyer
James Sherriff to Jamie Bridge

Daniel Bowron (VP) and Alev Saracoglu (Women’s) also send apologies.

The apologies were noted.

D. Changes to Membership

E. Electoral Report

E1. Consideration of any resignations

Emma Garret to Vedant [last name not given, needs to be checked with the ballot first]
Lauren Lancaster from the Standing Legal Committee.

Motion: That the Council accept the resignations.

Moved: Tiger Perkins

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

E2. Report of the Electoral Officer

Indicative schedule of elections

Uni Week	Date	Key event
Week -1	24 July 2023	Notice + Nominations Open
Week 3	18 August 2023	Nominations Close
Week 4	23 August 2023	Ballot Draw
Week 6	6 September 2023	Online Campaigning + Election Honi
Week 7	11 September 2023	Physical Campaigning
Week 8	19–21 September 2023	Polling Days
Week 8	24 September	Campaign Expenses Deadline
Weeks 8-10	21 September – 8 October 2023	Counting
Weeks 12 OR 13	18 October OR 25 October 2023	Reps-Elect

The notice period for the submission of nominations has been extended by one week as compared to last year. Otherwise, the schedule of elections remains as normal.

There will be a nomination briefing / Q&A session in Week 2 as well as two briefings in Week 5 – one for campaigners, generally, and another for campaign managers.

For campaign managers, please be aware that the “campaign expenses deadline” will be enforced this year. Please ensure that you prepare adequate records of campaign spending and track these

in an Excel / Google spreadsheet for submission by the deadline. The Regulations stipulate rather sharp penalties for failure to submit.

Estimated Turnout due to full in-person education

With the return to in-person education across the board, turnout should increase. The historic turnout average for in-person elections (2013–2019) is 13.25% of total enrolled students, whereas the 2022 turnout was 5% i.e. around a third of average turnout.¹

Student density on polling days in 2022 was about half the norm, if not less. As a conservative estimate, then, the return to full in-person education should lead to at least a 1.5x increase. In terms of last year's enrolments, this should raise turnout from 1800 to 2700 voters. If total enrolments are lower, then these projections will be lower by the corresponding proportion. Since voting is voluntary and engagement with the SRC is not universal, the key determinant of vote participation is campaigners persuading electors to vote. The key question for turnout, then, is the quantity of time across all campaigns on bringing voters over the line. In turn, this depends on the perceived intensity of the election contest (centrally, whether there is a serious contest for presidency), as well as a range of other factors.

Budget and expenses comments

Fiscal constraints on election spending have entailed a sharp reduction in total staffing across polling and counting, compared to recent in-person elections. Staff costs are projected to equal \$63,029.97 – with ballot papers and other necessary expenses bringing total expenses to around \$69,329.97. These figures include some contingency for unexpectedly high printing costs or an elongated count period, etc, so total spending is likely to be lower than these estimates.

Since staff wages have increased in line with inflation from at least 2013, we can use real wage spending on elections to track changes in the quantity of labour-power. During 2013–2017, the average staffing costs in real terms was \$48,864.27 whereas the projected 2023 expenses is \$47,493.28.² In contrast, during 2018–2020 (and including 2022), average staff costs were \$61,916.88.

However, the distribution of this labour has changed between the Paulene era and recent in-person elections (2018–2020, 2022). There are a few changes: (1) Less time was spent in the preparation period due to greater efficiency in processing nominations etc; (2) booth staffing was increased to minimise queuing; (3) greater precision in counting came at the cost of longer counting times.

The projected budget for 2023 maintains the broad principles of the changes (1) and (3) while slimming down expenses wherever possible, especially (2). Booth staffing is at a bare minimum within the constraint of a potential 3000-3500 vote turnout (and to ensure staff can take breaks, etc). Minor booths are run with skeleton crews, reflecting their diminished turnouts as a proportion of total votes. Counting eliminates virtually all weekend counting wages and is planned

¹ Turnout average calculated without including 2015, where extreme wet weather conditions brought turnout down to 9%.

² Real dollars calculated in 2011–2012 dollars.

to run on a minimal crew. The reality, however, of the counting costs is that it is set by however long it takes to count.

The budget does not include a Thursday evening count in the event of contested elections for President / Editors of Honi Soit. The cost of this is estimated to be about \$4500, which should be read as \$1500 more than counting it on Friday – since the count must be done, either way, and the difference in cost emerges from the 1.5x penalty rate for the evening count.

Riki Scanlan spoke to the report covering the main points.

Motion: That the report of the Electoral Officer be accepted.

Moved: Harrison Brennan

Seconded: Jack Scanlan

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Minutes of the meeting of 95th SRC Council held on the 7th June 2023 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the on 7th June 2023 be accepted.

Moved: Victor Zhang

Seconded: Grace Porter

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

G. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business for this item.

H. Question Time of 15 minutes, which may be extended by resolution for a further 15 minutes.

Satvik Sharma noted that the location of the location has not been put on the website, which is required on the regulations,

Rose Donnelly expressed apologies that has not been updated on the website, will do that in the future, it hasn't been fulfilled as I was under the impression the notice given had been enough.

Satvik Sharma asked the members of the executive who voted against the motion last council condemning genocide why they voted against the motion.

Lia Perkins took the question on notice.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke about the NUS Education Conference and how many of the conversations there carry over to this council. Saying we should be looking at the welfare not warfare campaign and protecting LGBT+ rights which are under attack.

Lia Perkins said she was interested in hearing more about what happened at the Education Conference as well as the work being done on the anti-AUKUS campaign and the NSW religious

discrimination bill.

Satvik Sharma asked why Lia was against AUKUS when most people, including young people, are for AUKUS.

Lia Perkins said she was steadfastly against AUKUS, and against war. Adding it's a dangerous proposal that

I. Visitor's Business

There was no business for this item.

J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

Apologies from Ben Jorgenson

Procedural motion: to suspend the standing orders to move to N1. The Standing legal Report and then Q1. Of motions on notice.

N1. Report of the Standing Legal Committee

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Standing Legal Committee held on the 3rd July 2023 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the Standing Legal Committee meeting be accepted.

Moved: Jordan Anderson

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Q1. Proposed Changes to the regulations

Current Clause (Regulations Division 9, clause 54)	Proposed Change
<p>(a) All electors are eligible to become postal absentee voters.</p> <p>(b) An elector is only eligible to become an online absentee voter if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) in that elector's circumstances, postal voting is not a practical method of casting a vote; and(ii) they are unable to attend a polling booth on all polling days.	<p>(a) An elector is only eligible to become an online-absentee voter if they are unable to attend a polling booth on all polling days.</p> <p>(b) An elector is unable to attend a polling booth on all polling days, if and only if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) the elector will, on all polling days, be unable to attend a polling booth because of serious illness or infirmity, or approaching childbirth; or(ii) on all polling days, the elector will

(c) An elector is unable to attend a polling booth on all polling days, if and only if:

(i) the elector will, on all polling days, be unable to attend a polling booth because of serious illness or infirmity, or approaching childbirth; or

(ii) on all polling days, the elector will be unable to attend a polling booth because they will be occupied with caring for another person; or

(iii) the elector is a person with a disability that will prevent them from attending a polling booth on all polling days; or

(iv) on all polling days, the elector will be outside NSW without any reasonable means of returning to NSW in time for any polling day.

(d) An elector is not unable to attend a polling booth on all polling days if they are able to attend a pre-polling polling booth established under section 50(d).

EO may declare no elector eligible for online absentee voting

(e) Notwithstanding anything in this Division, if the Electoral Officer is satisfied that online absentee voting will not promote the fair and efficient conduct of the election, then they must declare that no elector is eligible to

be unable to attend a polling booth because they will be occupied with caring for another person; or

(iii) the elector is a person with a physical, mental, intellectual or sensory disability that will prevent them from attending a polling booth on all polling days; or

(iv) on all polling days, the elector will be outside Greater Sydney ~~NSW~~ without any reasonable means of returning to Greater Sydney ~~NSW~~ in time for any polling day; or

ADD SECTIONS

(v) On all polling days, the elector is unable to attend polling booths as a result of being required to attend to work responsibilities; or

(vi) If an elector indicates a preference for absentee voting and establishes another reason why it would not be reasonably practicable for them to attend a polling booth on any of the polling days, subject to approval from the EO.

(c) An elector is not unable to attend a polling booth on all polling days if they are able to attend a pre-polling polling booth established under section 50(d).

~~EO may declare no elector eligible for online absentee voting~~

~~(e) Notwithstanding anything in this Division, if the Electoral Officer is satisfied that online absentee voting will not promote the fair and~~

<p>become an online absentee voter.</p> <p>(f) The Electoral Officer’s declaration under subsection (e) must appear on the SRC website.</p>	<p>efficient conduct of the election, then they must declare that no elector is eligible to become an online absentee voter.</p> <p>(f) The Electoral Officer’s declaration under subsection (e) must appear on the SRC website.</p>
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Rationale

- Introduces work responsibilities as a justification for absentee voting - this would make participating in the election more accessible for students who rely on paid work in particular, which is a significant barrier for many students.
- Changing the requirement of ‘severe illness’ to the lower threshold of ‘illness’ under section (b)(i) for eligibility of a student to elect to make an absentee vote avoids students who are infectious with a transmissible illness from attending polling booths to vote and thus creating a risk of infection for other electors/electoral organisers,
 - This also improves accessibility of the election in general, and avoids ‘severe illness’ as being something the RO has the discretion to define (as the EO would only have to decide whether the illness would make a student unable to attend the polling booths on all polling days, which is a lower and more easily determinable standard)
- Removes arbitrary differences in eligibility between online and postal absentee voting, which more accurately reflects the common practice of EOs in recent years, is likely to be more clearly understood by electors and the EO, and allows the EO to run whichever system they see as being most reasonable and accessible in the conditions of any given election
- Removes the ability of the EO to decide to not run any form of absentee voting - as doing so would present (often insurmountable) barriers to voting for certain demographics of students, including especially marginalised ones that the SRC must seek to represent and advocate for – e.g. students who rely on paid work, students living in regional areas or otherwise outside of Sydney, student parents and carers, students with disabilities
- On paper, these changes would in some ways tighten access to absentee voting given that all students under the status quo have the right to absentee postal voting, and if these changes were implemented, no student would have a right to absentee voting without justification for being unable to attend in-person - however, in practice, postal voting hasn’t been used for many years in favour of online absentee voting - and thus these provisions would in practice increase adherence to the regulations and access to online absentee voting

Proposed Change to Current Regulations Division 9, Clause 55 - (‘Absentee Voter Applications’)

Current Clause (Regulations Division 9, clause 55)	Proposed Change to clause 55 (b)
<p>(a) The Electoral Officer must prescribe an <i>absentee voter application form</i>.</p> <p>(b) The absentee voter application Form must require applicants to state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) their name; (ii) their student identification number; (iii) their email address; and (iv) if they wish to apply to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. a postal absentee voter; or B. an online absentee voter (v) if they apply to be an online absentee voter, the grounds on which they are applying; (vi) any other detail the Electoral Officer considers necessary. <p>(c) The absentee voter application form must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) printed in Honi Soit; (ii) displayed on the SRC website; (iii) advertised through SRC social media; and (iv) where possible, advertised in some other way the Electoral Officer 	<p>(a) The Electoral Officer must prescribe an <i>absentee voter application form</i>.</p> <p>(b) The absentee voter application Form must require applicants to state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) their name; (ii) their student identification number; (iii) their email address; and (iv) If in the given SRC election the EO has made both postal and online absentee voting available, the applicant must state if they wish to apply to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. a postal absentee voter; or B. an online absentee voter (v) if they apply to be an online absentee voter, the grounds on which they are applying as an absentee voter; <p>ADD SECTION (vi)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (vi) any other detail the Electoral Officer considers necessary. (vii) A declaration that the information provided is true and accurate <p>(c) The absentee voter application form must be:</p>

<p>considers fair and efficient for the purposes of advertising absentee voting.</p> <p>(d) An elector who wishes to apply to be an absentee voter may apply to the Electoral Officer to become an absentee voter by filling out the absentee voter application form and returning it to the Electoral Officer.</p> <p>(e) The deadline for applications is a day determined by the Electoral Officer that:</p> <p>(i) is no later than ten days before the last day of polling; and</p> <p>(ii) provides for the fair and efficient conduct of the election in all the circumstances, including the practicalities of absentee voting.</p> <p>(f) The Electoral Officer may receive late applications if they consider it fair and efficient to do so.</p> <p>(g) The Electoral Officer may, if they consider it fair and efficient to do so, accept an application for absentee voting that does not use the absentee voter application form.</p>	<p>(i) printed advertised in Honi Soit;</p> <p>(ii) displayed on the SRC website;</p> <p>(iii) advertised through SRC social media; and</p> <p>(iv) where possible, advertised in some other way the Electoral Officer considers fair and efficient for the purposes of advertising absentee voting.</p> <p>(d) An elector who wishes to apply to be an absentee voter may apply to the Electoral Officer to become an absentee voter by filling out the absentee voter application form and returning it to the Electoral Officer.</p> <p>(e) The deadline for applications is a day determined by the Electoral Officer that:</p> <p>(i) is no later than ten days before the last day of polling; and</p> <p>(ii) provides for the fair and efficient conduct of the election in all the circumstances, including the practicalities of absentee voting.</p> <p>(f) The Electoral Officer may receive late applications if they consider it fair and efficient to do so.</p> <p>(g) The Electoral Officer may, if they consider it fair and efficient to do so, accept an application for absentee voting that does not use the absentee voter application form.</p>
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Rationale

- Section (b)(iv) and (b)(v) changed to reflect the removal of eligibility differences between online and postal absentee voting, and the EO’s ability to decide to make either one or both forms of absentee voting available in any given election
- Largely as a formality, requires the elector to declare information they have given is true and accurate.

Proposed Change to Current Regulations Division 9, Clause 56 - (‘Determining Who Is an Absentee Voter’)

Current Clause (Regulations Division 9, clause 56)	Proposed Change to clause 56(a)
<p>(a) If the Electoral Officer receives an application for absentee voting, they must determine whether the applicant is:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(i) an elector; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(ii) in the year 2020, if they have applied to be an online absentee voter – eligible to be an online absentee voter.</p> <p>(b) The Electoral Officer may require the applicant to provide any evidence that the Electoral Officer requires.</p>	<p>(a) If the Electoral Officer receives an application for absentee voting, they must determine whether the applicant is:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(i) an elector; and</p> <p>NEW SECTION</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(ii) eligible for absentee voting under Division 9, Clause 54</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(iii) in the year 2020, if they have applied to be an online absentee voter – eligible to be an online absentee voter.</p> <p>(b) The Electoral Officer may require the applicant to provide any evidence that the Electoral Officer requires.</p>

Rationale

- Removes short-term changes designed to be used specifically in the context of COVID-19 lockdowns, which are now outdated
- Explicitly links the RO’s responsibility to determine eligibility to the criteria in Division 9, Clause 54 - the number listed 56(a)(ii) would be changed if the insertion of a new clause

changed the numbering of the clause titled 'Eligibility for Absentee Voting' - which is currently Division 9 Clause 54

Discussion:

Lia Perkins spoke to the motion, outlining the reasons for the changes and what they mean for the elections with regards to online voting

Jordan Anderson spoke to the motion saying the elections and voting should be accessible as possible, in this cost-of-living crisis there is more pressure on student to work more, and the way the elections are configured I would not be able to vote. This is not about not having in-person on campus election, this is about making students who can't get to campus

Jasmine Donnelly asked if the latest time to make an application is 10 days before the election.

Riki Scanlan noted that the regulations as framed mean postal or online, this needs lead time as Australia post is slow. In the past it's been 2 weeks and these days is it more like three weeks. Adding that the regulations allow for me to accept late applications if there is a reason.

Jasmine Donnelly asked why do they not need to have a discretion form, the EO is allowed to accept one without the form?

Riki Scanlan noted that is a pre-existing process in the regulations, not part of these changes.

Jack Scanlan asked what the difficulties of universal online voting would be.

Riki Scanlan said that they can't have a view on that as that is a view for council to consider.

Lia Perkins said that technically we have had fully online elections in the past during COVID, but the regulations as they stand now are for in-person elections.

Jasmine Donnelly asked when is your voting allowed if your absentee voting.

Riki Scanlan noted that it is the same voting period as in person but they have until midnight to vote.

Satvik Sharma asked why Riki Scanlan wasn't recommending a online voting system as it's more inclusive.

Riki Scanlan reiterated that they could not speak to that as it is a political decision for the council not a technical question. It is the role of the council to decide the process and what matters to them.

Lia Perkins noted that these changes were made to be as as inclusive as possible, but saw value in in-person campaigning, it allows for engagement with a number of different tickets and campaigners and a contest of ideas.

Tiger Perkins responded to Satvik Sharma saying he understand the opinion and disagreed.

Deaglan Godwin responded saying the Liberals were pushing for online election under the guise of accessibility but felt that online elections were not more democratic than in-person elections just because more people may be voting. That pushing people to vote with an iPad, coercing voters rather than making a political case is not democratic, the support the Liberals have for online elections shows where the system is structured to assist them. Concluding that in-person elections are important, and these changes open up voting without allowing for mass exploitation.

Bryson Constable asked why polling booths are where they are, and why there are none near the colleges. Asking why this wasn't included in these changes.

Lia Perkins noted that he could propose these changes them if you want, but thought the polling booths as they were are sufficient and fair.

Moved: Lia Perkins

Seconded: Jordan Anderson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

K. Elections

K1. Election of 3 Indigenous Students' Officer/s **

K2. Election of 4 Mature Age Students' Officer/s

K3. Election of 3 Ethno-Cultural Officer/s **

** Affirmative action and Active member requirement provisions apply
(Part 1 section 4 and 4A, of the regulations)

**K4. Election of 1 member of standing legal committee
(Opened after Lauren Lancaster's resignation was approved)**

Julia Robins was appointed returning officer for the election.

Nomination: Harrison Brennan

Nomination: Bryson Constable

Results:

Harrison Brennan – 26

Bryson Constable – 5

Thus Harrison was declared duly election to the Standing Legal committee of the 95th SRC.

L. Report of the President and Executive

L1. Executive Minutes

Minutes of the Executive meetings from the 2nd June 2023

Motion: that the minutes of the executive meetings from 2nd June 2023 be accepted.

Moved: Jordan Anderson

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

The President deferred the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson.

L3. President's Report

Lia Perkins tabled a written report:

General

USyd Rankings in QS: You may have seen the University of Sydney rose in the 'QS' rankings. What's missing from this number, and you can find if you dig a little deeper, is that USyd scores very, very low on student satisfaction and staff to student ratios. While the premise of University ranking systems are incredibly flawed, this is real evidence that the past few years of the Uni cutting staff, relying on casual staff who are overworked and underpaid and cutting courses to promote large units with large classes has had a negative impact on students.

Activism

Students Against Poverty Placements Campaign

- Lots of degrees at USyd require students to complete hundreds of mandatory, unpaid hours. Students should not be expected to do unpaid work to complete a degree. Half-measures such as fuel vouchers are completely inadequate to compensate students.
- National Zoom forum at 6pm on Wednesday 12th July: <https://fb.me/e/gwnxlZAws>
- If you have connections to an organisation that would like to endorse this, please do and let us know on the email: (insert)

Action for public housing and the Homes for People not for Profit Rally

- At the last council we endorsed the occupation of public housing on Wentworth Park Road, and demanded the government house people on the waiting list and build more public housing. The occupation has now wrapped up, with a commitment from the minister that the public housing won't be put in private hands.
- The Homes for People not for Profit Rally on June 17th had a list of amazing speakers and excellent energy. It was clear that people are fed up with the current state of housing, and the devastating effects of the housing crisis.
- Action for Public Housing are hosting this forum: <https://fb.me/e/fETGKs6VX>

Trans Rights Rally - Rainbow Rights Coalition

- On Sunday 25th I attended the Trans Rights Rally at Town Hall. It was a large and lively rally with excellent speakers calling for gender self ID laws, and a reintroduction of Safe Schools, among other things. Congrats to all involved in organising this.
- In light of the recent news about Labor's amendments to the Anti-Discrimination Act, it's important to oppose legal bigotry from religious institutions directed at LGBTQ+ people.

The terms of the amendment are incredibly vague, and risk allowing religious institutions to marginalise and discriminate against LGBTQ+ people.

- The next rally to defend trans rights and stop the religious discrimination bill is on August 5th <https://fb.me/e/3iabhd5ja>

Concession Opal Cards for International Students

- In Semester 2 the SRC is campaigning for Concession Opal Cards for International Students. I've called an open meeting on Wednesday 12th July at 2pm on zoom and in the Education Building, Seminar room 432: <https://fb.me/e/3EiGtW0lr> Anyone is welcome to come, and this will be the first planning meeting to decide what actions we will take, the political messaging and more.

Fair Agenda/End Rape on Campus

- I caught some of the forum organised by Fair Agenda and End Rape on Campus (EROC) and support the campaign demanding the government takes action to get Universities to implement measures to stop sexual violence on campus

SRC

- Welcome Week stalls have been booked!
- I have confirmed an SRC stall at the following Faculty or cohort welcomes:
 - Engineering
 - Business
 - FASS
 - International Students Welcome
- Regulations change. You would have already seen the regulations changes proposed. The intentions of these changes are laid out clearly on the document. I've also flagged a few other areas of the regulations (largely non-election related that need changing)
- Publications managers position description change management
- I had a catch up with Jahan and submitted a SSAF reallocation request to hire a junior mandarin speaking solicitor.
- I helped ensure we could get people to Edcon, I hope everyone who went got something out of their time there
- I met with Riki (SRC Electoral Officer) and Paula (SRC Admin manager) to discuss the election budget
- I met with Uni security about the duress buttons in casework offices, and how we can ensure safety in the office
- A reminder that student leadership training is available for everyone, links in your emails and on the 95th SRC Facebook group

Committees

- Academic Quality Committee
- Education Development and Excellence meeting
- Undergraduate Studies Committee
- Student Life Grants Assessment
- Academic Standards and Policy Committee
 - At ASPC a new University anti-racism statement was passed. I believe the aspects of truth-telling are positive, and should lead the University down a better path. In

the references of the statement there is a suggestion to adopt the IHRA with some qualifications. I spoke against this suggestion and some amendments were made, though the link is still in their references.

- (New) Food on Campus Student Advisory Group
- (New) Scams and Safety Committee which Harrison is attending on my behalf

Ed McMahon is able to be the ELA for the SRC Elections this year. I recommend the council endorse this in the approval of this report.

Discussion:

Grace porter asked about preparation for Welcome Week stalls.

Jack Scanlan asked that with the discontinuation fan-tales, what lollies will be at the stalls.

Lia Perkins said she was sure they could find an alternative.

Deaglan Godwin asked what collectives will get stalls.

Lia Perkins said that all collectives who requested to, have one.

Satvik Sharma asked about swipe access to the office.

Lia Perkins noted that the exec would follow up on that.

Alex Poirier asked if the USU could assist more with the costs.

Lia Perkins noted it was already at cost price.

Motion to accept the report of the President.

Moved: Harrison Brennan

Seconded: Jack Scanlan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

Procedural motion: to set the speaking limit to 1 minute per person for reports, 2 minutes per person for motions and maximum 2 questions per report.

Moved: Harrison Brennan

Seconded: Jack Scanlan

M. Report of the Vice-Presidents

Daniel Bowron and Rose Donnelly gave a verbal report:

I apologise for our lack of written report i got back from Japan this morning however the grind never stops and have been on the WW grind and the voice grind, ready for the next semester Priorities will be accessibility, info about the voice, continuing fighting militarism on campus

Note: Happy to update the website with the location and am open to any other suggestions to make the council easier to get to for everyone. The vice president email is always open vice.president@src.usyd.edu.au.

In the wake of Foodhub being opened for five days per week with a paid coordinator and an expanded stock, Daniel and I are drafting an agreement with the SRC to maintain an advisory role within the space, including

Big yes23 event on Sunday - successful in prince Alfred park

Upcoming

- Planning day this Saturday for next semester voice campaign.
- ACTU Rachel Bos is coming to uni to give an advocacy talk about how to speak about the referendum
- Join fb group – message usydstudentsvoteyes page to join the nus campaign
- Workplace survey coming out week 1 for international student discrimination in the workplace
- Everyone there are leadership training sessions particularly
 - **Accidental counsellor training** – about calling out offensive and gendered language
11th and 13th of July
 - **Accidental Bystander Training** – about calling out offensive and gendered language
15th 24th and 31st august
 - **Mental health first aid** – Improve your understanding of mental health
6, 7 July , 10 11 July and 15, 16 of July
- BBQ week 1 TBA keen to hang and talk about the importance of the voice

Anyone who would like to contribute to the welcome week zine in week 1 is welcome.

Discussion:

Jordan Anderson asked about Welcome week zine.

Rose Donnelly said that it would be a mini version of the orientation handbook, adding that they were having a radical vibe to the zine, and would be pointing out how the Uni is investing in the military, not students.

Madeleine Clark noted that she thought it was bad that speaking time had been restricted to one minute to go through the content of the report. Adding that these things are important and wanted to hear more about what has been planned for the NDA and we should be able to hear people speak on this.

Rose Donnelly noted that she did not have a vote on council and would also like more time to speak but that council meeting are getting arduously long and so that is why these limits get implemented.

Motion: that the report of the Vice Presidents be accepted.

Moved: Jordan Anderson

Seconded: Henri Collyer

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

N. Report of the General Secretaries

Jasmine Donnelly and Tiger Perkins tabled a written report

- Contestable Funding for the SRC's Activities: the results of our contestable applications for various projects including but not limited to the money to hire stalls for sem 2 ww, alongside merchandise as well as rad ed week will not be released until July 24. Considering welcome week begins July 31, we have had to go ahead with booking the stalls, ordering the merch (SRC bottle openers) etc. without knowing the results of the applications.
- SRC Zine: with the VPs, we're putting together a sem 2 SRC zine (think very condensed orientation handbook) with some basic information for new students about student unionism, the SRC elections, the voice referendum, rad ed, the collectives and some basic uni info
- Constitution: we've drafted an update to our role description according to the constitution, which was very outdated and non-specific although it's not quite finalised so will likely be ready to pass next council
- We have submitted the NUS affiliate fee waiver form to the General Secretary of the NUS, most other student unions have further revenue streams which allow them to pay the huge affiliation fee requested each year but as we only have SSAF we have applied for the annual discount
- We have been coordinating the SRC's presence at WW, contacting OBs about stalls and preparations. If anyone needs any assistance, please reach out to us
- Have been attending the Welcome Implementation Group Committee meetings to coordinate welcome week with the uni
- Attended NTEU meeting where they voted against continuing strike action and instead accepting the proposed EBA
- Attended standing legal committee meeting to discuss the below proposed changes
- Have updated the requests and reimbursements forms with Julia - please familiarise yourself with the changes, if used correctly it should make your lives a lot easier. Rather than emailing Julia with requests, you can now simply fill out the form that was previously only for reimbursements. Julia will then contact you if she needs any extra information. It also means everything will be in one place for the people who handle invoices and accounts, which means things should be paid faster and ordered more quickly
- The fight for 5-day simple extensions continues, AB will vote on it on July 11

Thanks, Tiger

Discussion:

Tiger and Jasmine spoke to the report and covered its main points

Alex Poirier asked what was happening with Radical Education Week.

Jasmine Donnelly noted that it was in the planning stage still.

Tiger Perkins added that they were not the only organisers but were overseeing it and there will be a planning meeting on the upcoming Friday.

Satvik Sharma asked if there will be any other political perspectives invited to talk about the rise of left-wing propaganda.

Jasmine Donnelly responded saying that is not what Radical Education Week is about, and that that would be boring.

Motion: that the report of the General Secretaries be accepted.

Moved: Jack Scanlan

Seconded: Jordan Anderson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O. Report of Committees and Officers

O1. Report of the Education Officers

Ishbel Dunsmore and Yasmine Johnson tabled a written report

Hello! Long time no see. This month has been another busy one, even with holidays and all!

Last week, we went up to the best place on earth, Brisvegas, for the National Union of Students' annual Education Conference to engage in some healthy debate and platform some of our campaigns we've been running, and help shape the direction of the NUS going forward. One of the main topics of debate was the AUKUS agreement, which saw a large majority of the NUS - Groots, NLS, SA and indies (plus a few rogue USyd Unity members) - commit to opposing AUKUS and any march to war with China. We heard from Rowan Cahill, a veteran in the anti-war movement, who gave great insight into the organising and tactics used in the anti-Vietnam war campaign, as well as a number of other great speakers. Other topics of discussion included the Accords (with a horrific opener from Mary O'Kane, the architect behind the delusional process), strikes across the university sector, the age of independence, SSAF, HECS (is not best), the Voice, and housing, with a great big shoutout to the 82WPR residents who prompted great discussion on the need for a huge expansion of public housing, and the need for something far beyond the Labor government's Housing Australia Future Fund.

Following on from these discussions on AUKUS and housing, another thing to come out of EdCon was a National Day of Action, entitled 'Welfare Not Warfare', for August 9th. The Sydney rally will be held at USyd at 1PM. An open organising meeting will be called soon, to get various local organising groups onsite. The demands are as follows:

1. No to the AUKUS military alliance

2. Money for welfare and housing, not nuclear submarines
3. No to universities collaborating with AUKUS and the military
4. No nuclear waste dumps on Aboriginal land

Event here: <https://fb.me/e/3HkNuikUG>

At the beginning of the month we attended the launch of the Students Against Placement Poverty launch, a student-lead campaign to win fair pay for mandatory student placements in degrees like Education, Social Work, Engineering, Nursing and more. Get involved by following or messaging the page on Instagram (@sapp_endplacementpoverty) or on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/StudentsAgainstPlacementPoverty> . They also have their national launch coming up on July 12 at 6PM AEST on zoom, so be sure to come along and find out more about the campaign: <https://fb.me/e/7fGHEaXeO>

We also went along to the Homes for People, Not for Profits rally called by Action For Public Housing, to demand a massive expansion of public housing, a stop to privatisation, and a freeze on rent. We heard from some great speakers, many of whom were present at the 82WPR occupation. One thing that came up time and time again was the inadequacy of Labor's HAFF, which guarantees housing for less than 12% of the current public housing waitlist, which I think speaks to Labor's current welfare strategy - spending big on the rich, and very little on the poor. A big shout-out to Rachel Evans and the A4PH crew for inviting me to co-chair, and to our very own Khanh, and UNSW's Cherish as our student speakers!

We also want to send our full solidarity to the NTEU members across the country currently engaging in strike campaigns - ANU, UniMelb, Monash, and Deakin to name a few - in the ongoing fight for better pay and conditions for staff. An end to wage theft, casualisation, and a pay rise above inflation will take a big fight to win, so here's hoping for militant and escalating strike action.

Finally, we went along to a brief but feisty snap action yesterday outside the RBA as part of the NUS Get a Room campaign to protest the proposed interest rate increase. By some miracle it wasn't increased, but the fight against the cost of living crisis continues.

See you at the next event!

Discussion:

Ishbel Dunsmore spoke to the report talking about the SAPP and the upcoming events and also spoke about the lack of action by the ALP on the cost of living and housing crisis.

Yasmine Johnson spoke about the NUS EdCon, and the positions taken by NUS against AUKUS, and that we need to be taking these stance here as well and we've got the NDA on Aug 9th which we need to organise and we also need to take a stand on the lack of action by the Albanese government and also protested the RBA.

Simon Upitis spoke about the cost-of-living crisis and the deepening of military ties to America and at EdCon we talked about what student unions should do to fight against these attacks on

ordinary people and their future by this investment in the military. And asked what should the role of the left be in this?

Yasmine Johnson responded saying that it was good the bill was being blocked by parliament, and student unions should aim to be a radical obstacle in the face of these movements and that the media attention being gained shows that people are paying attention, but we need to push that more, and we need to turn passive sentiments into an active ones.

Jordan Anderson asked to hear Ishbel's response to the last question.

Ishbel Dunsmore said that student unions around the country are taking this on, and the Thales campaign that we've run here shows you can build small and large scale momentum on these issues.

Motion: that the report of the Education Officers be accepted.

Moved: Alexander Poirier

Seconded: Madeleine Clark

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O2. Report of the Wom*n's Officers

Iggy Boyed and Alev Saracoglu tabled a written report

The Women's Officers attended End Rape on Campus' Taskforce Briefing Meeting last month. EROC is campaigning for a government taskforce to be implemented to oversee University handling of sexual assault on campus and combat sexual violence in University settings. We are looking forward to an escalation of this campaign next semester and hope we can achieve some victories in this important fight.

We also attended Action for Public Housing's June 17th action, Homes For People, Not For Profits and showed support for the 82 Wentworth Park Road occupation as it was going on. It is simply horrible that homes are being knocked down whilst just across the road there are people in desperate need of housing sleeping in the park.

The Rainbow Rights Coalition's first rally was in support of trans rights on the 25th and we attended in support. It was great to see a strong turnout, as well as a strong turnout to the counter protest of the transphobic talk hosted at Parliament House the same week. The community resistance on display here will be vital for fighting against the new queerphobic changes to the ADA being proposed by Labor.

We also look forward to seeing everyone at Semester 2's Welcome Week, where we will have a stall. Next semester we will be organising Radical Pride and Consent Week and writing Women's Honi and we will hopefully see some new faces around as the semester begins.

Discussion:

Iggy Boyd spoke to the report and covered its main points.

Jack Scanlan asked about the HECS indexation mostly affecting women and is there more on that you'd like to add.

Iggy Boyd said that yes women often less, so it takes longer to pay back HECS, and then costs more over time than for men. A lot of women are the ones most struggling with the costs of unpaid placements on top of this.

Motion: that the report of the Wom*n's Officers be accepted.

Moved: Jack Scanlan

Seconded: Grace Porter

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

03. Report of the Queer Officers

I hope everyone had a happy pride month. Or at least that everyone *had* a pride month at all. We've seen an increasingly active anti-queer far-right, but also some inspiring resistance to this, and positive reforms here and abroad.

Fagi Soit funding update

Buf firstly, an update on funding commitments for the Fagi Soit reprint. We've requested each portion of this funding from each office/collective proportionally to their annual budget. The only collectives/officers we haven't received a funding commitment from are:

- refugee rights,
- global solidarity,
- international students
- Enviro
- and indigenous.

If this is you and you haven't responded yet, please check your SRC email address and Facebook Messenger (I've DM'd the official pages and at least one of the officers from each collective. You may need to check your message requests). Alternatively, if you know a way to get in touch with the refugee rights, global solidarity, social justice or especially international students, please let us know. Thank you so much to all those who have made commitments. Thank you especially to those who have offered to contribute more than we requested from them, including

- disabilities,
- welfare,
- intercampus,
- student accommodation
- and of course, QuAC

What have we done?

This pride month has seen the far-right growing at an alarming rate in Sydney.

CFM (need to paraphrase - important points in bold)

We started off unfortunately with **David Lynn (a queerphobic, ultraconservative preacher from North America)** and the organisation he is a part of, **Christ's Forgiveness Ministries (CFM)**, touring **Sydney's queer hotspots** (such as Pride Square in Newtown and Taylor Square on Oxford St) and **highest-trafficked** areas to preach his reactionary, bigoted interpretation of the bible with a **crowd of followers**.

We were first made aware of this a few minutes before the first event, on Friday June 9 at Pride Square, Newtown. I happened to be in the area so I went down to **gather information as others tuned in online**. This was **not just some friendly preacher** spreading the good news. This was a group of people who believe that queer relationships are an affront to God with STIs as our punishment, that women belong in the kitchen and that queer and trans people are possessed by demons (but also that being queer and/or trans is a choice, somehow).

I then discovered that they would be doing a similar event in **King's Cross the following night, with plans to march to Oxford St**. We (myself and a few others) **arrived on Oxford St before their planned gathering to warn venues** about the event. When the event started in King's Cross (with about **80 people**), we discovered that we were able to **shut down their livestream (and therefore cut off their donations) by playing copyrighted music** (I Kissed a Girl by Katy Perry). We also **generally annoyed and disrupted the event**, always within the realm of **safety and responsibility**, to **reduce the effectiveness of their recruitment** efforts (especially that of turning casual followers into devout members due to a charismatic speaker).

The preacher was prepared that disagreeable people would be present and **offered for us to debate him** on stage, but **we did not accept** the invitation, as even if you are entirely objectively correct, he will present himself confidently and upload the clip to their social media, and his base of supporters will see it as another "leftist owned".

The worst thing you can do is treat these people seriously, on a personal level. They ended up accidentally marching northwards from King's Cross rather than southwards, eventually giving up.

We followed a similar tactic for their **Monday afternoon event at Circular Quay**, using a larger **megaphone to play copyrighted music** (Born this Way by Lady Gaga) **so loud that the preacher simply could not be heard**.

Note: A police officer eventually told us to move on, on the basis that we had not filed a Form 1 (which we didn't have to do, as we did not block traffic). I was not prepared to get into that argument without a more substantial activist presence to back us up, and so we left. Nevertheless, we were able to disrupt about an hour of the event/stream in total.

The last of our dealings with CFM came on **a following Saturday night**, at which time they planned to meet at **Taylor Square** on Oxford Street. I conversed with the local member for Sydney, yassified Liberal Alex Greenwich MP, who confirmed that **police were already being informed**. This meant we would have to switch tactics. I wrangled a **group of QuAC members** and other queer students to **systematically call every single venue on Oxford St to warn them**, and **informed the venues who didn't answer the phone, in person**. We called over 50 venues in total,

between us. I had another commitment for the first part of the event, and so I **monitored online and received updates from observers**, including Jack and others. With a **police presence preventing any community-led response**, Lynn was given an uninterrupted platform. **Opponents were arrested** by police, being denied the same freedom of speech as him. **The group eventually moved down Oxford St.** They were emboldened by this, and were only moved on after what was at least their **second alleged assault attempt on bystanding clubgoers**. One was not enough for the police, despite the fact that this was an obviously inevitable result of protecting the CFM group in this way.

Now, **they've shifted tactics**. They are moving their actions to **Sydney's outer suburbs**, putting the already-marginalised queer residents of Western Sydney at risk. Events like this pose a grave **danger to the Sydney queer community** and are the symptom of a broader push against our rights and existence, requiring deliberate resistance from the entirety of the activist left, and an accompanying mass movement to marginalise these groups by achieving our positive demands.

TERFs Go Home

Coming just off the back of this, we received notice that MLC **John Ruddick** would be holding a **panel of 8 transphobic and otherwise bigoted speakers** at **parliament house**. We responded to this with a protest **we hosted with NUS Queer and Pride in Protest, focusing on real, material feminist demands** around issues such as the **cost of living crisis, not moral-panicking about trans women** in bathrooms. This involved **picketing the entrances**, and organising for a **small group of people to disrupt the event from the inside**, which **included a QuAC member**. The internal disruption was supposed to play out as more of a filibuster, but **this particular aspect did not play out exactly how we had hoped** it would. The **banner** we painted for the event was featured prominently (and was a great design if I do say so myself), and **another QuAC member delivered their first rally speech**.

RRC Trans Rights June 25 Rally

The RRC Trans Rights June 25 Rally was built and hosted by a range of community groups, PiP, queer NGOs and QuAC. The **banner painted by QuAC** for the collective's contingent was **featured extensively** at the rally, and focussed on its concrete progressive demands - Self-ID = Trans Autonomy!

We held the **student contingent** to the rally. QuAC members met at 1pm, one hour before the rally to hold an array of **speeches**. These speeches centred on the political cause to organise to improve the material conditions of queer and trans folks as to effectively a growing far-right queerphobic presence. One **QuAC member brought up the importance** of our work and activism **to spread beyond the inner west and Newtown**, and to extend to help fight bigotry in the western suburbs. Furthermore, a **QuAC OB raised** that the fight for **queer rights is also** one of **worker's rights**, calling (in line with the demands of the RRC rally) on local councils to continue to hold drag story time events.

At the rally itself, **our contingent led the march, with some members holding our banner at the front and others holding the giant trans flag which followed behind it**, and an **OB leading chants**.

Over **400 people** to hear **speeches at Town Hall**, then **at the Pitt St Uniting Church**. Drag queen Cassandra gave a **speech and fabulous live performance**, showing the need for interlinking struggle, not only in the improvement of the rights of queer people but also to the current international cost-of-living crisis.

The march itself had a few **issues in regards to its organisation** with the front of the rally going too fast, leaving the rest of the rally behind. On top of this, there appeared to be **confusion between the marshals and police liaison officers** monitoring the rally itself, with **communication breaking down** a little, and a **lack of agreement on chants**, with **no chant runner**. This **should be raised and properly discussed at RRC meetings** in the future, where QuAC should play some part in helping improve its quality. There were also **issues with organisation by other groups in the lead-up, which has led questions to be raised within QuAC about our continued involvement in RRC**.

What is planned?

Coming up, we have a student contingent to CARR's August 5th LGBTI+ rights rally. We have planned this contingent in support of the rally's demands, especially given the recent reintroduction of yet another Religious Discrimination Bill attempt, this time in NSW parliament. We will also be bringing our own demands, and we deliberately include the letter Q in LGBTQI+, as queerness is an important part of any queer political struggle, pushing against pinkwashing and gay normativity.

Furthermore, be aware that an anti-queer, anti-trans rally is scheduled for July 18th at 11:30am, starting at Hyde Park and moving to the NSW Department of Education. This event has been shared around by a Twitter page which calls itself "Voice for Kids" (but clearly not for queer and trans kids).

We may also be organising a contingent to the Refugee Action Coalition rally as we see solidarity between queer people and migrant/refugee groups as extremely important at this moment.

What else is happening?

Queensland recently passed self-ID for birth certificates, making NSW the only state or territory to have not implemented this reform. The ACT also passed laws restricting non-consensual, "corrective" surgeries for intersex children.

Overseas, we saw the US supreme courts further peeling back anti-discrimination protections for queer people, and saw New York join a number of other states in becoming a 'safe haven' state for queer and trans youth and their parents and carers. This means that New York state officials will not comply with other states' anti-trans laws, such as attempts to prosecute the parent of a transgender teenager for allowing them to access gender-affirming healthcare. This is a positive reform, but it also speaks to the scale of state government attacks on trans people currently unfolding in the US, with an increasing number of individuals becoming refugees within their own country, moving to other states in order to continue to access the care they need.

Discussion:

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion covering part of the written report able in the time allowed.

Iggy Boyd asked what else did you do this month or have planned.

Jamie Bridge covered the upcoming events happening this month mentioned in the report.

Satvik Sharma was named

Jie Hou was named

Timothy Duff asked if Jamie Bridge could elaborate on what happened on the 25th June.

Jamie Bridge said that it was a good event, there were some issues and we're still working a few things out, and there were a number of collective members present.

Motion: that the report of the Queer Officers be accepted.

Moved: Jordan Anderson

Seconded: Jack Scanlan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

04. Report of the Disabilities Officers

Myself and Jack have been busy planning ahead for the semester for a joint Disability Hub together with SUPRA at the USU Welcome Fest. It's also Disability Pride Month and let this time be a chance to learn more about our community's history and activism. We have been working with the SRC and SUPRA to rally against the proposed changes to simple extension from five to three days. This is a profoundly negative development and one that will put further stress on a student body already having to deal with significant cost of living constraints.

We are also working on a campaign to call for better funding for the Disability Support Program by the federal government with the revelations that USyd's own funding under the program has been cut by a third and inconsistent funding being rolled out across Australia.

We will be posting an editorial callout for Disabled Honi within the next two weeks so stay tuned for that!

We are organising a panel event focusing on higher education, disability and the Disability Royal Commission for Disability Inclusion Week. It will be a great opportunity to discuss barriers to disabled students at universities but also discuss how to sustain momentum and activism beyond the Royal Commission, as too often, these events only command media attention when there's an acute sense of trauma or victimisation. We need a genuinely inclusive, non-ableist and far more affordable university system.

Nothing about us without us.

Many thanks,
Khanh Tran

Discussion:

Jack Scanlan spoke to the report about writing a submission for the NDIS review. And noting that the new CEO of the NDIS – the former CEO being the old managing direct of BankWest - has a PhD and work experience in the disability care area, so hopes this will help the NDIS do better.

Motion: that the report of the Disabilities Officers be accepted.

Moved: Victor Zhang

Seconded: Rose Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O5. Report of the Environment Officers

Political Situation

The Labor government has approved 3 new coal mines in 2 months. While it prepares to open these fossil fuel bombs, including making preparations to open the Beetaloo Basin to fracking, it's climate "solutions" are revealed to be little more than election bargaining chips. This was conveyed with their "solar rorts" scheme. Their \$200m Community Batteries for Household Solar program has been granted to 58 sites that it has announced as locations where they want to win seats. Regardless of this sort of political corruption, grants and subsidies to households or to businesses will not be enough to stave off climate catastrophe. We need wide sweeping change and the Labor Party has shown it is not willing or able to deliver.

ED CON

Simon and I attended the National Union of Students Education Conference last week. This was an important conference to discuss the biggest issues facing students in Australia today - mainly the cost of living crisis and the drive to war. There were also sessions on Labor's addiction to fossil fuels, which explained the farce of the "gas led" recovery and a session on the protest laws in SA, but replicated in states across Australia including NSW. With the AUKUS deal involving nuclear powered submarines, nuclear energy was also a topic at the conference. Australia has a radical history of resisting uranium mining and we discussed the danger and risk it poses to the community and how it would mean dumping of toxic waste on Indigenous land.

Coming out of the conference there has been a National Day of Action "Welfare not Warfare" called for August 9. We plan to make building for this action the main priority of the Enviro collective going into Semester 2.

Discussion:

Simon Uptis spoke to the report and spoke about the education conference and the motions that were discussed.

Madeleine Clark spoke about the NDA that came from EdCon, and it's great we got verbal commitment, and we should be working harder on this. Adding that this is a serious issue, and the amount of money being spent on submarines alone is not the end, and we should be making this a priority as building this is critical.

Satvik Sharma said he was not able to go to EdCon, and he supports the bill banning pet11, and supports nuclear power to bring forward a clean energy future. Adding that he supports the NSW Liberal party for supporting these things. Concluded by saying that the move to remove gas stoves from homes is racist to the Indian community.

Rose Donnelly asked Simon Uptis what should be the build-up in semester two look like, for example lots of little events or one big one.

Simon Uptis said this was arranged at EdCon and there are upcoming meetings about the actions like lecture bashes, stalls and promoting at welcome week coming up as well as reaching out to people you have connections to, such as in the unions encouraging everyone to bring them in campaign and to back the protests. Concluding saying we should be getting endorsements from every climate NGO and the like.

Satvik Sharma responded to the question saying that environmental action is important but lecture bashing is not a good thing, and it's not good to advocate for lecture bashing which is to the detriment of the student body.

Ella Haid asked about an argument brought forward at NUS edCon, saying she thinks it is interesting that NLS has the Presidency of NUS all year but it took till EdCon to take a stand on these issues publicly, and with media attention. Asking how we are going to challenge the governments push towards war.

Madeline Clarke responded saying we need to do everything in our power to reach out to groups and get this NDA growing, to draw attention to the issue and push back against the line of AUKUS as a need as much as possible,

Satvik Sharma that the premise of the question is ridiculous and disgraceful. Adding that these people want to destroy western civilisation and capitalism – you are saying boo to the person running a small business and struggling. You failed to condemn genocide last council but you say we shouldn't have AUKUS this one.

Angus Dermondly asked if any of the environment officers had anything to say about the environment, and asked about if they are doing anything on the climate movement and the actions taking place.

Simon Uptis responded saying I think it's important to talk about war as the environment officers, as war will be extremely detrimental to the environment.

Satvik Sharma responded to the questions quoting Ronald Reagan saying the only way to achieve

peace is through strength, so that's why he supports AUKUS. Adding that and if we don't, Russia will continue and China will invade Taiwan and that he won't go to any conference with left wing radicalism.

Motion: that the report of the Environment Officers be accepted.

Moved: Yasmine Johnson

Seconded: Jasmine Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O6. Report of the Social Justice Officers

This month, the social justice officers Julius, Eddie, and Keira have been campaigning around a variety of social justice issues.

For the LGBTQ+ Rights Rally, to be held on August 5th at 1pm, the Social Justice officers have been putting up posters, handing out flyers, and arguing its importance to students. Discussions with the public around this issue reveal that trans rights are an issue that a lot of people are concerned about. As the historic overturning of Roe v. Wade shows, the far right are seriously organized in America. In the US alone, anti-trans bills have increased more than fivefold this year.

Meanwhile in Australia, Labor has just decided to move a new version of the bigoted Religious Discrimination Bill. This is a concession to the right, at a time when the right are becoming even more organized around Australia. A recent drag story time event at Thirroul Library was threatened by the organized right, who have a committed project of making the world a more oppressive place. Neo-Nazis had planned to protest and disrupt the drag story time but when community activists outnumbered the Neo-Nazis by over a hundred to six their pathetic protest was totally demoralised and defeated.

Without opposition like this from the left from the US to Australia, the far right will continue to grow. Rallies like the one on August 5th are important, and they point to how our side can win. By mobilizing the majority sentiment that supports trans rights in society, the far right can be publicly outnumbered and put back in their place. Every councillor in the USYD SRC should take time to build for this rally by posterizing and leafleting and attending the rally itself.

Jordan Anderson's Contribution

Earlier in the month, I, as a social justice officer, attended the 'Housing for People, Not for Profit' rally at Town Hall and wrote the Honi Soit coverage. It is vital that the SRC remains oppositional to Labor, in the context of their demolition of public housing, refusal to implement a rent freeze and refusal to meaningfully raise social security payments.

Yesterday, I attended and spoke at the RBA rally. This follows the RBA's interest rate hikes, but also, Phillip Lowe's apathetic and delusional rhetoric in relation to the cost-of-living crisis, such as that students should just live with more housemates. Shameful!

As a final point, I extend my solidarity to Nahel Merzouk and the protests in France. Justice for Nahel.

Discussion:

Jordan Anderson spoke to the report covering their points of the report and the inaction of the government for a long time on the housing issue.

Eddie Stephenson spoke to the report covering the Supreme Court Rulings in the United States and the consequences on oppressed and vulnerable people. Adding that this flows on to Australia with the religious discrimination bill, which allows for attacks on LGBT+ communities while protecting the religious from the repercussions of their own actions.

Kiera Garland spoke about the EdCon and the actions the Religious Discrimination Bill and that activists in the past have shut down transphobic events.

Jasmine Al-Rawi asked about where people's rights have been rolled back so much and the Democrats in government are doing nothing, so what does their strategy show?

Eddie Stephenson responded saying the Democrats are chasing after right wing religious voters, because they think they've got the left in the bag. So they're going after the right to improve their electoral chances, and they won't do anything to lead a fight back against the institutions of power which maintain oppression and discrimination. Concluding we need to be using our own power and fight these institutions of power.

Bryson Constable asked how many people attended the rally.

Jordan Anderson said it was probably around 30.

Motion: that the report of the Social Justice Officers be accepted.

Moved: Jack Scanlan

Seconded: Deaglan Godwin

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

07. Report of the Global Solidarity Officers

On Monday morning, Israeli forces launched a military raid on the Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank. Airstrikes cut off access to energy and water, bulldozers flattened homes, and over a thousand soldiers poured into the camp. 3,000 Palestinians have had to flee the camp, and so far, 10 Palestinians have been murdered by Israeli forces. We categorically condemn the latest raid on Jenin and stand with those victims and with those resisting. We urge all councillors and office bearers to attend the rally in solidarity with Jenin this Saturday at 1pm at Town Hall.

We also condemn the murder by police officers of 17 year-old Nahel Merzouk in the Parisian suburb of Nanterre last week. This is just another in a long string of French officers killing or assaulting French Arab and black youth. We wholeheartedly support the riots and mass protests which have taken place over the last week- they express the righteous anger of millions who are fed up with police brutality, endemic poverty and Islamophobic hysteria. This uprising of urban youth against the racism of the French state forms just one part of a broader struggle against Macron and the French ruling class.

Both of us (Jasmine and Deaglan), travelled to Brisbane at the end of June for the National Union of Students' Education Conference. Deaglan spoke on the plenary about why NUS should oppose AUKUS, which was one of the key debates at the conference. NUS and local student unions need to not only take principled positions on paper against AUKUS, but they need to go out and convince students of the need to mobilise against the drive to war, and the consequent subordination of our education to the needs of the Australian military. As left-wing activists and office bearers we need to reject compromising with the right in the unions or on campus, and aim to build a student movement which can discredit and embarrass the Albanese government for its warmongering policy.

Jasmine and Deaglan

Discussion:

Satvik Sharma gave a verbal report and addressed it to the student body that have to suffer this council, saying one group that wants to destroy AUKUS, western civilisation, free trade and the free market, and instead of focussing on the services and the issues on campus, they are focused on left wing radicalism.

Deaglan Godwin to the report about the protests in France and how they are burning down polices stations and institution and it is where young people are standing up and demanding more. Adding "Fuck the racist French state and the racist French police". Continuing daying that there is a vicious racist attack on people, and the left standing with those who are rioting, adding people should stand up for what they believe in and they need to take a note from France's actions.

Jasmine Al-Rawi spoke bout the military action in Jenin and people should be paying attention and organising events to show solidarity with the people in Palestine. Adding that we are opposed to what is happening in Jenin and opposed to our government supporting the state of Israel.

Eddie Stephenson spoke about organising a solidarity event to the riots and state violence in France and not bowing to moderate pressures. Asking what are the lessons you want to draw out from these events.

Deaglan Godwin responded saying what we are seeing in France with students supporting the yellow vests and the retirement age rise retraction actions is that it takes time. It means running

small actions to engage people and build knowledge and engagement and we need to look to them and replicate that here.

Satvik Sharma said he was upset about what has been said, saying that it doesn't matter what happened that started it, there is no excuse for mass violence. These people want a mass revolution they want Australia to burn, shame on you.

Jasmine Al-Rawi responded saying what was just said is outrageous. Adding that Satvik wants to defend the killing of a 17 year old, killed point blank in his car. Young people are standing up against the system violence against young people and Arabs in France, and there are similarities of what is happening there to the treatment of Indigenous Australians here.

Jordan Anderson asked Jasmine Al-Rawi and Deaglan Godwin about the current situation in the US on the roll backs by the supreme court on people rights.

Deaglan Godwin responded saying we can see from the US that when the far right feel emboldened they will come for the things we have fought for and won. Adding that you can see this with the supreme court who either validate what has been won in the streets, or more often trying to roll back those gains.

Jasmine Al-Rawi said that the far-right have the privilege of support from powerful institutions and we see that in the United States. Adding that we don't have the advantage of the Catholic church backing up those who push things through, so we need to keep fighting.

Satvik Sharma went to respond. Jordan Anderson said the question was only for Jasmine Al-Rawi and Deaglan Godwin.

Satvik Sharma responded saying fighting the far right was important, that he is not far right, and he supports climate change action. Adding that the idea that we have this massive far right, is ridiculous, and if this council were to actually focus on political issues, like people not affording housing things would be better.

Motion: that the report of the Global Solidarity Officers be accepted.

Moved: Tiger Perkins

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

There was a call for a procedural motion to ban filming in the council room.

There was dispute weather this could be done.

The chair suggested a break to contact the Chair of Standing legal over the ability to ban certain filming.

*The Chair called for a 15 minute break at 8:21pm
a quorum count was held at 8:37pm
The meeting was not quorate.*

There was a call to wait 15 minutes for quorum

Moved: Jack Scanlan

Seconded: Tiger Perkins

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

There was a quorum count at 8:45pm

The meeting was found quorate

Meeting resumed at 8:46pm

Procedural motion: That this council recognises that those in the room have given their assumed consent to be filmed and or photographed. However, this council recognises the if someone in this council then explicitly withdraws their consent for this, that direction shall be respected and adhered to.

Moved: Jordan Anderson

Seconded: Alex Poirier

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

08. Report of the Welfare Officers

Homes for people not profits rally

We were both involved in building and promoting this rally, which was a lively success in bringing together public housing activists, student activists and rally attendees.

Alongside this rally, we also supported the fight against the public housing evictions at Wentworth Park road. Visiting the site and hearing from Tenants made it all the more clear how much of a crime it is to destroy these buildings. We condemn Rose Jackson and the NSW Minns government for their false promises to public housing tenants before the election and support the calls for these blocks - as well as those in Waterloo - to be 100% public housing once built. We support the Greens' pushback against the HAFF bill, as this current proposal is not only a small step in the wrong direction but a continuation of the past three decades' neoliberalisation and privatisation of housing. The government has billions to spend on warfare but apparently only gambled pennies for social housing, private housing and rent relief.

Both of us also attended the NUS Education Conference in Brisbane last week. Amongst other positions, we argued for the NUS to take an active stance against AUKUS & the Federal Albanese government, for driving us towards World War III. Students today can play a role in planting a flag for opposition to the government and their murderous plans.

Discussion:

Harrison Brennan spoke to the report and the issues with a lack of support from Universities to ensure there is housing for students, leading to dangerous and illegal hot bedding situations for students.

Ella Haid spoke to the report and spoke about how in the past people have said it would be easier to win reform under a Labor government. Adding that what we are seeing in states and federally is nothing happening - they are a party for the bosses and we see that with the lack of policy and the gutting of public housing. The Labor party are our enemies.

Motion: that the report of the Welfare Officers be accepted.

Moved: Eddie Stephenson

Seconded: Jamie Bridge

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

09. Report of the Refugee Rights Officers

This month the Refugee Rights Office has been involved in a campaign alongside the Tamil Refugee Council to oppose the deportation of a young Tamil man named Dixtan Aruluban, who was sponsored by his mother Reeta to come to Australia in 2016, when he was fleeing persecution by the Sri Lankan state. Reeta received permanent protection in 2012, and last week Dixtan received his deportation notice. If the deportation goes ahead, they will be separated, and Dixtan will face the threat of death back in Sri Lanka. The campaign has so far organised a rally in Melbourne, and raised the profile of Dixtan's case to highlight the ongoing deportations that continue under the Labor government.

The office has also been involved in the National Union of Students' housing affordability campaign Get A Room, to oppose the proposed RBA interest rate rises. The cost of living and housing crises have become linked to the question of refugee and migrant rights, since Peter Dutton and the Liberal party have been trying to link a shortage in affordable housing to rising rates of migration to Australia. This is a racist attempt to scapegoat the true culprits of the crisis - the major banks like RBA who are profiting off of interest rate hikes, the government who refuse to take even the most basic measures to expand public housing and lift people out of poverty, and the landlords who have been given free reign to hike up rents.

The Refugee Rights Office was an active participant in the 2023 national Refugee Week (June 18-24), which focused on 'finding freedom', attending events and panels held by RCOA and. The week was focused on analysing what it means to be free, considering economic, cultural, and political freedom and how Australia can and must do better to support those seeking safety. Australia's commitment to resettlement sits at 13,750 places, far less than it proposed (27,000) just over a year ago, and far less than other resettling countries (Canada resettles 79,000). Australia's punitive initiative Operation Sovereign Borders still remains, although from March 2022 there have been efforts to reduce offshore detention; from the 600 people in detention, now 130 remain. This is still 130 too many. Efforts have been made to reduce the limbo caused by Temporary Protection Visas – it was announced that this class of visas will no longer be used. However, there is scope for progress across so many more areas. As per the RCOA May 2023 Submission to the Department of Home

Affairs consultation on the Refugee and Humanitarian Program, the following should be pursued by the current Labor government:

1. Expanding the Refugee and Humanitarian Program
2. Reorienting the Program towards protection needs and focusing on UNHCR priorities
3. Capitalising on Australia's unique position in 2023-24 in global leadership roles relating to refugee resettlement and complementary migration pathways
4. Conducting a formal review of family reunion options, through a co-designed process with communities
5. Expanding and extending the Skilled Refugee Labour Agreement and building on the momentum on other complementary pathways
6. Replacing the Community Support Program with a genuine community sponsorship model
7. Ending the link between the offshore and onshore protection programs and abolishing the cap on onshore places
8. Building a Humanitarian Program which works effectively to support solutions for refugees in the Asia-Pacific region

The Refugee Rights Office will be reiterating the above and holding panels, discussions and talks in Week 2 of Semester 2 in a USyd Refugee Week.

Discussion:

Amelie Roediger spoke to the report and spoke about Refugee Week and the events and themes of that. And cited Australian statistics on refugee numbers and compared them to Canada.

Annabel Pettit spoke to the report saying we are seeing a ramping up of anti-refugee rhetoric, and using them as scapegoats. Adding that we see this in action in the UK's illegal bill being shelved after being shut down by courts.

Simon Uptis spoke about the boats off the coast of Greece with Afghan refugees left to drown. Asking what should the response be.

Amelie Roediger responded saying Australia should be pushing for change here, by ending the punitive sovereign borders which are in contravention to the UN rights of refugees.

Annabel Pettit responded saying Australia leads the way for far right bigots on this, and we cannot look to the government to lead the way to better policies. Adding that this incident shows what the racist aims of these policy are.

Rand Khatib said we've seen the invasion of a refugee camp and this shows that Israel doesn't care about international law. Asking what is the collective going to do on issues like this.

Amelie Roediger responded saying it's a really important way to open discourse, and I think a good event would be going out week to refugee week.

Annabel Pettit responded saying the state of Israel has created countless refugees who should have the right of return. Adding that she will be attending the rally on Saturday, and we will be there in all support.

Motion: that the report of the Refugee Rights Officers be accepted.

Moved: Ishbel Dunsmore

Seconded: Deaglan Godwin

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O10. Report of the Intercampus Officers

- The Conservatorium now has free period products in the bathrooms
 - o The University has paid for this
- CSA have created a campaign 'Artists For Yes'
 - o Will be having a panel of musicians later
- We had a meeting on opposition to AUKUS
- We looked at how can we oppose neo-liberalism with multicultural music

Moved: Jasmine Donnelly

Seconded: Jordan Anderson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

P. Special Business

There were no items of special business.

Q. Motions of Notice

Q2. Greg Donnelly out of Labor! Transphobia out of Parliament! Transphobia off the streets!

Preamble:

Last month, eight of the nation's most notorious feminism-appropriating reactionary transphobes (FARTs) - anti-marriage equality and anti-abortion campaigners, Islamophobes, politicians and candidates too transphobic for even the Victorian Liberal Party and voters of Tony Abbott's former electorate, and Nazi sympathisers, no less - held their cynically-titled panel "*Why Can't Women Talk About Sex?*" in NSW Parliament.

This bigoted event was organised by the sole NSW politician of the fringe right-wing Liberal Democrats party, Member of Legislative Council (MLC) John Ruddick, who's plagued by connections to out-and-out neo-Nazis.

While many took a stand against transphobia - protesting outside parliament and the event inside - shamefully the same cannot be said for some Labor members, most notably NSW MLC Greg Donnelly, who opened the event. He was joined by One Nation MLC Tania Mihailuk, one of two of the party's former Labor MLCs.

This is unsurprising coming from Donnelly - who has voted against bills for marriage equality and the decriminalisation of abortion. He has opposed Safe Schools and 'same-sex' couples adopting children, and fear-mongered over the safe, medically-sound use of puberty-blocking medication at a state-run paediatric gender clinic in Newcastle during senate estimates. Despite all this, Labor preselected Donnelly for their Legislative Council ticket three times. A Greens Member of Parliament raised these issues in the past, yet Labor took no action. Similarly, despite there being footage of Donnelly's involvement, Chris Minns claimed not to be aware.

This is the logical result of the Labor Party's refusal to draw a line in the sand against transphobia.

Transphobia permeates the whole party, from Anthony Albanese - who denied the existence of trans men, asserting "men cannot get pregnant", parroting the transphobic dog-whistle of defining women as "adult human females" - popularised by Posie Parker herself - to the national level. It allows the SDA (a sub-faction of Labor, a yellow union, and an insult to retail unionists everywhere) to push transphobia within the party. Donnelly, by no coincidence, is a former SDA branch secretary. Meanwhile, the federal Labor Party panders towards religious conservatives and enables violence against queer people by entertaining the Religious Discrimination Bill - a bill that does not increase protections for religious minorities in a legal system which still takes the head of the Anglican church as its sovereign, but entrenches religion as an excuse to discriminate.

In a more sickening move, the NSW Labor Party recently revealed its own religious Discrimination bill. Instead NSW Labor should support Alex Greenwich's Equality Bill and enshrine queer rights, despite making zero election commitments towards increased protections for queer people or self-ID on NSW birth certificates. That is to say nothing of protections for sex workers, who are disproportionately queer and trans, and the removal of religious exemptions to anti-discrimination legislation in NSW.

Donnelly must resign or, failing that, be expelled from the party room, be just the beginning of a complete overhaul of the queer politics of the Labor Party. Internal disciplinary measures instead of expulsion would perpetuate this bigotry within the Labor Party and gives Donnelly less to lose by leaving the party room to become an independent. If the NSW Labor Party shows itself to be less capable of addressing transphobia in its own party than the Victorian Liberal Party, that is a shame of its own. The NSW Labor Party have also made no public statement to confirm that he is being disciplined, to our knowledge. This would mean that he is either facing no consequences, or the party believes that disciplining someone for bigotry is a bad look.

This transphobic congregation of a forum (a TERF Megazord, if you will) comes in light of escalating queerphobic attacks such as the bashing of queer rights protesters in Belfield, assaults by religious fundamentalists against Oxford Street bystanders, and Kellie Jay-Keen's transphobic tour which saw Nazis performing the Nazi salute on Victorian Parliament's steps with police protection.

Fighting transphobia is union business, and this bigotry divides and harms everyone - cis and trans - from the real enemy: the bosses.

Platform

This meeting of the SRC:

1. Condemns John Ruddick MLC for hosting the event, and all those who spoke at it.
2. Condemns the NSW Labor Party for enabling transphobia in its membership and entertaining the Religious Discriminations Bill while continuously failing to address Donnelly's queerphobia.
3. Calls on Chris Minns to seek Donnelly's resignation from the Legislative Council and, failing that, remove him from the party room.
4. Calls on the Labor Party to commit to supporting unions like the NTEU in their fight for the wellbeing of queer employees, rather than entertaining the bigoted whims of the SDA.
5. Calls on the NSW parliament to pass the Equality Bill with protections for sex workers and to repeal all religious exemptions to anti-discrimination protections in NSW.

Action

1. The USyd SRC will publish this motion from its social media accounts, on its website, in Honi Soit and circulate it through any relevant means
2. The USyd SRC co-hosts the Facebook event for QuAC's student contingent to the August 5th LGBT(Q)I+ rights rally and shares the rally from its social media accounts and circulates it to their email and other lists.
3. SRC office-bearers and collectives will promote the rally from their personal and OB social media accounts.
4. A photo in solidarity will be taken at the end of the SRC meeting.

Discussion:

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion and spoke about the event that was held recently that inspired the motion. And spoke about Greg Donnelly speaking at the transphobic event and this shows Labor as not doing enough to speak out against transphobia within their party. Jamie Bridge read out the platform and actions of the motion.

Timothy Duff spoke to the motion and said they were the QuAC member who spoke attended that action in parliament. And spoke to the motion saying it was appalling that Greg Donnelly spoke at the event and would use his platform to spout such horrific notions.

Ishbel Dunsmore spoke to the motion saying it was wrong that Greg Donnelly has had no repercussions at all and that even Dutton has kicked out Senator David Van. This bill does nothing to protect LGBT+ and sex workers and allows for all religious discrimination including vile vilification and open discrimination of people, this should be denounced.

The speaking list was closed during Ishbel Dunmore's speaking time.

Jack Scanlan spoke to the motion saying this is appalling, and they've worked with branches calling for Greg Donnelly's resignation.

Eddie Stephenson spoke to the motion saying the ALP is not the hostage to the SDA this is

something they are choosing to do – nothing. Adding that they are supporting the right wing and they are going after these votes because they want religious institutions to continue to offer the social services they don't provide and they don't care about making them offer the supports people need, they are happy with allowing these people to cause harm and enforce gender roles that uphold the institution of capitalism.

Jordan Anderson spoke to the motion saying it has been 100 days since Minns' took office. And that he has said nothing about Donnelly's comments of calling for a reckoning on the trans community is deeply disturbing. Adding that Labor is not only being complacent, saying nothing about a TERF to be in their party, but also the amendments put forward in the Religious Discrimination Bill. Noting that human right lawyers have said the changes are too vague and broad and will embolden people to discriminate against LGBT+ people.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke to the motion we can't be complacent. Adding that we've seen what the far right around the world are looking to do in oppressing the LGBT+ community and we see that in this bill, at all times the ALP are conceding ground to them and supporting them. We need to be pushing back against powerful religious institutions tried to push through this bill again after it was first presented in 2019.

Emma Terry spoke to the motion and spoke about EdCon and the debate there. Adding that the ALP have always supported the religious discrimination bill even in its earlier forms, and they are not hostage to the right, they are trying to gain the rights support by just backing them. Noting that the ALP have never stood up for minorities and this bill is the same thing as the Libs bill in allowing religious people to discriminate, and asked what NLS position on this bill is.

Moved: Jamie Bridge

Seconded: Angus McFadden

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Meeting paused to take the photo mentioned in the action points above

R. General Business

R1. Reject the Housing Australia Future Fund Bill

Australia is in the midst of a housing emergency, with the proportion of people renting, waiting on a public housing waiting list, or becoming homeless the highest in decades. The Labor Party's proposed solution in the form of the Housing Australia Future Fund Bill is an insult to everyone who is suffering through this crisis.

Instead of directly spending on public housing, Labor plans to invest \$10bn into a new investment fund, the returns on which are to be used to invest into social housing - which, unlike public housing, is rented out on the private market. Labor's solution to the worst housing crisis in decades is to hand money to property developers- the very people responsible for this crisis.

The bill originally contained no minimum commitment in spending each year, and its target for building new dwellings is laughably insufficient. This target is also non binding, based only on what returns they predict they'll get from the Fund.

It would be totally possible for the ALP to solve the housing crisis - they have found \$20 billion simply in surplus from the last budget, and have committed over \$368bn to nuclear submarines as part of the AUKUS deal.

Instead, the Labor Party is more committed to legislating Stage 3 tax cuts for billionaires and letting landlords run rampant than lifting people out of poverty and housing stress. We need to reject the Housing Australia Future Fund Bill in its entirety.

Platform:

1. The SRC rejects the Housing Australia Future Fund Bill in its entirety and calls for its withdrawal.
2. The SRC notes that it is entirely within the government's power to solve the current housing crisis. Instead of spending huge sums on the military and tax cuts, funding should go towards a massive expansion of public housing to meet the waitlist of 60,000 people in NSW alone.
3. The SRC rejects the idea that passing the bill immediately would be a step in the right direction and rejects the characterisation of left wing opposition to the bill in parliament as "letting perfect be the enemy of the good".

Action:

1. The SRC will publish this motion from its social media pages.

Discussion:

Annabel Pettit spoke to the motion and what the ALP is doing with the future fund bill and said that it is just giving people who have the money more and saying that it addresses the problem where it does not. Adding that it's an investment gamble to fund social housing, not even public housing. This bill should be withdrawn in its entirety, NLS rejected this bill at EdCon, asked NLS members at the meeting to respond how they are taking any action on opposing this bill.

Jasmine Al-Rawi spoke to the motion saying this bill is an attack, in the worst housing crisis we've seen in decade where thousands are drawn into housing stress, this is a hand out to the culprits causing the issue, leaving people who need housing support out. Adding that the ALP are happy to work with the RBA, and let people suffer, to say tighten your belts, but also give massive hand outs and tax cuts to the rich so only ordinary people suffer. This must be actively opposed and the upcoming NDA built.

Jack Scanlan responded saying this is a piece of legislation for after the housing has been fixed, but this is not what is happening. Responding to Annabel Pettit's questions saying NLS are getting people out and working with you and have been all year. The whole thing shouldn't be dumped as it builds public housing and protects them from being sold off. It is both public housing and private affordable housing, and this allows guaranteed loans at lower than market rate.

The speaking list was closed during Jack Scanlan's speaking time.

Shovan Bhattarai was named

Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion, saying that this bill is a failure of national policy, and it is great the Greens have been blocking this bill to fight for more protections for renters and public housing. Adding they need a bill which actually reflects what is needed, and the ALPs line of 'better than nothing is better than perfect' is a joke when people are just asking for the bare minimum.

Sam Barry was named

Simon Uptis responded to Jack's comments saying they were further to the right than what NLS said at EdCon, and others at EdCon called for it to be scrapped, calling it neoliberal junk. Adding that Harrison Brennan's comments were correct and there should be a direct investment in public housing. Concluded saying we should oppose this bill entirely.

Rose Donnelly replied to the comments of Simon Uptis and asked when you scrap this entirely what are you going to do to get people into housing who don't have it. Adding that we were talking about the urgency around housing, I think we should speak to that, the urgency, not just the division of the budget.

Lia Perkins resigned the chair to Tiger Perkins

Satvik Sharma said we did it we solved homelessness, we storm the RBA, print more money and buy all the houses in Sydney and that's how we do it. Shame on Labor they don't want to take on the RBA and we are going to solve the housing crisis, saying 'I'm the Leader of the free world, and will print more money'.

Ishbel Dunsmore noted that there are many things that could be done other than what is proposed in the bill, and spoke about the money used on RBA renovations. Adding that it was the same amount spent on getting people housing. And that this bill will only get housing for 12 percent of those who are waiting for public housing. Concluding saying housing is a human right, and spoke about the housing action coming up.

Sam Barry was named

Jamie Bridge spoke about youth homeless and the groups who offer housing support are often religious making them unsafe for queer people, sex workers, and women, particularly single mothers to approach.

Proposed amendment:

*to remove paragraphs 2, 4 and 5 of the preamble, and point 2 of the platform
It was not amendable to the movers.*

Amendment to be put as a foreshadowing motion

Moved: Satvik Sharma

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion and spoke about the immediate solutions available to the ALP.

Yasmine spoke to the motion.

Moved: Annabel Pettit

Seconded: Jasmine Al-Rawi

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R2. Support LGBTQIA+ rights! Oppose NSW Religious Vilification Bill

Preamble:

The New South Wales government has moved legislation to make ‘religious vilification’ an offence under the NSW *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*. This should be seen as another of the recent attempts to wind back LGBTQIA+ rights in Australia over the past few years.

Prior to this Religious Vilification amendment put forward by the NSW Labor Party, the Liberal Party put forward the Religious Discrimination Bill in 2022 which sought to enshrine the rights of religious institutions to practise bigotry, such as the right of religious schools to expel LGBTQIA+ students or for religious institutions such as hospitals to hire and fire people on the basis of their sexuality. This bill was driven largely by sections of the bigoted Christian right attempting to claw back some of the gains made by LGBTQIA+ people in Australian society, particularly after the victory of marriage equality. The Labor Party in opposition had the numbers to stop this bill, but while some individuals in Labor criticised it publicly, every Labor MP voted for the Religious Discrimination Bill in the Lower House. The Labor Party had seen its vote in religious demographics fall in 2019, and decided that it was acceptable to throw LGBTQIA+ people under the bus if it meant an increase in Labor’s religious vote.

So it should be no surprise that the Chris Minns NSW Labor government has now introduced a new version of this bill, after the original bill was shelved. Labor’s NSW Religious Vilification Bill shares the same fundamental logic of the Liberal’s version, that religious institutions should be granted special rights that can include the right to discriminate against LGBTQ+ people, simply because of religious belief. According to the NSW Council of Civil Liberties, this bill could be used to protect conversion therapy practices and shield vocal bigots like Israel Folau. The way this bill has been framed by its supporters is to say that it will ensure that religious minorities are protected from discrimination. However, the vast majority of the religious institutions the Labor Party are appealing to are wealthy, powerful Christian institutions, and these are the institutions it would be protecting.

Federally, a recent report from the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) inquiry into discrimination law in religious schools initiated by Mark Dreyfus has so far proposed that while students should no longer be able to be expelled and staff sacked for being gay or trans, school curriculums should be completely exempt from the Sex Discrimination Act. Essentially the proposal is that in exchange for LGBT+ staff and students being granted the right to not be instantly kicked out of religious schools, those schools getting carte blanche to teach a curriculum

that tells those students and staff that they are sinful and twisted. The ALRC consultation paper also proposes that schools be permitted to sack or refuse to hire staff who “undermine the religious ethos” of a school.

These sorts of measures are a backdoor to the same discriminatory powers in the original religious discrimination. This is a handout to the bigoted Christian right, that will only make things worse for LGBTQIA+ people in this country. This is a year where the far-right have been mobilising in NSW, marching through the streets of Newtown against World Pride and Mardis Gras, and campaigning for an end to drag story time events. It is obscene that in this context Labor are not standing against these attacks, but are instead putting forward a bill that is about entrenching their right to discriminate and weakening the protections of LGBTQIA+ people.

Platform:

- This SRC opposes the Religious Vilification Bill proposed by the NSW Chris Minns Labor Government. The SRC recognizes this bill as an attempt to make it easier for religious institutions to discriminate against oppressed people including LGBTQIA+ individuals, women, and minority groups.
- The SRC opposes the proposals of the Australian Law Reform Commission report led by Mark Dreyfus’ inquiry into discrimination law in religious schools which would further enable religious schools to discriminate against oppressed people.
- This SRC condemns NSW Premier Chris Minns and the Labor Party for putting forwards this bill and the. The SRC recognises these steps as concessions to right-wing religious institutions wanting to water down anti-discrimination legislation and enshrine their right to bigotry.
- The SRC endorses the protest called by Community Action for Rainbow Rights (CARR) for 1pm August 5th at Town Hall to Defend Trans Rights and Stop the Religious Discrimination Bill.

Action:

1. This SRC will publicise this motion on its social media accounts.
2. The SRC will share promotional material for the CARR August 5 rally through its social media pages.
3. The SRC encourages each SRC councillor and OB to attend the protest.

Discussion:

Kiera Garland spoke to the motion and covered its main points. Saying that any form this bill should be opposed.

Henri Collyer spoke about the bill and it’s discussion saying that this bill is not another RDB, and read from the bill, saying it is against religious vilification and that you cannot discriminate of vilify them for being religious, this should be expanded to the LGBT+ community rather than just shut this bill down

Shovan Bhattarai said more members of NLS should get up and debate these topics. Adding the position NLS has put forward today is further to the right than what they said at EdCon and further to the right even than Unity. This bill does still leave things open to have protections for religious

institutions to run things like conversion therapy and suffers from the logic that somehow religious institutions should be allowed to discriminate against people. And asked should anti-discrimination laws be watered down to protect the religious' right to discriminate?

Eddie Stephenson spoke to the motion saying the history of this bill comes from the right, after marriage equality was won, the right took that as an attack on them. Adding that if you think this is actually about protecting people from religious minorities, and not about the religious right clawing back their right to discriminate, you are at best, naive. And pointed to the actions of religious schools recently is their discriminatory hiring practices.

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion and saying it shows what the government's priorities are. Noting that the government hasn't put forward protections for LGBT+ people and it doesn't just go to natural people it extends to institutions. Adding if people are allowed to vilify someone and to say that getting HIV is a punishment from god for who I am, I should be able to vilify them for saying that.

Emma Terry noted that people who make religious jokes could also be persecuted under these laws. There is nothing we can fight for if this bill gets in, it will undermine everything. Adding that this is not just an amendment to the anti-discrimination act, this need to be seen in the light of the Liberals bill past years.

Alex Poirier spoke to the conversation around the motion and saying that this bill is not related to the federal religious discrimination bill. Noting that this is about ensuring that people are not vilified for being religious when they go to work, that is their understanding of the bill. Adding that it is just for natural born persons in this bill because it an amendment to the anti-discrimination act. Concluding saying they would be abstaining from the motion.

Eddie Stephenson said we should talk about it more, as the religious right will not stop pushing towards getting more ability to discriminate. And that Labor are capitulating to these ideas, and allowing for religious ethos even when bigoted, need to be taken as equal to the rights of LGBT+ people. These people are not oppressed, they are fighting for their right to assert bigoted views on other people, and we see this in the way where Muslim workers working for catholic run institutions could all lose their jobs.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke to the debate, saying that at the student level Labor Left are playing the same role they do on the state and national level, by throwing a bone to the religious right. This bill will be considered a victory in every right-wing religious intuition, which means if it gets through it becomes a massive defeat. Adding that even now, they still have more rights to discriminate than anyone else.

Moved: Keira Garland

Seconded: Shovan Bhattarai

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R3. Condemnation of the RBA

Platform:

The University of Sydney SRC condemns the RBA Board for

1. Failing to raise rates at the last meeting of the RBA board, in an act that neglects the current cost of living crisis that is occurring which acts simply to further current inflationary pressures that exist in the economy
2. Failing to raise rates at a fast enough pace to counter inflation

The University of Sydney SRC also condemns the Albanese government for its reckless fiscal management which will continue to increase inflation and serve to burden our generation with higher taxes to repay Labor's \$1 trillion budget hole.

Action:

The SRC Executive post on their social media within 5 days of the meeting at which this motion is passed a statement to the effect replicating the text of the platform of this motion.

Discussion:

Bryson Constable spoke to the motion and said it was time we condemn Rowe for not raising rates again yesterday, they should not be abandoning their mandate which is to work towards a stable accommodation, and if you want to send a message that we shouldn't be targeting inflation that what you do when you don't vote for this motion. And the RBA should be ashamed inflation is so high.

Satvik Sharma spoke to Honi Soit about LinkedIn and spoke about inflation and quoted Milton Friedman 'inflation is a disease' and that the RBA has been really ineffective. Responding to comments about corporate profits, he said he disagrees and that corporate profits have nothing to do with inflation.

Arron Douglas responded to Satvik Sharma's comments on corporate profits saying that OECD agrees that corporate profits are a part of it. Adding shame on Rowe, but that he is just the fall guy for the ALP, who are running policies that are just throwing money at the rich. Concluding saying people should be calling out the ALP, not apologising for them, the SRC should be standing up and denouncing the policies of the ALP.

Moved: Satvik Sharma

Seconded: Bryson Constable

The motion was put and **FAILED.**

R4. Condemnation of Nazism and the horrors of Antisemitism

Platform:

That the University of Sydney SRC condemns Nazi Germany, the Holocaust, neo-Nazism and Anti-Semitism in all forms.

Discussion:

Satvik Sharma spoke to the motion and spoke about the council voting against the motion condemning genocide last council, and that no matter who put up that motion you should have been in support of it. Adding that if this motion gets voted down it is a condemnation of the council.

Bryson Constable echoed the statements of Satvik Sharma, and reiterated that the motion was only voted down last month because of the party affiliation of the movers. Adding that the Liberals have also brought about the most progressive civil liberties in history and spoke about the policies of the Fraser government.

Yasmine Johnson said she was in support of the motion, but spoke about the actions of the Liberal party speaking about one former member who stood with neo-Nazis and how it took two votes to just get rid of her. Adding that member was there with people who advocated white revolution, and mentioned former Premier Dominic Perrottet who wore a Nazi uniform and then quoted Menzies comments on Hitler.

Rose Donnelly spoke to the motion and said she condemns anti-Semitism in all its forms saying it is not spoken about enough at council especially since there has been neo-Nazi activity around campus. Adding that we are running accidental bystander training which is coming up and encouraged everyone to come by and learn how to be a better student leader and handle these situations. Also adding the Vice Presidents were in the process of trying to source more kosher products for the FoodHub

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion and said that the movers proposed this motion but wouldn't vote on the motion condemning the event hosted by Joe Rudock who is an open bigot. Adding that we need to note that we have a more draconian migration policies today than Nazi Germany did.

Alex Poirier spoke to the motion condemning all forms of antisemitism and islamophobia. Adding that it is offensive that this motion has had so little thought put into it, and that this is being used as a trivial joke when it is about people's lives. Adding that he thinks that the motion is a statement with no substance, there is nothing in it, and that is offensive.

Aryan Ilkhani proposed an amendment:

To add: *in all forms including Nazi symbolism*

It was amendable to the movers

Tiger Perkins spoke to the motion and said it was ironic that the Liberals are trying to do a gotcha, on not condemning genocide, when of course we do. Adding it was not members of Grassroots who were outed in the media for connection to Nazis, or placing of Nazi symbols around campus, it was members of the young Libs and Conservative clubs. Adding that he watched their faces fall when Yasmine Johnson read out that quote from Menzies, when you realised that this had

backfired.

Yasmine Johnson spoke to the motion saying that it is not only that this motion has no actions of detailed points, it is the cynicism in the motion. Noting that it is the left that pushed the right to remove Nazis from their ranks, the right are for antisemitism and racism, and this is a cynical ploy.

Satvik Sharma requested a named vote.

Moved: Satvik Sharma

Seconded: Bryson Constable

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Passed unanimously:

Iggy Boyd

Rand Khatib

Alex McEvoy

Aryan Ilkhani

Ivan Samsonov

Grace Wallman

Kiera Garland

Annabel Pettit

Henri Collyer

Jamie Bridge

Jasmine Al-Rawi

Jordan Anderson

Harrison Brennan

Madeline Clark

Bryson Constable

Angus Dermody

Jasmine Donnelly

Ishbel Dunsmore

Bowen Gao

Deaglan Godwin

Ella Haid

Qiana Harvey

Matylda Hayne

Yasmine Johnson

Emily Mackay

Daniel O'Shea

Tiger Perkins

Alexander Poirier

Jack Scanlan

Satvik Sharma

Simon Upitis

Victor Zhang

R5. AUKUS Agreement & Submarines

Platform:

That the University of Sydney SRC:

1. Affirm its support for the AUKUS trilateral security pact and the AUKUS Submarine agreement.
2. Commend the Federal Liberal Opposition for its consistent support of the AUKUS agreement, noting that it was a Coalition Government that secured the agreement.
3. Condemn the ALP 'socialist left' factions and trade unions in the various state branches of the Australian Labor Party for undermining the AUKUS agreement and jeopardizing Australia's security interests.
4. Call on the Albanese Labor Government to maintain its commitment to the AUKUS agreement and resist calls by the Prime Minister's own faction to reduce the scope of the agreement.

Discussion:

Satvik Sharma spoke to the motion saying it is disgraceful that the left is against AUKUS as it is necessary for defence and to give us power at the negotiating table, and that it ensures we can protect our trade routes. Adding that it also ensures greater defective capabilities and expressed hatred for the Chinese communist party and that everyone else should too.

Bryson Constable spoke to the motion saying that the left would have you believe that supporting AUKUS is war mongering, but that it isn't. Adding that it saves money in lowering the cost by working with the US, and if the left wanted to save money they wouldn't worry about retraining bureaucrats but actually have defences that mean less war?

Jacob Mulholland spoke against the motion saying this is a call to war, an imperialist war that will kill millions. Adding that it is a thinly veiled wall between this, and nuclear warfare. Saying AUKUS and the war it will lead to will overwhelmingly effect young people and students who will be left fighting this war. Concluding saying the only morally right position to take is to oppose AUKUS.

Unknown: spoke against the motions and echoed the sentiments of the past speaker that war is the most destructive thing. Adding that Australia has back the US in all their destruction and plundering and this have given the powerful more money while other suffer. Noting that Australia has a long history of dominating and exploiting its neighbours and the countries that the US aligns themselves with are authoritarian countries, so to suggest that this is about fighting authoritarianism is hypocritical. This it just about siding with the US for protecting Australian business.

Rose Donnelly spoke against the motion and the wealth and power of the military industrial complex. Adding that we have been privileged for many generations now but the trauma caused by war lasts a lifetime and we can forget that.

Ivan Samsonov was named.

Alex Poirier spoke against the motion and thanked Socialist Alternative for their points. Adding that these 8 subs aren't going to do anything defensively and that money could do so much more putting it into the arts and creativity, where would see a much larger return to the economy.

Madeleine Clark spoke against the motion and said that the threat of war is real, but Australia values its relationship with the US, and this was is a product of imperialism. Adding that diplomacy won't work because we have placed so much value on imperialistic power.

Harrison Brennan spoke against the motion saying that the obvious of death, destruction and environmental devastation is why we should oppose AUKUS. Asking why are we trying, embarrassingly, to copy the US. Adding that we are seeing the US style of education that is being taken up by the university here already - looking at the internships with Thales.

Satvik Sharma responded to the comments of the other speakers and said he accepts the legitimate concerns of entering a war with China but the only way to remove ourself from the US is to have the ability to stand on our own. Adding that if we get blocked off from our trade we will starve and we need to defend our trade routes, we need to defend our country.

Moved: Satvik Sharma

Seconded: Bryson Constable

The motion was put and **FAILED.**

A 15 min break was called at 11:05pm

There was a quorum count at 11:20pm

The meeting was found quorate

The meeting resumed at 11:21pm

The President deferred the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson.

R6. Motion in support of Student Services

That the University of Sydney SRC:

1. Acknowledges its role as a body that exists to serve students
2. Acknowledges radical left wing activism does not serve students, and that the SRC should focus on service provision instead
3. That the SRC should expand student services such as
 - a. providing free sanitary products for women in bathrooms (in conjunction with WIF and the USU)
 - b. expanding visa assistance and employment assistance to international student
 - c. help students with economic disadvantage through the provision of textbook loan and subsidy services
 - d. encourage and create programs that foster recycling

- e. create an environment where students can work towards gaining meaningful employment after graduation by facilitating networking opportunities for students, particularly those who come from low socio-economic backgrounds
 - f. provide high quality and free career advice
 - g. in conjunction with the USU, revitalise social life by running engaging social events for students
4. Also cuts funding to all collectives and any form of other far left radical activism to fund these services
 5. Support eliminating the salaries of office bearers.

Discussion:

Satvik Sharma spoke to the motion saying that the SRC should not be an activist organisation but a service based one that focuses on what students need and run social events. Adding the focus should not be on collectives and shouldn't have a left-wing cabal focusing on collectives and activism running the SRC.

Bryson Constable spoke to the motions saying activism contains some merit, but this council has just become buzz words. Adding that this meeting is just "isms" and that he is a proponent of freedom and the people at the back of the room are taking it too far. Constable continued saying what is this left wing activism that people are voting for, it has no substance, it's just complaining, there are no solutions, they will never have any power more than an Ed officer at an SRC.

Lia Perkin spoke against the motion saying the SRC should be a left-wing activist space, and student unions have been under attack from the right and that the right shut them down. Adding the SRC does have a services side and she was proud of the work they do, but the activism we do is important and what we should focus on.

Alex Poirier spoke against the motion saying that the movers complain of inaction by the council yet put no action options into their motion. Then apologising noting that there were a couple but there was no preamble for context. Adding that the SRC has an important role in this University and being an activist space and engaging with and learning about politics is important. The USU is the services side of the Uni's student unions and activism is the role of the SRC, VSU has crippled many student unions and we need to continue fighting.

Ella Haid spoke against the motion saying the role of student unions is to be a fighting left. Adding that this suggestion has been put up by the movers because they know they have to put up services focus motions because they know it does nothing to further student rights or fighting for them.

Satvik Sharma wanted the council to know the spirit of this motion is that the student body should not be focused on national and international issues, it's not be part of what the student council should be doing. The SRC should be advocating to the University management and the President sits on academic board, but I don't think that it should be left-wing activism.

Satvik called for a named vote

Moved: Satvik Sharma

Seconded: Bryson Constable

The motion was put and **FAILED.**

Votes for:

Satvik Sharma

Bryson Constable

Qiana Harvey

Aryan Ilkhani

Ivan Samsonov

Votes against:

Victor Zhang

Alexander Poirier

Jordan Anderson

Alex McEvoy

Simone Maddison

Deaglan Godwin

Ella Haid

Yasmine Johnson

Jasmine Al-Rawi

Annabel Pettit

Owen Marson Readford

Ishbel Dunsmore

Rand Khatib

Harrison Brennan

Amelie Roediger

Tiger Perkins

Emily MacKay

Angus Dermondy

Iggy Boyd

Jamie Bridge

Madeleine Clark

Simon Upitis

Abstentions:

Bowen Gao

R7. Motion in support of oppressed lifters

That the University of Sydney SRC:

1. Acknowledge that lifters are the most oppressed group at this university
2. Acknowledge that steps must be taken to rectify this situation
3. Support the legalisation of anabolic steroids,
4. Support the construction of a statue of Aziz Shavershian (Zyzz) in the middle of the Quad
5. Call on the NSW and Federal Governments to make gym memberships free
6. Call on the University to make Zyzz Hardstyle the anthem of the University

Discussion:

Satvik Sharma spoke to the motion saying that the most oppressed group on campus and they are lifters and gym bros. Adding that we need more money in steroid research and to make sure people have access to steroids so they can become big and strong. Adding that and everyone should be able to become big and strong and so gym memberships should be free to get everyone into the gym as they are great, and we need to stop oppression as lifters make society. Concluding saying we need the gym bros, and he loves Ziz and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Moved: Satvik Sharma

Seconded: Michael Matheos

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R8. Don't Deport Dixtan!

Last week the Tamil Refugee Council launched a campaign to oppose the deportation of a young Tamil man named Dixtan Aruluban. Dixtan was sponsored by his mother Reeta to come to Australia in 2016, when he was fleeing persecution by the Sri Lankan state, whose forces murdered his father in the 2009 Mullivaikal genocide. Reeta received permanent protection in 2012, but last week Dixtan, who is currently in immigration detention, received his deportation notice. If the deportation goes ahead, they will be separated, and Dixtan will face the threat of death back in Sri Lanka. The campaign has so far organised a rally in Melbourne, and is attempting to raise the profile of Dixtan's case to highlight the ongoing deportations that continue under the Labor government.

Platform:

- The SRC demands the immediate withdrawal of the notice of intention to deport Dixtan.
- The SRC demands that Dixtan be immediately released, returned to his family and granted a permanent visa

Action:

- The SRC takes a solidarity photo with the Tamil Refugee Council campaign to free Dixtan and will post it from their social media pages

Discussion:

Annabel Pettit spoke to the motion, saying it was a motion for support of the Tamil refugee council campaign, to block the deportation of a young Tamil man back to Sri Lanka whose father was killed in there 2009. Dixtan's mother arrived in 2012 and was granted a permanent protection

visa, but because he arrived in 2016, he was not granted that visa. In many situations family are pulled apart by the different visa's that people are given. Concluding with a call for people to support this motion and against the deportation of Tamil refugees like Dixtan.

Simon Upitis the case of Dixtan is exemplary of the ALPs refugee policies where they will send him back to a state he fled a place where his father was killed by the state and it shows how the ALP don't care about people. Adding that the only reason the Biloela family got to say is because of the massive campaign around them, and we should be pointing that out, and we need to also shine a light on this situation and campaign.

Moved: Annabel Pettit

Seconded: Simon Upitis

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R9. Welfare Not Warfare! The USYD SRC Supports the NUS National Day of Action on August 9

Preamble:

The Australian government is drastically escalating the drive to war by purchasing nuclear-powered submarines from the United States as a part of the AUKUS alliance. In doing so, the government has made Australia into the key player in any future war in the Indo-Pacific. The submarines themselves will be targets of Chinese attack, each of which contain the energy of three Hiroshima atomic bombs if exploded. If not for this commitment to the US alliance, Australia wouldn't be at any risk from China at all. By turning Australia into a target, the AUKUS alliance represents the greatest threat to the safety of ordinary people in this country.

The Australian government has already committed \$368 billion to these submarines, but they admit the figure could eventually blowout to half a trillion dollars. At the same time, the government is abandoning ordinary people to struggle through the cost of living crisis they're overseeing. Rents in capital cities increased by 17.6% last year and are continuing to rise while real wages have fallen by 7% over just the last two years. Welfare recipients were given a measly \$2.85 extra a day, leaving them well below the poverty line. The hundreds of billions being spent on the submarine deal should be spent on welfare and fixing the cost of living crisis.

The 'Welfare Not Warfare' National Day of Protest on August 9th is a chance for student unionists across the country to take a stand against AUKUS and against war. It is imperative that student unions take existing skepticism and outrage at the AUKUS deal and turn it into organised anger against the warmongering policy of our government. It represents a chance to illustrate that leaving students and workers out to dry during a cost-of-living crisis is a political choice- the money is there to pay for public housing, higher welfare and free education. Local student unions and the national student union need to carve out a resolutely anti-AUKUS and anti-war stance, and reject the arguments of the right-wing in our unions and on our campuses.

Platform:

1. The SRC opposes the AUKUS deal and Australia's alliance with the United States.
2. The SRC stands against imperialist ambitions of both China and the United States.
3. The SRC

opposes \$368 billion dollars being spent on nuclear-powered submarines. 4. The SRC condemns the Australian government for hosting a high-level nuclear waste dump and opposes any development of a nuclear industry in Australia.

2. The SRC will continue to campaign against ties between universities and weapons research and development.

Action:

1. The SRC will commit resources to the Welfare Not Warfare National Day of Action on August 9th.
2. SRC Office Bearers and Councillors will commit to coming and to sharing the event from their social media pages.
3. The SRC will publish this motion from their social media.

Discussion:

Ella Haid spoke to the motion saying the motion was to endorse the NUS day of action. Adding that that we should be galvanising the left and taking the lead and push back. This is an important step and standing back against the drive to war and militarism, so it is vital that we build this, reaching out to all the organisations we can and getting people involved in this NDA. Concluding saying we should be putting resources towards this being well planned and well built.

Harrison Brennan said he thought we've clearly talked about how it is insane for the government to spend billions of dollars on submarines when they've put next to no money into helping people with the cost-of-living crisis and we also hope to build for the event and get out there.

The speaking list was closed during Harrison Brennan's speaking time.

Alex Poirier spoke to the motion and said he would be building the NDA at the Conservatorium.

Satvik Sharma spoke against the motion saying that this is nonsense, and we should not be supporting this. Adding that AUKUS is important for the country and student services are important we shouldn't be going around protesting.

Unknown: spoke to the motion saying it's not just 5 losers from the Liberal party pushing for war, it is powerful institutions and so we need to work to stand against it. We need to build it properly, making it a key priority, getting leftists on all stalls and making sure we get everyone we know involved and out there.

Bryson Constable spoke against the motion, and noted it was similar to what we already had, and the speeches are the same, and we talked about how good student services by talking about handing out at welcome week, and we are also about unions who have no power. It's a shame that you are being paid with student money to be student activist, if they are going to be paid to be full time activists you should /do some student services, vote of student services.

Madeleine Clark spoke to the motion saying that she will ignore the comments of the last speaker, but there will be a lot of work to do, this NDA will be the first big event to plant the flag in the attempt to push back against warfare and we need to take this very seriously, and we need to

start now and start getting people invoked and not waiting for welcome week working on this right now and reaching out to all our networks to push on the huge battle that is opposing the march to war.

Moved: Ella Haid

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

The council took the photo as said in the action points of the motion.

The meeting closed at 11:56pm.