



src activism
advocacy
representation

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MINUTES:

of the 8th regular meeting of the 94th SRC held on 7th September 2022. Meeting held in the New Law Lecture Theatre 024, New Law Annex Building and via Zoom.

*A quorum count was called at 6:15pm
The meeting was found quorate*

A. Meeting open at 6:16 pm

A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Lia 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

Alexander Poirier to Grace Porter
Ashrika Paruthi
Onor Nottle
Charlotte Ainsworth

Moved: Lauren Lancaster
Seconded: Yasmin Andrews
The apologies were accepted.

D. Changes to Membership

E. Electoral Report

N/A

F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Minutes of the meeting of 94th SRC Council held on 3rd August 2022 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the 3rd August 2022 be accepted.

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Alana Ramshaw

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.

I. Visitor's Business

There was no business for this item.

J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

K. Elections

There were no elections tabled.

L. Report of the President and Executive

L1. Executive Minutes

There were no minutes to be circulated.

L2. Report of the Executive

Report of the executive from the 3rd August to the 6th September 2022.

The report was circulated and noted.

The President deferred the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson.

L3. President's Report

Lauren Lancaster tabled a written report:

SRC Elections

Happy SRC Election season. Having launched campaigns yesterday, I am sure many of you are as excited as I am. We enter into in-person campaigning next week! Looking forward to seeing many coloured shirts across campus. I am a little melancholy to be at this stage, as the reality of the impending end of my term has started to set in. As a council this year we have fought hard for students, had excellent debates, stood up for what we believe in, and have a lot of tangible wins on campus to show for it. 5 day simple extensions, the reopening of the Food Hub, Honi's stipend

increase, our Regulations reforms, amazing and diverse activist campaigns and collaboration with groups like the USU on disability resources, campus life and reviving student culture, have been possible because of the hard work and persistence of progressive Councilors and Office Bearers present here, and their support of my work. Thank you to you all, I'll have more emotional words when Reps-Elect comes around. Good luck for your campaigns.

Of course, I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to Lia Perkins, our President-Elect, having nominated in the uncontested Presidential Ballot. I look forward to beginning handover with her and am confident she will lead the Council in an honourable, progressive and awesome way next year.

Congratulations to SHAKE for Honi, for their similarly uncontested election. You have a tough act to follow, with Cake being both a joy to work with, and a formidable force with regard to campus news, keeping student and university leaders accountable and advancing a creative and inclusive vision of Honi throughout the year. I'm sure you will uphold the high standards they have set and look forward to seeing what unique things you all bring to the paper too!

ADMINISTRATION

SSAF base increase

Following revisions from the Casework team, we have amended our SSAF base increase request to include what amounts to 2 extra Caseworkers. A permanent increase to the Honi stipend (equivalent of the current contestable increase), technology allowances and wages are still there too. I have also added a translation allowance for the SRC so that we can have guides, legal resources and Collective materials translated into languages that make them accessible to larger groups within the undergraduate community. Hopefully this all gets approved, as it is modest yet would be of significant benefit to the organisation.

Disability Space in Manning

Today I attended a meeting with Campus Infrastructure, Sarah Korte our Disability Officer and Gemma Smart from SUPRA to discuss the infrastructure plans for the new Disability Room in Manning House. It was brilliant to see the surveyed plans and blueprint for the space and to support Sarah and Gemma, who have led this process. I commend Sarah in particular, as she is the SRC representative here, on her hard work. The plans are very good, with a quiet room, modular soft furnishings, adjustable tables, lockers for students who identify as disabled, an external kitchenette, sound-proofing, adjustable zone lighting and more. It is gratifying to see real steps towards the room becoming a reality here!

Website development

The Executive and I have all approved and actioned the website development which is proceeding as planned. There's plenty of detail about it in previous reports and while it's taken a while, it's still going to be great. It will launch by the end of the year.

ACTIONS

NTEU Staff Strike and Open Day

The NTEU went on strike for the fourth day this year on August 17th, and the SRC was there to support. It was a brilliant day out in solidarity! So many comrades from across the university, the [Sydney University Education Action Group](#), UTS and UNSW joined us to fight for a fair enterprise bargaining agreement for staff at USYD: staff wage rises, an end to casualisation, indigenous staff quotas, all hours paid, gender affirmation leave, 40:40:20 and much more. We had respectful conversations, turned people around, sang union songs and loved the sausage sizzle from the [Maritime Union of Australia](#). The fight isn't over. Management are yet to budge on the EBA demands. This jarrs when considered alongside the University's stated aims of supporting research, strengthening educational outcomes and encouraging a democratic, inclusive campus and work environment as detailed in the new 2032 University Strategy report. We anticipate more action throughout the semester. Students will continue to show up in support.

I also helped out at the NTEU's stall at USYD Open Day where we did a lecture announcement to students interested in law, distributed balloons and held a photo op for prospective students and passers-by. I commend Lia and the EAG members who were there all day and who did a number of other lecture announcements and flyering sessions.

AFR Summit counter-protest and Labor Accords

While I was unable to attend, I commend the EAG and education activists from other universities who counter-protested the Australian Financial Review's Education Summit last week. This was a meeting of politicians, industry heads and university management to discuss the future of higher education, yet when students tried to speak up they were met with extreme police force, pepper spray and stonewalling. Looking to next year, it is important we keep a critical and watchful eye on the process of the Labor Accords. While I am not hopeful that they will meaningfully reroute tertiary education away from the corporatised model towards which it is advancing full throttle, there must be a place for student unions, and progressive student voice to be platformed. That is unlikely to be a seat at the managers' table, so we will show up on the streets and voice our concerns there.

Radical Education

Rad Ed continues all semester with a number of excellent sessions run in August. I attended one hosted by Alana and Grace on the state of student unionism and our philosophies of change, Jahan our Principal Solicitor hosted one on resilience, mental health and leadership and we have an exciting range of sessions coming up in September.

Radical Pride and Consent Week

The Women's Collective and Queer Collective in collaboration with the USU are running Radical Pride and Consent Week next week from 12-16 September. I'll be chairing a panel about SASH and ending sexual violence on campus next Friday 16th at 2pm, with Jenny Leong (Greens member for Newtown), Jazzlyn Breen (2019 Women's Officer) and a representative from the Full Stop Foundation. Come along and join us for a week of awesome discussion, workshops and events about sex, love, queer story-telling, dismantling taboos and creating safe spaces both in the world and in our minds!

That's all from me. Good luck with your midsems and see you next month.

Discussion:

Lauren Lancaster spoke to her report covering its main points.

Roisin Murphy asked how good is Cake out of 10?

Motion to accept the report of the President.

Moved: Lia Perkins

Seconded: Jack Scanlan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

M. Report of the Vice-Presidents

Mikaela Pappou and Emily Story tabled a written report:

Since our launch in week 3 we have helped about 1200 people at Foodhub! Data from our google form shows that about 30% of the people we've served are regulars / returning customers, with about 47% being undergrad, 48% being postgrad, and 5% staff or other.

Revised Agreement with the USU:

The initial agreement between the SRC and the USU was that they would provide us the space to run Foodhub if we would provide the volunteers and continuous payment of the deliveries. However, the demand for Foodhub has required us to put in about double the amount of orders that we had budgeted for. The USU has now allocated us a significant amount of additional funding to cover this demand from this week onwards. This funding is also being put towards hiring someone next month to take some of the physically demanding jobs in the warehouse i.e. managing and unpacking the deliveries. Emily will continue to take on these responsibilities until then.

Sourcing food:

Now that we have a large number of customers, we have been able to provide lots of perishable items such as fresh produce, milk, and bread in the pantry. We also reached out to the many USU providers / vendors and have been receiving all the stuff they would normally throw away - from this we received a huge amount of toiletries, razors, and snack foods for the pantry. Through meeting with a few other food organizations we were also able to source a few hundred ready frozen meals for free!

Our volunteer team has grown hugely, but I'm always looking for extra hands so please reach out to me on Facebook or email on vice.president@src.usyd.edu.au if you want to help us out!

Discussion:

Emily Storey spoke to her report speaking mainly about FoodHub, noting that demand has been more than anticipated, and they have implemented some limitations for covid and fair distribution plans and have also increased deliveries. They are now looking to hiring someone to take over the warehouse side of the management as it is becoming unsustainable for just Emily to do.

Mikaela Pappou added that Emily is an angel and has done so much work on this and you can't deny that the meaningful service work helps student engage with the work that we do.

Roisin Murphy congratulated the Vice Presidents on their work with FoodHub, and asked if ready-made meals would be available and if there were and location changes or visibility plans for the FoodHub in the future?

Emily Storey noted that there are already some microwave meals available and now that they can gauge how many people are coming in they are looking into more fresh produce and the possibility of big cook-up sessions over at Courtyard to give to students but there simply hasn't been the time to develop these plans further. Adding that they have looked into courtyard for visibility but where we are at the moment is the best we have, having lost the location we had during 2021, as is we would not be able to keep up with any increase in demand.

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

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Victor Zhang

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

N. Report of the General Secretaries

Alana Ramshaw and Grace Lagan tabled a written report

RAD ED

We've had another cracking month of Rad Ed talks. Yesterday we had a wonderful workshop by Honi editor-elect Luke Mesterovic on radical literary worlds. Tomorrow (!!!) we have a panel on international anti-colonial solidarity featuring some wonderful Palestinian activists including the staunch Jeanine Hourani who will be zooming in from London!

FOOD HUB

While Rad Ed has been our main focus, we've also been helping out with other things around the SRC, including Food Hub, which has passed 1000 (!!) customers.

OPEN DAY

This past fortnight was also a massive one on the activism front. Alana joined the EAG and NTEU in their Open Day stall and lecture announcements. We took photos with a comically large papier-mâché recreation of Mark Scott's head, talked to prospective students about the ongoing struggle against cuts and conditions here at USyd, and were impressed with how quickly anti-balloon advocates tracked down our social media posts featuring the NTEU's balloons.

AFR HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMIT PROTEST

We condemn the actions of NSW Police who pepper sprayed activists at the EAG protest against the AFR Higher Education Summit on Tuesday. Protest is a vital part of Australian democracy and we will continue our fight against the neoliberalisation and corporatisation of our university in spite of police suppression and violence.

NSW NURSES AND MIDWIVES STRIKE

Alana also joined the RPA branch of the Nurses and Midwives Association for their fourth day of strike action this year. As a result of the NSW government's refusal thus far to implement ratios, nurses have been left overworked, in unsafe working conditions, and unable to provide patients with the care they need. We stand in solidarity with nurses and midwives in their fight for mandated staff-to-patient ratios and fair pay.

We also attended SUDS' production of Amadeus. It was good. Honi review will hopefully be out imminently.

Discussion:

Grace Lagan and Alana Ramshaw spoke to the report covering its main points and speaking in more detail about Radical Education events coming up and about FoodHub saying that volunteering was a great way to meet new people.

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

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Ishbel Dunsmore

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O. Report of Committees and Officers

O1. Report of the Education Officers

Lia Perkins and Deaglan Godwin tabled a written report

Strike on Wednesday 17th August

We spent the month of August building the strike on the 17th. It was fantastic to have such a strong showing of staff and students across the picket lines, making campus completely dead on the 4th day of strike action this year. A strike in the early part of this semester was vital for setting the tone of the strike campaign for the second half of this year. Shout out to those members of the EAG who again plastered the campus in posters, did early morning leafleting and organised contingents in various faculties and departments, which saw new students joining staff on the picket lines.

Open Day disruptions

We also joined the NTEU intervening into Open Day. At the start of the day Joe Hockey was spotted in the audience of an Open Day talk and Deaglan and Luc (NUS Education Ed officer) gave him a piece of their mind. Joe Hockey was in the Liberal Government when they proposed the deregulation of University fees, paving the way for \$100,000 degrees. We spent the rest of the day handing out flyers from the NTEU's stall and going into lectures to inform prospective students about the strike and education activism. We also participated in a speak out in the quad that marched down to Fisher, and some EAG members made a giant head version of Mark Scott which was popular at the stall.

AFR Summit Counter-protest

Along with NUS and other education collectives, we organised the counter protest to the AFR's Higher Education Summit. The summit included all the enemies of university students and workers, and was a way for them to discuss how to reform higher education to make it more profitable and geared towards the needs of the Australian economy. These events need to be disrupted and protested, as a way of rebuilding a fighting student movement which can take on the government and the corporate university. By demonstrating that we won't let our education be subordinated to the needs of Australian capital, and we are willing to demonstrate this militantly, we can galvanise more students to become activists. Unsurprisingly, we were met with police repression, including pepper spray, and we categorically condemn this.

Contingent to public sector strikes

The EAG organised contingents to the stop work meeting and rally of RBTU members at Central earlier this month. We also sent a contingent to the Nurses and Midwives rally outside RPA, and we were joined by the NTEU. We marched from the Charles Perkins Centre and were met with cheers from the nurses on strike- afterwards nurses told us how enthused they were by this loud show of solidarity. They are fighting for safe nurse to patient ratios and a real pay rise, very important demands in the context of a cost of living crisis.

Casuals Network X EAG Rally about Wage Theft

Along with the Casuals Network and USyd NTEU, we are organising a rally against wage theft, for backpay of stolen wages, and for automatic conversion for ongoing casual staff. This is part of maintaining momentum for the strike campaign, by highlighting one of the key union claims. These demands are also important for students, as the teaching conditions of staff impact our education every single day, and we should be opposed to wage theft being a fundamental part of our education. Anyone involved in activism and particular education activism, needs to build and come along to this rally.

Further strikes

University management have taken a hard line at bargaining and are offering a very small amount of new permanent jobs, many of which are teaching focused. This goes completely against the NTEU's log of claims which is arguing to maintain 40/40/20 teaching, research and admin nexus, and for over 800 new jobs for existing casual staff. The NTEU has a meeting this week where they will vote on whether to take further strike action in light of management's approach. To win the core demands, a strategy of serious strike action will be necessary, and we commit to matching this with student support.

Radical Education Week and Radical Pride and Consent Week

Lia has been involved in helping organise some Radical Education Week events and Radical Pride and Consent Week. I'm particularly keen for 'Pre-K to Post-Grad: Why our Educators are striking' and the panel on campaigns to end SASH at USyd (and where to next). Facebook event for Rad Pride and Consent: <https://fb.me/e/3z3ls8nZ7>

In other news, Lia is the President-Elect for next year so you'll see me more at council!

Discussion:

Lia Perkins spoke to the report covering its main points.

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the report and spoke about the Malcom Turnbull protest and why the protest happened. He spoke about the higher education summit and the lack of recognition of the needs of students or staff. Concluding by speaking about the ongoing NTEU negotiations on campus, and the ongoing fights with management and Vice Chancellor Mark Scott in particular.

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

Motion: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Yasmin Andrews

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O2. Report of the Wom*n's Officers

Dashie Prasad and Monica McNaught-Lee tabled a written report

The last while for Women's collective has been really busy! We are excited about what is coming up ahead in week 7!

Radical Pride and Consent Week:

We are running heaps of educational and social events. Lia is organising a responding with compassion training mostly because I've had 7 discourse of SASH in my term and I think all OBs should have a this training. Please attend if you're able to!

Some other highlights:

- We are organising for NTEU, UWU, TFED and IEU reps to attend a Why Are Educators striking forum on Tuesday evening.
- ACON is running a sexual health workshop so if you can't tell me the 3 categories of STI's- you should probably attend.
- We'll be ending it off with a banger party at Red Rattler- so keep your Friday night next week free!

Supporting working women on strike:

USyd Woco held the picket line at Westmead hospital on the 1st of September with the NSWNMA branches across the Western Sydney Local Health District. The calls for ratios have been echoing through NSW for years now and heading into a 2023 election, we need to make the calls for these striking workers a priority demand for workplace and community safety. The USyd SRC, EAG and other students also supported the RPA action on that day!

USyd Woco has built and shown solidarity to the early childhood educators who took industrial action on the 7th of September. Education sector workers from Pre-k, all the way down to Postgrad are taking industrial action! The sector is in crisis and only industrial action from workers and solidarity from students and the community will win the changes the education sector deserves. We support the call for free education for all!

Discussion:

Dashie Prasad and Monica McNaught-Lee spoke to their report covering its main points and focusing Pride and Consent week.

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

Motion: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Valerie Comino

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O3. Report of the Queer Officers

We have been having a great month of developing a sense of community, more people are coming to meetings and the queer space is lively. Recently we have started a queer movie night to showcase queer stories and aspects of culture that people may not have been exposed to previously, our first showing of "But I'm A Cheerleader" was a great success and we hope for a similar turn out for next months showing of "PRIDE". Another community event we are looking forward to is some badge making as a way of bringing our identity expression back into our own hands rather than buying it from corporations. Also, in the queer space we have been stocking safe sex supplies and information about preventing the spread of STI's, an important issue with concerns about monkey pox growing in international news. Finally, the Queer Honi edition is right around the corner with the pitch deadline coming up at the end of the week (Sept. 10th), this edition is featuring a look at the relationship members of the queer community have to their bodies.

In regards to larger scale events, last month there was the great success of *Get Grill'd*, which was an informal survey of students and community members about sexual violence both on campus and in the country. The data gathered was an interesting look into the concerns and possible solutions to this issue that folks on campus are thinking about. Later this month there is the NUS conference for Queer/LGBTQIA+ students, and we plan on organizing a hub here on campus to support dialogue about pertinent issues the community is facing.



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

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Alana Ramshaw

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O4. Report of the Welfare Officers

Welfare Action Group (WAG) meetings are running in Semester 2! We'd love to see any students there and are always open to new members. To stay updated, like our Facebook page, join our Facebook group, or ask one of the friendly Welfare Officers to add you to our group chat!

We also continue to support FoodHub, and congratulate everyone who has helped in setting up FoodHub and who has volunteered, especially the VPs. Welfare has allocated a portion of our budget to FoodHub, and have also been volunteering and using WAG to encourage more volunteering participation, towards the aim of forming an ongoing contingent of WAG members to volunteer at FoodHub. The difference the initiative makes to students facing food insecurity is extremely valuable (demonstrated by the fact that over 1000 students have accessed FoodHub so far), especially in a time of rising cost of living and high inflation rates.

The Welfare Officers continue to work towards the development of the new Disabilities Room and stand in solidarity with Disabilities Officers across the Uni as well as Dis.Co. The process of creating the room is certainly an ongoing effort and disabled advocates (especially the SRC and SUPRA Disabilities Officers) have put in a lot of work in ensuring the room is put together appropriately and with enough consideration of accessibility. Again, we commend them for their effort and time, especially on such a difficult and long-term project. This is reflected in the recent Honi piece by Khanh Tran on disabled campus advocates that we would like to highlight as the Welfare Officers. An estimated 15-20% of students on campus are disabled, and disability justice is absolutely central to welfare justice - both on the level of campus and the broader community. We reflect the sentiments of the piece that issues affecting disabled students should be centred more in the work of student advocates on campus and that a lot of changes that would benefit disabled students would foster a better campus for every student, whether or not they are disabled-identifying.

We also commend the work of members of Academic Board and Lauren as SRC President for their work in securing the trial of 5-Day extensions. While a reliable 5-day extension system would be an excellent reform for student welfare, we want to emphasise that the battle for a better system for special considerations and extensions is ongoing. Issues have already been raised in several faculties, such as the Law Faculty, with the implementation of the system. We want to call on all student advocates, councillors and OBs to fight for 5-day simple extensions to be implemented effectively, to avoid the risk of students having diminished access to simple extensions in general. We also want to highlight that the 5 day simple extension system is no substitute for the University adequately resourcing the Special Considerations system generally, and call on the Administration to do so.

WAG is gearing up to begin an initiative fighting for an improvement to The University's Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) which we encourage everyone to look out for and

support as a key issue in relation to student welfare. In conclusion, please look out for and attend upcoming WAG meetings!

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We stand in solidarity with strikes which have been continuing across NSW and the country. Despite threats from the state Liberal government to tear up the enterprise agreement on the railways, industrial action has continued. Nurses also went on strike on September 1st as part of their ongoing EBA campaign. On September 7 early childcare workers across Australia will shut down childcare facilities, demanding higher wages and improved conditions. Importantly, this action will involve standing up to the federal Labor government, who have failed to improve the state of early childhood education. If workers are to avoid pay cuts in real terms, this sort of action will need to continue and be extended to other sectors.

Discussion:

Grace Wallman spoke to their report covering its main points and spoke about working with the Disabilities Officers and about the importance of disability activism as a welfare issue, as well as speaking about University processes like special con applications and Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS).

Roisin Murphy asked when the next welfare collective meeting would be.

Grace Wallman noted that it hadn't been confirmed yet.

Yasmine Johnson spoke to their report and noted the lack of support that the Labor government is offering people and that it has highlighted that working people need to fight. Adding that looking at the number of strikes happening across the State and the Country at the moment with people asking what is it going to take to win the pay rise that working people need. Noting that more needs to be happening to give people the sense they can change things in their work places.

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

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Grace Lagan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O5. Report of the Refugee Rights Officers

This month has seen more climate catastrophes in Pakistan, India, South Korea, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. Crises of the climate will also always necessarily be refugee crises, as over a million homes have been lost in Pakistan alone. It's estimated that by 2050 over a billion people will be climate refugees, and the same ruling class responsible for the increase in global temperature will be the same class ramping up nationalism and securing borders in their own interests.

Pakistan was already suffering from severe inflation before the rapidly melting glaciers caused this most deadly monsoon season to date. Already 1300 people have died and water-borne diseases

like malaria and cholera will begin to spread. This is not just a crisis of humanitarianism, but a crisis of capitalism, which will spill over into surrounding countries and hopefully lead to political instability the likes of what we saw in Sri Lanka back in July.

There's also a refugee rights rally coming up on the 18th of September at Town Hall that is about demanding permanent protection and freedom for all refugees. The new Labor government promised to grant permanent visas for 19,000 refugees on TPVs and SHEV, but there is no indication of when this will even happen, and it should be extended to every single refugee. So it's really important we continue to fight the Labor Government by turning up to protests like this.

Discussion:

Annabel Pettit spoke to their report and spoke about the impact of climate change creating refugees and that this is not a climate crisis or humanitarian crisis it's a crisis of capitalism and it is important to keep that in mind

Lydia Elias spoke to the report and the importance of coming to the rally and the lack of action by the government to help and protect those on temporary visas as well as the boat turn back and that there needs to be more actions to fight the government to make sure that refugees have protections.

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

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Valorie Comino

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O6. Report of the Global Solidarity Officers

There have been devastating floods in Pakistan recently that have killed over 1,250 people and has impacted 35 million people in some way. Over one third of Pakistan is underwater after torrential monsoon rains that began in mid-June have devastated much of the country, washing away bridges, roads, livestock and people. This can be attributed to the global increase in climate devastation due to climate change, and the global rise in fossil fuel emissions, especially the opening of 72 new coal projects and 44 new gas and oil projects by the Labor government in Australia.

This month I have been involved with a lot of Palestine activism including the rally in support of Gaza, when Israel was bombing the region, leaving 49 dead. I gave a speech about Australia's complicity in the atrocities caused by Israel. I was also one of the panellists on a forum about why you should support Palestine. It featured as well academic Jake Lynch who was witch-hunted by the university for his active and vocal support of Palestine. Despite the council being attacked due to their support for Palestine, I think it's important to keep up the solidarity for Palestine outside the SRC and get involved with Students for Palestine.

I was also on the picket lines for the August 17th strike along with other members from the architecture faculty, both students and staff with the contingent I organised. It's really important

to keep up the industrial fight against university management who are also the enemy of students. I attended the counter protest to the Australian financial review higher education summit to make a stance against the profit-driven neoliberal university that allies with big business to make higher education fit the needs of Australian capitalism.

Discussion:

Jasmine Al-Rawi spoke to the report, talking about the success of the event ran on Palestine that day. As well as talking about the importance of engaging activists to be involved in the Palestinian Movement, making note of the recent actions of Israel regarding the death of Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh. Adding information about more events on this coming up and encouraged everyone to get involved.

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

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Deaglan Godwin

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O7. Report of the Environment Officers

It's a busy time for the Enviro Collective, with lots happening politically and on the ground. We've seen climate devastation in Pakistan, new coal and gas projects approved at a ridiculous rate, and Labor commit to taking no action; but also the first resistance under the Labor government with a mass climate rally called for September 24 by a coalition of climate organisations.

The scale of the climate crisis is surely not lost on anyone at this rate - the devastation of fires and floods here in Australia in recent years has been repeated around the world at an alarming rate. The brutal summer faced in America and Europe has seen unprecedented fires and droughts - two thirds of Europe faces the worst drought in over 500 years, with rivers running dry for the first time in recorded human history. On the opposite end of the spectrum, a third of Pakistan is currently underwater, with at least 33 million people displaced from their homes. The climate movement here in Australia must extend our solidarity to those suffering the brunt of the catastrophe right now - particularly in the case of countries like Pakistan who release negligible carbon emissions in comparison to Australia.

It should be seen as a travesty in light of this, that the Albanese government has committed to their plan for 43% emissions reduction. This plan is a farce; it offers little to no real improvement, relies on bogus technologies and schemes, and is incompatible with our push for a just transition to 100% publicly-owned renewable energy. The Enviro Collective reaffirms our commitment to real climate action, and that includes fighting against all new coal and gas projects. In particular, it has been shameful to see the Labor government embrace Santos' destructive plans for the Narrabri Gas Project which would see up to 850 gas wells drilled on Gomeri land in the Pilliga. We must be clear that the climate movement cannot retreat under this government, if Albo acts like Scomo we'll treat him like Scomo.

Luckily, we are fighting back. The Enviro Collective is proud to be supporting the rally for urgent climate action called for September 24, meeting 1pm at Town Hall. Join us on the streets on the day, but also help us build for it over the coming 2 weeks! Go for a poster run, help out on a stall, or come to a meeting!

Discussion:

Tiger Perkins spoke to the report and about the upcoming events in the collective as well as the Honi Soit pull out Embers which is put together by the collective.

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

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Lia Perkins

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural Motion to limit speaking time to 2 minutes per person

Moved: Lauren Lancaster

Seconded: Yasmin Andrews

The procedural was put and **CARRIED**

P. Special Business

There were no items of special business.

Q. Motions of Notice

Q1. The state of USyd's accessibility for potential and current low-SES students

Background

USyd administration at the start of the year published how many students come from low-SES backgrounds, with low-SES being defined by the university as "any one from the lowest 25% of households based on income". If the university was open to all it would be expected that 25% of students would come from the poorest 25% of families, but only 3.7% of students come from low-SES backgrounds and that number is getting worse with more disadvantaged students not being able or willing to come to the best university in NSW.

Low-SES backgrounds are the areas that also make up the majority of regional, rural, Indigenous, multicultural, and immigrant backgrounds and many low-SES households have people living with a disability and/or mental health condition. So if USyd does not address this problem this university will slowly become more exclusive, more while, more rich, and not be the public institution it should be and more like an exclusive club.

This means that for some reason USyd and its systems are hostile and inaccessible to low-SES students. The problem with the SRC in tackling this problem is that the members of the SRC are

students and thus have survivorship bias as all of us have passed the filter of administration, while many low-SES students did not make it to be in this room to plead their case.

This is a complex issue that can have a lot of reasons and a lot of solutions so there must be a full report analysing the problems in USyd's systems so the SRC and the student body can know what they are fighting and how best to fight it.

The SRC needs to look at all of the systems of the university machine to see how we in the student movement can best open USyd to more students from more diverse backgrounds and help push education as a public good.

Platform

- The USyd SRC admits and acknowledges that it and the whole university can do more for low-SES students
- The USyd SRC will continue to work to lower barriers of entry to the university as possible to limit the role the wealth plays in higher education
- The USyd SRC admits this is a complex problem and research is going to need to be done to find the problems and find solutions that can be actioned by the SRC or petitioned to the administration.

Action

- USyd SRC will do research into the current problems and possible solutions the SRC and administration can do to help low-SES students and compile this into the "Current and future students economic accessibility report".
- Work on this report will happen after the election and representatives select as to not limit people's campaigning abilities.
- The chair of this report will be elected at a future date
- Members of the report committee will be made up of the future Residential College, Student Housing, Social Justice, and Welfare officers, and any other councillor, executive or NUS delegate that wishes to help.
- The report committee will publish this report when complete and turn the solutions into actionable motions to be voted on by the SRC

Discussion:

Jack Scanlan spoke to the motion noting how the motion came about and looking into the universities stats on how they are coming to their numbers and also look into the process and what hurdles are in the way of low SES students to getting into the University. Noting that something was going wrong, and we should work together as a council to figure out what is wrong with the process and figure out those hurdles that may be bind to us because as students of the university we have already cleared them, and find out the ways in which the SRC can help bridge this gap.

Rose Donnally spoke to the motion echoing Jack's sentiments and adding that a lot of people never make it out of poverty and getting a university education is a way in which people can break out of that cycle.

Lia Perkins spoke to the motion saying that the University was a very elitist institution and noted that the challenges start in primary and high schools and even early education, well before students look at university entrance.

Simon Uptis saying that rolling out another survey won't do anything. Nothing that the casuals commissioned a survey that found they'd been under paid and nothing has changed as a result, they knew it was the case and still nothing changed.

Annabel Pettit spoke against the motion, saying that a survey only works under the assumption that Mark Scott doesn't know what he is doing, and isn't aware of the issues but he does, and does not care.

Owen Marsden-Readford asked the chair why the speaking list was closed so quickly. It was reopened to include him.

Mikaela Pappou spoke to the motion and responded to comments against the motion. Saying that having evidence to base your arguments on is not a bad thing, and that obviously activism is important but to fight against them you need to know what exactly is in the way in order to address the issues.

Gerard Buttigieg spoke to the motion echoing Mikaela Pappou's comments, adding that we all believe in free education and that's not being challenged in this motion, but this is about addressing a particular issue and finding more information about it to deal with it effectively.

Grace Lagan spoke to the motion noting that saying that the casuals network survey brought awareness the issue and brought more people on board and helped them understand even if Mark Scott didn't care. Adding that we should be checking in with what people are experiencing and that it has value. Concluding saying we should be able to think about more than one thing at a time.

Ella Haid spoke against the motion, saying that people do know what the issues are, and do know the hurdles, and we could be fighting these issues now. Adding there are strategies for winning these things and we could be running campaigns now rather than waiting to do a survey to tell us what we already know.

Owen Marsden-Readford spoke against the motion saying we know why there is low participation and it's because it is not free and set up to help business interests, we know they can make education if they want to as we've seen in Victoria with nurses.

Moved: Jack Scanlan

Seconded: Rose Donnally

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q2. Students condemn police repression! USyd defends the right to protest!

Preamble:

Last week student activists from USyd and a number of other universities were met with heavy police repression while protesting the Australian Financial Review's Higher Education Summit. An annual event, the Summit brings together Vice-Chancellors and other Uni execs, politicians such as the Minister for Education Jason Clare as well as business leaders and private stakeholders. Students opposed this meeting of the university executive and government, because over the last few years they have been the ringleaders designing a system that fails us all. Our education is plagued by course cuts, large "hyflex" tutorials and inflated University degrees.

As students approached the location, police could be seen switching off their body cameras and taking out canisters of mace, an aerosol spray made from chilli peppers that induces severe burning, used internationally to quash dissent. That body cameras ostensibly serve to increase accountability within the police force but may legally be switched off when police are anticipating contact with student protestors is insane.

Although particularly noteworthy for the cruel violence exacted upon students, the repression of the protest comes as no surprise as it has always been a regular occurrence. Not so long ago many of us were being chased across Victoria Park for fighting for our education or being dragged off Broadway for occupying the road during a climate strike. Students were fined many thousands of dollars under the guise of COVID restrictions, while stadiums with up to 20,000 people were permitted.

Over the years many students have been brutalised, injured, arrested and fined for the crime of fighting for a better education, a better climate plan and a better world. Just this year the Roads and Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill was passed, outlining up to 2 years in prison or \$22,000 fines for the disruption of a major building or road. Police repression of protests and students must stop.

Platform:

- The SRC condemns incursions into the democratic right of students to protest, both in the streets and in parliament
- The SRC condemns the brutality of NSW Police as well as their lack of transparency and accountability and recognises them as defenders of state interest rather than public interest
- The SRC condemns the University of Sydney for their invitation of police onto campus
- The SRC condemns any and all use of mace and especially the indiscriminate and unnecessary way in which it was used by police on students

Action:

- The SRC share this motion on its social media including Facebook and Instagram
- The SRC will fight against allowing NSW Police and the ADF onto campus for protests and events such as welcome week

Discussion:

Tiger Perkins spoke to the motion outlining the motions points and reading out sections of the motion. Speaking about the police violence faced by students at protests.

Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion about the police spraying student with mace quickly and without hesitation as well as other violent acts that occurred.

Yasmine Johnson spoke to the motion and the importance of keep fighting for our education and issues. Talking about the importance of a fighting student movement and that making our voice heard, not by a seat at the table, but mobilising and disrupting, and noting that Jason Clare should be seen as someone complicit in the destruction of higher education.

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion saying that NLS didn't come to the protest because they knew it would put their careers under threat. Adding that we need to mobilise more people and out-number the police at these actions, so students aren't as easy a target.

Jack Scanlan spoke about why they were not at the protest because they had class and work that and could not get out of it. Adding they wanting to be there and suggesting that as a faction those students aren't committed to fighting for higher education was unfair.

Mikaela Pappou saying that Socialist Alternative always blames NLS, and she doesn't understand the straw manning being used here, when we should be building a coalition of students.

Eddie Stephenson spoke about NLS not showing up to the protest and that there is a sudden shift from a group who has to caucus, to a group of individuals. Adding that you need to show up and organise these events and would like to see more of that happening from Labor student on campus who seem more concerned about their careers and how they look than student rights.

Moved: Tiger Perkins

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q3. USyd SRC Supports the NUS Campaign to End Deadnaming at Universities

Preamble:

Deadnaming is a practice that risks the welfare, wellbeing, and safety of trans, gender and non-binary people and needs to be stopped. The prevalence of deadnaming is an institutional problem that fails to acknowledge an individual's chosen name and continues to be problematic, invalidating, and transphobic towards transgender, gender diverse and non-binary students.

A recent NUS Survey of queer students in Australia identified that 83% of student had said that there was a persistent deadnaming issue at their university, 93% of students indicated that they were deadnamed on student facing platforms, 20% were deadnamed by staff and 43% were deadnamed on university accounts. This clearly identifies deadnaming as a prevalent issue on university campuses and the need for it to be urgently addressed.

Universities are failing to build inclusive and supporting learning environments for transgender,

gender diverse and non-binary students. Universities should have a duty of care towards their students and have a responsibility to provide a safe learning environment that minimises opportunities for psychosocial harm. They need to acknowledge that until action is taken to end deadnaming in Australian Universities, trans, non-binary and gender diverse students will continue to be at severe risk of bullying, harassment, physical violence and psychosocial harm. It is time for universities to protect transgender, gender diverse and non-binary students and allow them to bring their whole selves to their studies. It is time for universities to recognise that a chosen name is not optional and should be always respected.

Platform:

1. The USyd SRC acknowledges that deadnaming is a prevalent issue in universities and is a risk to the welfare and wellbeing of students in particular transgender, gender diverse and non-binary students.
2. The USyd SRC condemns the deadnaming that occurs on and off campus especially through student facing platforms and within the classroom.
3. The USyd SRC believes that a student's chosen name is valid and is not optional and should be respected and that the allowance of deadnaming especially towards transgender, gender diverse and non-binary students is problematic, invalidating, and transphobic.
4. The USyd SRC believes that university staff should be provided with training on inclusive language, including pronoun use and deadnaming and the risks to students when they are deadnamed or misgendered.
5. The USyd SRC supports the NUS Queer/LGBTQIA+ Department's 'My Records, My Rights: Stop Deadnaming at Universities' campaign calling for an end to deadnaming at universities.

Action:

1. The USyd SRC will endorse and sign the open letter that the NUS Queer/LGBTQIA+ Department has that is being addressed to Vice Chancellor's and Universities Australia calling for an end to deadnaming at universities.
2. The USyd SRC will write a statement supporting the NUS Queer/LGBTQIA+ Department's campaign to end deadnaming at universities and publish this on the website and on Facebook.
3. The USyd SRC will share the NUS Queer/LGBTQIA+ Department's petition encouraging students to sign the petition to put pressure on universities to stop deadnaming on campus.

Discussion:

Yasmin Andrews spoke to the motion reading out the motion and covering its main points.

Valerie Comino spoke about the challenges of trying to change your name with the University and the importance of making it a streamlined process to minimise distress.

Owen Marsden-Readford spoke to the motion and noted the challenges faced by Trans students and spoke about how the NUS often creates campaigns to avoid getting involved in broader movements, and while these campaigns are worthwhile, they can't be used to not get involved and mobilise on broader issues affecting the community.

Mikaela Pappou spoke about the importance of the campaign and that it makes tangible difference and impact on students' lives at universities, and this is really important. Adding that while she agreed with Owen Marsden-Readford's comments that broad campaigns and issues need to be pushed, it doesn't mean we don't take tangible action as well. Especially when we know how hard and taxing these processes are on students.

Moved: Yasmin Andrews

Seconded: Valerie Comino

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q4. Endorsement of September 24th Rally for Urgent Climate Action

Preamble:

In the last week, we have seen Pakistan's record breaking floods leave behind a trail of disaster. Entire villages have been swamped, crops destroyed, disease is now rapidly spreading and more than 1,200 people have been left dead, with an estimated 33 million having been impacted. Extreme rainfall — along with melting glaciers in the country's north — have affected a third of the country. Pakistan is responsible for less than 1% of global emissions and yet is being ravaged by emissions-fueled climate crises with austerity measures being implemented as conditions for IMF loans.

These floods, like many of the escalating natural disasters around the world, bear the obvious hallmarks of a rapidly changing climate which is primarily propelled by the actions (or lackthereof) of the West.

Back home, we have seen the continuing inadequacy of climate policy and action in Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's recent assurance to the coal and gas industry that Australia will "...remain a reliable global supplier of coal and gas", as well as so-called "clean energy alternatives" in the event that the world eventually moves away from fossil fuels. The ALP's continued push for a 43% emissions reductions target by 2030 remains grossly inadequate and further signals the continued need for a mass climate movement of students and workers.

This is why the USyd Enviro Collective, alongside other campus and community groups and unions, have been building for an emergency rally for urgent climate action on the 24th of September to demand:

1. No new fossil fuel projects, including Kurri Kurri, Narrabri, Beetaloo and Scarborough
2. Stop the power companies profiteering: 100% publicly owned renewable energy by 2030
3. Just transition now: funding for climate jobs, free education and training, liveable welfare

4. First Nations justice: Stop Santos' attack on Gomeroi Native Title
5. Defend the right to protest: stop the criminalisation of climate protesters

The rally will take place at Sydney Town Hall at 1pm.

Platform:

- The USyd SRC endorse and support the September 24th rally
- The USyd SRC recognise the magnitude of flooding in Pakistan and stand in solidarity with countries feeling the acute impact of climate change

Action:

- The USyd SRC promote the rally by sharing relative materials from members of the USyd Enviro Collective through its social media channels

Discussion:

Ishbel Dunsmore spoke to the motion reading parts and covering its main points. Encouraging everyone to come to the rally on the 24th of September. Talking about the inadequate action being taken by the government and the need for radical climate action.

Tiger Perkins spoke to the motion and responded to comments about the other factions in the previous motion, saying that they ignored that other people were there and people can be working on different actions, it doesn't mean they're not doing anything if you don't see them building one action in particular.

Lydia Elias spoke to the motion noting that the Labor Government's climate policy does nothing and that there are no enforceable targets is just a yearly report on how they are destroying the planet each year. There are 115 gas and mining projects in the works all of which will blow out the targets, and those who have suffered from climate disasters such as the flood this year will only continue to have more disasters and we need to fight and build a strong climate justice movement that involves fighting Labor.

Yasmine Johnson responded to Tiger's comments, saying it not just about mobilising on the day, but the lead up to the event with leafleting, postering and engaging with students. And that Socialist Alternative does this everyday.

Moved: Ishbel Dunsmore

Seconded: Tiger Perkins

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q5. MOTION TO REFORM UNIVERSITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAPS)

Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is one of the University's most crucial student support services - and consistently, it is failing. CAPS offers students the opportunity to meet with qualified psychologists and counsellors to help them cope with many issues - such as managing the transition to university, academic stress and other mental health issues. Undoubtedly, CAPS is a valuable and important service which the University provides. Yet students frequently report

long wait-times, overworked staff members, unhelpful or insensitive advice and many other failings within the CAPS system. Crucially, students can only access 6 CAPS sessions per year, meaning many students can only access three sessions per semester. The University should be truly ashamed of the artificial and arbitrary 6-session limit it imposes on CAPS - especially in light of the massive youth mental health crisis in Australia and the reliance many students have on CAPS services when psychological support outside the University often remains prohibitively expensive and inaccessible.

The University's limitations on CAPS exist in the context of a crisis of mental health amongst young people. Waiting lists for psychologists, psychiatrists and therapists are frequently months long, meaning that students who are experiencing acute mental health issues often are forced to suffer without any treatment or support. Furthermore, in the context of the severe and ongoing cost of living crisis, many students struggle to shoulder the additional cost of accessing mental health treatment, even for those who can access Medicare to partially subsidise their mental healthcare. With 19% of young Australians reporting struggling with anxiety, 14% with depression, and likely many, many more whose mental health issues are not accounted for - it is essential that the University step up to improve CAPS to exercise its duty to ensure the well-being of students.

The University unfortunately has very little incentive to prioritise adequately resourcing any student services - including CAPS. In the context of the ongoing corporatisation of the Tertiary education sector, which we strongly condemn, student services offer the University little opportunity to generate profit. Thus, as student representatives, we must use our voices to fight for students' ability to access support services as a critical issue affecting student welfare, and reject the limits and lack of resourcing that the University has imposed on CAPS.

We Demand:

- That the University remove the CAPS limit entirely, or at the very least increase the limit to at least one session per week of Semester and during University exam periods
- That the University adequately fund, resource and staff CAPS, as well as other campus services that significantly impact student mental health (eg. Special Considerations and Discontinue Not to Fail)
- That Student Representatives prioritise fighting to reform CAPS and other campus mental health services as a crucial and pressing issue affecting student welfare

Discussion:

Grace Wallman spoke to the motion covering its main points and highlighting the University's arbitrary cap on counselling and psychological help sessions and the issues around culturally insensitive being well established as an ongoing issue for students accessing the services.

Moved: Grace Wallman

Seconded: Eamonn Murphy

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q6. The housing crisis is class war.

Preamble:

Housing has never been more unaffordable in Australia. The average price for a house has skyrocketed in the past 25 years by up to 412%. Australia has one of the highest housing debts in the world; with the 4 biggest banks holding almost \$2 trillion in home loan mortgages. In Sydney, the average house price is \$925,000; over 12 times the median annual wage. This comes as working people are already struggling to pay their bills due to rising inflation. The housing market is class war.

The unaffordability of the housing is forcing more and more people into the renting market, where they are at the whims of the landlord, vulnerable to short tenures and the risk of being evicted. The number of renters has risen faster than at any point in the last 14 years. There are only 3 homes on the entire rental market that are affordable to those on Jobseeker payments. The Government's refusal to put a cap on rents, and abolish the despicable "no fault" evictions which allows landlords to evict people with no reason, has resulted in many families being forced from their homes, with some having to sleep in their cars or in tents. This is not because there is any shortage of homes. As of the census date last year, it was revealed that there were around 1 million empty homes in Australia.

But not everyone is bearing the brunt of this crisis. Although the pressure of affording a roof over their head is a burden for workers, the richest in Australia have been amassing fortunes out of the property market. In the last 3 months of 2021 alone, \$38 billion was made from the sale of properties. Investors actually made up 55% of purchases in 2015, up from 20% in 1993. A minority of 9% of wealthy Australians are those who own investment properties. So while having a place to live is a basic human need for ordinary people, for the rich, housing is a commodity; another means of making a profit at the expense of ordinary people's livelihoods.

The new Labor Government has offered no solution to ordinary people struggling to afford a roof over their head, let alone the rising cost of living. Their Help to Buy scheme does not even start to address the extortionate housing prices. Labor's commitment to building 20,000 social housing properties over 5 years is criminally inadequate in contrast to the 163,508 households awaiting public housing. Around 1 million new homes would need to be built in order to make any real impact on waiting lists.

Housing should be treated as a human right, not a commodity.

Platform:

1. The Usyd SRC demands caps on rent and limits on investment properties to stop the extortion of the private rental market. Confiscate homes deliberately left empty for over 2 years by speculators to turn them into public housing.
2. The Usyd SRC demands a massive extension of high-quality public housing and an expansion of tenants' rights.

Action:

1. The Usyd SRC will post the text of this motion to the SRC Facebook page.

Discussion:

Lydia Elias spoke to the motion covering its main points and speaking about the cost of living while investors profit millions of dollars and that housing shouldn't be seen a profitable market. There are around 1 million empty homes in Australia yet there are so many people struggling to find housing.

Sophie Haslam spoke to the motion talking about the dangers of housing being treated as capitalist commodities rather than a human right and that it's something that will be hard to see action taken on as the political class have a huge investment in property.

Lia Perkins spoke to the motion and that the number of politicians with investment properties and the benefits that come with that are so numerous that it is in their best interests to maintain the housing system as it is, and so we won't see change from them. Also noting that social housing is not public housing, and the need to increase public housing as well as general more affordable housing.

Simon Upitis spoke to the motion saying that Anthony Albanese's stories of growing up in public housing then doing nothing to assist those living in or needing public housing or do anything for the working poor while using that story to grant some sort of legitimacy to policies that do nothing and refusing to tax the super profits of gas companies. Concluding saying it was shameful what the Labor party was doing and would be interested in hearing from members of Labor Left (NLS) what they think.

Mikaela Pappou spoke to the motion saying that the Labor party is doing "shit all" on the housing crisis and that everything that has been said makes sense and that this motion well encapsulates the issue. Talking about how you are form public housing isn't enough you need to invest in public housing.

Ella Haid quoted Anthony Albanese on public housing and spoke about the UKs strategies and workers frustration with them and highlighting the importance of fighting activism movements on these issues.

Moved: Lydia Elias

Seconded: Sophie Haslam

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

A break was called at 8:07pm.

A quorum count was called at 8:20pm

The meeting was found quorate.

The meeting re-opened at 8:22pm.

Q7. Rejecting the Jobs Summit: Why unions should take a lead from the UK instead.

Preamble:

Australian workers are being hit hard. Inflation is reaching 6.1%, with non-discretionary items like food and rent rising the most. The pay rises of 5.2% for minimum wage workers or 4.6% for the majority of workers on awards are far below these increases. Not to mention public sector workers on even less. Welfare hasn't increased in 25 years. Workers are also facing historic high levels of sickness and chronic illnesses, with life expectancy now going backwards. All this, while the profit share of national income has never been higher.

In the UK, workers are turning to strikes. Their inflation has hit over 10% and in countless industries, even those who haven't gone on strike for decades, they are drawing a line in the sand. As Mick Lynch, now viral Secretary General of the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport workers said to a cheering crowd: "The working class is back. We refuse to be meek, we refuse to be humble and we refuse to be poor anymore." Over 200,000 workers were out on strike in August, with the potential that over 3 million could be in September. In an important step, albeit on a smaller scale, public sector workers across NSW have also gone on strike to fight against insulting contract offers.

While workers were on strike in the UK and NSW, in Canberra, 33 union leaders stood side by side with some of the biggest capitalists in the game at the Jobs and Skills Summit. Qantas, BHP, Coles and Woolworths. These companies have recent histories of firing workers, destroying the environment and stealing wages. Yet, far from scorning these criminals, union leaders rejoiced at their presence and endorsement of Albanese's Hawke-style "coalition building".

The contradiction at the heart of this "coalition building" is that workers' conditions and wages are what make up bosses' profits. Whenever workers are made to work harder for less, that directly equals more surplus for businesses. What is good for business is therefore anathema to workers. No further do we have to look to make this point than at the commitments of the summit.

No increase to the minimum wage, no raise of welfare, no price caps or windfall taxes, no commitment to reversing the stage 3 tax cuts. The key announcements are unobjectionable but all relate to addressing the skills shortage (a business oriented concern). Moreover, the foreshadowed trading off the Better Off Overall Test is highly concerning. Scrapping it would remove the only barrier to bosses pushing for workers' contracts to be far worse than what they were previously. In that context and without a concerted strategy of mobilizations and confrontations, the headline changes to bargaining mean very little.

The Jobs Summit embodies the bankrupt orientation of the union leadership - a commitment to getting a seat at the table at any cost. In board room meetings, with suits and handshakes, everyday workers stand no chance. Only in collective action do workers have the economic power that could force the bosses' hand. Australian unions need to take a lesson from their UK counterparts and take to the streets. Without such a fightback, the deterioration of workers' living standards will continue. As student unionists, we should stand firmly on the side of workers and reject the conciliatory premise of the summit.

Platform:

1. The SRC rejects the framework of the Jobs Summit.
2. The SRC supports the UK "summer of discontent".

3. The SRC supports striking NSW public sector workers.
4. The SRC supports industrial action as a strategy for workers to improve their conditions, to the exclusion of consultation with bosses and parliamentarians.

Action:

1. The SRC will publish this motion via social media.
2. The SRC will organise contingents to future NSW strikes.
3. The SRC will take a solidarity photo for the NSW RTBU.

Discussion:

Maddie Clark spoke to the motion starting by playing a quote guessing game – the quote was from the chief of the business council, thought noted it was indistinguishable from comments made by Anthony Albanese. Madeleine Clark continued commenting on the jobs summit and how nothing for working class people came of it and spoke about the scrapping of the ‘better off overall’ test, which will put workers in even worse conditions than they are now.

Eddie Stephenson spoke to the motion and how the union leaders did not fight for workers at all and did not push for better working conditions. Adding the issue is not with the system, though there are issues with it, but it is that they are not willing to fight for workers to see the benefits of their labour. Concluding that we are starting to see these fights more in the UK, and that we need to stop the endless consultation and lobbying that doesn’t get results for workers.

Louisa Chan spoke to the motion speaking about the accords of the 80s and the attacks on the wins of the workers from the 70s. Adding that workers are forced to pay for the economic crisis rather than those who created it, and that it’s about making capitalism as efficient as possible not about workers rights or the working class.

Rose Donnelly will be abstaining for the motion due to the snarky nature of its writing and saying that you can do both strike and negotiate.

Jack Scanlan also spoke against the motion saying that the summit led to half a million free TAFE positions and increase in migration. We can disagree on the philosophical practice of this summit but there are now half a million people who can get a free trade, and we are lacking skilled agricultural workers, and in regional areas there have been gains for both workers and regional communities from this summit from migration increase.

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion saying that the skilled migrant intake increase doesn’t change the ability to have gross exploitation of migrant workers. Adding that there is little to nothing to protect refugees and migrant workers included showing that this was nothing more than an exercise in giving capitalism what it needs and that positive things that have come from it could have been done without consulting with the business council as they only offered what capitalism wanted regardless

Moved: Madeleine Clark
 Seconded: Eddie Stephenson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q8. Education for students, not for profit

Preamble:

Over the last few weeks, explosive Honi Soit reports have exposed management expenses and the extent to which the very top of this university rolls in luxury while students remain in the dark and staff languish in EBA limbo, working overtime in inadequate working conditions. USyd policy allows certain staff members to be reimbursed for expenses incurred while executing their duties for the University, subject to a number of conditions. The expense sheets of USyd’s top Executives from 2019 to 2021 were released to *Honi* under Freedom of Information legislation.

They reveal that USyd’s top seven Executives expensed a total of \$335,222.78 in this period. Six of The University of Sydney’s top Executives spent \$12,639.99 on taxis and Ubers from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021. Chancellor Belinda Hutchinson spent more on taxis than any other Executive during this period, expensing \$7,045.42 on taxis alone. Hutchinson sits on the board of Thales, as well as other corporations and owns a \$20 million apartment in Potts Point. Michael Spence has a similar track record, expensing thousands on an all-male exclusive club - a spending record that is not publicly released or scrutinised.

Travel to and from events where management court the interest of donors or appeal to the fancies of politicians, with no more information provided upon questioning, appear contradictory to the University’s stated aims in their 2032 strategy (‘Openness and transparency’). It ultimately shows us that management make liberal use of funds across the university. The surplus and exploitation from the University is generated through wage theft from casual staff, overworking permanent academics, and high student fees.

In a time where the University cites finances as prohibitive factors to the NTEU’s EBA demands being met, and in which faculties continue to have teaching budgets reduced as JRG bites, it is galling to be confronted with the lavish expenditures of those who sit at the helm of this institution. The jarring of such expenditure jars further with the reality of overworked and underpaid casual academics continuing to suffer as the University remains immovable in Enterprise Bargaining negotiations.

Therefore, it is important that students continue to take up the fight against management, opposing the corporatisation and managerialism that is favoured over genuine teaching and research. Come along (and build in advance) future strike action and the EAG and Casuals rally on September 15th.

Platform:

1. The SRC believes that the University is spending money on unnecessary management expenses.
2. The SRC continues its appreciation of overworked and underpaid casual academics and the integral relationship that they form with students.

3. The SRC emphasises that the use of student or government funding must ultimately reflect student interests - for a better education, not the corporate expenses of management.

Action:

1. The SRC will campaign against the corporate model of higher education, where the salaries and benefits of University management are favoured over quality teaching and education.
2. SRC Endorses the Casuals Network and EAG rally on September 15th, and continues to show its support for NTEU strikes

Discussion:

Lia Perkins spoke to the motion highlighting its main points. And spoke about the rally for September 15th and standing against the corporatisation of the University.

Alexander Poirier arrived at the meeting 8:35pm

Lauren Lancaster spoke to the motion and the outrageousness of people like Belinda Hutchinson experiencing all these expensive benefits and perks despite not working here, while casuals fight for job security and fair wages.

Moved: Lia Perkins

Seconded: Lauren Lancaster

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

N. General Business

R1. End Wage Theft: Education Not Exploitation

In 2021, the University of Sydney recorded a profit of \$1.05 billion. The same year, they were accused of wage theft to the tune of over \$60 million in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences ALONE. Dozens of casual academics have submitted underpayment claims that the University is refusing to pay back. Senior managers like Vice-Chancellor Mark Scott sit on salaries of over \$1 million a year, while casual tutors struggle to make ends meet. Senior management incur tens of thousands of dollars of expenses such as taxi fares, while casual staff perform tens of thousands of dollars worth of unpaid work.

The insecurity of casual work, and the refusal to pay casual staff for essential work such as marking, tutorial preparation and communication with students, directly results in a worse education for students. Students benefit in no way from this state of affairs. Similarly, the position of permanent staff is undermined by the trend towards casualisation, with staff often finding their

jobs made redundant, and then having to reapply for a casual position to do the exact same work. Students and all staff therefore have a common interest in winning greater rights for casuals and an end to casualisation in general.

The NTEU as part of its EBA negotiations has adopted several claims relating to casual staff. As part of maintaining the momentum of the strike campaign, the EAG, NTEU and Casuals Network are organising a staff-student rally for September 15. We want to continue to mobilise student support for any strikes later in semester, but doing so doesn't mean waiting for the next strike to be called. Those who support the strikes should therefore see this rally as an opportunity to galvanise staff and students in both the fight for casuals' rights, but also for the entirety of the union's demands.

Platform

1. The USyd SRC endorses the September 15 staff student rally "End Wage Theft: Education Over Exploitation" and strongly encourages all councillors and office bearers to build and attend it.
2. The USyd SRC calls for an immediate end to all wage theft- payment for all hours worked!
3. The USyd SRC demands immediate backpay for the stolen wages of all casual staff, former and current, at this university.
4. The USyd SRC supports automatic conversion for ongoing casuals- job security now!

Action

1. The USyd SRC will share this motion and the rally event on their social media.

Discussion:

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion promoting the rally happening next week and that we need to continue to build awareness of staff's campaign and not just at the next strike. Noting that we need to continue to build momentum and that he expects to see everyone who is at the meeting and everyone who is on a ticket in the upcoming elections who claims to be an activist, getting involved and participating in building the rally.

Jasmine Al-Rawi echoed Deaglan Godwin's statement and spoke about the amount of the stolen wages. Noting that some casuals have calculated they've lost upwards of \$50 000 and the money that should have been going to staff at the University have been going to luxury expenses for management. Adding that hoped everyone will be at the rally and

Yasmine Johnson spoke to the motion talking about the de-casualisation at Western Sydney Uni but noted that the 150 people who may get that, do not have to be current casuals and it doesn't change that it doesn't replace the 300 lost jobs. Adding that there is also a pay cut that comes with these changes and so it's not the win the NTEU are claiming it is. Concluding saying we want to see the union win on its full log of claims, and not sell themselves short.

Moved: Deaglan Godwin

Seconded: Jasmine Al-Rawi
The motion was put and **CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 8:49pm.