



# Students' Representative Council University of Sydney

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## MINUTES:

of the 3rd regular meeting of the 89<sup>th</sup> SRC held on Wednesday that 5<sup>th</sup> April 2015. Meeting held in the Professorial Board Room, Quadrangle

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### A. Meeting open at 6:15 pm

#### A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Daniel Ergas 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 were received from:

Marcus Coleman to Jason Xu  
Amelia Chan to Isaac Khan  
Claudia Gulbransen-Diaz to Luke Gallagher  
Jake Williams to Adriana Malavisi  
Andrea Zephyr to Lorena White  
Alexander Shu to Ninad Gudi

Pending resignation approval Imogen Grant to Daniel Ergas

Motion: To accept the apologies  
Moved: Sophia Chung  
Seconded: Bella Pytka  
The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

### D. Changes to Membership

**E. Electoral Report**

**E1. Consideration of any resignations**

Georgia Mantle to Imogen Grant  
Lachlan Ward to Harry Gregg  
Evangeline Woodforde from Honi Soit  
Gillian Kayrooz from Honi Soit  
Connor Wherrett from DSP

Motion: That the Council accept the resignations.

Moved: Parvathi Subramaniam

Seconded: Dominic McDonald

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

**F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.**

Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the 89<sup>th</sup> SRC Council held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 be accepted.

Moved: Caitlin Mcmenamin

Seconded: Sophia Chung

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.**

Cameron Caccamo: were the resigning Honi editors paid? Will the newly elected editors be back paid?

Secretary to council: my understanding is it will depend on the wording of the motion and the decision of the Council. I'd have to check with payroll to be sure about payment history.

**I. Visitor's Business**

There was no business for this item.

**J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate**

**K. Elections**

**K1.** 1 Indigenous Students' Officer

*There were no nominations*

**K2.** 1 Mature Age Student's Officer

*There were no nominations*

**K3.** 2 Intercampus committee members

*There were no nominations*

**K4.** 1 Director of Student Publications

There was one nomination for the director of student publications from Luke Gallagher

Nominated: Adam Boidin

Seconded: Dominic McDonald

Luke Gallagher was declared elected unopposed to the position to

## **L. Report of the President and Executive**

### **L1. Executive Minutes**

Minutes of the Executive meetings from the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Motion: that the minutes of the executive meetings from 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017 be accepted.

Moved: Caitlin Mcmenamin

Seconded: Aiden Magro

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

### **L2. Report of the Executive**

Report of the executive from the 17<sup>th</sup> February 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

The report was circulated and noted.

*The President deferred the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson.*

### **L3. President's Report**

Isabella Brook tabled a written report:

#### SSAF Update

The University Executive committee is meeting at the end of this week to finalise SSAF allocation. We should know by next week what our allocation is and we will be able to start working on the budget from there. Tyrone has also confirmed that capital works expenditure will be allocated as a part of this committee as well. There are a number of improvements that need to be made in the SRC offices to ensure the safety and privacy of our staff and students so hopefully we will obtain the funding for that.

#### Academic Issues

##### **Semester Dates**

The proposed changes to semester dates, that would have seen semesters being shortened from 13 weeks to 12 weeks, was voted down at the last academic board meeting. This is a fantastic result for students and I think a lot of it came down to the academic board listening to genuine student concerns. I was in contact with a number of student and academic faculty reps as well as the NTEU in regards to this change. I also had a number of students randomly email me after writing about it in my Honi report so there is a large amount of student dissatisfaction. I have no doubt we will see this proposal pop up again in one form or another so I will be keeping an eye out.

### **Academic Advice**

I have been doing a large amount of work around the issue of academic advice. We are finding that students are having difficulty in accessing consistent, accurate and timely academic advice. I have met with Chair of the Academic Board, Tony Masters and will be meeting with DVC education, Pip Patterson after the Easter break to further discuss these concerns. So far the University and a number of academics have been quite responsive so hopefully we can make some leeway on this issue. What we are aiming for is university wide mapping of the academic advice that exists and from there some great consistency across faculties.

### **Centralisation of Student Admin**

I'm sure most of you are aware of the centralization of student admin that is occurring. A number of faculties are now merged into Student Admin Services and the stories we are hearing are not great. Faculty counters are now being closed and this is especially grim for satellite campuses that will no longer be able to talk to someone face to face. The main thing we are pushing for is a log of the advice to be kept, as at the moment there is no accountability. If you have any experiences with the 1800 number or the online system please let me know because it really helps us mount a case.

### **Standardised Unit of Study Outline**

Have been doing some work with the University's education portfolio around the implementation of a standardised Unit of Study Outline. There is the need for this information to be presented in a consistent format across the University and we think students will benefit greatly from this.

### Student Issues

#### **International Student Travel Concession**

Have been working with the International Student OBs as well as SUPRA and some Academic Board representatives to get gain some momentum on this issue. In talks with the university right now to try and get them to support the campaign as well as talking with some cross stat comrades.

#### **Student Housing**

The University has announced new plans for student housing to be built on City Road at the regiment building. They're claiming these places will be affordable at \$300 pw for a 10sq m room. We're advocate for these spaces to be ACTUALLY affordable, for a number of rooms to be put aside as emergency accommodation and for spaces to be guaranteed for disadvantaged students.

The Chair called for any questions.

Vinil Kumar inquired that if the SRC is opposed to the restructure in general, why are we talking to them about fixing things that are a part of the restructure.

Isabella Brook said that the EAG have talked about running a campaign on this, and while

the SRC are making it clear we are opposed to this, we can also highlight what has been done already has directly impacted students. False information is being disseminated by student administration, this has led to students being unable to study this semester.

Motion to accept the report of the President.

Moved by the Deputy Chair.

There was not dissent.

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

**M. Report of the Vice-Presidents**

There was no report from the Vice-Presidents.

**N. Report of the General Secretaries**

Bella Pytka and Daniel Ergas tabled a written report

**SSAF**

We are waiting upon the results of the SSAF process, which should hopefully occur by the end of the month. Once we receive this, we can begin the internal budgeting process. Nonetheless, on the basis of last year's budget, please see the YTD (year-to-date) spreadsheet attached -- it should give a rough guide for collectives and departments wondering where they're at on their spending.

We're also going to be passing the Audit in our report, please take a read of it! It's wild.

**Co-op**

Daniel has been working on a campaign so students can take control of the Co-op Bookshop -- see the ABC (<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-03-31/textbook-retailer-the-coop-undemocratic-members-say/8406354>), Crikey (<https://www.crikey.com.au/2017/04/03/how-talal-yassine-shut-down-a-university-co-op-bookshop-coup>) and BuzzFeed (<https://www.buzzfeed.com/lanesainty/co-op-bookshop-student-takeover-fails>). #CheaperTextbooksNow! In short, the Co-op is peak evil (no surprises honestly) and we'll let you know on what's next.

**Electoral regulations**

Ta-da! As promised, after furious negotiating, we've got a finished product for you all. We look forward to going through it with you. We are the first to admit it is imperfect, and does not include most of each of our wish-lists, but this is a definite improvement on the current shit-show known as SRC elections (and a good place to start, and consider amendments to in the next couple of Council meetings).

**Honi Reports**

Please do them; they are a part of every OB's role. If you have any issues, please let us know and we can work them out

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

Moved: Katie Thorburn

Seconded: Parvathi Subramaniam

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

## **O. Report of Committees and Officers**

### **O1. Report of the Education Officers**

April Holcombe provided a written report.

#### **National Day of Action**

Organising the NDA took a lot of hard work from myself and a handful of other activists on campus. In particular I would like to thank Lingling Zhang and Xu Chen – first year Chinese international students – who did a lot of great campaigning despite being brand new to political activism (it is illegal on Chinese campuses). The massive quantity and variety of promotional materials – e.g. a thousand stickers, hundreds of badges, and ten thousand leaflets – and the fact they were all distributed meant that those who were building gave it their all. And yet the bread-and-butter of campaign work was beyond the pale for many officers of the SRC. The basics of lecture bashing, leafleting, postering, setting up tables, petitioning, contacting organisations, were left to a smaller handful of activists.

Due to the lack of any single central attack on education occupying political debate, the refusal to actively build, and the punitive weather of the day, the NDA was modest in size. But it was very loud, angry and radical, made important display of solidarity with the NTEU, and was a crucial first step for a year-long campaign against various attacks on young people's living standards.

#### **Local cuts**

With six weeks to go until the Liberal release the 2017 federal budget, there probably won't be much talk of education in the media. But there is no shortage of attacks coming from university management themselves. Initial moves towards trimesters and/or four-year degrees are cause to sound the alarm immediately. Management are also swiftly merging all student service centres into one. This will not only mean hundreds of job losses, but a real drop in quality of service as faculty-specialised support staff are abolished; for students not on Camperdown campus, there will be no student services staff.

It's important for the EAG to continue the buzz about our education under attack, and to cause a fuss about it any opportunity we get. We'll be chalking and postering about specific attacks in the near future.

#### **NTEU**

Central to fighting local cuts is standing with the NTEU. They have submitted their Log of Claims and begun the first round of EBA negotiations. Their key demands are to improve job security for casual staff, and to prevent redundancies that management are deadset on for the restructure. Already, 100 research staff in the science faculty have been notified of their job termination, this must be resisted.

I am in contact with Kurt about the progress of negotiations, and the EAG is ready at any time to jump into supportive action. Any industrial action by the NTEU will have total and unconditional support from the Education Office and the whole SRC.

### **Anti-alt-right organising**

Anyone who does campaign work on campus will have noticed the significant rise in “alt-right” (neo-Nazi) propaganda around the place. Stickers saying that culture stems from race, posters about halal taxes funding terrorism, and those fucking hideous Make American Great Again caps which you will spot at least once a day.

Key to a quality education is students from oppressed groups fighting to make their lives free from the harassment and intimidation of the far Right. But this must be done by mobilising and emboldening students – especially women, LGBTI students and students of colour – to take them on with counter-propaganda and public displays of opposition.

That’s why a new collective for a Fascist Free Usyd has been established, a good step forward for collaborative campaigning on campus.

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

Motion: Caitlin Mcmenamin

Seconded: Kim Murphy

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

## **O2. Report of the Wom\*n’s Officers**

Katie Thorburn gave a verbal report

**Trans Day of Visibility (TDOV) (31 March)** - The University of Sydney Wom\*n’s Collective stands with transgender and non-binary people and their struggles against gender-based discrimination, particularly those along feminine-spectrum identities.

**Radical Trans Politics Workshop** – it covered the roots of trans oppression under capitalism and colonialism, the development of the trans rights movement, and the problems with trans liberalism.

**Paris is Burning Film Screening** at STUCCO on TDOV.

**Pro-Choice Protest** – WoCo organised a counter protest to the sexist “Day of the Unborn Child” rally that is hosted by the anti-abortion group Family Life Australia. This will be a counter rally came at a critical time when Fred Nile has resurrected ‘Zoe’s Law’ (foetal personhood law that can see people who have abortions trialed for murder). It was incredibly well attended. Speakers included Mehreen Faruqi, Abby Stapleton, Simone McDonnell, and Linda Scott.

**Sexual Assault Support Services Info Session** – presentation run by Eastern and Central Sydney Sexual Assault Service (ECAS), also known as RPA Sexual Assault Clinic. The

workshop covered myths about sexual assault, how to respond to a disclosure, and the emergency and immediate trauma responses to sexual assault, and on-going counseling services. Well attended. Amazing. Run by feminist rock stars.

**Wo.Co. broader political engagement** – had a contingent to the NDA Rally and will have a contingent at Palm Sunday.

**Survivor Network** - The Survivor Network is up and running. The idea for the initiative stems from a similar network in Pakistan, and the lion's share of the work to make it happen has come from Post-Grad Women's Officer, the formidable, Mariam Mohammed. The space has already provided incredible support for the courageous women survivors who are taking part. Being able to talk openly, knowing others in the room understand, and realising you are not alone: has been an immense source of strength for many of the survivors.

**Australian Human Rights Commission Report** - The AHRC report into sexual assault and harassment at university campuses will not include recommendations, as was advertised when requesting survey submissions from survivors. There are innumerable errors in the report/survey process - e.g. never received ethics approval, no recommendations, questionable independence of the report (received funding from Universities Australia), no commitment for the universities to release their individual data/reports, and there is no integrity in the survey design. Wo.Co. has lost complete faith in the AHRC to deliver an independent report that will put the universities into action.

Motion: that the report of the Women's Officers be accepted.

Motion: Caitlin Mcmenamin

Seconded: Parvathi Subramaniam

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

**P. Special Business**

There were no items of special business.

**Q. Motions of Notice**

Procedural motion to move to Q7

Moved: Eleanor Morley

Seconded: Vinil Kumar

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

**Q7. #SaveSaeed**

**Preamble:**



1. For the past two weeks, the Australian government Department of Immigration and Border Protection has been attempting to deport a man known as 'Saeed'. Saeed is an elderly refugee who came here with his brother by boat in 2012 from Iraq, both belonging to a persecuted minority. The head of his village was killed in a suicide attack in 2015 and Saeed would be in extreme danger of death if returned to Iraq.
2. Once arrived, his brother was given asylum seeker status by the government and allowed to stay. Saeed has not been granted asylum on bureaucratic grounds that also show the racism of the immigration system, as Saeed does not speak English. Saeed was being kept in MITA detention centre in Melbourne's northern suburb of Broadmeadows while at constant risk of deportation.
3. Saeed, at 60 years old, embarked on a hunger strike in March in a desperate but courageous bid to be accepted for protection. After he had maintained the strike for over two weeks, he was threatened with deportation back to Iraq on 22 March, while still in a very weak state. Saeed's attempt to stem the arbitrary cruelty of the border regime however was met by protests and a blockade outside MITA gates and later outside the hospital to which Saeed was taken. This successfully prevented his deportation to Iraq.
4. The DIBP moved Saeed to Sydney's Villawood detention centre on Friday 24 March in order that the deportation attempt could be successfully made without interference from protesters. However, Sydney activists stepped up to the task and organised a protest in the afternoon which successfully delayed deportation. There have been protests around the country at offices of the DIBP, as well as an occupation of Peter Dutton's office in Brisbane. Tens of thousands of people have signed onto a petition initiated by the activist group Mums for Refugees. The rapid response of refugee supporters around the country is to be commended.
5. Saeed is still at risk of deportation and ongoing protests will be important to pressure the government to let him stay. Hundreds have signed onto emergency contact lists to be notified of a protest at either Villawood or the Sydney International Airport in case of a further deportation attempt. There are now several precedents for actions at airports preventing deportation both in Australia and abroad: in 2015, activist Jasmine Pilbrow refused to take her seat on a Qantas flight carrying a refugee to an offshore processing camp. Not a week ago, the deportation of hundreds of Nigerian refugees was prevented in the UK as protesters sat in on the tarmac of Stansted airport.
6. Saeed is just one of thousands of innocent people punished for seeking asylum by the Australian government. Deportations are a regular and essential part of the disgraceful immigration system, destroying people's lives and putting them at high risk of persecution, torture and death. In order to change the bipartisan commitment to cruelty, refugee activists have to fight. Appealing to the Labor Party to change their policy is a dead end when it is totally committed to every cruel plank of the refugee system in the name of Australia's border integrity.

**Platform:**

1. The SRC unreservedly condemns the cruel and racist immigration system run by the Australian government, and demands the government free the refugees.
2. The SRC supports the protests called against the deportation of Saeed and other refugees threatened with deportation.

3. The SRC recognises that refugee rights will not be won by appealing to the Labor Party to change its conscience, being a party just as committed to the current refugee system as the Liberal Party.

**Action:**

1. The SRC will show its commitment to refugee rights by holding a solidarity action comprising of a group photo with Save Saeed posters immediately following the passing of this motion.
2. The SRC endorses the upcoming Palm Sunday rally for refugees on April 9th. The SRC will endorse protests called to stop the deportation of Saeed and other refugees threatened with deportation.

Hersha Kadkol spoke to the motion. Highlighting that due to the work of activists Saeed had not yet been deported. And that a number of actions that are being taken around the world to protect refugees in other countries from deportation have been used to much success.

Gavin Stanbrook spoke to the motion, he mentioned that the actions taken have prevented Saeed from being departed to this point. He added that solidarity, and the actions taken by activists need to be continued to make a difference.

Lily Campbell spoke to the motion. Adding that they believed that all should try attending the Palm Sunday Rally, and helping with the mobilisation of people around this issue.

Caitlin Mcmenamain spoke in favour of the motion.

Dominic Mcdonald moved to amend the motion to remove the last sentence from the preamble point 6. And point 3 from the platform.

The proposed amendments were not amenable to the movers.

The President found that the changes were substantive and would have to be moved as a foreshadowing motion.

The amendments were moved as a foreshadowing motion.

Harry Gregg spoke to the foreshadowing motion. Adding a critique of the original motion that while they agree that the ALP has been complicit in the current refugee policy, the movement to change this is growing and now closer to changing the refugee policy of ALP. He continues nothing that saying that appealing to the Labor party is a dead end is not only wrong it's misleading.

Vinil Kumar spoke to the original motion. Adding that the council should be passing this motion as it currently reads, that the ALP are committed to the current refugee policy and they need to be held to account for this. Concluding that the council should be promoting the need to get people on the ground supporting refugees.

Gabriel Long spoke to the original motion. Noting that as a member of the ALP he believed

the council should still be voting for the motion not the amendment, because the current policy is unacceptable and the council should be saying that students are not happy the current position of the ALP.

April Holcombe spoke to the motion. Adding that the motion is not a call to councillors to resign from the Labor party if they are members though encouraged those who would like to, to do so. They highlighted that the intent of the motion is to stop looking at the ALP for change and fight for change at grassroots level.

Eleanor Morley spoke to the motion saying she acknowledges that there are many people who are members of the ALP who have fought against these policies and welcomed their support, but continued saying she thought it was clear that appealing to the ALP to have more progressive policies was not going to happen. Adding that the council would need to fight both major parties if it wants to see change.

Will Edwards spoke to the motion adding that he believed that there has been confusion in relation to the semantics of the motion. Continuing that this has not been helpful in understanding the intent of this motion with regards to appealing internal to the ALP.

Procedural motion to move straight to a vote:

moved: Will Edwards

seconded: Daniel Ergas

The procedural was put and **CARREID**.

Moved: Hersha Kadkol

Seconded: Gavin Stanbrook

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

As the original motion CARRIED the foreshadowing motion lapses.

#### **Q8. Make Racists Afraid Again**

Preamble:

"Hail Trump! Hail our people! Hail victory!"

These are the closing words of Richard Spencer's speech to the National Policy Institute in November last year. Even if you have not heard the names Richard Spencer or National Policy Institute before, the quote gives you a good hint at what they are. Spencer is essentially the founding father of the alt-right. The National Policy Institute is an organisation of the alt-right, 'disguised' as simply a conservative 'think-tank'. The alt-right want a rebirth in conservative politics. For them, conservative centre politics today is not conservative enough. Muslims, black people, women, LGBTI people are all too welcome in today's society, and the voices and values of white European men are being left neglected. The alt-right is a cavalcade of reaction and racism, and were this 1930s Germany we all know exactly where they'd be.

For a long time the alt-right were a minute fringe minority not able to grasp a foothold in broader political society, but times have changed. They are still a relatively minute fringe minority, but their voices are being heard now more than ever. Not least because a member of the alt-right is sitting in the White House next to the president of the United States, in the form of Steve Bannon. The political climate around the world has shifted further and further to the right, laying the basis for the alt-right to grow in confidence. As the centre of politics drifted further to the right and embraced Islamophobia more doggedly, as neo-fascist parties like Le Pen's *National Front* and Wilders' *Party for Freedom*, the obscene voices of the alt-right are more confident to speak out, to organise, and make their presence known.

And this is of the utmost relevance to us as activists in the Sydney University SRC. Because we are operating in what is a local heartland for the Sydney's alt-right. The sandstone buildings of the University of Sydney are the perfect incubators for far-right reactionary bigots. This is because the University of Sydney has historically been and remains to this day (but not exclusively like in the past), the playground of rich, white men. And the natural base of the alt-right is rich, white, men. Because it is only in the lives of rich, white, men - the demographic with no structural barriers to them achieving and accessing everything they could materially want - can see the 'white European heritage' as needing saving. And in the era of Trump and the rise of the far right we've seen the presence of the alt-right at this uni - in the form of posters, graffiti, and men sporting the red Make America Great Again hats. At another prestigious sandstone university, the University of Melbourne, the alt right have a visible presence there too. These people need to be opposed. These are the kinds of people that would want to see marriage equality never granted (and probably make homosexuality a crime again), to see women denied free and accessible abortion (and probably also the vote), and see a ban on Muslim immigration (and the deportation of every non-white migrant ever). These people are white supremacists. These people are happy to provoke and incite racialised violence against minorities.

It should be clear why the alt-right need to be opposed. The question remains how do we go about this as SRC activists. We ask every progressive activist to get involved in the new campaign group 'Fascist Free USYD'. We can't picket every single alt-right event, we can't (and shouldn't see as our goal to) get every student in the alt-right expelled, we can't demand they be forbidden from posterage. What we can and need to do is not let their repugnant, atrocious messages be spread uncritically. We need to spread our anti-racist, progressive messages loud and proud around campus to drown out the voices of the alt-right. We can make it clear to them that they're not going to be able to organise without an anti-racist opposition hounding them along the way. What we need to do, is make racists afraid, and embarrassed, to be racist again.

Platform:

- The SRC condemns the alt-right on campus
- The SRC stands in full solidarity with Muslims and refugees against the racism they face
- The SRC recognises it is the failures of the traditional parties of the centre-left and centre-right that has opened the door to the climate for the far right to grow

- The SRC condemns anyone wearing a Make America Great Again hat because it represents an approval and encouragement of Trump's reactionary political views
- The SRC recognises the fight against the alt-right does not just mean direct actions against members of the alt-right, but building and attending all other anti-racist and progressive events in Sydney are part of cutting against the right wing climate the alt-right is growing confident in

Action:

- Every SRC activist committed to opposing the alt-right on campus will join and engage with the FB organising group for 'Fascist Free USYD' (FFU)
- Progressive collectives will send contingents to FFU events like the speak-out and the demonstration outside an alt-right film screening later this semester that FFU is organising
- Every SRC activist committed to opposing the alt-right on campus will share from their FB page, and also attend, the Palm Sunday rally on April 9th and the Pride March Against Trump and Turnbull in June
- Progressive collectives will use their budgets to contribute to FFU, to make materials like posters, stickers, t-shirts, badges and leaflets to be part of the campaign against the alt-right

Eleanor Morley spoke to the motion. Highlighting that many students from migrant backgrounds are feeling unsafe on campus, as many of the richer students have made it clear they are not welcome.

Aiden Magro spoke to the motion noting they did not want to walk around their campus and see racist propaganda or fascist stickers and graffiti. Aiden encouraged all to get involved in the campaign and asked that all fascist leave.

Kim Murphy spoke to the motion adding that they believed that instances are going to be more prevalent at richer universities. Kim Murphy continued, saying fascist should be afraid and embarrassed to be on campus and they shouldn't feel safe to graffiti racist remarks thinking they will go unnoticed and uncriticised, concluding that the Alt-right should be sent back into the gutters where they belong.

Gavin Stanbrook spoke to the motion saying this is an important motion and campaign. He continued adding that this is a campaign students are engaging with, and getting active and involved. Gavin Stanbrook concluded saying he thought it should be clear that he believed Liberals should not be invited to participate in this campaign because they hold fascist values, same to anyone wearing a Make America Great Again hat.

Procedural to move straight to a vote

Moved: William Edwards

Seconded: Daniel Ergas

The procedural was put and **FAILED**.

April Holcombe spoke to the motion, noting that the motion doesn't attack the working

class, it's the rich on campus who feel safe to be fascists on campus.

William Edwards requested that the council move along.

Harry Gregg spoke to the motion adding that he had campaigned against Kevin Hogan (who ran in Page) whose former staffer, and federal campaign director of the Young Nationals, is Kurt Tucker. Kurt has openly said he would be a Nazi.

Connor Wherrett asked to amend the motion to remove point three of the platform.

The changes were not amenable to the movers.

The amendment was put as a foreshadowing motion.

Moved: Connor Wherrett

Seconded: Angus Berg

Debate on the substantive motion continued.

Vinil Kumar spoke to the motion. Saying being polite is not appropriate and there is no space to tolerate anyone who wants to be a fascist.

Moved: Eleanor Morley

Seconded: Aiden Magro

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

As the original motion **CARRIED** the foreshadowing motion lapses.

Procedural motion to move to Q5.

Moved: Siobhan Ryan

Seconded: Samuel Chu

The Procedural was put and **CARRIED**.

#### **Q5. New Honi Soit Editors**

To Appoint Kishor Napier-Raman and Natassia Chrysanthos as editors of Honi Soit.

*See attached the signatures of the 8 Honi editors in agreement with the above motion.*

Lily Campbell asked how is the council and students supposed to know who these people are, and why do people do heaps of campaigning every year and then quit. Lily added she believed this was undemocratic and there was no democratic procedure.

Siobhan Ryan noted they would like to amend to the motion to:

To Appoint Kishor Napier-Raman and Natassia Chrysanthos as editors of Honi Soit. And to back pay them for all work done to this point.

Procedural to move straight to a vote

Moved: Bella Pytko

Seconded: Daniel Ergas

The procedural was put and **CARRIED**.

Moved: Siobhan Ryan

Seconded: Natassia Chrysanthos

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

Procedural motion to move to the minutes of the Standing Legal Committee and motion Q6.

Moved: Daniel Ergas

Seconded: Katie Thorburn

The procedural was put and **CARRIED**.

#### **N1. Report of the Standing Legal Committee**

Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Legal Committee held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March and the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 were circulated.

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

Motion: Dominic McDonald

Seconded: Harry Gregg

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

#### **Q6. Motion to amend the SRC Regulations Part 8, Sections 1-35.**

The proposed changes to the Regulations Part 8 are attached in a separate document.

Bella Pytko spoke to the changes.

Bella struck a some changes to the regulations including sections 13 (b) and (c) and 27 (i) from the motion. And renumbered accordingly. 27 (c) was amended to reflect the Standing Legal Committee's recommendations.

Samuel Chu spoke to the changes saying a lot of work had gone into finding a compromise the Council could agree on.

Cameron Caccamo spoke to the motion saying he had done a lot of these in his time. Cameron expressed that he was dismayed that the Council are striking the too many campaigners on a person clause, and asked that anyone campaigning this year take this up and hold themselves to this even though the clause has been struck from the motion. Cameron Caccamo concluded saying that he was proud of this year's Council for this effort.

William Edwards asked why Cameron Caccamo was here. Edwards continued that developing the changes has been a long and arduous process, adding that he believed these

are great amendments and was very hopeful they will be voted up.

Procedural to move straight to a vote:

Moved: Daniel Ergas

Seconder: Dominic McDonald

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

Moved: Bella Pytka

Seconded: Samuel Chu

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

### **A quorum count was called at 7:50 pm**

The meeting was quorate with 19.

Procedural motion to move to R. General Business

Moved: Dominic McDonald

Seconded: Connor Wherrett

The Procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

## **General Business**

### **Motions from the Floor:**

#### **R1. Shameful young greens**

Today the convenor of the Young Greens in NSW, announced that they would not be attending any events held by the Australian Union of Jewish Students.

Lets be clear about this. This is not about Israel or Palestine; this is boycotting events run for over 9000 Jewish students in Australia, many of whom have little to do with the situation in Israel/Palestine. AUJS in fact has members from all across the political spectrum with a wide range of views on Israel/Palestine.

To reduce Australian Jews entirely to their political perspectives on a conflict occurring overseas, and to erroneously pigeonhole the entire Jewish student community as 'support(ing) the occupation of Palestine' demonstrates the deep, systematic prejudices, which pervade the NSW Young Greens.

There is a clear difference between concerns about Israel, and the boycotting of members of a faith community based on faith.

This makes a mockery of the Greens' recent support for diversity and multiculturalism in the context of the 18C debate

### **Platform:**



The SRC recognises the positive contribution over 9000 AUJS members make to Australian life as Students.

The SRC recognises that is disgusting and shameful to boycott a group of Students based on faith, regardless of which religious group.

Procedural to move straight to a vote

Moved: Dominic McDonald

Seconded: Timothy Burney Gibson

The Procedural was put and **CARREID**.

The motion was read out to the council:

Moved: Dominic McDonald

Seconded: Adam Boidin

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

## **R2. Solidarity with Idlib - Down with Assad and imperialism.**

### **Preamble:**

In the last 24 hours, horror has struck in Idlib. At least 83 civilians have been killed, including 25 children, by a nerve gas attack carried out by regime forces. The agent used is most likely Sarin, a chemical widely considered a weapon of mass destruction. Such a barbarous attack on civilians falls in the context of hospitals already being under extreme pressure and constant threat of bombing from Russian, US and Assad forces. Indeed, the hospital where these victims are being treated has since been bombed.

Sarin has been used many times by the Syrian government against the population in revolution. Most notably an attack in 2013 in Ghouta, Damascus, killed 1,429, mostly children. Such extreme brutality today will mean nothing to the Assad forces, who long ago made clear that there is no price in blood they will not pay, in order to crush the Syrian revolution.

In the last month there has been a staggering rise in the number of civilian victims of U.S. bombings in Iraq and Syria. The nonprofit organization Airwars.com estimates that coalition air strikes in Syria and Iraq killed upwards of 1,000 people in March. It is impossible to know for sure, as there have been so many strikes with such high casualties that Airwars.com has been unable to document them all. In Mosul, Iraq at least 200 civilians were killed, making it one of the most devastating attacks on civilians by American forces in more than two decades.

This surge in deaths reflects Trump's desire to place the US military on a more aggressive footing than the Obama administration allowed, in order to reinvigorate the U.S. empire and find support amongst key U.S. generals. In the ongoing chaos of the Middle East, US has continued to carry out its own imperialist ventures, embracing the opportunity to return to the region it had been somewhat forced out of following the disaster of the Iraq War. It is

yet to be seen whether Trump's policy of heightened militarism can stabilize the U.S. position in the Middle East, but we can be certain that thousands of lives will be lost in the attempt.

With the rise of the far right, support for Assad also climbs. The Trump administration supports Assad's government reestablishing control in Syria, as the current chaos threatens Israel and the whole stability of imperialist order in the region. Assad similarly supports Trump, as they are united in massacring the Syrian people under the banner of fighting ISIS. Assad supported Trump's initial Muslim ban and has previously called Trump his 'natural ally'. Marine Le Pen, leader of the Front Nationale in France, has also expressed her unconditional support for Bashar al-Assad and his regime.

**Platform:**

1. The University of Sydney SRC strongly condemns the use of chemical warfare on civilians in Idlib.
2. The University of Sydney SRC stands in solidarity with the Syrian revolution against the barbarous Assad regime and all its foreign supporters.
3. The University of Sydney SRC condemns the attacks on Iraqi and Syrian civilians carried out by the United States military and stands firmly against Trump's murderous, militaristic agenda.

**Action:**

1. The University of Sydney SRC encourages all students to join the Palm Sunday rally for refugees.
2. The University of Sydney supports the establishment of the Fascist Free USYD campaign.
3. The University of Sydney SRC encourages all those who stand with the Syrian revolution to join anti racist demonstrations against the global rise of the far right.

Lily Campbell spoke to the motion condemning the Assad government.

A quorum count was called at 8:00pm  
The meeting was found inquorate.

*The meeting Lapsed at 8:01*