



MINUTES:

of the 5th regular meeting of the 89th SRC held on **Thursday the 15th June 2017**. Meeting held in the Professorial, Quadrangle

A quorum count was called at 6:18, the meeting was found quorate.

A. Meeting open at 6:19 pm

A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Bella Pytka 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:

Aiden Magro
Amelia Chen
Vinil Kumar to Lily Campbell
Thandi Bethune
Sophia Chung to William Edwards
James Gibson to Zac Gillies-Palmer
Patrick Ryan
Harry Gregg to James Newbold
Marcus Coleman to Demi Nikas
Alexander Shu
Andrea Zephyr to David Badea
Claudia Gulbransen-Diaz to Adriana Malavisi

Ed McCann to Jack O'Brien

Daniel Ergas
Jenna Schroder

Motion to accept the apologies
Moved: Adam Boidin
Seconded: Caitlin Mcmenamin
the motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Procedural motion to move to item Q.2
Moved: Lily Campbell
Seconded: April Holcombe
The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

Q2. No job losses, no pay cuts, no more casualisation!

Students Support NTEU Staff Strikes

Preamble

As the negotiations for the next EBA come to a head, it is clear that university management is intent on waging a relentless attack on the working conditions of university staff. The Sydney University branch of the NTEU is preparing for strike action at the beginning of semester two, and it will be essential for students to organise support and stand in solidarity with staff.

Management wants to take away academic staff's hard fought for right to have the balance of teaching and research in their workload determined collectively. The 40:40:20 provision in the current EBA is a forcible rule which allows academics to divide their workload fairly between research (40%), teaching (40%) and services (20%). Management wants to make this a 'recommended starting point for discussion' between employee and supervisor. This will only lead to a WorkChoices-style arrangement at USYD, where staff are bullied into taking a more teaching focussed workload, with no right to research adequately. Clearly, management's plan is to increase the amount of teaching-only staff in order to pursue a business model for the university that will churn out more degrees to more students, no matter the cost to the quality of the education given.

The Provost, Stephen Garton, has admitted that restructures in the university's near future will lead to more forced redundancies. Forced redundancies are costing the University millions, with \$22 million being spent on redundancy packages since 2014. The NTEU is calling for a 'no forced redundancy provision' which would entitle staff to redeployment in another area if their job is restructured out of existence. However management say it cannot agree to this provision. In addition management wants to remove the provisions which require them to advertise professional and general staff jobs internally before opening them up to the public. It is clear that management is intent on sacking staff and drastically changing the nature of the workforce to employ more casual and non-unionised workers.

Management is hitting casual staff hard. They want to abolish Scholarly Teaching Fellows which were hard fought for by casual staff in the last EBA. These education focussed positions provide pathways out of casualisation; really important for PhD and masters students who are highly exploited as casual tutors. Garton claims that because these positions only benefit “a small group of casual employees”, they are ineffective and discriminate against other casuals employed by the university so must therefore be removed. This is a complete farce. The fact that STFs are only relevant to one group of workers isn’t an argument to abolish them, but one to implement more pathways out of casualisation for other casual employees. On top of this, management is refusing casual staff some of the most basic rights afforded to the rest of the workforce. The NTEU demands sick leave payments and an end to superannuation discrimination for casuals. As it stands, casuals are entitled to only 11% super contributions - 6% less than other staff - and no sick leave. This is a major attack on the most exploited workers of the university by an already overpaid management.

At the last general meeting on 10/05/2017, members of the NTEU voted unanimously to ballot for industrial action in June if management refuses to meet the demands of the union. This was followed by a members meeting of 250 on 8 June, the largest union event since 2013. Members again unanimously voted to move to industrial action as soon as possible, and balloting for strike action will take place over the holidays.

As the phenomenal 2013 strike campaign showed, workers at universities have industrial power and can shut down the entire campus, all classes and infrastructure. Sydney Uni NTEU mounted seven full days of strike action over the year, and prevented students and staff from breaking the strike by forming picket lines around the whole perimeter. Blocking every entrance became possible with the organisation of student support amongst activists, unionists and the broader student body. These strikes remain a model for excellent industrial organising which ended with an overwhelming victory for the workers.

The NTEU has shown consistent solidarity with students, including helping the National Union of Students with the nationwide Make Education Free Again campaign. Unionists in higher education understand that federal funding cuts accelerate local attacks on workers’ rights, and that the working conditions of teachers and staff at the university directly affects the quality of education students have access to. Students have both an interest in, and a responsibility, to back staff and all their demands against management, and actively encourage staff to take strike action as much as they can.

Platform

1. The SRC opposes all of management’s proposed attacks on the wages and conditions of Sydney University workers.
2. The SRC will not accept a single forced redundancy as necessary.
3. The SRC gives its total support to all of the claims of the NTEU in a new EBA.
4. The SRC fully endorses and encourages the use of strikes to pressure management and unite workers in action that demonstrates their industrial power.
5. The SRC sees itself as the leading body to advocate for student support for staff strikes.

Action

1. The SRC will prioritise the organising of student solidarity with any strikes in the second semester above all other areas of work.
2. The SRC stands ready for full mobilisation on picket lines.
3. The SRC will pressure the USU to abandon its historic record of scabbing on each and every strike, and to shut all facilities during strike days.
4. The SRC will shut down on strike days, because an injury to one is an injury to all.

Moved: Clara da Costa-Reidel (student and casual tutor, NTEU member)

Seconded: April Holcombe (Education Officer)

Clara da Costa-Reidel spoke to the motion, speaking about the NTEU members meeting and asking the council and student body to support the staff in their EBA demands of management. Also calling for support by assisting with rallies, poster, and talking to students and letting them know what is going on

April spoke to the motion adding that without fighting managements plans; classes, services and waiting times will all get larger and longer. This will make things harder for students and the Council should be supporting them at all costs.

Caitlin Mcmenamin spoke to the motion, saying it was a really important motion and highlighted that staff take on a lot to look after our welfare as students, and we should be doing the same for them. Concluding that the Council needs to be attending meetings and showing support not just playing lip service

Gavin Stanbrook noted that this motion is important, and suggested the council need to be supporting the NTEU because there is going to be a vote for a strike action. Adding it's time to start preparing for those strikes and making sure that the staff see support and solidarity, and that staff appreciate that there are students involved and the Council needs to keep up that support. Gavin noted that as they are working at UTS as well as studying at the university of Sydney they have noticed how the UTS management are trying to cut staff, increase work, and cut sick leave which are important workers' rights.

Will Edwards spoke to the motion saying it is important that the council show support to the NTEU and university staff - because their conditions are student conditions. The Council and student body need to show them as much support as possible to take their demands to management.

Katie Thorburn spoke to the motion and suggested that students organise a protest and a stunt to show student support of the demands to get some media attention and to give the NTEU some positive support.

Lily Campbell spoke to the motion noting that restructures are also working to cut quality of education at Australian universities, adding that it starts with cutting back on staff. So the Council has an important role to play in supporting staff, the Council needs to be on the picket lines, doing poster runs and leaflet hands out. If staff know that students will support

them and are more likely to push for their demands. Concluding with that in 2013 the Council and the NTEU crippled management with industrial actions and it can be done again, Sydney University sets the tone for all other Australian universities for political action.

April Holcombe spoke to the motion raising the issues of Murdoch University and their EBA negotiations, saying there they have ripped up the proposed EBA and show little respect to the needs of staff. Sydney University are stronger, but only as strong as students support it. Adding as another note that the NTEU have also organised for a solidarity speak out on the bus privatisation proposals by the state government next week. April also encouraged people to come to the EAG on the law lawns and that the NUS Education Conference is going to be in Brisbane in the first week of July and encouraged students and the Council to attend.

Connor Wherrett spoke to the motion adding that on Tuesday night there was an optional revision session for their exams. The lecturer did not have to run this, they went out of their way to assist their students, adding that many academic could be earning a lot more in the private sector but they support and believe in the importance of education and as students should support them back.

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

D. Changes to Membership

E. Electoral Report

E1. Consideration of any resignations

Patrick Ryan resigns from the executive

Motion: That the Council accept the resignations.

Moved: Connor Wherrett

Seconded: Will Edwards

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Minutes of the 4th meeting of 89th SRC Council held on 3rd May 2017 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the 3rd May be accepted.

Moved: Caitlin Mcmenamin

Seconded: Katie Thorburn

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.

Caitlin Mcmenamin asked Isabella Brook what she thought the most important issue facing students right now was.

Isabella Brook responded that the over all state of Higher education funding was the greatest concern but specifically here the centralisation of student administration which is causing serious issues for student at the moment.

Will Edwards inquired what Isabella Brook's position would be when dealing with someone who didn't believe in supporting the academic staff in their negotiations with the university.

Isabella Brook replied that she would tell them they are a scab, that she find their position repugnant and that the unions are great.

Adam Boidin asked why the Environment department's budget was so large, and why that money wasn't being put into the education department's campaign.

Isabella Brook responded noting that the Environment budget only has a small increase on last year and they are one of the most active collectives on campus.

There was an inquiry as to where the Environment Officers were

Caitlin Mcmenamin believed they were at the Students of Sustainability conference.

There were no further questions.

I. Visitor's Business

There was no business for this item.

J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

K. Elections

K1. Election of 1 Indigenous Students' Officer

There were no nominations

K2. Election of 1 Mature Age Student's Officer

There were no nominations

K3. Election of 2 Intercampus committee members

There were no nominations

K4. Election of 1 Executive Member

Nomination of Adam Boidin

Moved: Connor Wherrett

Seconded: Jakes Williams

Adam Boidin was declared elected unopposed to the 89th SRC executive.

L. Report of the President and Executive

L1. Executive Minutes

Minutes of the Executive meeting of the 20th April 2017

Motion: that the minutes of the executive meetings of the 20th April 2017 be accepted.

Moved: Caitlin Mcmenamin

Seconded: Connor Wherrett

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

L2. Report of the Executive

Report of the executive from the 1st of May to the 1st June.

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:

Staff Consults:

Over the past month Bella and I have conducted staff consults. I will be talking to Heads of Departments and staff about the recommendations from these consults as well as developing way to use these consults more effectively.

Bella and I also sat on the selection panel for a new admin assistant to replace the incredible Vanessa who is leaving us to travel.

Student Survey:

At the moment I'm in the process of developing a student survey in regards to some student issues, particularly focusing on Special Con and Student Admin. I've been working with the Casework team to develop the survey and also looking to work with the welfare and disabilities OBs.

Sexual Assault Campaign

I'm sure everyone is aware of the recent events surrounding St Pauls and the disgusting behaviour that we've seen time and time again from some of the colleges. We had a very encouraging chat with Spence in our SCC meeting where he made a very strong commitment to instigating a culture change at this university. Part of this was looking into a compulsory consent module for all students and also engaging an expert to develop a program to address these issues.

I also attended a forum held by Pru Goward who is the NSW Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The government is developing a

Sexual Assault strategy that encompasses universities and was seeking student feedback. At that meeting a number of President's and Women's officers across the state presented the minister with an open letter that outlined our key demands for policy and legislative change.

Whilst these developments are encouraging we will be making sure that we hold the university and the government to account to ensure action is taken on this important issue.

Academic Issues:

Student Admin at Satellite Campuses: The University is looking into having admin desks open on satellite campuses. This is after some great work done by the Con student's association and SRC advocacy.

Assessment: I've participated in a number of discussions across the university in regards to the developments in the assessment sphere. The SRC has also made a submission to this working group.

Cadmus: The University has decided not to trial Cadmus any further this is something the SRC has been advocating against since day one.

LMS: The University is looking change over from Blackboard to a new learning management system. We've been advocating to make sure that this new site is as accessible and student friendly as possible.

Ed Campaign

The NDA was last month and it was really great. Just want to congratulate the Education Officers and the EAG on the work they did building the campaign. UNiveristy is now hating on the budget once their realised the increase in fees doesn't go to them but to the government.

EBA

The NTEU has passed a motion to ballot for industrial action as the university has been failing to meet some of their key demands. I'm keeping in contact with Kurt, the Usyd NTEU president in regards to how the SRC can support staff. The SRC firmly supports the NTEU members in any industrial action and their right to fair working conditions.

Budget

I've been working with Bella, Chits and Dan in finalizing the budget. As you know we received a pretty disappointing SSAF allocation that was barely enough to cover our CPI increases. I want to thank them for their tireless efforts in making this budget work even when it looked like it was an impossible task.

EO

Dan and I sat on the selection panel for our Electoral Officer. As part of my report I'm including the recommendation that the Council hires Paulene Graham as the returning officer for the election of the 90th council.

July Council Meeting

Also as part of my report I'm also recommending that we cancel the scheduled July Council meeting. The reasoning for this is that myself and many other members of this council will be attending NUS Education Conference. Historically, the July meeting has failed to make quorum for the past two years since it has been introduced. Additionally Julia will be taking leave during this time and the SRC would have to pay someone to fill her role at council.

Will Edwards asked if the dates for the elections had been decided.

Isabella Brook informed that they had not been formally announced but will be the week before the mid-semester break.

Lily Campbell asked if Isabella has yelled at Pru Goward or Michael Spence during their meetings.

Isabella Brook explained that it was at SCC meeting, that management come and she takes every opportunity to call them out, but those meeting have every student group represented, and it is where students are best can get our voice heard. So her focus was on that. Isabella Brook added that there was the intention to yell at the Pru Goward meeting, as Ms Goward was not running the meeting it seemed out of place to yell, but she was still called out and told if she was serious about her portfolio and the government was serious about tackling the issue of gendered violence then they need to return funding to women's services immediately.

Will Edwards ask for a clarification on the use of the term encouraging, asking if Isabella Brook meant that she was encouraging the Vice Chancellor or if what the Vice Chancellor said was encouraging to hear.

Isabella Brook clarified that she was encouraged by the meeting

Lily Campbell asked if there was a conflict of interest in Isabella Brook's actions, asking if she could both represent students while working with those who are attacking them, and can students take her position be taken seriously if she is having meeting with liberal party officials and canapés.

Isabella Brook clarified that there were no canapés, only an un-air-conditioned boardroom and the opportunity to raise the issue of rape on campus and see it hopefully addressed, and that such an opportunity should not be dismissed.

Katie Thorburn asked why Paulene Graham was selected.

Isabella Brook explained that while there were two possible candidates Paulene was chosen because she has the experience with a ballot as large as the SRC's, and the selection committee found that important for conducting a fair election.

Motion to accept the report of the President.

Moved: Will Edwards

Seconded: Adam Boidin

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, including the 89th SRC's Budget.

Before we begin, a quick message from Daniel:

Apologies I can't be there with you in person tonight; my mum's 60th birthday beckons.

So what have we been up to the past month?

1. Budget –This is attached to our report and speaks for itself. This has taken up a majority of our time this month. In short, we've met with OBs and SRC staff over the course of the month, and prior, and created a budget that *hopefully* meets all of our needs as an organisation. More information can be found in the attached budget.
2. EO – we've picked out Paulene to be the EO this year! This will happen, however, in a separate motion.
3. Staff Consults - Mid year staff consults just finished; Isabella and Bella met with all the staff members of the SRC. We are currently looking into how to use the results of these consults effectively.
4. We are about to conduct interviews for a new admin assistant. Thank you to Vanessa, for all of your work for this organization, it is greatly appreciated.

Finally, if you are an Office Bearer, please do your honi reports. It is a part of your job role as an OB to fill these out when required.

The Budget is attached to the end of this document.

Brendan Ma inquired about the gross profit of the bookshop. Asking why there was an incoming and out going line.

The General Secretary (Bella Pytka) and the President clarified that the line was income and expenditure, not gross Profit.

Brendan Ma remarked that the Bookshop made a loss then.
Bella Pytka noted that yes the bookshop made a loss.

Isabella Brook clarified \$10 000 deficit at the bookshop.

Liam Donohoe asked how much did the other student organizations get.

Bella Pytka informed that she was not aware as the details had not been released but that SUPRA got a large increase.

Timothy Berney-Gibson asked for a breakdown of the \$66 000 in other as it was not clear.

Bella Pytka clarified that those were costs like the new printer, new server, training, and stationary.

Timothy Berney-Gibson asked why the section has not been broken down more for clarity.

Bella Pytka offered to get one.

Timothy Berney-Gibson accepted but expressed concern it was not already broken down as there is already precedent to do so.

The President clarified as these are just estimates a breakdown would not necessarily be any clearer.

April Holcombe expressed disapproval at giving the breakdown suggesting that the only reason it was wanted was to be 'nit-picky' without care for the organization.

Timothy Berney-Gibson informed April Holcombe that they felt an operating budget of 1.8 million isn't nothing.

Procedural to move straight to a vote
Moved: April Holcombe
Seconded: Will Edwards
The procedural was put and **CARRIED**.

Motion: that the report of the General Secretaries and the budget be accepted.
Moved: Gabriel Long
Seconded: Will Edwards
The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O. Report of Committees and Officers

O1. Report of the Education Officers

April Holcombe gave a verbal report

- Next Tuesday NTEU Speak out
- Thursday 1pm EAG please come and
- Go to EDCON if you can it will be good

O2. Report of the Wom*n's Officers

Katie Thorburn and Imogen Grant gave a verbal report

- The sexual assault on campus report will have impacts on survivors and we need to make sure the university has structures in place for when the report is released.
 - o University needs to advertise the services available to students so they know where to go.
 - o There needs to be trauma councillor training for university staff who will be dealing with these students and those who have had training would probably benefit from a refresher course, as this will be a difficult time for them and for survivors.
 - o Student representative also need to get training in preparation for being contacted, so they know who to send survivors to and also how to deal with vicarious trauma.
- Universities Australia have been quick to take on the Human Rights Commission's report as their own, people are calling this the Universities Australia report and this is not ok. This is a human rights report put together by the survivors of assault, you would not take money from the catholic church for the royal commission, so the fact that Universities Australia are claiming this and have contributed funding is a big issue.
- We had a meeting with for the Safer Communities Working Committee, it's a farce of a committee designed to stop us protesting, but we need to go to make sure management are hearing us.
- We also went to Student Consultative Committee with The President to talk about consent education across the university, all the media attention on this and the colleges has forced the University to at least pretend they care.
- We attended the Pru Goward meeting and we were not impressed.
- We have also had an action to about reproductive rights bill that failed in state parliament, where we put the faces of everyone who voted down the motion on to coat hangers to remind them what they do to women.

O3. Report of the Disability and Carers Officers

Hannah, Noa, Mollie (Disabilities and Carers Collective) tabled a written report.

Semester 1 has been an exciting time for the Disabilities and Carers Collective. A successful O-week stall and 'Welcome BBQ' saw a surge in membership, which has been critical in growing the collective's presence on campus. We have seen greater engagement on Facebook, which has been our primary way of interacting with our members. We have both a public page and a private group which allows us to strike the balance between having a

safe space for discussing personal concerns, as well as engaging our audience on broad issues.

We have held monthly meetings this semester taking place online and on-campus to allow for greater accessibility. The primary points of discussion at our meetings have centred around special consideration & provisions, and Disability Inclusion Week. Through liaising with disability staff and assisting with inclusion week, we have been able to forge a greater connection between our members and Disability Services. This has been a significant step forward, since staff/student collaboration has been limited in previous years. Through collaborating on an accessible GoogleDoc, we have collectively decided on a theme as well as ideas for events and campaigns.

Right now the Office Bearers are working on an end of Semester Pizza Lunch, and planning for next semester. We are also organising therapy dogs at the Con at the end of this semester to boost intercampus engagement, raise awareness regarding why support staff should be brought back to the Con, and provide a positive way to de-stress before exams. Our main goal for next semester is to increase the frequency of our meetings and promote more activism on campus.

Motion: that the reports of the Education, Women's and Disabilities and Carers Officers be accepted on bloc.

Motion: Parvathi Subramaniam

Seconded: Bella Pytka

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

P. Special Business

There were no items of special business.

Q. Motions of Notice

Q1. International Student Travel Concessions

Preamble:

SRC is representing the interest of more than 33000 undergraduate students on campus. Authorized statistics show that international students take up more than 50% of undergraduate students. In NSW, (the proportion of international students?)

The Students' Representative Council (SRC), run by students for students since 1929, is the peak representative body for undergraduate students at the University of Sydney. The SRC exists to defend and advance the interests of University of Sydney students. It goes without saying that international students at University of Sydney take up a substantial proportion of the total number of students on campus. They are undoubtedly part of the USYDers whose interests deserve to be represented by the SRC.

Nowadays, International students are only entitled to concession fares when their study is fully funded by specified Australian Government scholarships---Australian Award. However, International students who are holding the Australian Award only contributed an extremely subtle proportion of the international students. According to the data from the Australian Government, only 183 international students who was holding the Australian Award were entitled to the concession opal card in NSW. Notwithstanding, 414,292 international students enrolled in NSW in 2016 in total, indicating that only a negligible percentage of 0.044% of the international students who enrolled in NSW in 2016 were entitled to concession Opal cards.

International students acknowledged and were grateful to the government's action of providing concession MyMulti tickets to them (when). The NSW government offered a limited discount to all international students through a special MyMulti travel offer.

MyMulti discount is more expensive than opal card. It only benefited students who travel more than 8 times per week and with a fee of \$ 3.92 per travel. More specifically, only those international students who travel by bus for over 8 km, by train for more than 10 km during peak hours, or by train for more than 35 km during off-peak hours could benefit from the concession. However, most international students were not suitable for this category, hence they did not benefit from MyMulti and preferred to use opal cards, which charged eight trips a week and \$ 2.50 on Sundays.

However, it is known to all that MyMulti has been completely replaced by Opal cards, illustrating the termination of any concession to international students without Australian Award. Furthermore, the perpetually increasing transportation fee has made things worse.

Platform:

1. The SRC should support International students in campaigning against unfair travel fare
2. The SRC stands in solidarity with International students' rights against the discrimination regarding transportation fee
3. The SRC International Student Department, Welfare Department will run the campaign, with help from other departments during the Semester 2 2017

Action:

1. The SRC should collaborate with SUPRA, USU and other student organisations at Universities in NSW in petition
2. Call for all University of Sydney students and other tertiary students in NSW to join the petition
3. That the event be shared on all the SRC publications as well as other social media platforms

Moved: Ricardo Wu

Seconded: Winston Ma

Winston Ma read from the motion. Then noted that the Victoria had given international students concession travel, and the Western Sydney University has offered \$250 pre-paid

opal cards to their students to assist with the cost of travel for them. The SRC should be working on this fight at the University of Sydney and that all international Students would appreciate the support.

Caitlin Mcmenamin spoke to the motion saying that international students are often treated in a way similar to being “turned upside down and shaken” for all their money, and NSW is well and truly behind, as the only state that doesn’t offer student concession to international students.

Will Edwards spoke to the motion saying that while we need to fight the government’s policy the Council should also be fighting the University to offer more support to international students.

April Holcombe spoke to the motion saying international students are treated appallingly and travel concession is just the tip of the iceberg. A huge amount of students are taken advantage of in housing, employment and much of this come from an undercurrent of racism in this country. April continues say there is a racist stereotype that international student wont stand up for themselves and student’s know that that’s simply not true. They should have the same rights and resources as local students.

Kim Murphy spoke to the motion noting that education is one of our largest exports, which is unsurprising considering the huge fees universities charge international students, and that local students need to fight in solidarity with international students so they are given the same resources as local students. Concluding that everyone involved in the council should get behind this campaign.

Katie Thorburn spoke to the motion saying that International students are treated appallingly, and that they give huge amounts to the university – around 3 times as much as domestic students. Katie Thorburn asked that if anyone opposes the motion that they speak up and explain their position.

Connor Wherret spoke to the motion expressing excitement in the motion and further encouraged people who wanted to see change in these areas to join the Labor party.

Edward McCann asked how this would fit into the budget, asking how the council will find the money for the pre paid opal cards, or if that will be covered by the university.

Isabella Brook clarified that the suggestion was to push the university to do this as Western Sydney University has done.

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Q3. Pride March Against Turnbull and Trump June 11.

Politicians laud Australia as the pinnacle of human rights, the home of equality and equity, the nation representing the oppressed and exploited for many years by popular opinion: it is the state of 'fairdinkum' politics, where everyone is represented. Yet with a rising amount of unemployment, racism, sexism, youth mental illness, debt and general unhappiness the truth has never been more obvious: we live in a capitalist society that disadvantages the many and benefits the few.

Concerning the rights of the LGBTQI community, they have have had these rights denied to them for many years now. As of 2017, about two dozen countries have legalized gay marriage: this serves as a sore reminder about the lack of rights concerning the LGBTQI community here.

The Liberal party has continually enforced a staunch and conservatively homophobic view on LGBTQI rights; with Tony Abbott claiming same sex relationships 'erode family values' and that rejecting the basic rights of the LGBTQI community was to ensure the institution of marriage would remain 'undamaged'. And since John Howard made marriage solely the opportunity of a heterosexual couple in 2004, neither the Labor or Liberal governments have turned that around and passed equal marriage rights. With Turnbull in government, he proposed a plebiscite that would question the national opinion on same sex marriage, which ultimately would not be a promise on whether same sex marriage is legalized. However, Turnbull's website already outlines that the majority of Australians (76%) already support gay marriage with only a small minority against it (7%). This is a sure sign that the government is holding off on what is clearly in the interests and desires of the majority of the population.

In a 2010 survey, 75% of same-sex attracted young people experienced homophobic abuse, 80% of which took place in school. 2014 has found there were high rates of discrimination and abuse for students who identified as transgender and non-binary. Clearly we live in a society that promotes heteronormative behavior that hushes the diversity of identity and sexuality, specifically in school. Safe Schools, which was created by academics in Melbourne and implemented in hundreds of schools around the country, was a way in which schools would introduce a program to promote equality and understanding of LGBTQI students.

However the Liberal government has been an active road block in establishing progressive change on LGBTI issues. In fact, the safe schools program has been scrapped by the Liberal government, an action celebrated by all right wing political groups. The Liberal government in fact responded to Safe Schools by referring to it as a pedophilic attempt to 'sexualize children'. The very fact that Safe Schools was destroyed reveals the transphobic and homophobic society in which we live in that continually alienates and damages the mental health of the LGBTQI community. Turnbull has claimed that he 'represents Australians', however it's quite clear not for one moment does he ever represent the diverse population of Australia.

The Liberal government in fact mirrors the Trump government which is slowly eroding and persistently attacking LGBTQI rights. The social movements in America concerning gay rights

have been long and violent, facing plenty of opposition from the state most clearly exemplified in the Stonewall riots of 1969. From then on, the government had slowly been accepting change by signing laws of 'protection' for LGBTQI people. Historically, same sex marriage had even been legalized in 50 states when previously 14 states had made it illegal. With public opinion changing and social movements pushing for more legal and constitutional rights, these struggles were able to win some gains. The introduction of Trump has unfortunately wound back a lot of gains for LGBTQI people who had fought so hard for their rights to live safely.

Since his inauguration, Trump has rescinded the Department of Education and Department of Justice's Title IX guidance (a moving which protected students against discrimination and harassment based on sexuality and gender identity), he's created opportunity for employers to fire their employees on the basis of their gender and sexuality, as well as removing questions identifying LGBTQI from two key surveys for senior citizens and national independent living surveys.

Between Trump and Turnbull, another example of the care they give for the LGBTQI people of the world is the lack of a response to the concentration camp homosexual men are being forced into in Chechnya. This is perhaps the most brutal example of how the two leading figures of the world refuse to acknowledge people who suffer murder, torture and starvation simply due to their sexuality and/or identity. With this in mind, whether an international problem, or a national issue, the Turnbull wing government takes a disgusting stance in refusing to support a neglected community.

Essentially, drawing Turnbull and Trump together, the difference of them both is very little: both rich, both capitalist, and reinforcing the oppression that comes with being LGBTQI. The Pride March Against Trump and Turnbull on June 11 is essentially in response to the ongoing and disgusting treatment of LGBTQI people. To gather together and promote solidarity with an oppressed group of people not only in Australia but around the world. It's important to provide support and to mobilize a left movement that pushes and pressures the government into recognizing the rights and legitimate identity of people around the country.

Platform:

1. The SRC stand with LGBTQI struggles throughout Australia, including same-sex marriage, trans rights, Safe Schools and many more.
2. The SRC support Mardi Gras and other pride marches.
3. The SRC support the oppressed no matter the opinion of the government in power.

Action points:

1. The SRC will advertise the march by sharing the event on their fb page for any future LGBTI rights event
2. All activist collectives will share the event from their fb page for any future LGBTI rights event
3. A poster will go up in the SRC office for any future LGBTI rights event
4. SRC activists will attend any future LGBTI rights event

Moved: Emelia Bode
Seconded: Kim Murphy

Emelia Bode spoke to the motion citing that protesting our government is radical despite criticism from one of the Queer Officers that it was not, and that just because rights are better here doesn't mean that homophobia is rampant and the Australian government needs to be held to account.

Kim Murphy spoke to the motion and expressed her disappointment that Queer Officer Connor Prassis did not support this motion and didn't see it as a radical enough.

Will Edwards spoke to the motion and noted that he was sad the less people showed up to this event from the student movement than he had hoped, adding that it was disappointing that protesting a violation of human rights in this country was not considered radical enough for some. Concluding that protests like these are gateway issues to activism and are a space where people can become more involved in different social movements as they are well attended by the general population and should be well attended by student activists as well.

Clara da Costa-Reidel spoke to the motion saying these events need to be supported and that can't be overlooked, adding that 70% of people support marriage equality thanks to these types of campaigns.

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

Q4. Support The Striking Bus Drivers. No To Privatisation Of Public Transport!

Preamble:

On the 17th of May Sydney bus drivers went on strike over the state government's plans to privatise over 200 bus routes in Sydney's inner west and south. Transport minister Andrew Constance announced that privatisation of the routes are an attempt to increase the efficiency of the bus system. The 24 hour strike of over 1000 bus drivers went ahead despite a ruling by the Industrial Relation Commission to declare the industrial action illegal. The Rail, Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) correctly warned that the opening up of the transport sector to market forces means that routes that are deemed unprofitable will be cut and workers will be sacked in order to maximise profits.

The state government has recently sold off Newcastle's busses, ferries and interchanges as well as Sydney's ferry service and is currently in the process of selling off two rail lines within Sydney. Privatization of the public sector and the introduction of the user pay system as the "optimal" method of running public services is a continuing trend of the neoliberal project put forth by Liberal and Labor governments over the last 40 years. This trend has weakened the rights of workers and shifted more costs onto ordinary people in order to make more profits for bosses.

Melbourne's public transport services offer some insight to the "efficiency" of privatisation. Public contributions into Melbourne's privatised tram and train services increased by about 63% over the decade to 2014. Despite this, there has only been a 30% increase in overall train and tram services and an increase in travel times for many journeys. Various studies have concluded that Melbourne's current model of public transport is not an effective use of taxpayer money, mostly because a large chunk of the increased taxpayer contributions has gone straight into the pockets of transport bosses (upwards of 60% of the increased contributions from 2004-2014). In order to cut corners, maintenance of the service is not properly conducted leaving the public transport system decrepit and unsafe. This has recently come to light with Metro trains being charged for neglecting safety obligations when a teenager was killed while boarding a train in 2014.

Privatisation of public services and the general trend towards neoliberalism has wreaked havoc on the working class. Militant unions and traditions of class struggle are smashed as the free market reigns. The RTBU with its high union density and history of militancy is a threat to the neoliberal consensus - the fact that the drivers continued to engage in industrial action despite it being ruled illegal is a reflection of this.

Platform:

1. Sydney Uni SRC stands with striking bus drivers over the privatisation of over 200 bus routes in Sydney's Inner west and South
2. Sydney Uni SRC condemns the privatisation of public services and calls for increased government spending into public services as a means to increase the effectiveness of public services

Action:

1. The SRC will encourage its office bearers support industrial action by attending rallies and pickets organized by the RTBU

Moved: Gavin Stanbrook

Seconded: Clara da Costa-Reidel

Gavin Stanbrook spoke to the motion explaining that the Liberal government has proposed privatising the Inner West bus lines. They noted that this is going to greatly impact the community as a whole, and also students at the University of Sydney. Adding that there are so many bus drivers whose jobs are on the line and have the potential to be bullied by the government into giving into the proposed privatisations. They continues saying that this motion is about making it clear that the Council stands in solidarity with the workers. Concluding that as soon as the bus drivers found out that privatisation was being suggested they went out on strike even though it against the "anti-union laws" of this state to do so.

Clara da Costa-Reidel spoke to the motion saying that the proposal to privatise public infrastructure is appalling and we have seen the negative consequences of privatising infrastructure in other areas such as South Australia and their energy issues since privatisation as an example of why we should be fighting these proposals.

Dom Mcdonald spoke to the motion saying that while this motion is important on a

community level to support workers it is also important for Sydney University students as their transportation is always being attacked we it fewer bus stops or missing out on the new train station.

Kim Murphy spoke to the motion saying that the proposal to privatise the busses was appalling but unsurprising. Adding that the Liberal state government want to privatise everything they can and in doing so make it harder for ordinary people to get around, and that unfortunately the Labor Party have also contributed to this. Kim Murphy continued saying that there was the possibility for a cultural shift with the popularity of Jeremy Corbyn and his anti-austerity politics, and that public infrastructure should not be for profit.

Zac Gillies-Palmer spoke to the motion saying that there is also a lot of metal workers whose livelihoods are also on the line with the privatisation of the bus lines, the mettles workers union also represents the mechanics who work on the busses and they are being the hit the hardest as factories and industries shut down around the country. Adding that these workers are some of the few working class people left in the Inner West.

Edward McCann spoke against the motion saying that privatisation generates the best outcome, as profit motivates business to provide the best service, and that mettles workers are working in an out-dated industry. Adding that only 13% of workers are in a union and suggested they are nothing more than a protection racket. Concluding that they believe privatisation should go further with health services also being privatised.

Will Edwards began chanting "Bullshit, come off it, public transport is not for profit"

Gabriel Long spoke to the motion adding that there are privatised busses in punchbowl already and people consider themselves in luck if the bus even comes, so the idea that privatisation give the best possible service is a fallacy and that it is important to note that profit motives mean that private bus companies run to maximise profit not to community needs, and it is the community that will face the consequences of profit maximisation.

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Tim Burney Gibson and Edward McCann noted for the minutes that they voted against the motion.

R. General Business

Lily Campbell asked if the council could take a photo to show support for the NTEU

The President ruled from the chair that a photo would be taken at the close of the meeting.

Will Edwards asked Timothy Burney Gibson why he would not support the motion for LGBT rights?

Tim Berney –Gibson clarified that he would have supported the motion if mentions of Malcolm Turnbull had been removed.

Connor Wherrett wished Daniel Ergas's mother a Happy Birthday.

Meeting closed at 8:09pm.