



src activism
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**Students' Representative Council,
University of Sydney**

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MINUTES:

of the 1st regular meeting of the 92nd SRC held on **Thursday 13th February 2020**. Meeting held in the ABS Lecture Theatre 1060, Abercrombie Business School Building.

There was a quorum count called at 7:05pm

A. Meeting open at 7:06pm

A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Charlotte Bullock 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.

Liam Donohoe added that we are still on dispossessed and stolen land, and the land of the Eora nation and the Gadigal people were amongst the first to suffer from colonialism. In April there will be a 250 years of resistance week out in La Perouse, Liam Donohoe encouraged everyone to attend those events.

C. Apologies, Proxies and Leaves of Absence

Apologies and proxies were received from:

Holly McDonald to Maia Edge
Nicholas Comino to James Ardouin
Hang Gao to Maria Ge
Jason Howe to Rohan
Michael Kallidis to Belinda Thomas
Jiale Wang to Anne Zhao
Jiahui Zhai to Shangqing Zhang
Vinil Kumar to Grace Bowskill

Angelina Gu to Charlotte Bullock
Peiqing Fan to Lingyu Qu
Ashley Li
Layla Mkhayber to Claire Ollivain
Mengfan (Karen) Ji to Kiegan Mera

Motion: To accept the apologies and proxies.

Moved: James Ardouin

Seconded: Liam Donohoe

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

D. Changes to Membership

E. Electoral Report

E1. Consideration of any resignations

Vinil Kumar to Grace Bowskill

Motion: That the Council accept the resignation of Vinil Kumar to Grace Bowskill.

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Vivienne Gao

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Abbey Shi to Debbie Chan

Motion: That the Council accept the resignation of Abbey Shi to Debbie Chan.

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Róisín Murphy

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Momoko Metham, Grace Johnson and Rameen Hayat have resigned from their positions as editors of Honi Soit.

Lara Sonnenschein, Angad Roy, Robert Mason have been nominated by the Honi Editors to replace them.

Motion: That the Council accept the resignation of A Momoko Metham, Grace Johnson and Rameen Hayat from honi soit and appoint Lara Sonnenschein, Angad Roy, Robert Mason to replace them as requested but the Honi Soit editors.

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Roisin Murphy

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Reps Elects

Minutes of the Representatives Elect meeting of the 92nd SRC held on 24th October 2019 were circulated.

Minutes of the 8th and 10th regular meeting of the 91st SRC held on 4th September and 6th November 2019 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the 24th October, 4th September and 6th November 2019 be accepted.

Moved: James Ardouin

Seconded: Julia Kokic

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.

James Ardouin asked why the SRC shutdown in January.

Doon spoke about the logic behind the decision, citing that staff were concerned about the risk because they were in small, close quarters with bad ventilation and that they felt unsafe. Adding the decision was made to ensure staff were comfortable and so closed for in person appointments only. The decision was made without thinking about a media strategy, and so it came across wrong and unclear what parts of the organisation were closed, and which were not. Concluding with that it was always intended to be a temporary action and it was lifted 2 days later when it was clear that some of the fears were unwarranted.

I. Visitor's Business

There was no business for this item.

J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

Procedural motion to re-open E1. Resignations

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: James Ardouin

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

E1. Consideration of any resignations

Aayush Bhattacharya resigns as a member for the Standing Legal Committee.

Motion: to accept the resignation of Aayush Bhattacharya from the Standing Legal Committee.

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Swapnik Sanagavarapu

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Liam Donohoe thanked Aayush Bhattacharya for his service.

Motion from the Chair for a 5 min recess

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm for 5 minutes

There was a quorum count at 7:35pm.

The meeting was found quorate.

The meeting resumed at 2:35pm.

Róisín Murphy resigned as the Indigenous Students' Officer

Motion: That the Council accept the resignation of Roisin Murphy as Indigenous Students' Officer

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Swapnik Sanagavarapu

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

K. Elections

K1. Election of 2 Indigenous Students' Officer

No nominations were received

K2. Election of 1 Mature Age Students' Officer

No nominations were received

K3. Election of 1 Interfaith Officer

There was a joint nomination from Freya Chen and Jingxin (Betty) Wang

There being no other nominations Freya Chen and Jingxin (Betty) Wang were declared elected unopposed as the Interfaith Officers of the 92nd SRC.

K4. Election of 1 Student Housing Officer

There was a joint nomination received from Indra CK and Chuxin Deng

There being no other nominations Indra CK and Chuxin Deng were declared elected unopposed as the Student Housing Officers of the 92nd SRC.

There was a procedural motion from the Chair to move to K6.

K6. Election of general 2 members of the Standing Legal Committee

There was a nomination received from Debbie Chan and Xuan (Colin) Cao.

There being no other nominations Debbie Chan and Xuan Cao were declared elected unopposed as members of the Standing Legal Committee of the 92nd SRC.

L. Report of the President and Executive

L1. Executive Minutes

Minutes of the 91st Executive meetings from the 22nd of August to the 25th of November 2019.

Minutes of the 92nd Executive meetings from the 3rd December 2019 to 24th January 2020

Motion: that the minutes of the executive meetings from 22nd August 2019 to the 24th January 2020 be accepted.

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Mikaela Pappou

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

L2. Report of the Executive

Report of the executive from the 7th August to 30th November 2019 and the 92nd Executive from the 1st December 2019 to 12th Feb 2020.

Motion: to hold the report over till the next meeting.

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Vivienne Goodes

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

The President deferred the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson.

L3. President's Report

Liam Donohoe tabled a written report:

Activist initiatives

Anti-Sinophobia rallies and initiatives

I have worked with a number of groups to help organise two separate rallies in light of the recent Coronavirus outbreak and the Morrison government's racist decision to restrict entry from China to citizens and permanent residents. The first was last Friday, the 7th of February, at the Department of Home Affairs (Immigration) in Haymarket. Though small and damp, it was a fantastic demonstration of solidarity and support, with speakers from the NTEU, NSW Greens, and the SRC, among others.

An additional rally will be taking place on the first day of Welcome Week / Fest, on the 19th of February. This protest is being co-hosted by the Autonomous Collective Against Racism, NUS Ethnocultural Department, Campus Refugee Action Collective, and a few other groups. I call upon all members of the SRC to be at Fisher Library at 1pm to join us for the rally and the march down to F23. An organising meeting and banner paint will take place this Tuesday, the 18th of February, at

the SRC. Again, I call upon all students to attend and help build this important action, particularly those who like to style themselves as progressive.

The USyd SRC has, more generally, lead the national tertiary response to the Coronavirus. Abbey Shi, our General Secretary, has been particularly thorough, compassionate, and diligent in her response. Appendix one is a Facebook post which outlines our initiatives in more detail. I have criticised the government response in the Sydney Morning Herald, Guardian Australia, SBS' The Feed, and other outlets, while Abbey Shi has been on all those + the BBC, Al-Jazeera, and countless other outlets, heaping serious pressure on the University and government through her staunch advocacy and considered recommendations. We / I call upon other student unions to organise their own protests and undertake their own advocacy, particularly now that NUS Against Racism has developed a solid strategy and position. It is, frankly, disappointing that other student unions and more senior elements of the NUS have been so inactive and tepid in the face of the most significant attack on International Students, the University sector, and even Chinese people for many years.

Climate Justice Alliance Sydney

I have played a small role in the formation of the (highly promising) Sydney Climate Justice Alliance, which is a non-sectarian organising space which has brought together people from ASEN, Solidarity, Socialist Alliance, the United Workers' Union, School Strikes for Climate, Socialist Alternative, and countless other environmental groups. I am incredibly supportive of their National Day of Action on February 22nd, and believe the Alliance is one of the most exciting and paradigm-shifting developments in the Sydney Left for some time. I urge everyone involved in the SRC, and students more generally, to attend the NDA on the 22nd and to start coming along to CJA's open organising meetings.

Protests

I have attended many protests over the past few months, including:

- An Iranian solidarity rally.
- An anti-CAA / NRC (India) protest
- Countless climate-related rallies
- Invasion Day
- Justice for Walker protest
- Speakout on the 4th anniversary of David Dungay's death

And I'll be attending many more, as you all should, including tomorrow's TJ Hickey memorial rally and the February 22nd Climate action NDA.

Collectives

I have done my utmost to support and facilitate the work of all our Collectives. I have offered hands on help to Collectives / Departments as they've planned for Welcome Week (e.g. by sorting stalls, reminding OBs about deadlines, helping with printing, generating ideas for stunts / protests and giveaways, etc.), and encouraged OBs to undertake radical and thorough initiatives. I have also approved all printing requests and made sure Collectives have lots of material to distribute, for whatever that's worth.

Beyond this, I have also personally participated in Collective work, including by:

- Attending the first EAG meeting and suggesting campaign ideas / names.

- Attending the first Enviro. Collective meeting
- Calling into first Spreading the Climate Strikes meeting.

Students of Sustainability

Countless USyd students and alumni were involved in the organisation and facilitation of ASEN's annual Students of Sustainability (SoS) conference. The conference, which brought together hundreds of passionate environmentalists from across the country, was an outstanding organisational and intellectual success. I attended two days of the conference, and learnt an enormous amount and met some awesome activists from other states with whom I / the SRC can undertake further organising.

Concession Opal card campaign working group

The 92nd SRC intends to throw its weight behind a campaign for International Students to get concession Opal cards. Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, Chinese New Year, and the Summer holidays, many of those who want to be involved are not yet in the city, making organising hard. Nonetheless, we have established a working group on Facebook and have reached out to International Students through our extensive WeChat networks and platforms. We will start meeting after Welcome Week to design our campaign, which, in contrast with previous attempts, will incorporate protest and other forms of activism, rather than just petitions and government lobbying.

Managing and improving the SRC

SSAF outcomes

The University moved the SSAF application process back by 6 months, meaning it was largely completed by last year's Council / Executive. However, I was grateful that they gave me the opportunity to participate in the process and write things up for their application. I wrote the spiel for our new Foodbank, potential stipend reform, Collective funding, etc.

We had an incredible outcome. Our base amount was AU\$1,868,602.70, our highest ever (but this means nothing as they always increase it by CPI), while our contestable amount was AU\$289,137.90. This takes us to a combined total of \$2,157,740.60. This compares to AU\$1,881,651 last year, which is a massive increase. I am not *precisely* sure how this compares to the other organisations, but I believe it represents our highest proportion ever.

A number of key projects have been accepted, including:

- Sexual Assault Solicitor: \$64,972.90
- Casework Training and Outreach: \$15,270.00
- Adobe Suite for Honi Soit: \$4,000.00
- Food Closet: \$78,000.00
- Mental Health Training for Caseworkers: \$27,565.00
- Legal advice - constitutional reform: \$15,000.00
- Student Outreach (Activism): \$15,270.00
- Information Workshops: \$13,100.00
- Anti-racism campaign: \$6,000.00
- Stipend Reform: \$24,000.00
- Welcome Week: \$25,960.00

I am excited about all these projects, and have formed working groups for:

- The foodbank (which will provide free groceries and meal packs to students)
- Information sessions (which will provide information on things like their rights at work, tenancy law, criminal law (especially drugs and traffic), self-defence, etc.)
- Constitutional and regulatory reform

We will be meeting after Welcome Week to get the ball rolling on all these projects, with information sessions starting early into semester, the foodbank by mid-semester, and regulatory reform by the end of the semester.

Welcome Week

I have had direct and hands-on involvement in our Welcome Week preparations. Among other things I:

- Liaised with the USU to ensure we got all the stalls we wanted and in the ideal location (can confirm we have 12 continuous stalls out the front of Chemistry Building!)
- Helped finish Countercourse / Orientation Handbook, including by writing articles, assisting with lay-up and editing / sub-editing, etc.
- Reminding OBs about deadlines and creating how-to guides so they can adequately prepare for the week.
- Letting OBs know about different things they can do to engage and reach out to students during the Week (e.g. making sure they have organised events, encouraging them to organise protests, etc.)

Administration

Beyond all this, I have managed the usual administrative minutiae of the organisation, and am in the process of devising new / significant internal policies for things like travel / accommodation allowances, how we allocate money for printing / campaigns, managing workplace grievances, etc. I have also got near-final drafts of this year's budget and will be working with the General Secretaries to deliver the budget by the end of Feb / beginning of March at the latest. Finally, I've also tried my best to manage staff and student concerns around the Coronavirus, making sure the SRC responds in a non-discriminative but mitigatory way.

Advocacy and representation (committees / meetings)

National Union of Students

I have attended a number of NUS events, including the National Conference in early December and Presidents' Summit in early Feb. While neither was especially enlightening, I made good connections with students and leaders at other Unis, which should help in case we need to work together on big initiatives. Moreover, at the latter conference I worked with and supporting the efforts of the NUS Ethnocultural Officer, pushing those in attendance to endorse and support an anti-racist approach to the health crisis.

Committee attendance

I sit on 35 committees and have attended basically all of them (except when I've been out of the city, in which case I've delegated it to someone else). These committees include, but aren't limited to:

- Academic Board Standards and Policy Committee

- AB Undergraduate Studies Committee
- AB Quality Committee
- AB Board of Interdisciplinary Studies Committee
- University Executive Education Committee
- UE Student Life Committee
- Thematic Review (into language in 2020)

Some important proposals and conversations have taken place at these meetings, including around the new Student Association Policy, which could have large ramifications for student organisations and Collectives. It is also worth mentioning that last year the Senate approved a new “Student Charter”, which replaced the old Code of Conduct. This Charter may have large implications for students involved with the SRC, particularly with its emphasis on academic freedom, which I believe to be a reaction to no-platforming / disruption events, like 2018’s Bettina Arndt counter-demonstrations. Sadly I didn’t have an opportunity to pushback against the proposal, and it may be some time before it is reviewed again. I commend the effort of students and academics who argued that the Uni should incorporate student rights and entitlements into the Charter, and believe we should continue to push for clear entitlements.

Meetings

I have met with a number of key University figures over the past few months, including:

- Michael Spence, Vice-Chancellor
- Pip Pattison, DVC (Education)
- Susanna Scarparo, PVC (Student Life)
- Peter McCallum, Registrar
- Tony Masters, Chair of Academic Board
- Stephen Garton, Provost
- Cheryl Warton, head of protective services

Appendix one

The University of Sydney Students’ Representative Council (SRC) remains concerned with the 2019-nCoV Coronavirus outbreak, and has been working tirelessly to fight emerging racism, minimise disruption to students, and ensure best-practice health advice is followed. Contrary to criticism coming from some reactionary circles, these efforts have been practical, direct, and have made a significant difference to the lives of many affected students. Our efforts have ranged from private lobbying, to direct action and advice-giving, to a public media campaign, to protest organisation.

We first reached out to the University 4 weeks ago when the outbreak was first gaining traction in the media. Through emails, meetings, and committees, we urged the University to take a number of important steps, including:

1. Establishing a dedicated hotline for enquiries from affected students
2. Letting International Student suspend their studies with a full refund and no fee right up until the census date (March 31st)
3. Ensure on-campus accommodation and other common areas use best-practice anti-transmission methods, including the use of anti-microbial sprays.
4. Facilitating online learning for affected students from Feb 24, making all teaching activity and learning resources accessible online.

5. Developing online course resolutions which allow student to undertake their final assessments from afar.

We are pleased to report that the University has made most of these changes, though we will remain vigilant to guard against superficiality or backtracking.

The SRC has also organised a petition urging the University to move the start of semester back by two weeks. This petition got an outstanding response from students, with over 4,000 responses in less than 8 hours. Moreover, our robust data collection and storage methods ensured that all the respondents were University of Sydney students; with 5,933 signatures, about 10% of the student body endorsed the petition.

The University, regrettably, has not heeded this demand, despite this significant support (and the independently good reasons for doing so). In any case, however, they have pushed back the Masters of Commerce and Professional Accounting, respectively, which is undoubtedly a win for the many affected students in those cohorts. Moreover, the SRC has shared the data from this petition with the University to help guide their policy—we have passed on information about where students are located, what sort of help they need, what sort of changes they'd like the University to make, and even instances of contraction (which, fortunately, later turned out to be false positives).

In addition, the SRC has been providing valuable advice to students to get them through trying circumstances. Our caseworkers have been trying their best to guide students through accommodation / tenancy issues, while also guiding them through any academic or administrative procedures that have arisen. Similarly, many of our Office Bearers have been supporting their friends and peers through these difficult times. Abbey Shi, an International Student and our General Secretary, has been particularly active, assisting students whose applications to suspend studies were rejected, developing advice for the (many) students looking to return to Australia via Thailand, and liaising between affected students and the Vice-Chancellor's Office. Moreover, she is helping secure high-quality legal representation for students whose visas were canceled at the border.

The SRC has also been pushing the University to ensure it supports and affirms International Students and potential victims of Sinophobia. To that end, we will be working with the Uni, Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association - SUPRA, and the University of Sydney Union (USU) to develop an anti-racism and positive information campaign, utilising public spaces and channels of influence to communicate our solidarity with affected students and stamp out racist thoughts among staff and the rest of the student body. We will be putting up posters with similar intent and design today, courtesy of NUS Against Racism. We will also be pushing the University to increase funding for CAPS and other health services, to ensure money isn't a barrier to the support students need to get through this emergency.

Finally, the USyd SRC has played a leading role in the national and tertiary response to this crisis, mobilising students, staff, and the community against the racist travel ban that is structurally responsible for causing so much of this pain. We have made countless media statements, with the SRC and Abbey Shi quoted in dozens of outlets across the globe. We are the only student union / organisation to have organised a protest—our rally on Friday called for a more humane and medically-informed approach to the issue, and also affirmed our support for and solidarity with all Chinese people, but particularly those in Wuhan and the People's Republic. We were very

encouraged by the turnout amid torrential conditions on a workday (more info. Here: <https://honisoit.com/.../solidarity-with-wuhan-protestors-op.../>).

We are also the only student organisation that has plans for further protest—we will be assembling at Fisher Library on the first day of Welcome Week, the 19th of February (event here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1069042546799696/>). We urge other student unions across the nation to organise protests of their own, rather than sitting back and watching us do all the work.

Our demonstration on the 19th will not only call for the immediate lift of the travel ban, but also for the University and government to respond fairly and take all appropriate steps to rectify any inconvenience. We will demand, in particular, that the Uni act with unconditional compassion when receiving special considerations and deferral / withdrawal applications, that Universities and government provide financial assistance to assist students with expenses resulting from the travel ban, and that all necessary steps be taken to preserve student and working Visa despite conditions. In short, we want it to seem, to affected students, like none of this ever happened. Any costs should be covered, any inconvenience or delays made up, and any legal, academic, or pastoral obligations should be waived or altered to suit these unprecedented conditions.

It is essential that we stand together at this time, showing our total support for those affected, whether they're International Students anxious about their future, East Asian appearing Australians subject to increased vilification, or PRC citizens with the virus itself. The SRC will continue to do everything it can to make a difference, using every method of change we have at our disposal.

Discussion:

Liam Donohoe spoke to his report, thanked Abbey Shi for her work and efforts on the anti-Sinophobia and coronaviruses issues and also noted his disappointment in the lack of activity on this issue from student orgs especially NUS. He also noted there were concerns with a student

Fun fact VC Spence is enrolled in an undergraduate degree, which was interesting especially since no one has seemed to have noticed. Also promoted people to getting in touch with the

Julia Kovic congratulated Liam Donohoe on the SSAF process and initiatives and asked about how the legal advice for the constitutional reform would work and how that money would be spent.

Liam Donohoe responded saying that the work would be put out to tender and the SRC would be looking for a specialist charity law firm to review the constitution and regulations to advise on what and where the problems are, the council will work out the actual wording, what we want and don't want and then do another review to ensure that it reflects what we want.

James Ardouin inquired if there would be a working group for the constitution and regulations reform work.

Liam Donohoe said there already was and encouraged anyone interested to join the Facebook group. Adding that to pass any changes the SRC would need to call a general meeting of the student body.

Xuan Cao asked what the caseworker training and outreach involved.

The Secretary to Council gave an overview of what the outreach included giving the example of caseworkers going out to the satellite campuses with resources and sometimes chocolates or other enticements, to talk to students about their rights at university and the services available to them through the SRC.

Liam Thomas added that what money is given for in SSAF can't be spent elsewhere and must be spent on the projects it was provided for.

Motion to accept the report of the President.

Moved: Swapnik Sanagavarapu

Seconded: Liam Thomas

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

The President resumed the Chair

M. Report of the Vice-Presidents

Charlotte Bullock and Felix Faber tabled a written report:

O-Week

We have been working with other office-bearers to prepare for the SRC's presence at O-Week, including assisting with writing and editing the orientation handbook and counter-course guide, assisting with the preparation of materials for O-Week, and liaising with the University and USU. This weekend we will be continuing preparation for O-Week with other office-bearers.

Student representation

We have represented the SRC on a number of university committees, including the Student Associations' Policy Committee, the Undergraduate Studies Committee, and University Executive Student Life Committee. With other representatives on the Undergraduate Studies Committee, we were able to delay possibly harmful changes to the Education degree.

Student engagement

We have reached out to faculty societies to form an interfaculty committee, with which we can engage students in the activism of the SRC. Furthermore, we have arranged plans to present an introductory presentation about the SRC to faculty societies.

Discussion:

Charlotte Bullock spoke to the report and said that welcome week was taking up most of the time of the Vice Presidents for now and hoped to expand on projects after that.

Liam Thomas inquired about the changes to education degree.

Charlotte Bullock noted she was not sure how much she could explain and how much was still in confidence of the committee, but that it was effectively a transfer degree that would only be offered to students entering their final year of their education degree who were identified as not being able to meet the literacy and numeracy requirements to be a teacher.

Roisin Murphy asked if it was possible to give any details on what those requirements were.

Charlotte Bullock responded that they are the equivalent of a band 5 of 6 in English and maths at an HSC level and that the university is supposed to ensure students completing the degree can meet those.

David Tu asked when this degree would come into effect and if it would impact current students or only future students?

Charlotte Bullock said that if it was approved it would potentially impact those who are currently in their second year of an education degree.

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

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: James Ardouin

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

N. Report of the General Secretaries

Abbey Shi and Liam Thomas tabled a written /gave a verbal report

Welcome Week

Welcome Week is just around the corner! Over the past two months, we have spent a large amount of time organising and preparing the SRC's presence at the Welcome Festival. Once again we will have a large presence, with 12 stalls on Eastern Avenue. We will have SRC tote bags that will be distributed to students throughout the week. These are black calico tote bags which are complete with an artwork and will include items such as pens, flyers and the Countercourse Handbook, so make sure you grab one!

As part of the preparations for O-Week, we have been liaising with various Office Bearers from the National Union of Students and have organised for a number of them to be present at the SRC stalls throughout the week. These NOBs will be speaking to students about the issues that the NUS will be running campaigns on throughout this year. If you have any questions about the NUS departments or the union more broadly, this will be the perfect opportunity to come and chat to OBs!

We have also organised for a prize draw that the SRC will be running throughout O-Week, which is designed to promote greater engagement with the SRC's social media pages. The SRC's social media is a great way for the organisation to promote the services it provides, as well as advertise upcoming events that collectives are running. Growing the organisation's social media presence is a goal we have discussed with President Liam Donohoe and is someone we are keen to kick off

with this competition!

President's Summit

Last week both Abbey and I travelled to Melbourne to attend the National Union of Student's President's Summit, along with President Liam Donohoe. This was a great opportunity to meet with representatives from student unions and organisations across Australia. We heard from the NUS's national office bearers about the various campaigns they intend to run and their plans for implementing these across campuses throughout the year.

We also had the opportunity to hear from various speakers who came from a range of organisations. These speakers presented to us on a range of topics from how to effectively run a student organisation, to effectively organising campaigns, as well as helpful guides on things such as how to do a press release - this has come in handy in the last week with the situation surrounding the Coronavirus outbreak.

Coronavirus

The sudden outbreak of the Coronavirus, and the response taken by the Morrison Government to close the borders to those coming from China without an Australian passport, has created an understandably challenging situation for Chinese international students at USyd. The response from the University was initially confusing and unclear, with no real concrete solutions or accommodations made to affected students, however, we are pleased to say that on the back of pressure from groups such as the SRC they have somewhat rectified this.

As part of our response to this situation, we sent out a petition which was handed to the University, which asked them to:

- Have the commencing date pushed back to March 9
- Let international students be eligible for suspension of their studies and have full refund before census date on March 31
- Ensure international students staying in on-campus accommodation have anti-transmission methods being taken
- Allow affected students to commence their study through canvas system starting from Feb 24, with all teaching activities made available online through recording equipment on campus
- Develop online course resolution that allows students to take final assessment through distant resolution, allowing the situation where 1) the Government doesn't consider lifting or relaxing the travel ban until the end June 2) students who are based in Hubei city and Wenzhou city, whose hometown in China has an official outbound travel ban.

In response to this, the University has adopted or signalled that they will adopt, to some degree, all of these measures, besides the pushing back of the commencement date.

Further to this, Abbey, together with the team, has been updating the data report from the petition with increasing numbers of the petition and monitoring student's response to difficulties they run into with enrolment and academic plans, sending the results back to VC's office. She has also been in communication with students whose visa have been cancelled at the border and has communicated with Professor Mary Crock (Leading law expert on Immigration Law) on helping

students whose visas got cancelled.

Whilst there is still so much uncertainty surrounding this situation, with much hinging on the response of the Morrison Government and whether they decide to lift the travel ban, we will continue working to ensure that the University is taking every possible measure to accommodate students affected by this.

Other Business

Other things that we have been up to over the summer break have included working on the SRC's budget and working with the publications managers to plan out the SRC's scheduled social media posts. As part of our role on the Legal Board, we have been involved in the process of hiring a new solicitor for the office - a process that is still ongoing. We are excited to hire another solicitor very shortly as this will help take a great deal of the burden off the Principal Solicitor An Li who has been taking on an unsustainable workload recently. With regards to the budget we will get this finalised following the conclusion of Welcome Week, with this being the next item on our agenda - so hang tight OBs!

Discussion:

Both Abbey Shi and Liam Thomas spoke to their report.

Liam Thomas added to the report that he had some concerns that 40% of SSAF has gone to the faculties which is a huge proportion of money which was supposed to go to student organisations.

Abbey Shi continued noting that this is larger than in the past and this money should be with student organisations.

James Ardouin asked if there had been a Standing Legal Committee meeting yet. Noting that the Executive were only provisionally elected at the Representatives Elect meeting.

There had not.

Joseph Yang asked about what the SRC was doing to for students affected by the government travel ban over corona virus saying he was aware some students had received late fee notices while still unsure if they will be able to come to Australia to resume their studies and others were hesitant to enrol due to the unclear nature of the situation.

Abbey Shi said that the 1st of March was the deadline to make a full payment of fees and that the 30th of March was the last day students could drop out and receive a full refund for undergraduate courses. Adding that the SRC was pushing the university for there to be no penalties for late payment or late enrolment for those affected by corona virus.

Joseph said his concerns were if the university were to cancel affected student's enrolment it would affect their visas and future fees.

Abbey Shi inquired as to if this has occurred

Joseph said it had in the past but not this year that he was aware of. He also asked what the University's refund would be for students.

Abbey Shi said it would be the full normal refund but that she could talk about this issue in more depth later.

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

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Mikaela Pappou

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

N1. Report of the Standing Legal Committee

Minutes Minutes of the 91st SRC's 8th and 9th Standing Legal Committee, held on the 10th and 27th of September 2019 were circulated.

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

Motion: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Julia Kovic

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O. Report of Committees and Officers

O1. Report of the Education Officers

Jazzlyn Breen and Jack Mansell tabled a written report.

Jack Mansell Ed Officer report - Feb 2020 council

Since the beginning of my term last December, I have been involved in a series of campaigns and spaces to rebuild student activism, and expand the movement against the Morrison government.

This started with participating in the National Union of Students National Conference, where I resolve to prosecute an argument that NUS should see its strategic priority as mobilising students around the issue of the climate; due to its nature as at once a pressing issue for young people and students, as well as because of the capacity for a strong climate movement to put the Morrison government on the back foot and lay the foundations for a response to any education cuts. Part of making this argument at NUS was establishing the campaign for a national university student strike on March 13. During NUS NatCon I organised and chaired a NSW-wide meeting of activists - including students from USyd, UNSW, MQU and UTS, to establish preliminary plans for the strike in Sydney. I have since dedicated time and resources to building the March 13 uni student strike, which will be on display at welcome week.

I was, through my involvement in Uni Students for Climate Justice, part of initiating the enormous 40,000 strong 'Sydney is Choking' rally in early December, and also played a key role in organising the March on Morrison later that month, as well as the 50,000+ strong 'Sack Scomo' rally in January. These rallies were proof that it is possible for uni students to play a leading role in

mobilising people around the climate crisis. At these rallies I spent my time intersecting with uni students and young people, and making arguments about why mass mobilisations and anti-capitalist politics are necessary to resolve the climate crisis. This perspective of making left-wing arguments in the climate movement included speaking at a meeting titled 'No more bullshit: why green capitalism won't save us'. I have also obtained materials to build for the February 22 climate NDA that is at the end of welcome week.

Beyond building the climate movement on campus and in Sydney, I have been involved in building for the Invasion Day rally, including establishing alongside other SRC collectives a student contingent to the rally. In addition, I have been involved in building for and attending the Community Action for Rainbow Rights protest against Morrison's 'religious freedoms' bill. The protest against the bill was a key part of the general campaign against Morrison, and an opportunity to draw together the various struggles against Morrison.

The Ed officers also convened an EAG meeting to prepare for welcome week and sketch the general perspective for the education department in 2020. Beyond campaign activism, I played a role in compiling, editing and contributing to the countercourse handbook for welcome week. The countercourse is a useful way to reach students and make arguments about why getting involved in student activism is an important task. I have liaised with NTEU activists, including and in addition to HDR students fighting against unfair stipends.

Report from Jazzlyn Breen

I apologize for those of you who are both councilors and exec members - this is basically the same report as we gave to the exec yesterday, surprisingly not much has changed since then.

O-week

Preparations for o-week have been ongoing since last report. We have since printed a host of materials including for the February 22 climate NDA and the March 13 strike. Countercourse is now done as well. Due to the renewed anti-Chinese racism in Australian media and politics, the EAG will be focusing on supporting and standing in solidarity with Chinese international students during o-week. Various other materials have been sourced so that they can be distributed during o-week.

Counter course

Counter course is finished. Both education officers were involved in the collation, editing and laying up of the final version, in liaison with the gensecs. A series of articles covering key aspects of the student experience and activism are included.

Climate protests and rallies

A request for funding for stickers for March 13 has been submitted to the exec. There have been a series of climate rallies that the education officers have attended, including on February 2. The blockade of Coal2020 that the EAG was planning to organise students to attend has been triumphantly cancelled due to the cancellation of the Coal2020 conference. A pair of EAG members were also organised to attend the February 4 climate demonstration at parliament in Canberra.

The EAG has also been involved with on-campus group 'spreading the climate strikes', who are planning a series of events for the upcoming semester. We will be supporting them with help advertising and organizing events and campaigns.

Social media outreach

Our social media pages have been performing better than in the past, and we have been using it to a) promote EAG-sponsored events, b) inform followers of our activities, and c) publicise left-wing positions on key issues in politics and the news. Important to note is that over the break we have set up an EAG instagram account @usyd.education.action.

Invasion day

Both education officers attended the Invasion Day rally as part of the student contingent to the march. Jack was part of organising the Uni Students for Climate Justice contingent to the rally. We used the chance to promote upcoming events including Gweagal and the February 22 climate NDA.

Standing up to Anti-Chinese racism

The EAG has taken a strong stance against anti-Chinese racism on campus. We have republished statements regarding the government's racist response to the coronavirus, and are planning a poster run in the lead up to o-week to disseminate posters produced by the NUS Ethnocultural Department and NTEU to stand in solidarity with Chinese students. The EAG supported the SRC and NTEU's rally against the travel ban on Chinese nationals, and is supporting and co-organising the o-week action in solidarity with Chinese students.

Outreach

Jack has been attending UNSW o-week events in collaboration with the UNSW education officer and Uni Students for Climate Justice to build for the March 13 climate strike. Collaboration with city (and nation)-wide activists is a crucial part of our strategy to fulfil our role in combating government and campus-based attacks.

250 years of resistance gathering

Jazz and other EAG members have been involved with the planning and organising of this event, which will be a national convergence held in April to protest the circumnavigation of the endeavor. The gathering draws on inspiration from a similar event held in 1988, which saw 30,000 people gather on the beaches in protest of the bicentenary celebrations. Meetings have been held with Bidjigal elders, who still live on one of the first ever missions created. Elders have expressed their wishes for university students to have a large role in the organisation of this event, including providing resources and organising capacity. Meetings will be held every Tuesday from now on, all are welcome.

EAG plans for fundraising, film screenings and student education campaigns are in the works.

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

Motion: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Kedar Maddali

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

02. Report of the Wom*n's Officers

Ellie Wilson and Vivienne Guo tabled a written report

GROWING STRONG 2020

Over the holidays, we have finished putting together our annual publication, Growing Strong, which has been printed and is ready for distribution during Welcome Week. Growing Strong is an annual publication organised and produced autonomously by the USyd Women's Collective. The publication platforms anti-capitalist, anti-colonialist, and intersectional feminist voices, painting a portrait of current radical feminist discourse through topics like prison abolition, police violence, sexual violence on campus, dismantling the colleges and more. Growing Strong provides also insight into the activism and history of the Women's Collective and Women's Officers on and off campus.

You can pick up a copy in the SRC or at our Welcome Week stall!

MERCH

We have made WoCo merch, currently including stickers and tote bags, which are intended for Welcome Week distribution.

WELCOME WEEK

WoCo will have a stall for Welcome Week, and we are also planning an action around the campaign against sexual violence on campus. Additionally, we will be holding a cross-collective picnic with ACAR, QuAC, Enviro and EAG to encourage new members and others who may be interested in our activism to engage with the collective.

STUDENTS OF SUSTAINABILITY AND CONSENT WORKSHOPS

At the annual Students of Sustainability (SoS) conference organised by Australian Student Environmental Network (ASEN), this year held in USyd's Cumberland campus, Women's Officers Vivienne Guo and Ellie Wilson along with Sexual Harassment Officer Kimberley Dibben ran a Consent 101 Workshop. These consent workshops were based on a guide written by Holly Brooke, Alysha Hardy and Imogen Grant. Holly helped us facilitate our workshop and we are grateful for her help! In the future, we intend to run these workshops again as part of our work towards building the campaign against sexual violence on campus.

WORKING WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS

WoCo have been in touch with community activist groups, namely Indigenous Social Justice Association and GMAR. We have organised student contingents to actions such as Invasion Day and the GMAR rally held on the 12th anniversary of Kevin Rudd's apology to the Stolen Generations. Throughout the year, we intend to work closely with ISJA and GMAR, and platform their voices and be active accomplices to First Nations activism.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD)

WoCo is organising events for the University's 'International Women's Day' Week, which will be from the 2nd - 6th March, ahead of IWD on 8th March. We are working with the University and Safer Communities on our events, which will consist of educational panels on consent, indigenous

justice and more. At the end of the week, we will wrap up with the Growing Strong 2020 launch party, by which time we hope to have shirts to release as well.

We will be forming a student contingent to the International Women's Day March as well.

Discussion:

Vivienne Guo spoke to the report and outlined its main points.

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

Motion: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Isla Mowbray

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O3. Report of the Global Solidarity Officers

In the first two months of holding this position I have been involved in a number of campaigns and activities to fight for social justice and show solidarity with those resisting barbarism and oppression around the world.

So far this year the climate crisis has continued to be an issue that is mobilising thousands, and I have partaken in organising, building, and attending a number of protests to demand immediate action on the bushfire crisis. The bushfires have so far taken over 30 lives, destroyed hundreds of homes, poisoned the air we breathe, killed over a billion animals, and destroyed millions of acres of vital bushland. In the face of this crisis, the response from the Liberal Government has been one of criminal neglect. Both the Liberal and Labor Party continue to prioritise their loyalty to the fossil fuel industry over the lives of ordinary people.

I also attended the NUS National Conference and argued for the student union to take up a strategy of mobilising students to fight around key issues such as the climate, education, anti-racism, and LGBTI rights. I also argued for the NUS to support an NDA calling for immediate action on the climate crisis. This NDA will be coordinated across the country and plans to mobilise thousands of students in the fight for climate justice.

The end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020 has also seen mass revolts break out across the world as swathes of ordinary people in Chile, Lebanon, and Hong Kong take to the streets to fight against austerity and state authoritarianism. To show solidarity with these struggles I attended rallies to show support to those fighting in Chile and Lebanon. I have also helped to build the Boycott Puma campaign to promote Palestine activism and support the Palestinian struggle against apartheid. Since there was no Facebook page for this position I have created one and am in the process of building a following and sharing important events/articles.

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

Motion: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Róisín Murphy

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O4. Report of the Welfare Officers

As Welfare Officer this January, I tried to be involved in as many campaigns as possible. As the Religious Exemptions bill is drafted to be discussed when parliament reconvenes, I helped Community Action for Rainbow Rights plan a rally against the bill for the 8th of February. I also helped paint a banner for that rally and went to two organising meetings. LGBTI+ rights are key issues for young people, and if the government passed this bill it would greatly impact LGBTI+ peoples material conditions and mental health. I was also involved in the protests against the horrific bushfires. I helped organise and build for the over 40 000 rally calling for Scott Morrison to be sacked. The fires are directly linked to climate change, and it is an injustice that our government is giving more money to subsidise fossil fuel companies than it is giving to fire fighters. I also helped build the important Invasion Day protest that is always well attended.

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

Motion: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Vivienne Gou

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O5. Report of the Queer Officers

Welcome Week

QUAC will be presenting our new logo and some corresponding merch at Welcome Week where we will have a stall providing important and accurate pamphlets and other resources. We will have members of SWOP (Sex Workers Outreach Project) at our stall on one day to talk with students should they have any questions. QUAC will also host a Queer Drinks event, and co-host a picnic with other SRC collectives to have a fun and informal discussion and introduce new activists to old.

Mardi Gras

This year, various Queer Collectives of NSW Universities have a join Mardi Gras float, of which QuAC is a major component. The float is a contingent of Pride in Protest, and is titled 'No Pride in Religious Exemptions: Support Students Now!' which was chosen to tie in with the 2020 Mardi Gras theme of 'What Matters' and in relation to the contemporary Religious Exemptions Bill.

Conferences and Contingents

QuAC members have recently attended a number of protests, including Invasion Day protests, protests against the Sinophobic travel ban by the Australian Government, and a protest against the Religious Exemptions bill. During the holidays, QuAC members attended the Students of Sustainability conference which was a valuable opportunity to gain skills related to activism, as well as learn about a broad range of issues.

Queer Thinking

On the 22nd and 23rd of February, as part of Mardi Gras the Seymour Centre is hosting 'Queer Thinking', a series of talks relating to grassroots queer activism and issues pertaining to the LGBT+ community. We are interested in sending students to a few of these sessions, as it is a wonderful opportunity to 'skill-up' as well as a chance for us to appreciate the scope of queer activism on both a local and global scale.

Pride Week

Pride Week is in Week 2 of Semester 1, and we have been organising a panel to be held on Tuesday 3rd March, to be co-hosted with SUPRA Queer Network. The theme of this panel is the future of queer activism in 2020 and some challenges facing it, and will be covering a range of different issues, with speakers in from various different grassroots community groups.

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

Motion: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Xuan Cao

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O6. Report of the Environment Officers

The Environment Collective has been very busy since the end of last year and beginning of this year. Under the wing of the Australian Student Environmental Network (ASEN) we have been a part of many different actions off-campus. This includes:

- Global day for Climate Justice Rally
- March on Morrison: Bridge Walk for Climate Justice
- Climate Crisis: National Day of Action
- Students of Sustainability conference - the largest student environmental conference in Australia
- Shut down Coal 2020 conference
- The formation of the NSW Climate Justice Alliance

This report will begin with what work we have been a part of off campus and what you can expect in the coming weeks, going into semester!

GLOBAL DAY FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

This began a great alliance between different environmental groups off and on campus. We developed community demands, which focused heavily on Indigenous land and water sovereignty and worker's rights – a just transition to renewable energy. The heat kept some people away, but despite this we still marched effectively and occupied the main road following Elizabeth Street to the Liberal HQ! This was a seminal protest that triggered a series of similarly minded snap rallies at Town Hall over the summer break.

MARCH ON MORRISON

Greens MP David Shoebridge helped orchestrate this event, alongside ASEN. We lead a massive contingent across the Sydney Harbour Bridge in order to raise awareness with Scott Morrison's delinquency in relation to the bushfires. During this time he was on his secret holiday to Hawaii

and we publicly condemned him for it. Numbers were great!

CLIMATE CRISIS: NDA (Feb 22)

This is coming up at the end of Welcome Week and it's looking to be a great success. Other two thousand people have clicked going on the event and the word is being spread through huge enviro and non-enviro networks! We have developed close relationships with Indigenous Communities and Workers, thanks to ASEN and continue to stand alongside these groups in the fight for our main demands. They are listed here:

1. 100% renewable energy - reduce emissions now. Build a 100% publicly owned renewable energy system by 2030. Just transition for communities and guaranteed jobs for affected fossil fuel workers. Fund good low-emissions jobs in transport, manufacturing, disaster relief, health, education, energy, and climate adaptation.
2. No new fossil fuel or nuclear projects. End subsidies to these industries.
3. Fund our fires - support communities. Increase funding and resources to cope with longer and more intense fire seasons. Pay rural firefighters and reverse cuts to parks and fire services. Guaranteed homes and jobs for fire-affected communities.
4. First nations justice. Funding for Indigenous-led land management with jobs on country to repair ecosystems, reduce emissions and reduce fire risk. Land and water rights for Indigenous peoples.

STUDENTS OF SUSTAINABILITY – SOS

This was run by ASEN and was a massive success! They got hundreds of activists from across the nation and lead rolling workshops over multiple days. It was located at the University of Sydney Cumberland campus this year and we're excited to hear when the next one will be!

CLIMATE JUSTICE ALLIANCE

The Enviro Collective were lucky to be a part of the organisation of the new Climate Justice Alliance which is the Sydney amalgamation of different enviro groups or interested persons. Anyone is welcome to join! Check out the Facebook page for updates!

UP & COMING

WELCOME WEEK

This is going to be a big week and we're very excited! We have our own totes, stickers & flyers, as well as t-shirts from ASEN! We're looking to heavily increase numbers and also launch what we hope will become an annual publication – Combust! If people are keen to help man the stall, let us know :)

COMBUST

This magazine was an amazing product of many members of the Enviro Collective. It's a handbook which gives insight into environmental issues and important conversations being had – including anti-nuclear debate, what is just transitions and importance of decolonisation & anti-capitalism! 28 pages long, with beautiful artwork and photography from our many contributors. We're so lucky to have a great group that can produce such informative literature!

FUTURE PLANS

Of course the bushfires are going to take centre stage in upcoming weeks, but we also do not want to lose focus of the water crisis effecting rural (mainly Indigenous) communities. We want to work closely with ISJA and Workers for Climate Action! The collective will be supporting the strikes and the activism of ASEN over semester and we're excited for many more chances to spread enviro awareness with regular stalls, meetings and drinks! Watch this space, there's a lot to come!

Sofie Nicholson spoke to her report and encouraged everyone to come to the 22 Feb Climate Action Day, adding that it has been organized by a coalition of environmental activist groups including, the school strikes, extinction rebellion, and campus organisers. Adding this was building towards a May 15 School Strike and also a May 1 action day for the union movement, saying there is a climate mandate this year.

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

Motion: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Nina Mountford

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

P. Special Business

There were no items of special business.

Q. Motions of Notice

Procedural motion from the Chair that Q2, 3, 11, 15, and 16, be voted for en bloc.

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

Liam Donohoe proposed an amendment to Q2 to remove action point three, and add to action point two "and a shuttle bus from Conservatorium to Camperdown campus".

There being no dissent it was amended.

Motion: to accept motions Q2, 3, 11, 15, and 16 en bloc.

Moved: Julia Kokic

Seconded: Liam Donohoe

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

The contents of these motions are grouped here:

Q2. USYD Inter-Campus Shuttle Bus Services

Preamble:

The University of Sydney offers a free inter-campus shuttle bus, running regularly throughout semester. This service is one of the key ways in which the university attempts to promote

safety for its students particularly after-hours. Unfortunately, however this service is underutilised. The services that are currently on offer are summarised below:

Location	Service Details
<p>Camperdown/Darlington to Redfern Station</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hours of operation: It operates from 4pm–10.30pm all year, apart from weekends, Public Holidays or the Christmas shut down period. • Regular service: 4pm–10.30pm • Express service: 4pm–9 • Regular and express services run every 20 minutes • Route: Fisher Library to Redfern train station via Manning Road, Western Avenue, Carillion Ave, City Road, Butlin Avenue, Maze Crescent, and Blackwattle Creek Lane
<p>Cumberland Campus to Lidcombe Station</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hours of operation: Departs Cumberland Campus every 20 minutes between 5.30pm and 9.30pm on weekdays during semester. • Route: Between the Cumberland Campus (Faculty of Health Sciences) from the bus stop in the car park near Block E to Lidcombe railway station.
<p>Camperdown Campus to Australian Technology Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hours of operation: Departs Fisher Library at 10.20am, 12.30pm, 3.30pm and 4pm. <p>Departs Australian Technology Park at 10.35am, 12.45pm, 3.45pm and 4.15pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Route: Fisher Library on the Camperdown Campus to Australian Technology Park.
<p>Camperdown Campus to Rozelle Campus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hours of operation: Departs Fisher Library on Camperdown campus: 8.20am (via Mallett Street), 9.20am, 11.30am (via Mallett Street), 1pm (via Mallett Street), 2.30pm, 4pm and 5pm.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday evening services depart Fisher Library at 6pm and 7pm. • Runs on weekdays during semester, with limited Wednesday evening services. • Route: Departing Rozelle: 8.50am, 9.50am (via Mallett Street), 12pm, 1.30pm (via Mallett Street), 3pm, 4.30pm and 5.30pm. Wednesday evening services depart Rozelle at 6.30pm and 7.30pm.
<p>Camden Campus to Oxley St Camden CBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hours of operation: 6.40am-10:10am (Monday-Friday), 8.40am-4:10pm (Weekends and Public Holidays) • Route: The free shuttle bus between the Camden Campus and Oxley Street, Camden CBD runs 52 weeks per year.

Sourced from: <https://sydney.edu.au/campus-life/getting-to-campus/campus-bus.html>

As a council we should be doing all we can to promote the safety of students. The transport to and from campus is one that students make on a regular basis and therefore it is vital we ensure transportation offered is not only accessible to students but well promoted and advertised.

Action:

1. The SRC acknowledges the priority of student safety and mobility by committing to raising awareness about these free shuttle bus services.
2. The SRC raises the possibility of an additional shuttle bus service at the Cumberland campus and a shuttle bus from Conservatorium to Camperdown campus to be raised with University administration.

Q3. Call on the University to improve Wifi services across the Camperdown/Darlington Campus

Preamble:

The University of Sydney is a world ranking institution having regularly been ranked in the top 50 universities across the world. It prides itself on its modern facilities and quality of education. However, that quality of education is diminished by the unreliability of the Wifi service on Camperdown/Darlington Campus. Despite the political divisions in the Council, the poor wifi connection experienced in outdoor study spaces or at Fisher Library is not an issue that requires factional alliance. Indeed, this is an issue that we as a council can unite on to bring about real change for USYD students; the exact reason we were elected as student representatives and office bearers on this council. Internet connection has become essential

to modern tertiary education; to catch up on lectures and do research for assessments. Even some units, certain OLE and indeed unit of study outlines are 100% taught online. These conditions demand a reliable, stronger internet service across campus to facilitate student learning.

Action:

1. The SRC acknowledges the frustration of students in regard to poor internet or WIFI connection and the fact that this can limit study productivity.
2. In passing this motion the SRC demonstrates its commitment to improving this issue by presenting student concern about this issue to the University administration and IT services.

Originally

Moved: Julia Kokic

Seconded: Gabi Stricker-Phelps

Q11. Standardised Simple Extensions

Preamble

Sadly, issues of mental health amongst young people are on the rise. We know that students face issues and can encounter general misadventure when they least expect it. In addition, many students struggle with physical health and illnesses that are simply beyond their control. They have to do these things whilst keeping up with course content, assignment after assignment and frequent exams and quizzes.

The special consideration and special arrangements system has many issues that need to be addressed. It is difficult for students to meet strict requirements. And the system has rejected students who have supplied documentation. Also, it is very slow to respond to students, leaving them to stress over whether they need to sit that exam or not or when to submit that assignment.

For some students, they turn to simple extensions, where the UOS coordinator can grant a 2 day extension. This is an easier, less stressful and more personal way to get extensions for assessment tasks. Often the case, answers can come quicker and is often a more compassionate system. And the ability to converse with a real person in an informal process is always better than dealing with a machine.

However, there are several faculties and University schools (including psychology and pharmacy) who simply do not allow simple extensions in any circumstances. This severely disadvantages students and leaves them only with the special consideration system. There has also been a reluctance amongst some UOS coordinators to grant simple extensions, creating an inconsistent system where it really depends on which coordinator a student so happens to get.

Action

1. The SRC, in consultation with our Casework and Policy Department, will investigate which faculties, University schools, disciplines and lecturers do not offer simple extensions.
2. The President will write a letter to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) and Chair of the Academic Board:
 - a. Expressing the SRC's support for a compassionate and consistent simple extension system across every faculty and University school;
 - b. Attaching a copy of this motion; and
 - c. Urge the implementation of a University-wide policy or guideline for simple extensions.
3. The President and SRC representatives will raise this issue to the University committee, Student Consultative Committee and Academic Board meetings, and will investigate how a University-wide policy or guideline for simple extensions could be implemented.

Originally

Moved: Dane Luo

Seconded: James Ardouin

Q.15 Don't Be A Scab – Support Staff on Unit of Study Surveys (USS)

Preamble

1. Unit of Study Surveys are used by university managements to discipline staff unfairly and discriminatorily. While staff generally appreciate constructive feedback, the mechanism of unit of study surveys is highly flawed. As anonymous surveys they allow students to discriminate against staff without reproach. 6 out of 10 respondents to a National Tertiary Education Union survey about student evaluations said that response rates were below 30%, an inaccurate measure of a cohort. 9 out of 10 respondents said that student evaluations are used to manage staff performance – perhaps as opposed to managing units of study themselves. Few respondents said student evaluations correctly reflected their quality of teachings.
2. Often universities will discipline academics whose first language isn't English if students make problematic comments about this in unit of study surveys – this can take on an especially racist nature when used against non-white academics. Staff face disproportionately significant employment issues from the university over issues like this. 6 out of 10 respondents to an NTEU survey about student evaluations said discriminatory or abusive comments had been made to them by students in student evaluations.
3. In the few cases where staff complain to the university about survey responses, only one in ten of these are chased up by the university. 7 out of 10 staff remembers have reported distress from student evaluation comments. For a significant amount of these, this has led to physical impacts such as loss of sleep, appetite and motivation.

Platform

1. Staff working conditions are student learning conditions. For the sake of both staff and students, unit of study surveys in their current form should be scrapped.
2. Future attempts of student evaluation should focus on course content reviews and involve a collaborative approach between staff rather than a manager-worker dynamic that plagues the modern university and can enforce disproportionate penalties on staff.
3. Students should fight for the rights of staff on campus, including more collegial and less corporate processes of resolving complaints that involve genuine improvement of teaching rather than financial and employment penalties.

Action

1. The USyd SRC should support the efforts of office bearers to raise the consciousness of the student body about the misuse of unit of study surveys.
2. The USyd SRC will encourage students to be empathetic and constructive in any unit of study surveys they complete.

Originally

Moved: Felix Faber

Secoded: Liam Donohoe

Q.16 USyd SRC Opposes Cuts to Library Staffing Hours

Preamble:

1. USyd has made a change proposal to the staffing at libraries at USyd which cuts working hours for some of the lowest paid workers in the university. The cut hours also largely occur at times when workers receive extra pay for unsociable working hours.
2. Given the casualisation of work across the university and the increasing late-night use of libraries by the student body, these cuts are likely occurring to cut costs. One reason given for the change is to standardise library opening hours – yet the university is suggesting cuts to hours rather than extensions to make this standardisation. The change proposal claims this isn't the driving motive behind the change yet highlights it several times. However, in the context of cuts across the university and the culture of managers cutting costs to earn executive bonuses, the lack of positive reasons for change suggest otherwise.
3. To add insult to injury, despite the SRCs dissension the change proposal mentions that it consulted the SRC to justify the changes.

Platform:

1. The USyd SRC stands against cuts to library staffing hours.
2. The change proposal suggests less than \$400,000 dollars will be saved by this change. The USyd SRC suggests this money, and more, be taken out of Vice Chancellor Michael Spence's pay instead. The USyd SRC condemns the inequality in wages between USyd's executive management and other, increasingly casualised, staff.

Action:

1. The USyd SRC President and Education Officers will write to the University of Sydney library management demanding a meeting and the cancelling of these changes, and prepare a survey for students to demonstrate what the student body really thinks about these changes.

Originally

Moved: Felix Faber

Seconded: Liam Donohoe

Procedural motion from the Chair that Q4, 5, 6, 7, and 14, be voted for en bloc.

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

Motion: to accept motions Q4, 5, 6, 7, and 14 en bloc

Moved: from the Chair

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

The contents of these motions are grouped here.

Q4. Solidarity with the NTEU's "Unlearn Managerialism" campaign

Preamble

1. On the 14th of December, 2018, the University announced to staff in the Faculty of Health and Medicine, that it was planning to close the Anderson Stuart building and remove researchers to another destination. The cause was cited as health and safety concerns and yet the WHS reports have not been made available to WHS officers or general staff, in breach of WHS legislation. Management have not identified a possible location large enough to move the entirety of staff affected. An email in February to staff indicated that the building was being shut down due to maintenance costs, without mention of the WHS concerns. The decisions made by management have greatly impacted on the confidence of staff in being able to complete their research and teaching commitments.
2. The ICT and HR help desks have been subject to unworkable change proposals, including mergers and de-skilling of staff. The botched introductions of service programs have increased call waiting times up to 30 minutes. Senior management have refused to revise change proposals sufficiently to include staff concerns.
3. These have caused severe mental health problems amongst staff, as management treat them as statistics and dispensable employees. Management have acted carelessly in their response, shifting blame onto individuals as opposed to process and structures which render staff powerless.
4. In response, the NTEU has launched an Unlearn Managerialism campaign with a rally at Fisher Library and down Eastern Avenue on Wednesday the 27th. The rally heard from both professional and teaching staff speakers, who outlined the absurdity of change proposals and processes and the personal cost of these.
5. The EAG aided in building this rally and attending it, recognising that when staff are placed under severe stress, when professional and teaching jobs are cut, when facilities are shutdown, students suffer too. The ability for students to learn without obstacles and

barriers is dependent on the ability of staff to deliver educational objectives. The rights of students and staff are fundamentally entwined and therefore an attack on workers' rights is an attack on the rights of current and future staff.

Platform

1. The University of Sydney SRC recognises that staff working conditions are student learning conditions.
2. The University of Sydney SRC stands with NTEU in demanding that management treat staff with respect and dignity and respond to their concerns.
3. The University of Sydney SRC condemns senior managements tactics of individual bullying of staff, bypassing of EBA guidelines and WHS legislation, and the complete lack of concern for workers' rights and lives.

Action

1. The University of Sydney SRC endorses the "Unlearn Managerialism" campaign organized by the National Tertiary Education Union.
2. The University of Sydney SRC will help support future actions called as part of the campaign including promotion via the SRC Facebook page, website, in Honi Soit and by encouraging students to attend campaign actions, forums, speakouts and contingents organised by the Education Action Group.

Originally

Moved: Deaglan Godwin

Secoded: Grace Bowskill

Q5. Protest Mark Latham & One Nation! Fighting the rise of the racist far right.

Preamble

1. Former Labor leader, Sky News commentator and far right pundit Mark Latham was elected to the NSW Parliament in the 23 March election on the One Nation ticket.
2. Latham is an extreme bigot and racist who regularly claims that Australia has a "Muslim problem" and blames migrants for declining infrastructure and city planning, not the politicians responsible. He stated that Wollongong risks becoming "the Bangkok of the south," employing racist dog-whistles against ethnic and religious minorities in his state election campaign.
3. Latham's rhetoric mirrors that of white supremacists and online hate groups. He supported Pauline Hanson's "it's okay to be white" motion - a slogan derived from the fascist myth of white victimhood in Western countries. He ran on an election platform of forcing Indigenous people to take DNA tests to prove their Aboriginality. Latham has also attacked Muslims, immigrants and their supporters as "anti-white racists."
4. He rails against trans rights, despised the victory for marriage equality in 2017 and was a leader of the bigoted 'No' campaign. Latham used his previous platform at Sky News to slander the Safe Schools program and peddle homophobic and transphobic conspiracy theories.
5. Following Christchurch, it is clear that figures on the electoral Right, such as Latham, encourage fascist terrorism with their score-long campaign of Islamophobia and racist

scapegoating and fear-mongering. It is, therefore, crucial that all anti-racists take direct action to confront an emboldened and dangerous far right.

6. One such action is the 7 May protest against Mark Latham and his fellow One Nation MP which will take place on the first sitting day of the NSW Legislative Council. The protest is being organised by Unite Against The Far Right and NUS Against Racism.

Platform

1. The University of Sydney SRC strongly condemns Islamophobia, racism, homophobia and transphobia as well as its normalisation in mainstream politics.
2. The University of Sydney SRC reaffirms its commitment to standing against all forms of hatred and oppression as an integral part of its student advocacy role.
3. The University of Sydney SRC denounces the use of racist dog-whistles, fear-mongering and scapegoating by politicians, including those in the major parties. The SRC recognises and commits to fighting back against the dangerous, real-life consequences of ethnic and religious minorities being expended as political capital.
4. The University of Sydney SRC reaffirms the importance of publicly confronting governments, institutions, groups and individuals trying to legitimise Islamophobia, racism, homophobia and transphobia.
5. The University of Sydney SRC stands in solidarity with students and members of the broader public being vilified and discriminated for their race, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity.
6. The University of Sydney SRC recognises the urgency of fighting against the rise of the racist far right, particularly, in light of the Christchurch attack and the recent San Diego shooting.

Action

1. The USYD SRC Facebook page share the Event for the protest against Mark Latham and One Nation (<https://www.facebook.com/events/930084250666185/>) and encourage students to join the action.
2. Individual councillors will promote the protest by sharing it to their Facebook feed, story or other social media channels.
3. Councillors will encourage the campus collectives and groups with which they are affiliated to attend the protest.
4. The USYD SRC Facebook page will publish the text of this motion along with the FB event.

Originally

Moved: Ken Pak

Seconded: Clara da Costa-Reidel

Q6. Solidarity with the Algerian and Sudanese revolutions

Preamble

Hundreds of thousands of people have taken to the streets in Algeria and Sudan demanding democracy and an end to austerity and oppression of minorities. Protesters in both countries

have already toppled unpopular long term dictators and are now refusing to acknowledge the military leaderships which have assumed control of their respective countries.

In Khartoum, demonstrators have occupied the space in front of the army headquarters for an entire month, demanding the military council step down. The Professionals Association, which has been at the forefront of the demonstrations, is calling for a civilian lead interim government until a free election can be held.

In Algiers, protesters have flooded the city every Friday for 10 consecutive weeks calling for an end to the old regime and the departure of the military leadership that replaced former president Bouteflika after he was forced to step down in the wake of massive demonstrations.

Oppressed groups are at the forefront of these revolutionary movements. In Sudan around 70% of the protestors are women. At the start of each day, protesters gathered at the army headquarters call out the military's racism, and proclaim "We are all Darfur" in solidarity with those in western Sudan who have suffered severe military repression and genocide for over a decade at the hands of the military under former president Bashir.

These protests are a continuation of the 2011 Arab revolutions, as severe austerity and repression continue across the region. Symbols of solidarity with other struggles against oppressive regimes can be seen everywhere. Huge Palestinian flags are flown from roof tops, in recognition of the fight for liberation from Israeli occupation, and "Bashir then Bashar" is a popular slogan, referring to the popular struggle against the repressive Assad dictatorship in Syria.

The SRC should stand in solidarity with the Algerian and Sudanese people's revolutionary struggle for democracy and freedom, and any other movement to overthrow repressive, military regimes in the region.

Platform

1. The SRC stands in solidarity with poor and oppressed people around the world fighting for democracy and economic justice.
2. The SRC supports the struggles of ordinary people against repressive dictatorships.
3. The SRC stands in solidarity the Algerian and Sudanese revolutions.

Action

1. The SRC will promote and attend any demonstrations called in Sydney in support of the Algerian and Sudanese revolutions.
2. The SRC will take a photo of solidarity with the Algerian and Sudanese revolutions to be posted from the SRC Facebook page along with the text of this motion.

Originally

Moved: Clara da Costa-Reidel

Seconded: Vinil Kumar

Q7. Demand political parties support students this election

Political parties take students for granted. They know that they can win student votes without supporting our demands. This is not good enough. If they want our votes we should insist that they support us and take up our demands of free education, raising Newstart, real action on climate change and an end to offshore detention. While achieving these measures will require the pressure of protests and mass action, short of this, students should vocally demand parties support our demands or risk losing our votes.

For students across the country, education is getting more and more expensive while its quality is in decline. Government funding is low by OECD standards, class sizes have ballooned and the TAFE system has been gutted. In 2008, TAFES taught 80% of vocational education, but now they only teach 24%. It is estimated that between 2010 and 2014 the Victorian Liberal Government cut TAFE funding by over \$1.2billion and fired over 2000 TAFE teaching jobs.

Education is Australia's third largest export, after coal and iron ore, yet this hasn't stopped the attacks to make education even more profitable.

In 2017, the Liberals cut \$2.8billion of funding, increased fees by 7.5% and lowered the HECS repayment threshold to \$42 000 a year.

Those attacks have meant that National student debt has quadrupled from \$12billion in June 2006, to \$48billion in June 2016, and is projected to reach almost \$200billion in 2025. On top of this, international students are forced to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to pay upfront for their degrees. Furthermore, the Liberals maintain the aim of fee deregulation as they attempted in 2014, with Simon Birmingham saying that deregulation has been deferred and not defeated.

Today, this means that students are paying more for their degrees while the cost of living rises. One in seven students skip meals because they can't afford it. Penalty rates have been cut while housing prices and rent continue to rise. Youth unemployment is also rising and young people are one of the most vulnerable and exploited sections of the workforce. Universal free tertiary education would greatly ease the financial stress of impoverished students and it could be easily funded. It is calculated that the total additional funding required to fund free education between 2019-2030 is \$91.3billion, or \$8.3 billion a year. This is less money than the annual cost of state and federal mining subsidies and much less than our military spending, which is projected to rise to \$59 billion per year in 2025-26. Funding could easily come from a modest increase to the tax rate, or a reduction in the defence budget or the abolition of mining subsidies.

As students we should also be demanding that the rate of Newstart be raised. The rate of Newstart has not been raised since 1996 and payments are 50% below the poverty line. A new snapshot Anglicare study found that for the 500 000 single people on a Newstart allowance only two rental listings across Australia were affordable, and neither were in a capital city.

In order to get Newstart, recipients need to show they're applying for jobs or doing training courses. They do that through private employment service providers which force people into TAFE courses that will not guarantee a person a job, resulting in many participants forced into multiple TAFE courses with no job in sight and barely surviving on less than a living wage.

New figures from the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM) show that a small \$75 weekly increase in the Newstart allowance would bring it up to a living wage. It would reduce the poverty rate in Australia by 0.8 per cent while also reducing inequality. A #RaisetheRate campaign is demanding that parties support this demand in the upcoming election.

Calling on political parties to provide free education and raise Newstart would greatly help students. It has been done before and as student unionists we shouldn't be calling for anything less, especially in the lead up to a federal election.

Platform

1. The University of Sydney SRC recognises that students are suffering under the current HECS/HELP fee model.
2. The University of Sydney SRC condemns the Liberal government and their attacks on higher education and student welfare.
3. The University of Sydney SRC stands unequivocally for free education as the only funding model that ensures higher education remains accessible to all students.
4. The University of Sydney SRC acknowledges the crucial importance of protest politics in past victories and commits to a protest campaign in response to future attacks.
5. The University of Sydney SRC believes students should only support parties that support free education in the upcoming federal election.
6. The University of Sydney SRC recognises the current Newstart and Youth allowance is below the living wage and is contributing to inequality and poverty for students.
7. The University of Sydney SRC commits to supporting the #RaisetheRate campaign.
8. The University of Sydney SRC commits to supporting parties who support raising Newstart and Youth allowance in the upcoming federal election.

Action

1. The University of Sydney SRC should publish a statement to students saying to only vote for parties that support free education for domestic and international students and raising the Newstart and Youth allowance.
2. The University of Sydney SRC will publish an ad in Honi Soit with this statement.

Originally

Moved: Maddie Clark

Seconded: Gina Elias

Q14. Condemning the Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation

Preamble:

Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence is sending a new proposal to the Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation. The elitism and racism of this organisation is well-documented. Spence is selling this new deal as being moderate and considerate of academic freedom and independence for the Ramsay Centre. The reality is that the new deal is in some ways even worse than previous offers.

The new Ramsay proposal operates through the Bachelor of Advanced Studies, which is made up of students with overall higher ATARs. The ATAR system is based on your schooling and postcode rather than effort, or in other words with privilege. So, this is a way to target Ramsay at privileged, wealthier students.

Additionally, the new proposal seeks to expand the teaching of Ramsay from beyond a handful of students to a group of 1100. While this is being sold as make Ramsay less elite, because it targets students in Advanced Studies it is really just an expansion to teach Ramsay to even more students.

Platform:

1. The USyd SRC opposes the Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation
2. The USyd SRC condemns the latest proposal Michael Spence has sent to the Ramsay Centre

Action:

1. The USyd SRC will support the work of activist collectives working to stop the Ramsay Centre

Originally

Moved: James Newbold

Seconded: Felix Faber

Q1. Support the Palm Sunday rally for refugee rights!

Preamble

- 1) Over the past six years, refugees have been subjected to horrific conditions on the offshore detention centres on Manus and Nauru at the hands of the Australian government. These conditions have long been the subject of criticism by activists and anti-racists, as well as international bodies such as the UN, as they have been the cause of extreme mental and physical suffering endured by refugees, and have led to 12 deaths and several more attempted suicides.
- 2) On Palm Sunday (April 14) at 2pm, there will be a rally at Belmore Park in support of refugees and their right to seek asylum. This action calls for all those in support to come together and demand the federal government end offshore detention and resettle those on Manus and Nauru in Australia.

Platform

- 1) The University of Sydney's SRC opposes racism in all of its forms.
- 2) The University of Sydney's SRC supports the human right to seek asylum.
- 3) The University of Sydney's SRC condemns the Australian government's adherence to racist and anti-refugee policy.
- 4) The University of Sydney's SRC supports the right of the asylum seekers to be resettled in Australia.
- 5) The University of Sydney's SRC endorses the rally on April 14th.

Action

- 1) The Facebook event for the Palm Sunday rally will be shared by the USyd SRC page (<https://www.facebook.com/events/365279150933100/>)

- 2) The SRC president will work with Honi Soit to put the event's poster on its back page the week leading up to the rally.
- 3) The SRC encourages all SRC councillors and office bearers to attend the Palm Sunday rally.

Liam Donohoe noted that this was now very out of date and he was sure a current motion promoting this years Palm Sunday rally would be tabled soon.

The motion failed to receive a mover or seconder and **LAPSED.**

Q8. USYD SRC opposes anti-Chinese racism in all its forms

Preamble

Anti-Chinese racism has existed in Australian society for over a hundred years, first originating in the mid-19th Century during the gold rushes. The nature of anti-Chinese racism in Australia today stems from the Australian government's concern with China as a growing industrial and imperial rival. This manifests as fear-mongering around Chinese 'interference' in Australian democracy. It also relies on the myth of invasion or a 'we are being swamped' mentality that has been evoked numerous times in the past by characters such as Pauline Hanson. With the re-emergence of Hanson and far-right politicians such as Fraser Anning - both offered a platform by the Australian media - anti-Chinese racism in Australia is on the rise. Far-right figures such as Anning and Hanson often take the spotlight in Australian politics, but it is the bipartisan support for racism that normalises and facilitates such ideas and politicians. Anti-Chinese racism has gained legitimacy at the hands of politicians and the media, who carry out scaremongering campaigns designed to paint Chinese migrants as 'invaders of a foreign power'.

The Liberal Party bears heavy responsibility for the racist anti-Chinese hysteria Pauline Hanson has built her political career and her "One Nation" party on. In August 1988, then Liberal-National opposition leader John Howard put forward his "One Australia" policy on immigration and ethnic affairs which argued that the rate of Asian immigration was too high and had to be reduced. Last year, John Howard said: "China has a massive diaspora in South-East Asia...it remains the case that China is very interested in the capacity to use those people to further her own power and her interests." NSW Liberal premier Gladys Berejiklian commented in December last year that "it is becoming increasingly clear that the current high rates of population growth are putting even more pressure on NSW, particularly in some suburbs." She then went on to say that "We need to look at encouraging people to consider living in different parts of Sydney, the surrounding regions and in regional NSW." This is despicable given that the Liberal party are largely responsible for the many issues in NSW regarding housing, infrastructure and affordability. This has fed the racist narrative of Sydney's problems being driven by foreigners rather than government policy.

But the last NSW state election also revealed how dominant anti-Chinese racism is on all sides of Australian politics. In the days leading up to the election, a video was released of NSW Labor leader Michael Daley answering a question in regard to housing affordability. Daley responded: "our young children will flee, and who are they being replaced with? They're being

replaced by young people...typically from Asia with PhDs". Asian migrants are consistently used as scapegoats by politicians to distract from the fact that the government is responsible for issues in infrastructure and housing affordability. The idea that young Australians are being 'replaced' by Asian migrants is not unique. This idea is popular on the international far-right and is known by name as "The Great Replacement" theory. While this idea is dominant on the far-right, it has a significant presence in the mainstream of Australian politics. In 2018, Greens candidate Clive Hamilton published a book titled "The Silent Invasion", which details the growing influence of the Chinese Communist Party in Australian politics and society, echoing the 'yellow peril'.

These racist hysterias have real consequences. A recent survey found that 54 percent of people thought that foreign student numbers should be limited, despite the survey pointing out that government policy means that international students do not take university places away from domestic students. Obviously, myths about Chinese students being 'spies' for the Chinese government are completely unfounded and designed to stoke fear and racism in society.

Anti-Chinese racism has a huge impact on Chinese people in Australia, particularly Chinese international students, who due to their precarious situation often experience more stress and alienation than domestic students, and are subjected to abuse and violence in public. It is a responsibility of the SRC to support students and stand up against racism. This motion calls on the SRC to support the work of NUS Against Racism and to condemn the anti-Chinese racism of all political parties.

Platform:

1. The SRC opposes racism in all forms and stands against the anti-Chinese racism of all political parties in Australia
2. The SRC supports the work of NUS Against Racism in its efforts to counter racism and bigotry wherever it may appear
3. The SRC recognises that the fight against racism is an important issue for all university students. This is particularly true for international students, who are more regularly subjected to anti-Chinese racism, and who due to their precarious position are often more vulnerable to stress and alienation than domestic students.

Action:

1. Council will take a solidarity photo to declare its opposition to racism against Chinese students and will publish this photo on its Facebook page alongside the full text of this motion.
2. The SRC will support the work of NUS Against Racism. This means helping to build and promote anti-racist campaigns, and includes but is not limited to printing material, sharing Facebook events/posts, and mobilising members to attend events.

Moved: Xuan Cao

Seconded: Abbey Shi

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Q9. The University of Sydney SRC stands against the Morrison Liberal government

Preamble:

1. After the election, Scott Morrison and the Liberals feel they have a mandate to ramp up their right wing agenda. They believe their strategy of ruling for the rich, stoking racism, sexism and homophobia, and wreaking havoc on the environment been vindicated. The situation for refugees has deteriorated rapidly since the election, and things are slated to get worse for immigrants, the environment, the LGBTI community, welfare recipients, and working class people more generally. In light of this, the SRC must reaffirm its commitment to being an independent activist body that fights for the rights of the oppressed.
2. Construction of the Adani coalmine will resume any day now. The emissions produced by this mine will be disastrous for the environment. The coal industry has already begun lobbying the Morrison government to take a hardline stance on coal mining, calling for the construction of more coal-fired power stations and weaker environmental protection legislation to clear the way for the construction of more mines. Moreover, several Liberal MPs are aiming to repeal the ban on nuclear energy, a measure Scott Morrison has said he is amenable to. It is obvious that resistance to the destruction of the environment will have to come from below, as both major parties have shown they will roll over obediently for any mining corporation offering them money.
3. The situation for refugees on Manus and Nauru has reached a new low. Since the election, there have been 31 attempted suicides on Manus Island, with more being reported all the time. According to Kurdish refugee Behrouz Boochani, the detention centers are recording self-harm incidents every hour. In the face of this humanitarian crisis, the Liberals have reaffirmed their commitment to repealing the Medevac Bill, despite only four people being transferred for medical treatment because of the bill. Finally, Australian Border Force recently intercepted a boat carrying 20 Sri Lankan refugees and immediately secretly returned them all to Sri Lanka. This is totally illegal under international law, but that is totally irrelevant to the racist Liberals. We can certainly expect this cruelty to escalate in the next three years.
4. There has already been a push for the approval of bigoted religious exemptions laws, with Scott Morrison announcing he will present religious exemptions legislation to parliament by the end of the year. These types of laws have been used to protect and defend the homophobia and sexism of religious individuals and institutions, and their implementation will only further embolden the right.
5. The newly appointed minister for immigration and cultural affairs, Jason Wood, is a racist who recently denounced the prevalence of African gangs in Melbourne, a phenomenon that even the Victorian Chief of Police has said is completely made up. Wood has also called for the deportation of “foreign-born thugs”. This is a disgusting example of racist fear mongering designed to intimidate immigrants and further stoke racism in society.
6. The government was elected promising massive tax cuts for the rich, which will of course translate to slashing spending to welfare and social services. We can be certain welfare recipients will be on the receiving end of government attacks in the near future.

7. Facing an emboldened right-wing government, it is more important than ever that the SRC votes to stand in solidarity with those persecuted by the Liberals, and commits to taking action against the attacks we have already begun to see following the election.

Platform:

1. The SRC stands in solidarity with all those being targeted by the Morrison Liberal government, and we oppose any attacks on students, welfare recipients, refugees, immigrants, the LGBTI community and the environment.

Action:

1. The SRC will share this motion from its Facebook page.
2. The SRC will commit to supporting actions taken to fight attacks from the Morrison Liberal government and show solidarity with its victims. This includes but is not limited to printing resources, publicizing events and mobilizing office bearers and councillors to attend.

Liam Donohoe spoke to the motion and said that the Morrison government and those like it will be responsible deaths of millions.

James Ardouin asked if Liam Donohoe thought Malcom Turnbull was a better Prime minister.

Liam Donohoe said he did not give much credence to the title of Prime minister as in the Westminster system it's the party that matter, but that he thought Malcom Turnbull was a better public speaker. He then inquired if anyone knew when Malcom Turnbull would be joining the Labor party?

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Swapnik Sanagavarapu

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q10. Motion on Antisemitism at the University of Sydney

Preamble:

Antisemitism in Australia continues to rise. The latest report of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry recorded a 59% rise in antisemitic incidents in the last year. A few weeks ago, close to home, convicted terrorist Ihsas Khan revealed he had plans to kill Jewish students wearing kippahs at the University of Sydney. In light of the rise of antisemitic attacks across Europe, Germany's commissioner on antisemitism, Dr Felix Klein, suggested Jewish people should not wear kippot "at all times everywhere in Germany".

White supremacists who advocate the murder of Jews derive comfort from growing fascist political power worldwide. Extremist Islamist groups, which seek to destroy the West, call for the destruction of the only Jewish state, Israel. Conspiracy theories denigrating Jews are spreading in extremist circles in both left and right online circles.

As this trend has accelerated, Jewish students have looked for much-needed support from campus student bodies. When Jewish students complained that the Women's Issue of Honi Soit featured a suicide bomber who had killed 50 Israeli soldiers - whose final note spoke of wanting to "explode amid God's enemies" - the response was not an apology, but a motion of condemnation against them at the SRC.

Jewish students do not receive any support from the Autonomous Collective Against Racism, and unless Jewish students also identify as people of colour they are not able to validly join the collective. Additionally, the often-aggressive nature of pro-Palestinian activism leaves Jews who support the existence of Israel - even if not necessarily its current government - feeling excluded and at times intimidated.

Platform:

- 1) The SRC condemns statements by convicted terrorist Ihsan Khan that he intended to stab Jewish students at the University of Sydney.
- 2) The SRC expresses regrets that many Jewish students feel not only unwelcome but unsafe at the University of Sydney.
- 3) The SRC remains dedicated to ensuring the safety and security all students at the University of Sydney.

Action:

1. The SRC implements a "Countering Antisemitism Strategy", coordinated with the Australasian Union of Jewish Students. The strategies will include:

- 1) A day of solidarity with Jewish students, with all male students encouraged to wear a kippah in recognition of the fact that students wearing kippot were identified by Khan, as targets and that German Jews have been advised not to wear kippot in public.
- 2) A review into how Jewish students can best utilise the resources of the SRC, including caseworkers, when dealing with issues relating to antisemitism and discrimination.
- 3) Publication of the content of the motion "We Must Act Against Antisemitism" as passed by the SRC on April 4, 2018 on the SRC's website.
- 4) Prohibition of printing materials with SRC resources which are antisemitic.
- 5) Encouraging university leaders and societies to undertake a guided tour of the Sydney Jewish Museum.

Moved: Gabi Stricker-Phelps

Seconded: Janine Joseph

Discussion:

Liam Donohoe spoke to the motion and proposed some amendments, as they would change the intent of the motion it was decided to move them as a foreshadowing motion the changes.

Discussion on the foreshadowing motion was held after discussion of the original motion.

Julia Kokic spoke to the motion as it currently stood saying that it did not need amendments and there should be no debate that Hamas was a terrorist organisation and that she did not believe the suggested amendment of removing the criticism of the Women's edition of Honi should be removed as it was upsetting for Jewish students and it was abhorrent to put a terrorist on the cover of Honi. She encouraged everyone to vote for the motion as it stood and that it was obscene that the recommendations of the motion were being removed.

Liam Thomas said that the council could recognise that there are a lot of injustices and that the state of Israel is responsible and that this person [on the cover of Honi] was also a terrorist.

Charlotte Bullock assumed the chair.

Liam Donohoe responded to the comments saying that there was a double standard to call a Lebanese soldier who killed other soldiers, not civilians, a terrorist. Adding that we have war criminals on the front page of the paper and no one cares about that or the civilians killed by Australian soldiers. Continuing he said that it was hypocrisy and reactionary politics if you are not consistently applying these ideas across the board, if you are appalled or standing up when an Israeli drone kills a 14yr old boy. Concluding that the woman from the cover of women's Honi was a soldier killing soldiers in a war situation and in an anti-imperialist action.

Vivienne Goodes: clarification on action point one, I want to know about the day of solidarity, to preface this I am Jewish myself and I have not experienced any aggression and I want to know why we are encouraging non-Jewish students

James – this was worded by Gabi but I'm sure she had

Vivienne: Wasn't there another one passed last year?

Liam: Yes there was.

Swapnik Sanagavarapu said that Lara Sonnenschein and Lily Campbell moved the other motion and that it has passed at a previous council – he then read out the motion that was passed at the September meeting of the 91st SRC.

Moved: Julia Kokic

Seconded: James Ardouin

The motion was put and **FAILED**.

Foreshadowing Motion on Antisemitism at the University of Sydney

Preamble:

Antisemitism in Australia continues to rise. The latest report of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry recorded a 59% rise in antisemitic incidents in the last year. A few weeks ago, close to home, convicted terrorist Ihsas Khan revealed he had plans to kill Jewish students wearing kippahs at the University of Sydney. In light of the rise of antisemitic attacks across Europe, Germany's commissioner on antisemitism, Dr Felix Klein, suggested Jewish people should not wear kippot "at all times everywhere in Germany".

White supremacists who advocate the murder of Jews derive comfort from growing fascist political power worldwide. Conspiracy theories denigrating Jews are spreading in extremist circles in both left and right online circles. As this trend has accelerated, Jewish students have looked for much-needed support from campus student bodies.

Platform:

- 1) The SRC condemns statements by convicted terrorist Ihsas Khan that he intended to stab Jewish students at the University of Sydney.
- 2) The SRC expresses regrets that many Jewish students feel not only unwelcome but unsafe at the University of Sydney.
- 3) The SRC remains dedicated to ensuring the safety and security all students at the University of Sydney.

Action:

1. The SRC implements a "Countering Antisemitism Strategy", coordinated with Jews Against Fascism. The strategies will include:

- 1) A day of solidarity with Jewish students, with all male students encouraged to wear a kippah in recognition of the fact that students wearing kippot were identified by Khan, as targets and that German Jews have been advised not to wear kippot in public.
- 2) A review into how Jewish students can best utilise the resources of the SRC, including caseworkers, when dealing with issues relating to antisemitism and discrimination.
- 3) Publication of the content of the motion "We Must Act Against Antisemitism" as passed by the SRC on April 4, 2018 on the SRC's website.
- 4) Prohibition of printing materials with SRC resources which are anti-Semitic.

5) Encouraging university leaders and societies to undertake a guided tour of the Sydney Jewish Museum.

Discussion:

Liam Donohoe's amendments included changing the group from AUJS to Jews Against Fascism and the removal of the last paragraph of the preamble.

Swapnik Sanagavarapu asked to amend the motion to remove the references to the Women's Honi edition.

Julia Kokic spoke against the amendments saying that the original movers would not these references removed. She also asked what Jews Against Fascism was.

Swapnik Sanagavarapu said the name was self-explanatory and it was a Jewish group that fight fascism and imperialism in all forms, adding that they have done demonstrations such as one against the Croatian Club when they celebrated the Ustaša regime.

Charlotte Bullock closed the speaking list.

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Kedar Maddali

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Liam Donohoe resumed the Chair

Procedural motion that Q12 not be put.

Moved: Abbey Shi

Seconded: Joseph Yang

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

Procedural motion that Q13 be tabled.

Moved: James Arduoin

Seconded: Julia Kokic

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

The Council took a 15 minute break at 9:25pm to comply with the regulations.

There was a quorum count at 9:40pm.

The meeting was found inquorate.

Motion: to wait another 5 minutes

Moved: James Arduoin

Seconded: Liam Donohoe

Another quorum count was called at 9:41pm

The meeting was found quorate

Meeting resumed at 9:41pm.

R. General Business

R1. Bush fire Condolence Motion

That the University of Sydney SRC:

1. Expresses its deepest condolences to the students, their families and communities who have been affected during the catastrophic and unprecedented 2019-2020 bushfire season.
2. Honours the extraordinary sacrifices of Geoffrey Keaton, Andrew O'Dwyer and Samuel McPaul, Ian McBeth, Paul Hudson and Rick DeMorgan Jr and others who have tragically lost their lives while protecting the lives and property of others.
3. Offers its sympathy to those at the University of Sydney who have been affected by the fires whether through injury or the loss of or damage to their homes or livelihoods.
4. Acknowledges the devastation caused by this seasons bushfires, which have already seen over 2'400 homes destroyed, half a billion animals killed, over 11'000 building lost or damaged, almost 5.5 million hectares burnt, livelihoods impacted and damaged to the environment.
5. Acknowledges that many students, staff and alumni have volunteered in various organisations and capacities during the bushfire response.
6. Reaffirms its commitment to climate action.
7. Notes that climate change causes a hotter and drier world. This in turn leads to an increase in extreme weather events.
8. The Executive, in conjunction with the Environmental Officers, the USU, and SUPRA shall support or donate to students and their communities who have been impacted by the bushfires.

Liam Donohoe wanted to amend the motion to change 'run a fundraiser' to 'support or donate to'

It was amenable to the mover.

Alev Saracoglu noted that a billion animals have died from the fires.

Moved: James Ardouin

Seconded: Zac Pitkethley

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

R2. SUPPORT JUSTICE FOR ERIC! STOP DEATHS IN CUSTODY!

Preamble

USyd SRC activists have recently attended Indigenous Social Justice Association (ISJA) meetings, and the family of the late Eric Whittaker have been deeply hurt by the lack of community support for them as they fight for justice for their loved one's death in custody in 2017. On 28 February, the final findings of Eric Whittaker's death will be released at the Coroner's Court in Lidcombe, and ISJA has asked for student activists to show up to support their family. Historically, coronial inquests into deaths in custody have come up with endless excuses and half-hearted condolences, with no accountability or repercussions for parties who were involved in these heinous crimes.

The Facebook event description for the Coroner's Court Final Findings of Eric Whittaker's death reads as follows:

"Eric Whittaker, a 35 year old Kamilaroi father of four, died shackled to a bed whilst in custody at Westmead Hospital.

Eric was taken into custody for relatively minor matters and was put in isolation in a maximum security cell at Parklea prison. At some point, Eric fell and suffered injuries to his head. He called for help over 20 times and waited several hours before officers came to assist him. Despite being brain dead for several days, Eric's family found him shackled to the hospital bed before his life support was turned off on 4 July 2017. The prison has given three conflicting accounts of the circumstances that led to Eric's death.

A Coronial Inquest was held in October 2019 to investigate Eric's death. Yet no new information has been given to the family and the prison is yet to be held accountable.

The so-called "Justice" system continues to fail the families of Aboriginal people who are dying in custody at an alarming rate."

In the two centuries since the invasion of the British Empire, more than 400 Aboriginal people have died in custody. Black deaths in custody are a national crisis and a form of state-sanctioned genocide, but they are far too often met with silence and apathy from the general public. No one has ever been found guilty of murder, though it is implausible to mistake the systematic negligence, disregard for Aboriginal lives, and subsequent lack of accountability and reform as anything but.

Many of the people in this room showed up on January 26th for Invasion Day, refusing to celebrate the genocide and dispossession of First Nations people in this country. They stand on the right side of history. But our activism cannot end there. We must show up on Invasion Day and every day afterwards if we are to truly commit to solidarity with First Nations communities. They need our voices, our support, our presence and our rage in order to fight the colonial regime and win. If we remain silent on this issue, we remain complicit in the ongoing genocide of First Nations people in so-called 'Australia'.

As an SRC whose core values include activism and advocacy and who organise on stolen land, it is our responsibility to show up for First Nations communities who have been deeply hurt by the racist and violent systems of the colonial state, manifesting in the extremely disproportionate representation of Aboriginal people in custody. We must pay the rent as settlers in any way that we can, not merely through financial support, but solidarity and organising, showing up in force to Indigenous justice actions that are far too often under-attended by the left and featuring a heavy police presence. We need to be accomplices, not just passive allies, in our activism and politics.

Platform

1. The USyd SRC supports the Justice for Eric campaign, along with any other First Nations activist campaigns that are centred on police violence, deaths in custody and systematic racism.
2. The USyd SRC commits to supporting and showing solidarity with community groups who organise around First Nations activism, such as ISJA and Grandmothers against Removals (GMAR).

Action

1. The USyd SRC endorses Justice for Eric events, such sharing the [Facebook event](#) for the coronial inquest findings on their social media channels and through relevant departments such as Global Solidarity, Welfare, Indigenous, Ethnocultural, Education, Social Justice etc.
2. The USyd SRC takes a solidarity photo, to be published along with a statement on social media channels endorsing the Justice for Eric campaign and expressing solidarity with First Nations communities who are affected by police violence and other forms of colonial violence.
3. The Collectives commit to supporting and fundraising for the family of those suffering deaths in custody, such as by conducting Pay the Rent at Welcome Week and other events.
4. The USyd SRC supports the work of community groups like ISJA who are directly involved in organising this campaign and supporting the family, and who do so for other similar cases by committing to sharing information about the work they do and attending events.

Discussion:

Swapnik Sanagavarapu spoke to the motion starting by acknowledging the council was meeting on indigenous land and that violence of colonialism still continues. He wanted to emphasise the gravity of the work done by GMAR, and how he has had the privilege to hear their stories about stolen children and the fight to protect children and families. He concluded by saying that we need to continue paying rent in any way we can.

Róisín Murphy spoke to the motion commended the motion to council adding that the Apology to the Stolen Generations was 13 years ago today, and it hasn't stopped, the consequences of the Stolen Generations continue and that issues like deaths in custody are an extension of imperialism.

James Ardouin spoke in favour of the motion and said he believed that there will probably be a referendum on constitutional recognition next year and he hoped the council will also support that, but also acknowledged that it was just the beginning and that symbolic gestures would not create the real change which still needs to be fought for.

Moved: Vivienne Guo

Seconded: Ellie Wilson

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

R3. Support the Feb 22nd Climate Crisis National Day of Action

Preamble: 2019 was the year the climate crisis became impossible to ignore for millions. School strikers mobilised in their hundreds of thousands in Australia and inspired workers and other adults to rise up against the Morrison government's climate vandalism.

Now, savage fires are devastating peoples' lives, water shortages are pushing many towns to crisis point, millions have endured weeks or months of hazardous air quality, and over a billion native animals have been killed. Yet, Morrison still refuses to accept the reality of climate change, wrecked the global climate negotiations in December 2019, and doesn't want to pay the people fighting the fires or expand resources for firefighting. Funding for recovery is important but is not enough – we need to address the cause of this climate crisis and start making drastic reductions to greenhouse gas emissions in Australia and globally.

The National Day of Action in Sydney is at 2pm at Town Hall, and demands government action and investment on a scale to match the current climate crisis, including:

1. 100% renewable energy - reduce emissions now. Build a 100% publicly owned renewable energy system by 2030. Just transition for communities and guaranteed jobs for affected fossil fuel workers. Fund good low-emissions jobs in transport, manufacturing, disaster relief, health, education, energy, and climate adaptation.
2. No new fossil fuel or nuclear projects. End subsidies to these industries.
3. Fund our fires - support communities. Increase funding and resources to cope with longer and more intense fire seasons. Pay rural firefighters and reverse cuts to parks and fire services. Guaranteed homes and jobs for fire-affected communities.
4. First nations justice. Funding for Indigenous-led land management with jobs on country to repair ecosystems, reduce emissions and reduce fire risk. Land and water rights for Indigenous peoples.

Platform

1. The USyd SRC acknowledges that climate change is a significant issue for students – and as a student organisation who fights for student issues, should actively support environmental activism.
2. The USyd SRC supports the Feb 22nd National Day of Action, and each of its demands – 100% renewables, no new fossil fuels or nuclear projects, fund our fires, and first nations land justice.
3. The USyd SRC endorses and encourages students to attend the rally at 2pm on Feb 22nd at Town Hall.

Action

1. The USyd SRC endorses the Feb 22nd National Day of Action on their social media channels by sharing the Facebook event with a message of support.

2. The USyd SRC takes a solidarity photo at this meeting to be published with a statement endorsing the event on all social media channels.
3. The USyd SRC will advertise this event heavily at Welcome Week, including handing out flyers from their stall.
4. There SRC calls for the event to be a called National Day of Action and not called a Strike.

Discussion:

Sofie Nicholson spoke to the motion outlined it main points.

Swapnik Sanagavarapu asked to amend the motion to say the SRC calls for the event to not be called a Strike

Liam Donohoe resigned the Chair to Charlotte Bullock

Liam spoke to the motion encouraging everyone to support the event and said was amenable to the proposed amendments.

Julia Kokic spoke to the motion and said that nuclear energy should be looked at as it is more dependable than renewables.

Swapnik Sanagavarapu spoke to the motion and responded to Julia Kokic's comments saying that one of the biggest issues with nuclear power is the waste, adding that First Nations have been active in their opposition to nuclear power as waste will be dumped on indigenous land and is more likely to be dumped in areas close to indigenous communities – citing that there was little regard for indigenous communities or life when there was nuclear testing conducted in Australia after World War II. He concluded adding that it might an interim option for some areas in the global south while renewables are not up to scratch but that Australia does not have those issues.

Alev Saracoglu said that events like the Fukishima disaster also need to be considered when contemplating nuclear energy as the consequences are greater.

Róisín Murphy spoke to the motion adding that scientist have said that Australia is in a unique position where we could have the capacity to not only create all our energy from renewables but also export that energy.

Maia Edge said that there is now the capacity to reuse the nuclear material that once became waste so there is hardly any anymore and would negate the need for dumping.

Tom Williams asked why we would bother with nuclear because even though there are weather variations that's what batteries are for.

Moved: Liam Donohoe

Seconded: Sofie Nicholson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

R4. Supporting Spreading the Climate Strike

The SRC supports the Spreading The Climate Strike (STCS) campaign for large scale walkouts as part of a May Strike Wave of strikes on both May 1 and May 15 including assisting building efforts through the various collectives.

The Spreading the Climate Strike group at Sydney Uni has decided at its most recent meeting to support the call from the global high school student climate strike movement for a worldwide day of action on May 15 as well as workers' actions on May 1 to defy anti-strike laws.

The massive support for previous SS4C actions and their global connections has helped inspire workers, unions and the community to mobilise for the September 20 strike on an incredible scale. Hundreds of thousands joined the action.

At Sydney Uni hundreds of staff joined thousands of students for the action. Despite the V.C. being forced to say there would be "no penalty" for staff and students who attended, staff were forced to ask their managers for permission. Some had to defy management pressure to attend, bravely risking reprisals.

It is currently illegal for workers to strike for political causes like the climate. With this in mind it is incredibly significant that on May 1 in Sydney workers will confront these anti-strike laws in their thousands, raising demands for "Workers' Rights, Social Justice and Climate Action". Unions are calling us to join their action. There is no better way fan the flames of defiance in the lead up to May 15 – either we break the anti-strike laws or break the planet.

This makes it clear that we must support a mandate via for the May Strike Waves at Sydney Uni, and to support similar escalation on other campuses.

All this make it clear that winning a mandate for the May strike wave at Sydney Uni and other campus is an escalation; and one that is absolutely necessary. It will require systematic work, clear planning and concentrated efforts.

Action

1. The SRC will also endorse the events put up by STCS for the walkouts for the May 15 climate strike called by SS4C and May 1 by sharing the Facebook event with a message of support.
2. The SRC will support the STCS campaign for the May strike wave, and support similar escalation on other campuses
3. SRC will support staff going on strike on May 1 and May 15, as well as mobilizations of the NTEU to get staff out on the day
4. Call on Uni Students for Climate Justice to change the name of the March 13 "Uni students Climate Strike" to "Uni student climate rally." Crying wolf about a "strike" in March on campus will confuse the sustained, systematic and carefully staggered building efforts democratic organisations have decided to direct toward the real strikes in May.

Moved: Sofie Nicholson

Seconded: Isla Mowbray

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

R5. Endorse the US Presidential Bid of Bernie Sanders

Preamble

After Francis Fukuyama proclaimed the end of history in 1992, it was considered a truism that Western liberal democracy was the highest form of political organisation and that a genuinely transformative politics was neither necessary nor possible. In the decades since, the need for a politics of change has become painfully evident. The Financial Crisis of 2008 led to a global economic downturn and general misery for the vast majority of people in the world and has disproportionately affected the most downtrodden and oppressed sections of society. In Australia, crippling austerity imposed by successive Liberal governments, coupled with racist scaremongering, has targeted Indigenous people, immigrants, refugees, workers and young people. The impending threat of climate change requires an unprecedented economic transformation.

These issues, and the general trend towards increasing injustice, demands a politics that is rooted in mass mobilisation, economic justice, social justice and climate justice. There are obvious flaws in the platform of US Senator Bernie Sanders, and there is no guarantee as to whether his bold promises will be approved by the US Congress or Supreme Court if he is elected. Regardless, his platform represents a path forward for social justice in Western liberal democracies. His calls for economic and racial justice (and the Green New Deal) have been wildly popular in the US, and ideally should be emulated by the Australian Labor Party, lest it once again find itself in opposition at the next election.

Platform

1. The USYD SRC notes that Bernie Sanders' platform to become the Democratic Presidential nominee is most beneficial for students.
2. The USYD SRC calls on the Australian Labor Party and the Greens to adopt a political platform similar to that of Sen. Sanders, focused on economic justice, a Green New Deal, Indigenous justice and other progressive policies.

Actions

1. The USYD SRC endorses Bernie Sanders by sharing a Facebook post from his official campaign page, with a message of solidarity.

Discussion:

Swapnik spoke to his motion about America, it's economic and healthcare systems, mentioning the existence of double foreclosures used to make the richer while the poor are exploited and cheated out of their homes. Adding that Bernie is the only candidate who is wanting to dismantle the systems in America that let these things continue. Adding that the other candidates all have disreputable histories, saying that Elizabeth Warren lied about her ethnicity, Pete Buttigieg was a CIA agent, Amy Kloboucher threw a folder at someone, and Joe Biden is weird. Swapnik Sanagavarapu concluded by saying that Bernie would rise above and institute healthcare for all Americans.

James Ardouin read out a statement from Nick Comino saying he agreed that all the other Democratic National Congress candidates were terrible.

Moved: Swapnik Sanagavarapu

Seconded: Liam Donohoe

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

The Chair moved that the meeting return to agenda item K, for K5. The election for 2 Members of the Intercampus Committee.

K5. Election of 2 Members Intercampus Committee

There was a nomination received from Belinda Thomas.

Here nomination was deemed eligible as she was found a member of council as appointed by the President of the Conservatorium Students' Association.

There being no other nominations Belinda Thomas was declared elected unopposed as a member of the Intercampus Committee of the 92nd SRC.

The meeting returned to standing to the standing orders.

There was a motion from the floor.

There was a short delay while the motion was emailed to the Secretary to Council.

R6.

Preamble

Last week, the World Health Organisation declared the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) a public health emergency. A serious public health response is certainly needed in Australia to minimise the spread of infection and properly treat anyone who is sick.

However, the decision by the Morrison government to deny all entry to Australia for people travelling from China (apart from Australian citizens and permanent residents) was directly counter to the advice of the World Health Organisation not to close down borders.

Morrison is more concerned with appearing "tough on borders" and stoking fear in the community than with a proper health response. The travel ban implies that the virus can be stopped by keeping Chinese people out of Australia; this is a racist policy for which there is no medical basis. Many Chinese people are reporting an increase in racism in daily life, and are having their lives disrupted by for example being unable to attend university.

Instead of coming out in opposition to the travel ban, USYD management are plastering the university walls with exaggerated and unnecessarily targeted posters calling travellers from China

to “know the signs” and “stop the spread”. While some accommodations have been made for students to be able to follow lectures over the internet, the university has given no indication that appropriate financial and academic subsidies will be granted to those affected. The university’s response is one which perpetuates the same anti-Chinese racism as emphasised by the travel ban.

We must also challenge the government’s use of the Christmas Island detention centre to quarantine Australian citizens being evacuated from Hubei province. Evacuees should be brought to the Australian mainland where they can access appropriate medical care, not used as political tools to legitimize the historical use of Christmas Island as a centre for refugees held in offshore detention.

Platform:

The SRC demands that the University and the Government

- Lift the travel bans, healthcare not racism
- Support International students:
 - Extend visas at no cost and provide amnesty for those affected
 - Not impose any penalties and provided free alternatives
 - Provide accommodation for those isolating
 - Providing grants to cover costs
 - Providing extra counselling to students
- Solidarity with Wuhan and the Chinese community

Discussion:

Kigen Mera spoke to the motion and thanked Liam Donohoe and everyone else who attended the protest the previous Friday, also thanking Abbey Shi and other who have been helping students get information on what is happening. He continues saying there was no support for international students like there is for domestic students. He continues listing the countries that have sent support to china in the form for donated medical resources to assist combatting the coronavirus, and juxtaposed that with Australia’s response, adding that the travel ban was unnecessary when there are more cases in places that there are currently no travel restrictions on than many of the provinces in China.

Abbey Shi spoke to the motion saying that on the day the travel ban was imposed she had launch a petition to delay the start of semester, there were concerns that there would not be support to delay semester 1’s commencement date from domestic students but there has been a lot of support for the motion from domestic students which was appreciated by international students. There has been a lot of confusion for international student’s around the government’s use of ‘residents’ as international students are residents for tax purposes, but aren’t granted exemption from the travel ban. There are many students who are not affected going to the UK, US and Canada due to different study dates which has meant they are unaffected, but there has been no support for Australian international students especially for those wanting to return to their studies as normal. Abbey Shi continued noting that it was international student’s fee that supported domestic students and without them there would be staff cuts, higher fees, and fewer places for domestic students as there will be a funding shortfall. She concluded noting that the travel ban was racist, there were not testing kits in hospitals and there were no temperature measures at the airport and there has been little else in precautions implemented by the government to prevent the transmission,

saying the government moved from 0- 100 because this was not about healthcare and it comes across as racist.

Decheng Clement Sun spoke to the motion saying that there are many students are now traveling and waiting in other countries like Thailand, Japan and Korea in hopes of getting to Australia where they have lived and studied for years and that 2 international students were stuck in the shopping centre shooting in Bangkok where 50 people were shot, when they should have been in Australia. International students are not safe waiting in other countries waiting to come to Australia to continue their studies. He said this was not fair, it was unjust and students here are unable to go home and visit family without being banned from returning.

David Tu spoke to the motion saying that his is only affecting international students so it may not occur to domestic students but asked that hey imagine how it would feel if you invested all your time and resources to come study in another country and they just block you from entering and give you no support. Adding that one of his roommates is from Wuhan and has been affected and is unable to return despite doing everything right, and that if Davis has not already been in the country when the ban was imposed didn't know what would happen to their pet cat if he hadn't been, noting there are flow on consequences of this travel ban.

Sofie Nicholson spoke to the motion and thanked everyone for speaking today and said she thought the travel ban was racist. She continued saying the government was stoking hysteria and now using the Christmas Island detention centre to process citizens returning from china and they are trying to legitimise that space of torture by using it in such a way. Concluding by saying that the travel ban was not a fair, reasonable, or purely health motivated response and the university needed to be doing more to support its students.

Moved: Abbey Shi

Seconded: Kiegan Mera

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

The following wanted their votes recorded

In favour of the motion:

Kiegan Mera

Liam Donohoe

Mengyuan Zhu

Xuan Cao

Joseph Yang

Mingxiao (David) Tu

Maria Ge

Zhenxu (Julie) Zhang

Erong (Anne) Zhao

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 10.40pm.