



src

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**Students' Representative Council,
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MINUTES

of the 2nd regular meeting of the 97th SRC held on **Wednesday the 5th of March 2025**. Meeting held in the ABS (now BHBS) Case Study Lecture Theatre 1060 and via Zoom.

There was a quorum count at 6:35pm

The meeting was inquorate.

Procedural to wait another 15 minutes for quorum

Moved: Deaglan Godwin

Seconded: Angus Fisher

The procedural was put and **CARRIED**.

There was a quorum count at 4:45pm

Procedural motion to accept Eliza Crossley's attendance via phone

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

The procedural was put and **CARRIED**.

The meeting was deemed quorate at 6:49pm

A. Meeting open at 6:49pm

A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Bohao Zhang be elected Deputy Chairperson.

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

B. Acknowledgement of Country

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

C. Apologies, Proxies and Leaves of Absence

Apologies and Proxies were received from:

Ethan Cao to Jason (Luming) Xu
Sidra Ghanawi to Vince Tafea
Saskia Morgan to Leo More
Madeline Clark to Julius Wittfoth
Vieve Carnsew to Paul Kaletsis
Kejun (Clare) Liu to Rose Donnelly
Christine Peng to Jinqi Zhang
Shovan Bhattarai to Lauren Finlayson
Shiying (Norn) Xiong to Lucy Sullivan

Alisa Rao

**pending a resignation acceptance Lucas Pierce proxies to Yoshi Leung

The apologies were noted.

D. Changes to Membership

E. Electoral Report

E1. Consideration of any resignations

Bea McDonald to Jessica Heap
Eleanor Douglas to Jasmine Donnelly
Rand Khatib to (TBD)
Ivan Samsonov to (TBD)
Simon Upitis to Lucas Pierce

Anu-Ujin resigns as DSP
Yasmine Johnson resigns as Mature Age Students' officer
Gerard Buttigieg resigns as a General Member of the Executive

Motion: That the Council accept the resignations pending responses from Rand Khatib and Ivan Samsonov's tickets.

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Procedural motion to suspend standing orders to move to R3.

Moved: Remy Lebreton

Seconded: Ishbel Dunsmore

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

R3. Vale & Rest in Power Khanh Tran

Preamble

To say we at the Disabilities and Carers Collective (Dis.Co) are devastated by Khanh's passing would be an understatement. Khanh was the Dis.Co Convenor and Disability and Carers officer for both 2023 and 2024. Throughout their terms as office bearers, they oversaw many significant improvements to Dis.Co and for disabled students in general. You could see it through their dedication and love they poured into their work that Dis.Co was something that was very important to Khanh.

This includes the opening of the Disabilities Community Room, a project that took nearly a decade to come to fruition. The space allowed for the rapid growth of the Collective, and is a large part of why the current officer bearers are here today. This was a project that was always just out of reach. It was a massive push from Khanh at the end of 2022 and the start of 2023 that led to this space being opened. Even though all the delays and setbacks Khanh was there to help see the spaces opening and make sure that room was the best place on campus for disabled students.

In their 2023 term they advocated and pushed on many campaigns. Promoting the hidden disabilities sunflower symbol and lanyard around campus to have other students and staff understand what it means and what accommodations are needed.

Khanh also helped students and staff with disabilities or who are carers to submit their personal stories to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability; and while most of the recommendations of the Royal Commission are still up in the air it is a campaign that is still ongoing.

Khanh worked with the National Union of Student (NUS) and with other campuses and organisations across the country in the "WE NEED BOTH" campaign and the "Disability and Higher Education" report. It was a campaign to try and keep the remote learning options that were mandated because of COVID. It was disappointing to see that accessibility options removed by the University of Sydney in a drive to say that "COVID was over", it was an important issue that was campaigned on and had awareness raised.

Khanh was also an advocate for many other issues around the human rights of students with a disability as well as carers. Khanh helped organise many cross collective campaigns and in collaboration with the Welfare Action Group a campaign for accessible student housing. Khanh's

advocacy for student and parent and carer housing was in depth and active including most recently a condemnation of St. Paul's residential college kicking out students with children. Khanh helped in the mammoth task of being on the Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) implementation working group, helping raise many issues and propose how to make our campus the most accessible and inclusive it can be.

There are countless other contributions Khanh has made outside of Dis.Co, including as an SRC Interfaith Officer in 2021, as a prolific student journalist before, during, and after their 2022 Honi Soit editorial year, and also through the Sydney University Law Society.

Khanh's first piece for Honi Soit was written on April 4th 2020. It was about Sydney's disused train stations. Since then Khanh according to the Honi Soit website has written 140+ pieces, helped edit countless others, and was the source or tip-off for so many more.

Khanh's work on Honi Soit and the drive to report the truth to students was inspiring. The number of Freedom of Information requests that Khanh submitted was staggering. The biggest ones were the FOI requests on university investments into companies operating in the Occupied Palestinian Territories both at USyd and other universities, like the ANU. Khanh's activism around Palestine and human rights across the world was not just done via FOI requests. They were one of many who camped out and helped the encampment in front of the Quad.

Khanh was a stellar example of an SRC Office Bearer, student activist and student journalist, who was so welcoming to new people, committed and hardworking without ever complaining, generous with the sweet treats or makeup they brought without fail to meetings, and who was tenacious in their questioning of all those in power – whether they were in government, the University Senate, the USU, or our own SRC.

We will miss you around Khanh.
Vale & Rest in Power Khanh Tran.

Platform

1. The SRC recognises the countless contributions Khanh has made to the Disability Collective, the wellbeing and rights of disabled students on campus, Honi Soit, student journalism, student unionism, and fight for a better world for all.

Action

1. The SRC endorses the renaming of the Disabilities Community Room in Manning House to "The Khanh Tran Disabilities Community Room" to honour Khanh's legacy and work in establishing the space.

2. The President & Disability Officers of the SRC will write to the USU, University Senate, and anyone else appropriate in support of renaming the Disabilities Community Room to “The Khanh Tran Disabilities Community Room” to honour Khanh’s legacy and work in establishing the space.
3. The SRC will commission a plaque to be placed in the Honi Soit editors room to honour Khanh’s contribution to Honi Soit & student journalism.
4. The SRC and Honi Soit social media make a Vale post about Khanh, their work with the SRC & Honi Soit, and their legacy, before 5pm Friday 7th of March 2025.
5. That the SRC Council will have a minute silence immediately after the passing of this motion.

Mover: Jacklyn Scanlan

Secunder: Victor Zhang

Discussion:

Jacklyn Scanlan spoke to the motion and read out a statement:

“I will apologise for my speech, it was not easy to write. None of this has been easy. Life is mostly routine and every now and then there is the unexpected.

The unexpected may change lives or the status quo but it is never forever. Just as the days before have hurt and feel like months, the grief will soon eroid away. As luckily grief is unexpected and temporary.

Khanh and I meet in an odd way in early 2022. I had just moved to Sydney and I was doing calls for my local Labor branch, calling up members who had become inactive to try and bring them back into the fold. Funny enough Khanh was on my list. Anyone knowing Khanh could imagine how a call to try and get them to rejoin the Labor party would have gone.

I properly met Khanh a few months later in the dreaded dungeon called the Honi Soit offices. They were smashing their keyboard editing away on some articles.

I will always be in awe of their production and quality for editing and making stories for Honi Soit.

Khanh’s editing helped make my articles for disabled Honi not sound like the writings of someone who nearly failed year 12 English, but actually understandable and actually enjoyable to read.

From there we became acquaintances, but we became true friends and comrades when we became the 2023 DisCo Conveners and co-disabilities officers.

Working as OBs with Khanh on disability rights and accessibility in education was inspiring. I know that I am preaching to the choir about this but we all must acknowledge Khanh's biggest accomplishment. The opening of the disability community room.

The room must be named in their honour. It wouldn't be here without them. It is a legacy to be acknowledged.

I will always remember Khanh in that room. The collection of little cakes, random sweets and makeup they would share to anyone in DisCo.

Even after my term as OB was over Khanh and I still remained in uncountable group chats. Working anything and everything. Chatting about anything and everything.

One of the best things about Khanh was they basically lived on campus. They were a face you would never miss between classes.

And now when I'm on campus I'm still looking out for them, expecting to just bump into them like we have done a thousand times before. It still feels like they'll just pop up at Fisher or we'll run into each other on Eastern Avenue. I know it hasn't dawned on me or many people here tonight that Khanh isn't on campus anymore. That we won't just see them randomly on campus anymore.

I remember when I heard Khanh had passed away. I was at work when I was told. The first thing I did was run back to my office, called Suhaila and we just cried it all out, it didn't feel real then. She was just reading one of Khanh's Honi articles and didn't know they had passed away.

I would like to share a bible quote as it was Khanh's and my own shared faith.

Revelation 21:4

'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'

I would also like to invite anyone wishing to have some Vietnamese chiffon cake fresh from Cabramatta brought by Suhaila. I believe it has dairy, egg, and gluten in it. It has been a rough time for all of us losing such a close friend, so please have some cake if it may help. Suhaila and myself are always here for anyone who wants a chat and reminisce if it may help.

Khanh, you will still be in our hearts and in our memories. You will always be on Eastern Avenue and in the disco room ready to share any treats or makeup they have.

Khanh wasn't just a co-OB, Khanh wasn't just a comrade, Khanh was a friend.

Vale and rest in power."

Suhaila Mahafza spoke to the motion saying that Khanh was an amazing writer and human. A star and a shining jewel.

Jacklyn Scanlan invited anyone who needed it to join them for cake and stories.

Victor Zhang read a statement to the motion:

"I think I was encouraged to write for Honi, and I imagine many of us here were, in large part because of Khanh. It's ironic then I find it difficult as a writer to find the words to properly express my grief. I have a jumble of thoughts here. Khanh was fearless and relentless, unwilling to compromise for justice.

Khanh was the person to go to if you wanted a FOI request. I remember during the encampment, we spoke about digging into universities and their investments in companies on the blacklist that operated in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Very soon after I saw the email in our Office Bearer inbox regarding the requests that were put in.

Up until two nights before I got the phone call about Khanh, we were talking about organising the rally against the eugenicist that was invited to speak on campus. We were discussing moral arguments, organising, dealing with the CAP. That was the kind of fighter Khanh was. Up until the very end, they fought for what they believed in.

As activists in the disabilities space, I think we often realise this world isn't built for us, but we have to persist nonetheless.

Khanh was a mentor, friend, co-OB, fellow journalist, and a comrade most of all. The greatest shame is what Khanh could have gone on to do for all of us, but is no longer here to do. That's on us now to keep fighting!"

Ishbel Dunsmore read a statement to the motion:

"A few days after Khanh's death, I found myself thinking about how odd it was that people would say there were no words to describe a person who had passed. Khanh's passing, amongst all the grief and shock and sadness that accompanied it, reminded me that, more often than not, the inverse is true, that there aren't enough words to characterise a person nor their life and our time within it. That is certainly true of Khanh.

Khanh was one of the first people I met when I joined the Enviro Collective and Switchroots in early 2021. The enviro SGM was the first time of many that I witnessed their unending generosity, both with their time and their patience. While everyone else was marching down Eastern Ave, or excitedly preparing to vote, they held the banner when no-one else wanted to, and stayed back getting stragglers registered to vote so we had some chance of legitimising our SGM.

They never asked for credit for this, nor any of the other infinite number of examples I could list. Between providing sweet treats on picket lines, at rallies, and at the encampment (we're never beating the "pudding-filled activists" allegation), and matching the optimism of the many fresh-faced activists - including myself - that they mentored, Khanh still managed to find time to edit Honi Soit, convene the Disabilities Collective for two years in a row, and put up with all of the shit-sliding that comes with working on the Left. That, I think, is uniquely remarkable. But that was just the type of person they were, and beside all the minute and not-so-minute ways Khanh influenced all our lives, I think we have a lot to gain from the sort of dogged attitude to and appreciation for activism and student journalism that Khanh embodied.

They also never asked for permission. They were relentless in their questioning of the corporate university, and the myriad ways it encroached on the rights of students, particularly those experiencing multiple axes of oppression. They were never cowed into silence nor censorship, and they never gave up on their principles or convictions, even when it invited challenge and debate. They were always the first to arrive and last to leave the Honi office during their term, and up until a few weeks ago, the first to arrive and last to leave the OB room. How could we have ever known that one of those many days would be their last.

It is an absolute testament to their tenacity and commitment to organising that so many generations of Grassroots and Switch members know and love Khanh. To achieve even half of what they did - for disability justice, for international students, for queer rights, for affordable housing, for collective liberation - would be nothing short of a miracle. We hope their family knows just how much the USyd and activist community loves them, and the indelible mark they have left on our ragtag caucus, this campus, and far beyond.

Khanh once wrote that "...memory and activism are our vaccines against the scourge of colonisation, apathy, and ignorance". Nothing could be more true, and it is Khanh's memory and vision that we will continue to carry with us, without which we are doomed to forever forget the possibility of radical, liberatory change. Nobody prepares you to lose a friend, but maybe that's because we never actually lost Khanh. While it might feel like a gaping hole has been left in all of our hearts, they live on in all of us, and in everything we could possibly hope to achieve."

Gemma Smart spoke as the SUPRA Disabilities Officer, noting that SUPRA would be moving a similar motion at its next meeting as the Disabilities space is shared. Adding they got a message from Khanh's brother thanking the Honi team for the Honi edition dedication, and he is hoping to get a physical copy. Concluded saying 'What is remembered lives, and I think this will be very true of Khanh.'

Remy Lebreton spoke to the motion saying:

"I was going to write a speech I tried very hard too, but I just couldn't so I'm going to speak till I can't. I met Khanh at the encampment last year, it was pouring with rain and Khanh brought up a

box of pastries and sweets. If it was not for them I would not have gotten involved in the disabilities space as I have, they were a mentor to me not just in activism but also in how to get a point across, stick to your principles, and to be staunch in disability activism. They always knew what was happening on campus and they always had an ear to lend when you needed it. Thank you Khanh.”

Vince Teafa spoke to the motion saying:

“I met Khanh at the encampment, this will come up in a number of people’s stories. Similar to Remy, I don’t think I would be involved in stupol or activism if it weren’t work Khanh, I was hesitant, about getting involved but they continued their encouragement. We were still talking and learning from them right up and until we got the news. They set us up well, and we hope to continue their work. You’re the goat Khanh.”

Luke Mešterović spoke to th emotion saying:

“There are always glib comments, like they were one of a kind and everyone loved them. But in Khanh’s instance they aren’t glib, they’re just true. They were so active on campus, writing and gave so much of themselves to the SRC, and nearly 150 articles to Honi over so many years. Most editors disappear after their time, but Khanh didn’t they kept writing and engaging.

In a class where they were asked about filing for GIPAs Khanh was the only one who had, and when asked if it was for work could only respond with “umm” because it wasn’t for work, it was because it was important to them.

The worst thing is I didn’t get to say thank you enough. We never could, so many things I would never find out if not for Khanh. It’s not fair, that someone so generous doesn’t get to keep living out their life. Khanh you were beautiful and so fucking strange, in the best way, I haven’t proceeded this yet and it will take a while. I keep thinking I’ll see you on campus.

Rest in power.

Grace Street spoke to the motion saying:

“It has been hard to put this into words but luckily others have put it very eloquently. I will forever be indebted to them for their constant but gentle reminders to finish and submit the GIPA we did during the turbulence of the encampment, and for all of their help to go through the hundreds of pages of results, without ever wanting or receiving much credit.

We won’t forget the blue Dis.Co logo that Khanh long thought was pink due to their colour-blindness, and we won’t forget all of the resulting pink Dis.Co posters and designs
Thank you to a fellow hater of Protestants and fellow lover of Whiskey.

Deglan Godwin spoke to the motion saying:

“I can only speak to the shock and sadness I felt when I heard of Khanh’s passing late last week. From meeting them at an EAG many years ago, to just the other week, they were always on campus and active. They were always fighting against injustices be they grand or small things that affect people’s daily lives; they were always fighting and raising these issues as an activist, a Disabilities Officer and Honi Editor. It’s an injustice that people like Khanh are not with us but the people who they dedicated themselves to fighting like Mark Scott are still here. We should remember from Khanh this is not about getting accolades, and ‘winning’, but continuing to fight against injustice and I think dedicating the Dis.Co room is a great reminder for future generations of their commitment to their work.”

Angus Fisher spoke to the motion and said that Khanh had, during Angu’s run for USU board, described Angus as having a proverbial pair of dead-fish-eyes. Adding that it spoke to Khanh’s artistry in writing and that the description was going to stick with him, and he wasn’t going to forget it.

Moved: Jacklyn Scanlan

Seconded: Victor Zhang

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural motion for a 5 minute recess.

Moved: Jasmine Donnelly

Seconded: Jamie Bridge

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

There was a quorum count at 7:37pm

The meeting was found Quorate

Meeting resumed at 7:40pm

E2. Report of the Electoral Officer

Report attached separately.

Moved: Jasmine Donnelly

Seconded: Jessica Heap

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Minutes of the meeting of 10th regular meeting of the 96th SRC held on the 27th of November 2024 were circulated.

Minutes of the Representatives Elect Meeting of the 97th held on the 30th of October 2024 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the 27th of November and 30th of October 2024 be accepted.

Moved: Jasmine Donnelly

Seconded: Gerard Buttigieg

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.

Procedural motion to hold over question time till after reports

Moved: Angus Fisher

Second: Martha Barlow

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

I. Visitor's Business

There was no business for this item.

J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

K. Elections

K1. Election of Two First Nations Officers

There were no nominations

K2. Election of Two Mature-Age Students' Officers

There were no nominations

K3. Election of 1 General Member of the Executive

Nomination: Jasmine Donnelly

Nominator 1: Angus Fisher

Nominator 2: Gerard Buttigieg

There being no other nominees Jasmine Donnelly was declared elected unopposed as a Member of the General Executive for the 97th SRC.

K4. Election of 1 Director of Student Publications

Nomination: Daniel Yu
Nominator 1: Bohao Zhang
Nominator 2: Remy Lebreton

There being no other nominees Daniel Yu was declared elected unopposed as a Director of Student Publications for the 97th SRC.

Procedural motion to move L, M and O en-bloc.

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Annabel Pettit

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

L. Report of the President and Executive

L1. Executive Minutes

Minutes of 96th and 97th Executive meetings from November 2024 to February 2025

Motion: that the minutes of the executive meetings from November 2024 to February 2025 be accepted.

L2. President's Report

Angus Fisher tabled a written report:

February and March report:

It has been a hectic but productive first two months as President. Here is just some of what I have been up to:

What I have attended:

Early in December, I spoke at the Woolworths speakout at town hall in support of the striking warehouse workers; the turnout was excellent. Regrettably, the Fair Work Commission ruled the workers' actions as "unlawful" and thus the workers were forced to settle for a deal that was less than what was demanded. Regardless, this shows industrial action is a valuable part of the bargaining process and the SRC should continue to support workers.

In mid-December, I attended the NSW Drug Summit as the SRC rep and as a youth rep. I took part in building the policy recommendations of the "safety and justice" chapter, where we put forward key recommendations like drug decriminalisation, drug-checking services, ceasing the use of sniffer dogs in public, banning strip-searching, and a review of Early Drug Diversion Initiative (EDDI). As a youth rep, I and other youth reps were to engage directly with the summit chairs, Minister for Health, and Minister for Youth to put forward our recommendations. We are now

releasing a youth statement following the summit that I as President have signed onto. Hopefully, there will be some excellent reform coming soon.

Immediately following the NSW Drug Summit, I attended the National Union of Students National Conference (NUS NatCon), which is where the NUS determines its policy for the year. Unlike last year, no single faction had an absolute majority, which allowed some excellent policies to be passed, such as recognising the right to protest and free speech, opposing university cuts, and advocating for BDS, just to name a few. Following NatCon, I met with the new National President to discuss how the SRC can work with the NUS and what campaigns will be run this year which will be expanded further at NUS Presidents Summits. Expect an enrol-to-vote/put Liberals last campaign in semester 1!

I also attended the annual Invasion Day rally. I am happy the SRC contributed by installing and providing food, water, and other necessities to the crowd. The speakers noted that turnout has decreased from last year and that the dissent of January 26th has decreased. We cannot let that falter the fight for First Nations justice.

Exec Responsibilities:

I, along with Grace, Mel, and Jazzlyn, underwent the recruitment and selection process for new caseworkers. It was an incredibly competitive process, and we have found an excellent candidate in Amity who will be starting soon. She will play a pivotal role in lightening the load for the caseworker team.

Many committee meetings have already been attended by myself and other members of the executive. The most notable change the university is pushing through is a new AI assessment policy. Essentially, they are implementing a two-lane approach where some assessments allow AI while others are secured. With this new policy comes a review of all assessment policies, including special consideration and simple extensions. The SRC is taking part in direct consultation with management to ensure that attacks on special consideration and simple extensions do not slip through the cracks. More to come.

I have also had many meetings with key stakeholders, such as the new NTEU President, Peter Chen, the Director of Student Administration Services, Melissa Roughly, and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Educational Innovation, Adam Bridgeman. The SRC President must engage directly with all relevant stakeholders to ensure students have a say in any changes.

Welcome Week and Events:

I have been in touch with all university faculty and schools, as well as Student Life, to ensure the SRC's important services and work are heard by the largest number of students possible. I will speak at many faculty welcomes, scholarship and international student welcomes, and the

academic procession for welcome week. The SRC ought to do as much outreach as possible, and that's what's happening. My schedule is back-to-back next week with events.

I have been in the background doing all the necessary admin for Welcome Week, like ensuring we have stalls for all our collectives. The key dates for the welcome week are February 19th-21st and the bags need to be packed by the 17th. More information on this to come. Beyond that, I contributed to EAG's Counter Course as well as wrote the President's welcome for the handbook.

What to look out for:

There has been a lot of interest in the university's new anti-protest policies, such as the Hodgkinson Review and new draft policies on banners and emails. Media outlets like the ABC, The Guardian, and The SMH have all reached out to me for a statement. I have made it clear that the SRC is against any changes that stifle the important activist work we do. I imagine things will continue to ramp up as the semester begins.

We still need a campaign/event to advertise on the back of the welcome week edition of Honi. Please reach out to me if you want that to be your campaign/event. Also please pay attention to when I post on the Facebook group as that's my main way of communicating with you all. (It ended up being a CARR rally)

Since when the last council meeting should have been, even more has been done:

What I have attended:

On the 6th and 7th of December, I attended the NUS Presidents' Summit. Beyond the important training that was given such as media training, there were speakers from the NTEU, the NSO, SSDP, and the ACTU President Michelle O'Neill, as well as from every national OB. What was apparent from all speakers and was the clear consensus in the room was that a Dutton government would devastate student unionism and the tertiary sector. It has never been more apparent to fight back against Dutton and the Liberals. It was also interesting to discuss how other student unions run day-to-day and in particular elections.

Welcome week and all its satellite events are now over! I was able to speak at a collection of events such as the faculty welcomes, the international student welcome, and the academic procession where I spoke about the importance of holding authority and the establishment accountable. The SRC also stalled at events pre-welcome week to engage students who otherwise wouldn't know about the SRC like engineering and business. Welcome week was a huge success, and I thank everyone for contributing their time. A goal of mine is to improve the outreach of the SRC and welcome week is one of the best ways to do that.

Exec Responsibilities:

More committee meetings have been attended, including major ones like UE Ed and the academic board. At both, I have raised the SRC's disappointment with the five draft policies as well as the consultation surrounding it. Given that the period has been extended, the university is feeling the pressure for us, SUPRA, and particularly the NTEU and CPSU. Given all assessment procedures are being redone from the ground up due to the implementation of AI policy I flagged that I wanted exams to have a maximum 50% weighing and also reiterated that simple extensions should stay at five days. I will be having consultation sessions with relevant university management to discuss and fight for this.

I submitted specific feedback on the five draft policies that the university put forward that would limit academic and political freedoms. My submission referred to specific clauses and I noted that the SRC demands a face-to-face meeting before anything is implemented. If you have yet to submit anything then please do.

What to look out for:

I shared the New South Wales drug summit youth statement on SRC socials which highlighted the shortcomings of the summit including youth perspectives. The government has already introduced a 12-month drug checking trial, and I hope actions like this urge the government to do even more.

Our fortnightly barbecues on Eastern Avenue will be every second Tuesday from 11:30 - 1:30. I would love to have some helping hands with that. The purpose is to improve the outreach of the SRC but also to give away leftover merchandise from the welcome week and spread NUS campaign material. It's great that the SRC is now taking part in essential and basic union activities.

In solidarity,

Angus

M. Report of the Vice-Presidents

Bohao Zhang and Shovan Bhattarai tabled a written report:

February Report:

International students have long been unaware of the SRC and the services we provide. Working with the International Student Collective, I endeavour to expand the outreach and recognition of the SRC to all international students this Council.

To this end, work has already begun. Over the break, we completely renovated the International Student Collective brand, with new logos, social media platforms, sign-up forms, and Welcome Week merchandise.

We're looking at hosting social events for international students to build a sense of community. We're further looking to host information panels related to worker rights, internships, and highlighting our amazing casework and legal service teams.

Outside of USyd, the Collective and I will be continuing our work on the Fair Fares campaign, bringing Opal concession cards to all international and part time students. It's honestly insane that it has taken the government this long to act, and it's a disgrace that New South Wales remains the only State where there is no concession program whatsoever for international students.

I look forward to working with everyone constructively in building a more welcoming space for international students.

Bohao

Trump's inauguration and the actions of his administration in the past few weeks should be a serious wake-up call for left wing activists. As Vice-President, I have been busy organising opposition to the normalisation of Trump and the far-right alongside other activists, an urgent task we face. Through Students for Palestine, I helped organise a rally to protest Trump's inauguration on the day it occurred, which I followed by helping to organise an action alongside Community Action for Rainbow Rights activists for on Friday January 31st. This was an important action to come out in opposition to Trump's attacks on LGBTQ rights, as well as drawing parallels to the threat posed by the decision of the Queensland Liberal Government to ban gender-affirming healthcare for under-18s in that state.

Alongside other activists, I also welcome the decision of a cease-fire in Gaza after 16 months of bombardment without respite but recognise the importance of continuing to fight for a permanent ceasefire, an end to the occupation, aid and reconstruction efforts, and real justice for the victims of this genocide. To that effect, I have been part of efforts to organise the next protest for Palestine being organised by the Palestine Action Group in one month's time on Sunday 2nd March at Hyde Park, which I hope other SRC activists will help me in the efforts to build.

Shovan

March report:

The Vice-Presidents have been busy the past few months!

Bohao:

I've been working to increase communication between collectives and the Executive, especially addressing the concerns of the International Student Collective. With coordination, the ISC has had a very successful O Week. We've been able to make sure merch was made promptly, and this

time actually had logos reflecting the International Student Collective. I believe it is one of the most successful O-Weeks for the ISC in memory. I was present for all three days helping out at O-Week.

We look forward to continuing to support the International Student Officers in the great work they have been doing. We also urge all Collectives to reach out to the Vice-Presidents whenever necessary – more than happy to help!

Alongside Welcome Week, I have been in talks with the USU in hopes that the SRC can contribute more actively in the FoodHub Program. I see a lot of room for the expansion of FoodHub, including textbook trading and increasing opening hours. Anyone interested in helping out with FoodHub should reach out to me by email – I love the program and I think there's so much potential there to improve quality of life for students.

It's shaping up to be a great 97th Council! Looking forward to getting to know and working with everyone.

O. Report of Committees and Officers

O1. Report of the Education Officers

February Report:

It's been a busy summer for the Education Action Group! As look ahead into semester 1, we are keen to carry on fostering a fighting student movement capable of holding management to account.

We have completed Countercourse, the annual publication of the EAG. This year, we have articles from students young and old and across the student left. From debates over how to best engage with the federal election, the potential unconstitutionality of the Campus Access Policy to a look at the student movement in Argentina, we encourage you all to pick up a copy at the SRC's Welcome Week stall — it will be at the back of the SRC Handbook. A special thank you to Bipasha Chakraborty, whose fantastic front cover art pays homage to the prominent role that woodcut printmaking holds in the history of activism and protest.

We also helped build for Invasion Day, leafleting at Central Station, Broadway Shopping centre and Glebe Markets. Conservative forces have been emboldened following the failure of the Voice referendum and the re-election of Donald Trump, and this has led to a renewed attack on the commemoration of Invasion Day and First Nations rights at large. Anthony Albanese's support for "Australia Day," combined with Peter Dutton's flagrant dog-whistling and outright racism has allowed Australian bigotry to (further) mutate. Among the most disturbing instance is the march of neo-Nazis in Adelaide, who proudly affirmed that they saw January 26 as a day of celebration. This is fascism. It cannot be fought by mealy-mouthed centrist liberalism — it can only be

defeated by an active left. The Education Officers attended the Invasion Day rally and will always support the cause of First Nations justice and liberation.

The EAG will have a stall at Welcome Week, and we encourage everyone to swing by and pick up a tote bag of education activism goodies. The EAG will also host its first meeting of the year at 1pm on Thursday 27 February. We will discuss our plans for the year ahead, as well as strategy regarding how to best fight against attacks on students through the CAP and course cuts. We hope to see you there!

Luke and Jasmine

O2. Report of the Women's Officers

February Report:

WoCo has had a busy month!

Over December and January, we were hard at work putting Growing Strong, our annual magazine together. We are incredibly proud of the magazine - huge thank you to all of our editors and contributors! We will be hosting a launch picnic for this on Friday 28th February at midday - snacks and copies of the magazine provided. We also attended the Invasion Day rally last week and helped host the cool-down station, handing out water, juice, sunscreen and snacks to attendees. We were honoured to continue this project which was spearheaded by the SRC last year, and we hope to continue being able to materially support Invasion Day in this way every year.

Last week we held our first meeting of the year, which many new members attended. We are really keen to grow the collective this year and thrilled to see so much interest.

Next week we are co-hosting our first FALL reading group with ACAR, and we encourage people to come along. We hope to make this a regular occurrence. In week one of semester, we will be hosting a forum in Sydney Town Hall on the topic of sexual violence and abolishing the colleges. We will have a range of speakers from politicians, activists and students, and be reading some testimonies from college students.

We deeply, deeply condemn the new repression tactics being employed by the university and will continue to fight these. We are incredibly frustrated that much of what we plan on doing this year will be focused on fighting these rules but nevertheless plan to keep up the pressure!

As always, we stand with Palestine. We are glad there is finally a ceasefire but acknowledge this is only the first step towards a long process of rebuilding and liberation, and that our fight does not

stop here. We condemn the escalating violence in the West Bank, and the dangerous calls from Trump to ethnically cleanse Gaza even further. Fuck Trump, and free Palestine.

Always was, always will be.

In love and rage,
Martha and Ellie

03. Report of the Disabilities Officers

February Report:

Asalamu alaykum! (Vince tries not to hint he went to Jordan during the break: impossible challenge). I hope we all have had a great break and holiday season and made some nice memories and resolutions for 2025. We at Dis.Co did!

It was wonderful to see many familiar faces in our first Dis.Co meeting on Jan 13. We discussed how the SRC can enhance accessibility at rallies, including sourcing masks and earplugs through Dis.Co and providing guides on delivering hybrid events. We emphasized the importance of basic rally etiquette too, such as pointing megaphones upwards rather than directly at someone's ears. Fortnightly meetings will commence after Welcome Week, and we are currently finalizing the best time for all members, including new members who join post-Welcome Week.

Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) meetings will start in March. Our goals include making rallies more accessible and improving the Dis.Co room, which currently lacks a functioning air conditioner. We are considering getting an air purifier and other amenities too. BDS-friendly of course. If you are a student that uses the Dis.Co room, please be sure to reach out to @usyddisabilities on Instagram if you have requests/ideas!

Despite Vince having COVID and Remy being away, the collectives collaborated effectively during the Invasion Day March and Protest, contributing both financially and with Dis.Co members at the SRC stall.

The Disabled Honi editorial callout concluded on February 1st, and we are finalizing the editors now. If you identify as a student with a disability, please be sure to pitch your ideas when we give a call out. Our autonomous edition is scheduled for release in Week 7 of this semester. For Welcome Week 2025, we are setting up our Disability Hub in collaboration with the Sydney University Postgraduate Students' Association (SUPRA). The preparations are going well, with tote bags, stickers, and more. We commissioned the lovely @bitapearl to design a lot of cool stuff...ya don't wanna miss it; come say hi!

We are reaching out to the NSW Branch of The Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation (AMSOF) to explore how Dis.Co and the SRC can support public sector psychiatrists against the NSW Labor government's anti-worker behaviour. More details are in the motion Dis.Co wrote for this council. We are also in discussions with the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) about organizing a panel on staff experiences with disability and discrimination in the corporatized university. Additionally, we are planning a music event in collaboration with other collectives and SUPRA, but it will likely be in Semester 2 but stay keen.

Vince and Remy

March report:

Hello! In Feb, Welcome Week was planned successfully with SUPRA. We handed out our shiny new accessibility handbook and stickers and met some cool new people, but stalling was overall disappointing due to poor and unacceptable stall placement by the USU.

We now have fortnightly (Week 1,3, 5... etc) organizing meetings on Tuesdays at 11am in the Dis.Co room and have a few campaigns in the works so please come along and be sure to keep up with us on Instagram at @usyddisabilities for updates.

We organized a snap rally with other collectives (QUAC, WAG, ACAR) on Feb 27 against the platforming of eugenic ideas at the School of Public Health, following concerns that were dismissed by the organizers.

The anti-eugenics rally was a first test for pushing the boundaries against USyd's new anti-protest policies for this year, and we would say it was a success so far! It was a first, chairing and speaking for Remy, and all the collectives (ACAR, QUAC, WAG) and groups involved collaborated excellently in speaking as well as getting the event off the ground in the first place.

We must always oppose fascist and hateful rhetoric wherever it exists on our campus, and we at Disco are proud to say we took a stand against eugenics and eliminationist ideas, at USyd and within our broader communities.

We would like to continue to look into the ways in which these ideas are platformed across Australian universities, and every day at USyd, as it is quite frankly shocking this is seen as acceptable at any time in history, let alone against the backdrop of the worlds rising far right and fascist movements. It must be opposed proactively, as much as defensive actions like these are still highly necessary.

Last but certainly not least, it is with the heaviest of hearts that we say that we at Dis.Co are deeply affected by Khanh's passing, not only for their contributions to Dis.Co but also the wider

USYD community. We saw them as a great mentor figure and would still bounce ideas off them and they were just always someone kind and passionate to have around, and it's sorely missed. We are planning many things honour them and their contributions, including dedicating the 2025 Disabled Honi to them and renaming the Disabilities Common Room. There is just so much to say, and much more will be said, love you Khanh. REST IN POWER.

Remy and Vince

O4. Report of the Ethno-Cultural Officers

Feb Report:

Past events summary:

- Attended Ethnocultural Conference
- Attended launch of the Sydney Basin Aboriginal Tent Embassy
- Contingent to Protest against Aboriginal Deaths in Custody
- Banner paint for Dec 7 First Nations Justice rally
- Contingent to Dec 7 First Nations Justice rally
- Attended Tamil Refugee Council's Human Rights Dinner
- Organising meetings for RATA
- Banner paint for Invasion Day rally
- Contingent to Invasion Day rally
- Support at Invasion Day Protest
- ACAR Meeting

Future events summary:

- Valentines' edition of FALL
- Welcome Week stall
- Welcome Week dinner + drinks
- ACAR Organising Meeting

Goals still to be achieved for the semester/month/year:

- Grow ACAR membership
- Organise ACAR events
- Support external campaigns and events

Challenges to achieving them:

- Campus Access Policy and Hodgkinson's Report

Plan to overcome challenges:

- Organise with other groups against repression of protest on campus

Relevant events/news external or internal to your department/collective:

- Community Picket at SEC Plating on the 7th of February at 6 AM in Belmore
- Launch and fundraiser for RATA on the 13th of February at 5 PM at the Red Rattler
- Rally for TJ Hickey on the 14th of February at 10 AM at Waterloo Green

March report:

February has been a busy month for ACAR!

We have attended a myriad of events, including Palestine Action Group's snap rally against Trump's calls for the ethnic cleansing of Gaza, 'Heat Rising', Rata's fundraiser launch event where we heard talks and watched performances all about decolonisation from Bla(c)k sovereignty, to Kanaky liberation, and Papua Merdeka, and the rally for TJ Hickey, marking 21 years of no justice and the continued evasion of accountability.

ACAR and WoCo had its first Feminist Anti-Racist Liberation Library (FALL) event of the year on Valentine's Day, discussing bell hooks' All About Love. Planning is underway for our next FALL event.

Welcome Week was a great opportunity to expand our community reach, with many good conversations with students and supportive staff keen to get involved in decolonial organising with other like-minded BIPOC on campus. ACAR had some events in Week 1 with new students, including a Welcome Dinner and organising meeting. We are now planning an Iftar on the 19th of March.

All universities across the continent have just adopted a reductive definition of antisemitism which has far-reaching consequences for all anti-Zionist activism on campus. We are committed to continuing our activism, and will do so unwaveringly, no matter the tyrannical measures imposed by the University. During Welcome Week, the University used appalling intimidation tactics against students at the ACAR and QuAC stall who displayed material in support of Palestine. This included taking photos of members without their consent, staring menacingly at particular members, and standing extremely close to us for extended periods of time. We have signed onto the joint submission of the 97th SRC Office Bearers on the 5 new policies proposed in response to the Hodgkinson Report which have detrimental consequences on free political speech on campus.

In a similar vein, NSW Parliament have just expanded their anti-protest laws, passing an amendment to the Crimes Act which gives extraordinary powers to move on and arrest protestors within 200 metres of places of worship. It is critical that we work with other collectives and organising groups to resist political repression on and off campus.

We have continued to pay close attention to rapidly increasing violence in Palestine and urge everyone to do the same. In Gaza, Israel has continuously terrorised Palestinians through its incessant breaches of the ceasefire. In the West Bank, the IDF has been conducting 'Operation Iron Wall' since January, a large-scale military offensive which has involved a vicious ground incursion, mass arrests, settler violence, the death of at least 12 Palestinians and injuries of over 40, the largest demolition operation in the West Bank since the 1967 Naksa, immense restrictions on movement, and the displacement of 40,000 Palestinians from refugee camps in the northern West Bank. To mobilise against this, we have begun to work with BDS Youth and other Palestinian organising groups in preparation for Israeli Apartheid Week and other potential actions.

Finally, we are currently working with the Disabilities Officers and Queer Officers to campaign against the University School of Public Health's eugenicist talk.

Dana and Kayla

O5. Report of the Environment Officers

February/March Report combined:

The summer break has not been a quiet period for the environment. At the end of December, reports revealed that 2024 was the first year to top 1.5C above pre-industrial levels. 1.5C was meant to be the target for limiting warming, but with the continued burning of fossil fuels, that is very unlikely.

In December, the Albanese government approved four new coal mine extensions: in NSW, the Boggabri coal mine expansion and in Qld, the Caval Ridge Horse Pit Extension, Lake Vermont Meadowbrook coal mine project and Vulcan South coal mine. Climate advocacy groups estimate that these projects will produce 850 million tonnes of carbon emissions over their lifetimes.

In January, wildfires ravaged Los Angeles and surrounds, leading to tens of thousands of people without homes. LA County, having cut funding to firefighters, relied on prisoners being paid as little as \$10.24 an hour. Meanwhile figures like Elon Musk disgracefully blamed the fires on DEI hiring for firefighters.

The re-election of Trump promises to unleash an extravaganza of oil and gas extraction. Trump's mantra of "drill, baby, drill" is a signal that no red-tape, nor even greenwashing, will stand in the way of fossil fuel companies doing whatever they want to make money. His climate policies are but one of many reasons to not just oppose but organise resistance to the new Trump regime. This is not just a distant overseas issue but should also be a concern for us here in Australia, especially as we look ahead to a federal election and the rise of the far right on our own shores. Dutton's bizarre nuclear obsession and gleeful adoption of divisive, populist rhetoric is deeply

concerning. To top it all off, atomic scientists have set the Doomsday Clock at 89 seconds to midnight, the closest since its creation, citing the climate crisis and nuclear threats as key factors

We have both been busy over the summer break. The holidays have not been a time to break for activism, with us attending rallies for Palestine, trans rights and Invasion Day. The enviro collective contributed \$100 of our budget to the SRC collectives' stall at Invasion Day that provided free water, sunscreen, shaded seating and other resources to attendees and organisers of the rally.

We have also tried to reach out to other climate action groups, in particular Rising Tide. We both attended an organising meeting where various proposals for future actions were discussed, including a potential Sydney rally in the mid-year, organised by Rising Tide. We heard an update on the arrestees from the 2024 people's blockade of the Port of Newcastle, the world's largest coal port. 138 protesters were charged with the criminal offence of 'disrupting a major facility' and face harsh penalties of fines up to \$22,000, 2 years' imprisonment or both. We condemn these reprehensible attacks on peaceful climate activists and the effective criminalisation of protest by the Minns government.

Going into semester 1, we are both committed to organising against the repressive new policies that Sydney University has introduced. We think that all office bearers and councillors should be involved in pushing back against these, and welcome collaborating with anyone who wants to. The proposed policies, along with those that have already been adopted, are a direct attack against the SRC for being a left-wing, political organisation. We can't allow the university to rob us of our ability to call out management's crimes and to mobilise students around the issues that concern them.

Finally, on Welcome Week. The 2025 edition of Combust was popular amongst attendees, and we're grateful to all those who contributed. We would have also had tote bags, had Labor and liberal members of the executive not teamed up to reject the expenditure. We are disappointed that the request was ultimately rejected out of concern for how the bags portrayed the Australian Labor Party, particularly in the broader climate of censorship and repression we find ourselves in.

Lilah and Deaglan.

Motion: that the reports in and Minutes in Agenda Items L, M and O be accepted.

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Jasmine Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

N. Report of the General Secretaries

Anu-Ujin Khulan and Grace Street tabled a written report:

February report:

The General Secretaries have been very busy since the beginning of our term, and we're gearing up for a fun and successful 2025 Welcome Week!

Welcome Week

The custom SRC pens are back, we have new card wallets to stick on your phone case with Anu's 2025 SRC design and have had our totes in the same design delivered but will be battling with the supplier over a slightly dodgy printing job.

Our Welcome Handbook is finally done and off to print. It's gotten a revamp, new sections including Course Reviews from a survey completed by over 30 students, bright new designs, an International Student Handbook from the ISC inside, an updated historical campus map from Bloom for Honi in 2021, and a great front cover by Anu. Thank you very much to the Pubs team, Casework team and OBs for your contributions! We're planning to do some promo online before and during the Welcome Events so that students know about the Handbook/Countercourse and all the info inside.

Things for OBs to do before Welcome Week (please)!

1. Update your collective's Linktree for 2025, since we have linked most of them in the welcome handbook so lots of people will be looking at them
2. Email or message us to let us know if you would like a lanyard and name card with your name, pronouns and SRC position for Welcome Week
3. Help us pack the 3000 tote bags! We will send out info and a roster soon

Exec responsibilities

We attended our first SRC Legal Service (SLS) board meeting with Chitra, Jahan and Angus to get acquainted with the role and set out our expectations for the year.

Grace worked with Angus on a staff selection committee to review and interview candidates for a new caseworker position. We're excited to be welcoming our new caseworker, Amity, this month which will help with the massive load on our caseworkers of students needing help

Working with other collectives and campaigns

Anu worked with the ISC on their new mascot, on their International Student Handbook inside the SRC Handbook and on the launch of their new @usyd.international Instagram account

Grace contributed to and helped to edit the EAG's Countercourse and WoCo's Growing Strong, which are looking amazing (shout out to Combust too!). She also helped with the organisation of and some supplies for the SRC's Invasion Day Stall, a big thank you for the joint effort of WoCo, ACAR, Dis.Co, Enviro, EAG and QuAC for their help and monetary contributions. Fighting against

Trump and the rise of the right has been a big thing, including with a protest at the US Consulate on Inauguration Day.

Coming up soon...

Welcome Week and faculty welcome events, responding to the Uni's new sweep of policies (e.g. the banner and display materials policy), first collective meetings of the year, Dis.Co Honi and Reclaim & Resist Week soon, planning for Rad Ed in Sem 2 (!), and much more

Grace and Anu

March Report:

Budgets!

We received a total request of funding of over \$100,000, which is significantly higher than our allocated collective budget of \$63 000 from the 2025 SSAF Application. Given that this is the same number as last year, the \$63 000 is already a decrease from last year, in real terms, since it does not account for inflation.

Across the twelve collectives and departments who filled out budget proposals (and four who did not), we have worked to allocate budgets based on the ideas and costs proposed by each group, and our knowledge of their activities and size in the past and presently. We also filtered out costs that do not need to be paid for by collectives and will come from a different budget, including printing done by and in the SRC, purchasing calico for the OB room, purchasing megaphones or other technology for the SRC, and so on.

It is key to note that the \$63 000 total and these allocated budgets are not the extent of or limit to your expenditure this year.

We have been working to align OBs' proposed projects and spending with other sources of money, including our pools of contestable funding and Student Life Grants. It will take a bit of extra time, planning and effort to access and use these sources, but we are here to help. We know that OBs are more than capable of this, and it is something we are just going to have to work around this year. While last year's 2025 SSAF Application did not result in an increase in money for collective budgets, we do have other things available such as:

- A big technology budget for all of the SRC
- \$9,500.00 for 19 people to attend NUS conferences
- \$7,000.00 for community outreach and engagement
- \$2,702.00 for a Student Safety: Sexual Health and Harm Reduction Initiative
- \$2,700.00 for materials and maintenance of an SRC Library

- \$29,000 for Student Weeks, Office Bearer Projects, Tech for Reps - including Radical Education Week, Rad Pride and Consent/Reclaim and Resist Week, and other projects that OBs can request money for via the executive
- \$30,000 for the 2025 Student Media Conference

We urge OBs and collectives to work together to look to cut costs. We note also that there was lots of overlap across budget proposals, including multiple collectives requesting money for the same campaign materials or events, and many collectives requesting money for technology for social media.

Where possible, we want to help OBs to use and access the other pools of contestable funding, such as by making the most of Radical Education Week, by buying lapel microphones that can be used by the whole SRC and put in the general technology budget, and so on. We know that there is a lot of collaboration between OBs, and this should allow flexibility with budgets and funding for projects. There are certain things requested in budget proposals that we recommend collectives to reconsider given the small budget we are working with, including glossy-print zines (instead of paper zines) or vinyl banners (instead of our normal painted calico banners).

We are aiming to give monthly budget updates so collectives and departments can track their spending. For those that do not look like they are going to be using up all of their budget, we expect that we would work together to see if it could be used by or in collaboration with other groups.

<u>SRC Council Budget 2025</u>	
SSAF Funding	\$ 3,194,384.66
Expenses	\$ 3,194,384.66
Net surplus/deficit	\$ -
<i>Base Funding</i>	
Casework & Policy	
Staff	\$ 756,307.00
Other	\$ 3,000.00
Total	\$ 759,307.00
Publications & communications	
Staff	\$ 219,597.00
Other	\$ 70,000.00
Total	\$ 289,597.00
SRC Legal Service	

Staff	\$ 251,551.00
Other	\$ 12,000.00
Total	\$ 263,551.00
Administration	
Staff	\$ 524,462.00
Other	\$ 136,000.00
Total	\$ 660,462.00
Elections	
Staff	\$ 65,000.00
Other	\$ 6,000.00
Total	\$ 71,000.00
NUS	
Affiliation Fee	\$ 60,000.00
Conferences	\$ 18,000.00
Total	\$ 78,000.00
Student Representatives	
Stipends	\$ 355,001.00
ISC	\$ 5,000.00
Student Housing	\$ 1,200.00
Women's Collective	\$ 5,800.00
Honi Soit	\$ 10,500.00
Autonomous Collective Against Racism	\$ 6,200.00
Disabilities and Carers Collective	\$ 3,200.00
Queer Action Collective	\$ 4,800.00
Education Action Group	\$ 17,500.00
Environmental Collective	\$ 5,000.00
Welfare Action Group	\$ 2,100.00
Sexual Assault & Sexual Harassment Department	\$ 650.00
Social Justice Department	\$ 350.00
Global Solidarity Department	\$ 350.00
Refugee Rights Department	\$ 350.00
Total	\$ 418,001.00
Orientation and Transition	\$ 27,982.00
Total Base Funding	\$ 2,567,900.00
Contestable Funding	

Casework conferences and training	\$ 6,000.00
Cold calling	\$ 5,000.00
Caseworker and policy officer (ISSO)	\$ 67,010.77
Migration Lawyer	\$ 108,017.50
Payroll officer additional day	\$ 34,240.39
Welcome week stall marketing materials upgrade	\$ 1,200.00
SRC Logo update	\$ 3,500.00
SRC Elections infrastructure	\$ 3,200.00
HR External consultant	\$ 5,000.00
Technology budget	\$ 78,000.00
National Union of Students Engagement	\$ 9,500.00
Engagement and Community Outreach Budget	\$ 7,000.00
Stipends for autonomous office-bearers (continuing)	\$ 152,620.00
Student Safety: Sexual Health and Harm Reduction Initiative	\$ 2,702.00
Stipends for other office bearers	\$ 58,000.00
SRC Library	\$ 2,700.00
Campaign Materials and Student Representative Training	\$ 5,000.00
Student Weeks, Officebearer Projects, Tech for Reps	\$ 29,000.00
Student Media Conference	\$ 30,000.00
Refurbishment of SRC Office	\$ 18,794.00
Total Contestable Funding	\$ 626,484.66

Collective Budgets Breakdown and analysis

Collective or department	2025 Amount proposed by OBs	2024 Allocation	2025 Allocation
International Students Collective	5,625	2000	5,000.00
Student Housing	2,732	0	1,200.00
Women's Collective	9530	6000	5,800.00
Honi Soit	20400	9000	10,500.00
Autonomous Collective Against Racism	9737	5500	6,200.00 *
Disability & Carers' Collective	3250	3220	3,200.00
Queer Action Collective	15272	4800	4,800.00
Education Action Group	24100	19000	17,500.00
Enviro Collective	6400	5800	5,000.00
Welfare Action Group	3000	3000	2,100.00
Sexual Violence/SASH	700	1500	650.00
First Nations*	—	1100	0.00 *
Social Justice Dep.	270	500	350.00
Intercampus Dep.	0	0	0.00
Global Solidarity Dep.	0	500	350.00
Interfaith Dep.	0	0	0.00
Refugee Rights Dep.	0	600	350.00
Totals	\$101,016.00	\$62,520.00	63,000.00

** Given that there are currently no First Nations Officers or a First Nations Collective who would be able to use a budget even if we allocated them one, we have worked with ACAR to create a dedicated part of ACAR's budget to First Nations advocacy. In the case that we do elect First Nations Officers; they will be able to access this money through ACAR. If not, ACAR will work to use it for solidarity with First Nations people, groups and campaigns.*

Welcome Week

We experienced a lot of excitement and success at Welcome Week as students loved the new, fun designs by Anu. We packed and handed out over 2500 SRC tote bags with our other SRC merch, casework pamphlets, and the Orientation-CounterCourse with all the necessary information to navigate (literally and metaphorically) the corporate university. Many, many hours were spent over the summer holidays to create, write and order these Welcome Week staples and we are so

glad that they were a hit. Thank you to the OBs and exec members who braved our many messages and rosters to contribute to packing and helping across the SRC and collective stalls!

2025 Collective meetings and campaigns

We have been planning and attending the first meetings and events of the year, including helping to bring more students in the International Students' Collective, participating in the USyd NTEU Branch meeting to vote in favour of a motion condemning USyd's proposed new policies. In the first Disabilities Collective, Women's Collective, Education Action Group, Autonomous Collective Against Racism, students have hit the ground running and we are looking forward to this year's campaigns.

To Khanh: rest in power, and may we carry out your legacy

We want to say goodbye to and commemorate a prized member of our SRC. Khanh Tran was a spectacular Honi Soit editor in 2022, Disabilities Collective Convenor in 2023 and 2024, and an all-around incredible person to work alongside. They were committed to all struggles and campaigns, including but not limited to WoCo's *End Rape on Campus & Abolish the Colleges*, Disability Justice and the DIAP, housing justice, anti-eugenics advocacy, international student rights, solidarity with Palestine, and so much more. Khanh was a stellar example of an SRC Office Bearer, student activist and student journalist, who was so welcoming to new people, committed and hardworking without ever complaining, generous with the sweet treats or makeup they brought without fail to meetings, and who was tenacious in their questioning of all those in power – whether they were in government, the University Senate, the USU, or our own SRC. While taken from us too early, so many generations of SRC members have learnt alongside and from Khanh, and we hope to do them justice throughout our term.

Grace Street added to the report with an additional funding request.
additional funding requests:

1. \$1000 for contestable fund for SRC logo design competition prize money
2. \$1442 for Enviro collective bags, not approved by the exec, as per the constitution this is being brought to the council for consideration

Discussion:

Jasmine Al-Rawi asking about the cuts to the activist departments with so many with smaller budgets for almost everyone, and I'm wondering why this looks like this and why Honi got such an increase comparatively.

Grace Street responded saying there wasn't a significant cut and there are additional pooled funds that can be accessed by all Office Bearer departments so that we don't end up with some

departments not spending the money and others running out. Printing costs are not deducted from these budgets.

Motion: that the report of the General Secretaries be accepted not including the funding requests but including the overall SRC Budget allocations.

Moved: Bohao Zhang

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Motion: To put up \$1000 for the SRC Logo competition prize.

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Motion: To approve \$1442 for Enviro collective tote bags

Moved: Grace Street

Seconded: Lilah Thurbon

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

H. Question Time of 15 minutes, which may be extended by resolution for a further 15 minutes.
There were no questions for the Officers.

P. Special Business

There were no items of special business.

Q. Motions of Notice

Q1. Appointment of a New Honi Editor

Per the resignation of Ondine Karpinellison and Aidan Pollock, that Charlotte Saker be appointed as an official editor for 2025. And that Charlotte receive the editor's stipend, backdated to December 1, 2024, to account for her work before her formal appointment.

Discussion:

Imogen spoke to the motion – charlotte has been working with us since December, this brings our total Honi team to 9 people rather than 10, at this stage.

Annabell Li waived her right to speak.

Moved: Imogen Sabey

Seconded: Annabell Li

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural motion to suspend standing orders to move to the following agenda items to be heard in this order: Q8, R7, Q5, R8. R2. Q12, Q3 Q4 and Q2.

Moved: Deaglan Godwin

Seconded: Jasmine Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural motion to limit speaking time to 2 minutes per person.

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Jasmine Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Q8. Oppose the Sydney University's new attacks on student and staff freedom of speech and political protest!

Preamble

In the quiet of summer break, when management presumed no one was watching, the University of Sydney accepted in full the Hodgkinson Recommendations handed down as part of the Hodgkinson External Review Report on 27 November 2024 (**Recommendations**). The recently proposed Promotional Display Materials Policy 2025 (**Display Materials Policy**) and the Social Media and Public Comment Policy 2025 (**Social Media Policy**) mark the University's first attempt to implement the Recommendations. If enacted, management will have a nearly unfettered licence to punish students for protesting on its campuses, silence criticism of the University and its affiliates and crack down on any other political communications they deem "uncivil".

While the Recommendations and proposed policies are couched in the language of safety and inclusion, this is merely a convenient excuse for the university to stifle activist campaigns that may politically and financially inconvenience its corporate backers. The Recommendations make explicit reference to the Gaza Solidarity Encampment, spreading misinformation by linking the encampment in embarrassingly bad faith to "rising levels of racism, intolerance and polarisation".

The Recommendations propose the "New Civility Rule" that requires any speaker using University facilities to make the meaning of contested words and phrases clear to the audience. Failure to comply with this bizarre, oppressive requirement will constitute misconduct.

The Display Materials Policy expands the remit of the repressive Campus Access Policy (**CAP**) to ban the display of unapproved banners both as held by community members and as attached to certain common places, such as "trees, posts, footpaths, fences, railings or walls". Banners, signs and other materials will be removed, and the students responsible disciplined under various

university policies, if they pose a risk to the health and safety of others. The level of ‘risk’, of course, is to be determined by the university, who have a shameful legacy of cracking down on left wing student activists.

The Social Media Policy applies to “content that implies a connection between a University community member and the University, without a statement that the content is the poster’s own and not the University’s or posting content about the University or University community members”. This effectively muzzles anyone who is identifiable as a USyd student by their social media. Members of the university community are prevented from:

- making public comments;
- public announcements;
- publishing content that makes the University appear to be affiliated with a social group or political affiliation when that is not the case; or
- risking any person’s safety.

This means, for example, the Education Officer of the SRC could be committing misconduct for condemning the university policies that are the subject of this motion on their social media accounts.

Further, the policy bans announcements at the beginning of lectures, tutorials and seminars.

Student safety is egregiously weaponised by the proposed policies as an excuse to stifle activist campaigns. Both make use of the term “psychosocial hazards” as a category of political messages that supposedly pose an unacceptable risk to student safety and can subsequently be used as grounds to justify the widespread repression and punishment of students. Included in this perniciously constructed category is any political expression that exposes members of the university community to “traumatic materials or events”.

This is hugely problematic – obviously, depictions of Israel’s genocide in Gaza are traumatic. The lived experiences of victim-survivors of the sexual violence that runs rampant at the University and its residential colleges are traumatic. Details of the climate crisis and the university’s investment in fossil fuel companies responsible for it are traumatic. The SRC must oppose the appropriation of this trauma and injustice as a justification for repressing protest, the only means by which we have available as students to fight it.

University campuses should be places where students receive a political education, organise around issues of global importance and raise their voices in arenas of discourse and debate. Our University has a moral obligation to facilitate this and protect its campuses as safe havens for discourse and debate. Instead, they choose to fold to the pressures of corporate interests and

state government's imposition of harsh criminal penalties onto protestors. We cannot stand idly by as dissent is quashed and our freedoms stripped away.

The SRC should commit to opposing the Recommendations and proposed policies in their entirety. The SRC should join with the NTEU, other student clubs and societies, and with other non-campus advocacy groups to campaign for the repeal of these policies. We must stridently defend and protect our rights. This starts with raising awareness of these attacks on our democratic and civil rights and extends to a broader campaign which mobilises students to win back these rights.

Platform

1. The SRC condemns attacks on free speech and the right to protest in all their forms by the corporate university management.
2. The SRC opposes the CAP, Hodgkinson recommendations, Promotional Display Materials Policy and Social Media and Public Comment Policy and demands the immediate repeal of all policies encroaching on the right to protest and freedom of speech.
3. The SRC condemns the use and abuse of university policies such as the CAP, Hodgkinson recommendations and Promotional Display Materials Policy to repress student activism.
4. The SRC condemns the University of Sydney's complicity in the broader repression of protest, activism and political dissent by the Minns Labor government.

Action

1. The SRC shares the content of this motion on its social media accounts.
2. The SRC commits to a campaign fighting against the repression of activism, protest and political speech on the University of Sydney's campuses, including, but not limited to:
 - a. the repeal of the CAP;
 - b. preventing the implementation of the Recommendations and proposed policies; and
 - c. strengthening support for activist campaigns across the student body and discouraging students from reporting breaches of the CAP and proposed policies.

Discussion:

Lilah Thurbon spoke to the motion covering its main points and spoke about the 5 year measures only add to the restrictions of the cap and block student from engaging in dissent from the universities on issues and holding the uni to account. They are all being done under the guise of

safety when they are here to create silence and complicity and prevent pressure for change. We need to fight these repressive policies.

Deaglan Godwin: We have one of the most liberal traditions on what is acceptable on campus in terms of activism and dissent, it is now becoming one of the most repressive and controlling. This is no accident it has been an effort by the government, political organisation and management to shut down debate on Palestine, but its not just about Palestine it impacts every area of civil discourse on society and prevent student from promoting events, social media posts and many more, these laws are broad and far reaching and will be used to silence us and try to shut us down. We need to oppose this, and the long speakers this on this demonstrates this including the NTUE moving motion to try and blocking the draft policies.

Jasmine Donnelly spoke to the motion saying the CAP is one of the most dangerous policy changes, and shutting down of activism on campus and it's shameful that you cannot have a stall without security trying to shut it down. USyd's Instagram always posts about the rich activism on campus, but none of the things they use to promote the university would be possible with the policies they are adding today.

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion saying it was already shameful, and the additions are even more so. This has been in a response to student standing up against genocide, they've made a rule that no flags are allowed to be shown on campus but with an exception for sports flags but not pride flags. There are so many things that would not have been possible. And while USyd bans pride flags from the classrooms, it still has the audacity to march in Mari Gras.

Martha Barlow spoke to the motion saying this is creating a weird surveillance state on campus. The CAP gives security unfettered power to impose these rules as they see fit, with extra attention going to disrupting PoC on campus. With some of the rules being moved can be seen as a win to the pressure they've been under, but they may also be trying to act like they want to do more.

Jasmine Al-Rawi spoke to the motion saying the uni may have taken some restrictions back, but they've added more on students putting posters up. They are attacking students still, still endorsing genocide, cutting our courses and silencing students. USyd, has now possibly the most repressive rules, and restrictions not just activism but also just civil society. People putting up basic posters having them ripped down, imagine if nothing could be posted about on campus there would be no campus societies and we need to continue fighting back against these repressive policies and work with the NTEU to oppose this.

Lauren Finlayson spoke to the motion saying that the CAP is so detrimental to what a Student Union needs to be. Independent and in opposition to the unethical and corporatisation of our education. The uni are not only restricting students its impacting staff and everyone, including non-activist spaces like people putting posters up about sea turtles. We need to fight, by saying

that they can't crush activism. Where USyd goes other Unis follow and we fight and show they can't succeed, and other unis can't either.

Victor Zhang spoke to the motions saying that the Uni has taken on policies which were originally written about stopping feral goats on campus. That is what they see us as. On a more serious note, there has been witch hunt on Randa Abdel-Fattah, which is disgusting and then our Uni has also been inviting Professor Julian Savulescu, who promotes eugenics to speak on our campus – Julian Savulescu you're not welcome here.

Luke Mešterović spoke to the motion and told an analogy from ancient history and said this is the uni rising against us because we are strong and fighting for good, and we scared them when we built a movement with the encampment. We in this room remember before the campus access policy and we need to make sure that the CAP does not succeed and let's not waste this opportunity to fight back.

Rose Donnelly spoke to the motion, and it's clear why there has been a crack down on campus, this has been with the rise of the far right, and we are seeing this with crack downs on unions, and when I went to Macquarie University to talk about the dangers of a Dutton government, we were removed from campus by security with "we're not allowed to be a political campus". Standing up against this policy is standing up against fascism. I think they are scared of the powers of students when we work together to stand up against injustices in society.

??? – Fighting against CAP is a win for anyone fighting against the corporatisation of the uni and Student Against War have continued to fight on these issues. Durgin the stalls for defiance and all they could do was hand out little pieces of paper about how to book the space, get involved in the stalls day for tomorrow.

Annabel Pettit spoke to the motion saying that she agreed with the speakers who said the political climate on campus is the most repressive, even than more historically more repressive campuses like UTS. This has also been very anti-Labour-Union, we need to bring in everyone, alumni, other social justice organisations and we need to work with the NTEU, who have brought forward with the injunction and how these changes go against their negotiated EBA. We need people to speak out here and also on what is happening around the country. It exists not just on campus, but also a reflection of the McCarthyite climate we've been witnessing rise.

Moved: Lilah Thurbon

Seconded: Deaglan Godwin

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R7. USYD THREATENS TO DEPORT TRANSGENDER ASYLUM SEEKER FOR PALESTINE SOLIDARITY

Preamble:

A fellow student has been threatened with deportation by the University of Sydney for Palestine solidarity statements. Luna* is a student visa holder and a transgender woman from Malaysia seeking refuge in Australia due to violence and persecution. If USYD suspends her and notifies the Department of Home Affairs by cancelling her enrolment, as a trans woman, she will be subjected to degrading treatment in a detention centre and/or forcibly returned to Malaysia. This would result in her being forced to detransition and targeted with anti-trans violence.

The university has given her a 'Notice of Alleged Misconduct,' in which it is alleged she wrote on whiteboards, provided by the University, over the semester break in a swipe-card restricted study space. The alleged writing cited the Gaza Ministry of Health's death toll and stated that USYD has partnerships with weapons manufacturers that participate in the genocide in Gaza, a verifiable truth, and should divest from them. USYD claims that the alleged conduct is in breach of their controversial 'Campus Access Policy' (CAP), among other policies. Notably, Amnesty International and other organisations have condemned the CAP, determining that it 'may breach human rights law.'

Luna requested an extension to the time in which she was required to provide a response until the point at which she would qualify for a bridging visa, so she would be at a lesser risk of deportation in case of suspension by the university. USYD acknowledged her exceptional circumstances but refused to support her in this situation and denied her the extension as requested. USYD has forced her to provide a written response under "extreme duress," knowingly abusing her precarity as a trans asylum seeker to repress pro-Palestinian activity on campus.

The policies wielded against this student are exceptionally punitive and discriminatory. They make campus unsafe for any student who needs to speak out about their rights or the rights of others. These policies put international students in danger of deportation; transgender students at risk of forced detransition; and many others, such as queer, disabled, or regional students reliant on enrolment for Centrelink financial support, at risk of homelessness. While Luna's case is now public, there may be many other students facing life-threatening punishment from USYD for speaking out against the university whose cases have not been shared publicly in any form.

While students pay exorbitant fees to study and face increasing course cuts, they are silenced when speaking out against failings of the university. University management knowingly worsens student life, academic freedoms, and student safety in their relentless pursuit to silence pro-Palestine activism on campus. The university's supposed commitment to student safety and the rights of queer students and staff is a marketing exercise only. USYD marched in the Mardi Gras parade just this past weekend even as it platformed a eugenicist the week before who advocates for parents' "moral obligation" to be able to "choose" if their child should be queer or not. This is not an outlier—every year the Queer Action Collective has to counter at least one bigoted speaker invited to campus to "debate" our very existence as queer people. USYD fought tooth and nail against giving staff paid transition leave during the staff strikes of 2022-23. USYD flies the progress pride flag from the Quadrangle while endangering the lives of transgender students.

Contrary to its stated aims, the 'Campus Access Policy' puts students in real mental and physical danger. The university must rescind the misconduct allegations put against Luna and under no circumstances suspend her. The university must revoke the 'Campus Access Policy' in full.

*Luna's name has been changed.

Luna's story source: <https://everythingisfine.beehiiv.com/p/trans-usyd-student-fights-refoulement>

Platform:

1. The SRC condemns USYD management for weaponizing students' precarious visa situations.
2. The SRC condemns USYD management's continued attempts to repress pro-Palestine solidarity on campus.
3. The SRC condemns USYD's arbitrary and discriminatory application of campus policy.
4. The SRC condemns the Student Affairs Unit and the Academic Registrar for failing to support a transgender asylum seeker student facing danger.
5. The SRC demands that USYD rescind the misconduct allegations against Luna.
6. The SRC demands that USYD under no circumstances suspends Luna.
7. The SRC demands that USYD drop all 'Campus Access Policy' - related misconducts.
8. The SRC demands that USYD revoke the 'Campus Access Policy' in full.

Action:

1. The SRC publishes this motion on their social media in collaboration with the Queer Action Collective accounts, on the website, and by any other relevant means.
2. The SRC will commit to signing onto, sharing, and encouraging all councillors and students to sign onto an upcoming open letter petition by the Queer Action Collective calling on the university to rescind these allegations and overturn the CAP.
3. The SRC commits to supporting further organising efforts surrounding Luna's case.

Discussion:

Lauren B- a fellow student has been threatened with suspension and deportation for pro-Palestine statements on campus. If the uni does this, she will be subjected to dehumanising treatment in a detention centre, and that she could be deported and face persecution back in Malaysia. The uni has just recently announced the Luna received the wrong information about the consequences but what if Luna's story had not gotten out.

Jamie B – The supposed act of protest that luna has been accused of was writing the death toll of Gaza, with a whiteboard marker, on a whiteboard on tutorial rooms during the break, this has what she did to be threatened with deportation into harm. They are now saying this is not as likely as was first thought, but still a possibility, this is what the uni does. They march in Mardi Gras

wave the pride flag during Mardi Gras then depart a Trans student into harms way for writing a death toll from a genocide on a white board outside of semester. We must continue the fight to stop the CAP as it is being used to be racist, misogynist and homophobic.

Jesper Duffy spoke to the motion saying that Luna has been made a gross example of by the uni, and done so in the most transphobic and racist way possible, one in a long list of brown people, women and queer people they have gone after. The uni has been showing us they don't fucking care, we have story from Villawood that there is 6 guards to 4 trans women. The uni decided to threaten this before her bridging visa would kick in, because they hate trans people. We spin worked about building the left, but what build the left coming in to bat for student when they are getting fucked by the uni.

Grace S – this is a harrowing example of how the uni will go after student with only the shakiest of ground. If writing 'usyd is complicit in genocide' is cause for suspension, it shows how outrageous the CAP is. And their 'protection of the complainant' which is just another block from due process. We were able to get media attention on his one, but we will not be able to catch every one, we shouldn't have to, it shouldn't matter if you are a domestic student or international student getting suspended can run live and for this uni's outrageous

Taleen, on hearing that she may be suspended which would lose her student visa, and return to Malaysia where being trans is illegal and she would be subject to state sanctioned violence. The uni system is also a system to extract labor out of people as much as possible before then throwing them away. The uni is bullshit when they try to present themselves as pro-queer when they pull actions

Jess Heap: I want to condemn what happened to Luna, and thank everyone who drew attention to this. The uni has been emboldened by the CAP and the rise of fascism in the world and they think they can replicate here. I'm glad so many have spoken about the dangers and condemned the pack and thank everyone for speaking out

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion and said this case demonstrates why the CAP is so dangerous, the use of the uni's surveillance to go after students, and the dangers of both last year CAP, the draft policies and the updated CAP are all very dangerous and there needs to be activism on and off campus. We can do that by drawing attention to these and they are trying to put gag order on activists, and I believe there is a press conference tomorrow at 10:30 and I hope everyone can share that on social media and also share the post that have already gone out.

LB right of reply – wanted to add the QuAC will be releasing an open letter and encourage everyone to sign on,

Moved: Lauren Bentley

Seconded: Jamie Bridge

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q5. Do Not Stop the Fight for Palestinian Liberation

Preamble:

The University of Sydney SRC has a long and proud history of standing against colonialism, apartheid, and oppression. In 2024, the SRC played a leading role in mobilising students in solidarity with the Palestinian people, participating in protests, setting up an encampment, endorsing the global Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement, and advocating for an end to the university's complicity in Israel's occupation and genocide of Palestine. The SRC demanded that the university cut ties with companies and institutions complicit in the occupation and genocide of Palestinians.

However, the fight is far from over. In 2025, despite a ceasefire, Palestinians continue to face brutal military occupation, forced displacement, and systemic apartheid policies enforced by the Israeli state. The Israeli military has destroyed Gaza's infrastructure, expanded illegal settlements in the West Bank, and violently repressed Palestinian resistance. The Australian government and corporations remain complicit through trade agreements, diplomatic support, and investment in companies that profit from the oppression of Palestinians.

The SRC must not stop its campaign for Palestinian liberation. We reaffirm our solidarity with the Palestinian people and commit to continuing our work in fighting for justice, freedom, and self-determination.

Platform

The SRC recognises that:

1. Palestine is an occupied nation, and Israel is a genocidal apartheid state.
2. The University of Sydney continues to be complicit by holding financial ties to weapons manufacturers and companies profiting from the occupation of Palestine.
3. Student activism is key in continuing the fight.

Action

The SRC commits to:

1. Continuing student mobilisations like protests, speak-outs, and demonstrations to demand Palestinian liberation and an end to the Australian government's and university complicity.
2. Following the strictest BDS guidelines and continuing to be an apartheid-free zone
3. Opposing repression of Palestinian activism and student unionism by organising against the Campus Access Policy, Hodgkinson Review Recommendations, and the draft banner policy.

4. Lobbying for institutional change and demanding the university disclose and divest from its financial and research ties with Israeli military-linked industries and institutions.
5. **Paul amendment.**
6. Call on the NUS President to dedicate time and resources to the campaign for liberation of Palestine and release a statement that shows explicit support for protests about the genocide in Palestine
7. Call on the NUS to release a statement in support of all student unions protesting the Universities Australia definition of antisemitism
(Added by movers)

Discussion:

GB spoke to the motion – we know that the struggle for Palestine didn't start with Oct 7, it began well before since the illegal occupation of Palestine in the 40s. We've seen the US send through 10 billions of funds for weapons for Israel and it's time for the left to reiterate our position and put out full support behind the Palestinian people and Palestinian liberation.

Rose Donnelly spoke to the motion and echoed GB's statements and spoke about Donald Trump's posted AI video and how it represented a colonisers dream and the destruction of Palestine, and the CAP is going to make it hard and we have to continue to fight and I would like to call on the NUS to run a campaign on the genocide happening

Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion saying there was nothing wrong with it, but also wanted to talk about how important fighting for Palestine, and we need the left to come together to continue this fight, and we all need to come together and contribute to the campaigns, so it feels silly when labor brings these motions when they were based from the encampment and from most of the activism around Sydney, it's not just about putting a motion forward it's always about attending and getting involved in the other events, when you don't put the time in outside the motions

GB right of reply – what never ceases to amaze me is that we can never put aside our trivial differences to agree with a motion we all notionally agree with. And on the point of motions at council and branch meetings, that's not all we've done, we also go to rally after rally and part of labor for Palestine, and fighting to make sure the ALP did shift its stand on Palestine and it did due to pressure from rank and file members, and I will continue to fight from within the party as it makes

Paul K -

amendment addition point 5:

That the SRC publish on the website and social media that SAW post on about the Bezael exchange program being cut

It was amenable to the movers

Annabell Petit : oriaonlly planning to suppor the contents of the motion, but then I did a double take whne GB spoke about his work in making the party support Palestine, and I think ti should be noted that the ALP voted on the orgiional partiction of israel paleatine and the it was the ALP leader who lead to the UN's adoption of the particion. And in more recent history, where ABlo's reponce to trumps open call for ethnic cleanisng which was it's not my place to provide running commentary on what is happening in the US, but he could jump on the phone to call to trump and take action when he wants to.

Martha – read out a message from one of the ACAR conveners

Gerard – right of reply to annabell – for clarification, the current alp platform is. (get this list again) it could be better, of course it could, and we need to continue to fight to ensure that platform is enforced, and we've been doing that. The position we've taken has changed, in the government and at the UN these have changed as a result of rank and file members

Deaglan Godwin asked about Fatima Payne, and how the Labor Party treated her.

GB – all of this is irrelevant because the key point that I made as part of this motion, on top of rallying in the street every week if you want to support Palestinian liberation join the ALP and push from the inside.

Moved: Gerard Buttigieg

Seconded: Rose Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Meeting took at 15 minute break at 9:25

There was a quorum count at 9:41pm

the meeting was found inquorate

chair ruled to wait 10 minutes

Christine Peng arrived at 9:39pm

Shovan Bhattarai arrived at 9:51pm

There was a quorum count at 9:53

The meeting was found quorate.

Meeting resumed at 9:54pm

Bohao too the chair

R8. The Universities Australia definition of antisemitism is an attack on pro-Palestine activism and academic freedom

Preamble

Universities Australia, representing 39 universities across the country, adopted a new working definition of antisemitism. This new definition, according to the Jewish Council of Australia, is a “a dangerous and politicised definition of antisemitism which threatens academic freedom,” and which “will have a chilling effect on legitimate criticism of Israel, and risks institutionalising anti-Palestinian racism.” By weaponising antisemitism, the definition hinders, not advances, the cause of opposing all racism. Jewish groups such as the Jewish Council of Australia sharply condemn the adoption of this new definition.

The definition states that “Criticism of Israel can be antisemitic when it is grounded in harmful tropes, stereotypes or assumptions and when it calls for the elimination of the State of Israel”. According to the Jewish Council of Australia, the wording “would mean, for instance, that calls for a single binational democratic state, where Palestinians and Israelis have equal rights, could be labelled antisemitic.” Prominent pro-Palestine Jewish advocate and human rights lawyer Sarah Schwartz, argues correctly that “Israel, like any other country, cannot be shielded from scrutiny, including scrutiny questioning its foundation and operation as a state which prioritises the rights of Jewish people over the rights of Palestinians.” Democracy and academic freedom should allow for such robust critiques of political structures.

The definition then goes on to assert that “For most, but not all Jewish Australians, Zionism is a core part of their Jewish identity.” This implies that Zionism, a political ideology, is in some way a core part of Judaism. The Jewish Council of Australia points out that “Zionism is a political ideology of Jewish nationalism, not an intrinsic part of Jewish identity.” Schwartz explains that “[b]y conflating Jewish identities with the state of Israel and the political ideology of Zionism, this definition risks increasing antisemitism by suggesting that all Jews support the state of Israel, and can be held responsible for Israel’s egregious human rights abuses.”

The adoption of the definition by 39 universities is another worrying step in restricting academic freedom and freedom of speech. The definition is designed to weaponise antisemitism to curtail legitimate criticisms of the state of Israel, and by extension, the ties between Australian universities and the state of Israel.

As student unionists and left wing activists we oppose racism of all stripes, including antisemitism and Islamophobia. We reject the argument that this definition is about seriously addressing racial discrimination on campus. Instead, the definition is politically motivated to stifle critical debate.

Platform

1. The USYD SRC opposes the new definition of antisemitism adopted by Universities of Australia.

2. The USYD SRC rejects the idea that criticism of the state of Israel or its actions is antisemitic. The SRC rejects the conflation of Zionism, a political ideology, with Judaism and Jewish people.
3. The USYD SRC opposes all forms of racism, including antisemitism and Islamophobia.
4. The USYD SRC stands for academic freedom and freedom of speech on campus.

Action

1. The USYD SRC will send the text of this motion to Universities Australia and the Vice-Chancellor of Sydney University.
2. The USYD SRC will publish this motion as a statement on social media.

Discussion:

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion and covered it's main points. Noting that this definition doesn't prevent racism or anti-semitism, it only restricts criticism of Israel and Zionism. What our campaign are about have nothing to do with Judaism or the Jewish people but criticism of the actions of Israel and their genocidal actions in Gaza.

Angus Fisher – I'm disappointed but unsurprised that they have adopted this definition, at the committee meeting there was no motion
things you cannot do – say that Zionists are not welcome on campus, that Israel should not exist or world like eliminated such as Israel should be eliminated,
We need to make sure that we are protesting but also attending these meetings, and
Mark Scott noted that if the Liberals with the IHRA definition would be implemented and this is supposed to be enough to appease them so this doesn't happen.

Lilah T – we need to oppose this adoption of this definition as it's to oppose Palestinian support on campus and shut down activism around what event the ICL has called a genocide. It is wrong to support a nation state under the guise of protection we should reject the adoption

Paul K – this amounting to a Australian version of the IHRA definition, by attempting to say that is 'can' be anti-semitic it is important to not that after the last SGM is the SRC support a 1 state solution for all people be they Jewish muslim or Christian and would like to propose an amendment:

Platform amendment

The SRC reiterates it's support for a single democratic Palestinian state where all people are free and equal as endorsed by the 800 students at last year SGM

It was not amenable.

debate on the amendment began

Deaglan spoke against the amendment – I think the amendment is irrelevant to the substance to the

motion and does nothing for the campaign and does nothing to help the plight of the Palestinians
its just a sectarian call and politicisation of this.

Paul – backing down in the face of this uni's management, is what they want. What solution are you putting forward, are you for apartheid? When a single secular state is the only way for peace for the Palestinians,

Remy seconded amendment
the amendment was put and FAILED.

debate on the motion resumed.

Jess Heap spoke to the motion AS someone who is Jewish myself I'm against this definition, I'm against Zionism, and many in my community are, if you can't criticize one state where does it stop, will we not be able to criticize colonialism of other injustices by the state

Luke M – this new definition is absolutely horrid and an attempt to quash the student uprising in fighting against apartheid in Israel and Palestine going back well before October 7. To conflate Judaism and Zionism makes criticism hard, and the AJC says this will not make people safer it will make people less safe.

Moved: Deaglan Godwin

Seconded: Angus Fisher

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R2. People's Inquiry

Preamble

Australian universities have limited the rights of students and staff to free speech and assembly in recent years. This trend has accelerated since late 2023, when students began protesting the genocide taking place in Gaza. The response of numerous universities has been to limit the use of particular words and phrases. On many campuses students who have spoken in support of Palestine have faced serious disciplinary measures. At the University of Sydney, the right to put up posters informing students and staff about events has been severely limited. The display of banners has been banned unless these have been pre-approved. Students at the Australian National University have reported receiving correspondence from the university saying they may face discipline if they use the phrase, 'from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free'.

In response, activists, academics, students, and lawyers have established the People's Inquiry into University Restrictions on Free Speech on Palestine. The inquiry seeks to investigate freedom of speech as relates to Palestine across Australian university campuses, with the aid of submissions from the public. It is modelled on other peoples' inquiries and has been designed with input by experts with experience in inquiries into the rights of asylum seekers in Australia and the role of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. The Inquiry has been endorsed by the Australia Palestine Advocacy Network, the National Union of Students, and the Jewish Council of Australia. Its patrons are Greens Senator Mehreen Faruqi and Dr Helen Jarvis, Vice-President of the Permanent People's Tribunal.

The support of the student unions is an important part of informing staff and students that they are able to make submissions to the Inquiry, as well as making the results of the Inquiry known to the university community. The USYD SRC is able to aid in ensuring that the Inquiry panel is provided with adequate information to make deliberations about the suppression of free speech on campus. Council members with information related to the suppression of free speech on university campuses are encouraged to make submissions.

Platform

1. The USYD SRC endorses the People's Inquiry into University Restrictions on Free Speech on Palestine and encourages submissions to it.
2. The USYD SRC opposes attempts by universities to limit freedom of speech and democratic rights.

Action

1. The USYD SRC will write to the organisers of the People's Inquiry to indicate their endorsement.
2. The USYD SRC will share the Instagram post detailing the People's Inquiry submission process.
3. The USYD SRC will make a formal submission to the People's Inquiry, organised and written by the President in conjunction with the Vice-Presidents. Other office bearers and councillors are encouraged to make their own submissions, either as individuals or on behalf of other organisations or campaign groups.
4. Once the Inquiry panel has completed its deliberations on submissions, information about the results will be shared on USYD SRC social media accounts.
5. The USYD SRC will write an email to the USYD NTEU branch informing them of the People's Inquiry and the USYD SRC's endorsement of it.

Discussion

Jas AR: spoke to the motion and spoke about the repression against pro palestinian activism on campus and outside as well. The CAP is working to stifle any freedom of speech on campus on the

ground of psycho emotional wellbeing. This is supported by (list of groups). The uni will say that it is pro-palestinian activist who have made things harder when it is actually repressive anti free speech government and uni. We need to reclaim our rights to protest against israel and genocide and we've seen what has been happening to students who stand against genocide, and we need to continue to fight that, and ensure we can continue to fight on many other issues.

Angus. F: I'm very happy to submit to this enquiry, I need things to submit, I need testimonials, data stats and we need to get everyone involved in that so we can send in the strongest submission. I'm very glad we are adding these submissions as these are an essential process for us to do as a student union like other unions do. I know that other uni's student groups are getting a move on the and NUS education officer is involved in this as well.

Moved: Jasmine Al-Rawi

Seconded: Angus Fisher

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q12. Stop the 90-110 million cuts to our education! Join the campaign in 2025

Preamble:

In an email circulated to all staff last year, USYD management announced \$90-110 million in cuts to our education. This was backed up in an all staff Town Hall zoom meeting which reiterated the same thing. This is despite a budget surplus of over \$300 million in 2023 and the reversal of the international student caps that the Labor Party were going to introduce for 2025. This demonstrates that the cuts were never about risks to loss of revenue (as the university itself admitted) but were about implementing cost cutting measures to maximise corporate profits.

The University has abolished around half of all philosophy units to come into effect this year, as well as abolishing the entire studies of religion major despite a rise in enrolments. They have also signalled a move to introduce more faculty-wide mandatory courses like FASS1000. These courses are deliberately vague and reuse pre-recorded lecture slides every year. This both removes choice and specialisation in degrees which destroys the quality of our education. The purpose of these generic courses are to reduce administrative demands and centralise subjects so specialised units can be discontinued, classes can be made bigger, and staff can be laid off.

There have been numerous reports of staff job losses across the board. From a slashing of IT workers to the sacking of many arts tutors who have been laid off both due to an influx of staff into larger, generic units and course cuts. We already know about the university's wage theft of staff members, the lay-offs are another example of cost-cutting measures that impact university workers.

It is clear that the university prioritises profits over student education and staff working conditions. This is why the Education Action Group will be running a campaign this year to stop the cuts. This accelerating trend of the corporate university to centralise courses, cut staff and remove unit choices needs to be resisted. We have seen massive cuts at the Australian National University, the University of Wollongong and Macquarie University along the same lines. Only student and staff resistance in the past has put a stop to management's drive to axe our education.

Platform:

1. The SRC opposes the 90-110 million in cuts in the university.
2. The SRC opposes the cuts to half of philosophy units, the abolition of the studies of religion major and all course cuts.
3. The SRC opposes the introduction of more faculty-wide mandatory courses that removes the unit choices for students.
4. The SRC opposes the sacking of numerous casual staff members for the sake of budget cuts.

Action:

1. The SRC will promote the Stop the Cuts campaign run by the Education Action Group on social media and at O-week.
2. The SRC will share the anonymous form to collect staff tip-offs about cuts in their departments.
3. The SRC will run a petition against the cuts to send to Mark Scott.

Discussion:

Yoshi spoke to the motion the uni is looking to cut 90 to 100 million\$ from our education. We're running the stop the cuts campaign and the uni have refused to give any details, not responding to any of our GIPA's on this. We have a responsibility to defend our education and it's not something that should be run for profit, we're seeing 600 staff who are getting cut from ANU, and this could happen here too. It's not just the job losses but also the degradation to our learning conditions, it's hard for the uni to claim their doing it tough when they raised the VCs pay by \$75 000 in 2023.

Luke Mešterović how stupid thinks we are, I can understand they may think we are with how much they've cut our education, but they try to do these quietly under the radar, and the fact that they are trying to do it again when they are still having 100s of millions in profit, in the past we saved theatre and studies of religion in the past and we can save courses again. They want to make degrees more generalised so that people enjoy their degree less, they will learn less and this is what the corporate uni wants. They want student to go to class and leave, they don't want the to think critically, learn or enagem on campus

Emma S – the cuts to unis happening now is an indictment on what unis under capitalism have become, and this is about restructuring what uni's are, not just at used. We're not just seeing cuts and cuts to units, but streamlining education and removing any form of specialisation so that student have to stay longer and do postgrad degrees to be employable in the future. We ant to fight for uni's to be free and accessible for all, and we need to note the that uni won't event tell us the full extens to the cuts we are being subject to. It should not be about how many student are in a course but what they need and want for their education. And we need to get to free education by building a movement around this and beyond.

Martha – these cuts make it feel even more like having out education taken away, there is greater centraliation away from faculty control, huge class sizes and avoiding anyone from being able to think critically about their studies and taking away specialisations

Remy L – agree qith everything that's been said and the uni is making massive profits, if the uni wan't to save money they should cut the cost of the VC pay and his management cronies, not our education. This isn't just impact workers right and staff and student conditions, biut also impacting the accessibility of course. In first year, I just had I roat learn some 50 questions, how is that enganging ciritical thinking which is what phil is about and they are continueiong to merge subjects that are distinct

Tobias Hansson spoke to the motion and spoke about the attack on our education as being appaulling but not unsurprising. The uni last year made near ½ a billion in investments, and while they like to cry poor, they've still been able to make inordinate amounts of profit while continuing cut our education and profiting for what. I was a staff member here but lost my job due to the course cuts and the units left there is a lot of competition to teach them and they are shit generalised units. It is really important for staff and students to work together beaucse unless we fight them together the will keep happening, lets fight to gether join the campaign.

Ishbel D – we've seen an ongoging rise of a corporate university in the last decades, this is just the lastest in a long line of cuts, it's been year after year, this is the biggest single cut in a long time, they don't just impact student, staff are loosing jobs, people aren't getting reseach funding, I got involved in the d2020 2021 cuts campaign, and we won that and we need a big broad and vibrant campaign to get student on board, when we fight these cuts we can win.

Moved: Yoshi Leung

Seconded: Luke Mesterovic

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q3. Condemn the ripping up of the Red Zone Report, Abolish the Colleges

Preamble:

Last October at RepsElect, Liberal students ripped up copies of the Red Zone Report during the speeches of the incoming Women's Officers. Whilst this was happening, their fellow representatives, both Liberal and Colleges, laughed and heckled comments such as "who cares", and "this is from 2018." During this meeting, they also held up a Trump flag.

The Red Zone Report, published by End Rape on Campus, documents a long and shameful history of sexual assault, bullying, hazing, racism, homophobia and misogyny within the USyd colleges. Since its publication, we have continued to see this kind of behaviour come out of the colleges, including St Andrew's being banned from inter-collegiate Welcome Week events in 2023 for instances of misogyny, sexual harassment and homophobia, and the suspension and expulsion of 27 St Paul's students at the end of 2024 for a horrific bullying incident. The suggestion that the colleges have undergone some form of transformation that has "fixed" this culture is absurd, and we condemn these representatives for viewing sexual violence as a joke. We are deeply disgusted at this atrocious display of misogyny and affirm that the SRC stands with victim-survivors.

We strongly condemn the University of Sydney's response, which shirked any kind of responsibility and instead blamed the SRC, saying in an all student email that they "formally reminded the SRC of their obligation to manage their meetings with sensitivity and respect". This statement is offensive and distressing not only because it fails to acknowledge that the behaviour was misogyny perpetrated by liberal and college aligned students, but also because it seems to hold the women's officers, and any victim-survivors present at the meeting equally accountable for it. There was no formal statement or services offered to victim survivors. Days later, when attempting to conduct an interview with 7 News on campus, members of the SRC and Women's Collective were hounded by security, who refused to let the interview go ahead until they received approval from the head of security.

Platform:

1. We condemn the actions of these representatives and reject the suggestion that those ripping up the report didn't know what it was or what they were doing
2. We condemn the response by the University of Sydney and the lack of support services offered to victim-survivors who may have been impacted by this incident
3. The SRC supports the Abolish the College campaign and ending rape on campus
4. The SRC stands with victim survivors

Actions:

1. The SRC will continue to support the Abolish the Colleges campaign, including helping promote the upcoming WoCo Abolish the Colleges forum
2. The SRC will publish information about the newly established National Student Ombudsman

Discussion:

Martha Barlow spoke to the motion and spoke about what happened at the Rep-Elect meeting, and what the Red Zone report was ripped up, they claimed they didn't know what the report was but at least one said it was from 2018 so they knew enough to know what year it was published. I'm not able to speak about what happened, due to the uni's gag order. I got a call from the uni's lawyer, who made me feel as though it was being suggested that I was a cruel and calculating woman who set these young men up when they decided to rip up the report. We know what happened now they were called out at the time and thank you to those who did

Lilah – what we saw at reps-elect speak to the issues of misogyny and the cover up of violence on uni colleges and campus, there is always an abstract focus on victim survivors and not looking at preventing it by focusing on perpetrators. We look at the privilege of those who have survived both sexual and bullying violence where people are paid off and pushed out with those who have more money to protect themselves from their own actions. We call out sexual violence on campus and call to abolish the colleges.

Luke Mešterović reps elect has a history of showcasing the worst of stupid behaviour, stolen ballots, disabled fire alarms but what we saw was the most disgusting action I've ever seen. It shows the colleges must be dismantled. For the uni to call us out for student safety of an issue that the uni has created in their funding and support of the colleges, and threatened our funding for calling their misogynistic behaviour out is disgusting.

Moved: Martha Barlow

Seconded: Lilah Thurbon

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q4. Continuing The Support for Concession Opal Cards for International and Part-Time Students

Preamble:

Access to affordable public transport is essential for students to attend classes, engage in extracurricular activities, and participate in the broader community. However, international and part-time students in NSW are unfairly excluded from accessing concession Opal cards, despite facing similar financial burdens as domestic full-time students.

International students, in particular, experience significant financial challenges. Unlike domestic students, they are ineligible for HECS-HELP loans and must pay full tuition fees upfront, often at much higher rates. Due to visa restrictions, many rely on casual or part-time employment to support themselves, yet their work hours are capped at 48 hours per fortnight. This limitation significantly reduces their earning capacity, making the cost of public transport a disproportionate burden.

Beyond financial hardship, international students often face workplace discrimination and exploitation, including underpayment and precarious job conditions. A lack of transport concessions further isolates these students, making it harder for them to access employment, internships, and essential services.

The exclusion of part-time students also reflects a lack of recognition of the realities of modern student life. Many domestic students are forced to study part-time due to financial constraints, disability, or caregiving responsibilities, yet they are penalized with higher transport costs simply because they are not classified as full-time.

Other states across Australia provide international students with transport concessions, demonstrating that this model is possible. However, despite its inclusion in the NSW Labor policy platform and backing from student unions and universities, the government has yet to implement it. The NSW Labor government must follow suit to ensure that all students, regardless of citizenship status or study load, have equal access to affordable transport.

Platform:

The SRC believes that:

- Equal access to public transport is necessary to ensure no student is left behind in accessing their tertiary education and the current policy is inequitable.
- International students face structural disadvantages such as the lack of HECS, visa work restrictions, and workplace exploitation which necessitate concession transport fairs.
- The SRC as the student union has a responsibility to fight for the conditions of all students.

Action:

The SRC commits to:

- Lobbying NSW government stakeholders such as the Minister for Transport and local MPs to advocate for concession Opal cards for international and part-time students.
- Mobilising students – Organise petitions, rallies, and awareness campaigns to pressure policymakers into action.
- Collaborating with other student unions such as SUPRA and at other universities in NSW.
- Post a copy of this motion on its social media pages.

Discussion:

Lucy Sullivan spoke to the motion, and said international students are faced with extra costs and the unique financial challenges. Adding that she can't speak to this from personal experience, but can talk about the challenges for student who are part time students, who still struggle financially and do not qualify for student concession either. We need a two prong approach protests, and lobbying.

Grace Street spoke to the motion saying that in light of all the other attacks on students and young people and international students, it's sickening this is one of these on-going issues. It was first started as a campaign back in 2006 by Jenny Leong. We do this every year, but we need to go harder than our motion. The government thinks that no one cares enough to make a change, but there are already so many obstacles to getting international students to involved, due to study and work commitments, and fear of having their visas revoked. It's not about sitting at the table it is about fighting and not letting them get away with it, and stand up for international students.

Moved: Lucy Sullivan

Seconded: Philp Howard

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q2. Solidarity with NSW public sector psychiatrists

Preamble

"They know the system is in crisis, and they know they are bleeding staff, they know that patient care is at risk, but they refuse to take responsibility."

-Ian Lisser, ASMOF NSW, Acting Executive Director

For over a year, psychiatrists in the NSW public sector have been involved in a protracted dispute with the NSW Labor government surrounding pay and working conditions, including burnout and moral injury. In the midst of a mental health and workload crisis, the NSW public sector has been facing a shortage of psychiatrists, with 1 in 3 roles vacant. These conditions are not safe for patients nor workers. With NSW psychiatrists paid 30% less than their counterparts in other states, the Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation (ASMOF) have been pushing for a 25% pay rise to address this disparity and to attract specialists to NSW to fill out these vacancies straining the public sector. The dispute escalated last December, with over 200 psychiatrists giving an ultimatum to NSW Labor by threatening to resign on January 21. For context, this is over half of public psychiatrists in NSW. As of Jan 31, over 100 resignations have been confirmed including half of the psychiatrists in the Sydney Health District. The NSW Labor government has refused to engage in good faith and instead have deferred to the Industrial Relations Commission (IRC) to be arbitrated on March 17. To compensate for the government's uncompromising anti-worker and anti-patient stance, public hospitals have moved towards closing wards, reducing beds, reappropriating non-psychiatric facilities without adequate specialists, and increasing stays in temporary emergency departments. NSW Labor has repeatedly maintained that the union's demands of bridging the pay and working condition disparity are untenable. NSW Minister for Mental Health Rose Jackson and NSW Minister for Health Ryan Park have sought to shift blame onto psychiatrists for placing the mental health sector in jeopardy, offering weak solutions such as a 10.5% pay rise over three years. This is unsurprising given this Labor government's general track record with workers over their term; including refusing to offer pay rises to nurses and meet the

demands of the Rail Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) in NSW and placing the CFMEU in administration Federally. This is all while being all too happy to offer cops a pay rise of up to 39%.

Since the mass resignations, the NSW Labor government instead of negotiating in earnest with the psychiatrists have chosen to unleash temporary fixes by rehiring the resigned psychiatrists as visiting medical officers (VMOs) i.e. independent contractors. This is in addition to the exorbitant temporary locums. The money used to pay these contractors through locums would be more than enough to cover the 25% pay rise demanded.

Rather than having a robust plan, the NSW Labor government and the relevant ministers have chosen to repeatedly defer to the March 17 IRC proceeding. Much like the case of the RTBU, this government would rather choose to use their legal apparatus to stifle worker democracy. And this is all at the cost and exacerbation of some of the most vulnerable in our communities.

As part of the IRC proceedings, the Minns government has drafted an award that includes provisions that could (taken from ASMOF NSW)

- Force you into shift work
- Reduce your workplace flexibility
- Disadvantage part-time employees
- Force you to relocate anywhere in NSW during a crisis
- Allow dangerous hours, up to 80 hours a week
- See your employment terminated without notice

Platform

- The SRC stands in solidarity with The Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation (ASMOF) and supports them in the upcoming IRC arbitration with the NSW Labor government beginning March 17.
- The SRC stands in solidarity with frontline public health workers and affirms support for union demands for higher wages and adequate working conditions for all frontline workers and their unions such as the ASMOF and the NSW Nurses and Midwives Association (NSWNMA).
- The SRC condemns NSW Minister for Mental Health Rose Jackson, NSW Minister for Health Ryan Park, and the NSW Premier Chris Minns for their dangerous inaction and refusal to engage with the demands of workers.
- The SRC condemns NSW Labor's deference to privatisation, independent contracting, and locums as a solution to the dispute rather than meeting union demands.
- The SRC condemns the appalling staff specialist award drafted by the Minns Government.
- The SRC calls on other unions such as Health Services Union (HSU) and NSWNMA to support ASMOF.

Actions

- The SRC will support a solidarity campaign with public sector psychiatrists and ASMOF including, but not exclusive to, ongoing posts in collaboration with Dis.Co and the sharing of ASMOF NSW Instagram posts.
- The current SRC President will forward this statement and motion to the NSW Minister for Mental Health Rose Jackson, NSW Minister for Health Ryan Park, and the NSW Premier Chris Minns and write a letter urging them to halt the March 17 IRC arbitration and instead meet the demands of ASMOF.
- The SRC Instagram (@src_usyd) will follow ASMOF NSW (@asmofnsw) and cease following the Minister for Mental Health Rose Jackson (@rosebjackson), so as to not endorse her current actions.
- The SRC will publish resources including hotlines and services to help the community with pre-existing mental health service crises that has now been exacerbated by the NSW Government's refusal to meet the demands of psychiatrists, leading to the closure of many psychiatric services in public hospitals.

Discussion:

Vince Tafea – our healthcare system is in crisis, with NSW psychiatrists are paid 1/3 less than in other states the equivalent of working for free for 4 months, and the government ignored them as they tried to negotiate in good faith have had to walk away. The minister for health and mental health need to answer for the mistreatment and we stand in solidarity

Martha – this labor government has been cracking down on unions and workers both at state and federal levels and the attacks on psychiatrists is a dangerous attack on the health system. And creates an unsustainable system and puts people's help at risk

Aaron K – spoke to the motion saying it was outrageous that the government won't pay psychiatrists who are caring for vulnerable people, in the middle of a mental health crisis when they can find money for the police. This shows labor's priorities

Remy – this is an attack on workers' rights and will escalate the mental health crisis, and that police are a huge contributor to the mental health crisis, and they've seen the biggest pay rise in 30 years when everyone else is left out. I would like to hear from Labor on their thoughts on Rose Jackson's role, and we have a right to know what you are going to do. Stand with your party or in solidarity with the psychs and against Rose Jackson

Jesper – we all saw the impact of the over 200 resignations of psychs, and this will greatly impact people's ability to access care, will set them back in seeking care, in managing their conditions,

and getting support for difficult disorders that need a lot of care and support. I also want to know are you going to rip up your labor card? Lobbying isn't working

Georgia Murphy speaking in support of the motion, it's not surprise that psychs are feeling burnt out in a system that is built on cruelty and they are also burnt out watching a system that hurts their patients as it was designed to do. And spoke about an incident when someone called the cops for help with a suicidal man and the cops shot him – but cops get the pay rise. We can't live in a society where only the rich can afford mental healthcare.

Moved: Vince Tafea

Seconded: Martha Barlow

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural motion to limit speaking time to 1 minutes per person and a total of three speakers per side.

Moved: Jessica Heap

Seconded: Angus Fisher

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q6. GENDER-AFFIRMING CARE IS LIFE-SAVING CARE; THE QLD GOVERNMENT MUST REVERSE ITS BAN ON PUBERTY BLOCKERS AND HRT FOR TRANS YOUTH

Preamble:

On the 28th of January, the Liberal Queensland Government cut off access to puberty blockers and hormone replacement therapy (HRT) for all new patients aged under 18, while also initiating a review into these life-saving treatments. This attack on trans youth has been condemned by a number of medical professionals with expertise in trans healthcare and queer rights groups alike.

This review is called by the Liberal Queensland Government amidst a political campaign to discredit the scientifically validated and life-saving treatment that many trans people receive in order to medically transition. It is a thinly veiled attempt by bigoted politicians to legitimise institutionalised transphobia and put hundreds of kids at risk of further poor mental health, social ostracisation, and physical and emotional violence. Denying trans youth medically necessary, gender-affirming healthcare has repeatedly been shown to increase suicide rates, and this ban in Queensland will have disastrous results if not immediately reversed.

Both puberty blockers and HRT have been extensively validated through clinical trials for gender-affirming care. They are safe, reversible, and crucial for the physical and mental wellbeing of transgender youth. Additionally, both are used outside of trans healthcare for a number of medical complications for cis and trans people alike, including to delay early onset puberty, for

cancer treatment, and during menopause. These attacks by the Liberals have no basis in evidence and directly aim to harm trans youth and their access to healthcare.

Just last year, the then Labor Queensland Government called for a review of the Queensland Children's Gender Service and found that, not only were youth seeking gender-affirming care adequately determined to be in need of that care, but that the Service was in need of much more staff and funding and should be expanded to regional areas. It is clear that what needs to be done is increase youth access to gender-affirming services, not restrict it.

Access to trans healthcare remains an important fight across so-called 'Australia,' with Labor's dissection of the NSW Equality Bill late last year leaving improvements to healthcare access out of the final bill. Shamefully, both the Liberals and Labor remain welcomed in the Mardi Gras parade despite consistently violating the human rights and basic dignity of the trans and queer community, including their fundamental right to healthcare. Any time that transgender people have to spend waiting to access care they need to transition and live freely due to either government decree or inaction is an unacceptable amount of time and delaying and denying access to healthcare kills trans adults and children. Whether locally or across the nation, transgender people, especially transgender youth, deserve access to gender-affirming care known to be necessary and life-saving—without exception.

Platform:

1. The SRC recognises that gender-affirming care is safe, effective, and life-saving.
2. The SRC affirms that transgender youth everywhere deserve to live and grow up as themselves and access the healthcare they need to do so.
3. The SRC condemns the Queensland Liberal Government for denying transgender youth access to puberty blockers and hormone replacement therapy.
4. The SRC demands the immediate reversal of the Queensland ban on puberty blockers and hormone replacement therapy for minors.
5. The SRC supports increased access to gender-affirming care and increased funding to clinics and organisations providing these services.

Action:

1. The SRC publishes this motion on their social media, the website, and by any other relevant means.
2. National Day of Action for trans youth, organised by the Trans Justice Project, at 10am at
3. Pride Square, Newtown on Saturday, February 8th to "National Day of Action for Trans Day of Visibility, on 29-30th of March
4. The SRC shares promotional information on social media about the aforementioned National Day of Action.
5. The SRC President shall send correspondence to the NUS to urge them to condemn the QLD puberty blocker and HRT ban for minors and call for its reversal.

Discussion:

Jesper Duffy spoke to the motion, covering the main points of the motion and spoke about how the QLD gov, already did a review into trans gender care and found it was necessary care. Adding that the Liberals just want to run a culture war. They are refusing to allow trans people and trans youths to access this life saving care, we urge everyone to come on the 29th and the 30th of March and will be campaign against this abhorrent policy.

Moved: Jesper Duffy

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Q7. NO FEDERAL REVIEW INTO TRANS HEALTHCARE; PROTECT ACCESS TO GENDER-AFFIRMING CARE

Preamble:

Under federal Health Minister Mark Butler, the Labor government has ordered a review of puberty blockers at the federal level, with new guidelines to be announced midyear. This news came days after the Queensland Liberal government announced an immediate pause on puberty blockers at the state level, with another review of medical treatment for transgender and gender diverse youths.

Contrary to the 'cautious' expectations of Equality Australia, this national review of medical treatment for transgender and gender diverse youths is not an actual impartial investigation, and it does not offer a balanced and objective review in the public interest. In Queensland and New South Wales, similar reviews of medical treatment for trans youths have already returned reports which found that trans healthcare is, in accordance with many studies and independent reviews, incontrovertibly safe. Rather, this review advances the special interest of transphobic bigots, and it has been weaponised by the federal government to make gender-affirming healthcare a hot-button issue again, using the human rights and basic dignity of trans people as a political football.

Under Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, the Labor government has launched an assault on transgender healthcare in an attempt to appeal to the right. Evidently, the federal Labor government is supporting a culture war that seeks to wear down the trans and gender diverse community by attacking their right to health, having shamelessly borrowed a page from the Queensland Liberal government's handbook on destroying gender-affirming healthcare. This calls for an immediate pause on Labor's biased investigation into trans healthcare.

Besides adopting the political strategy of the Queensland Liberal government, the Albanese government is imposing a transphobic, anti-queer agenda in an effort to placate bigots. As federal Labor was preparing their inquiry into transgender healthcare, a number of anti-trans advocates, including former Liberal Prime Minister Tony Abbott, failed Liberal candidate Katherine Deves, and other far-right actors, called for Albanese to launch such an ideological review against queer and trans people. To win over these bigoted queerphobes who had spoken out in favour of restricting access to puberty blockers, the federal Labor government has declared that it is as committed as other members of the opposition to consider violating the human rights of the queer community.

This acquiescence to right-wing transphobic bigotry reflects NSW Labor's constant delays to the Equality Bill due to so-called "concerns" from religious figures within the Catholic Church, whom they repeatedly sought and valued the input of over that of long-standing queer organisations and abundant scientific evidence. However, such false concerns about puberty blockers are not just a simple matter of pre-election culture war tactics. The denial of healthcare and public seeding of doubt around the safety of allowing trans youth to be themselves is the first step down a slippery slope of restrictions on the autonomy of queer and transgender people as well as wider gendered imbalances in healthcare and reproductive rights.

Despite making the human right to healthcare and other issues related to the LGBTQIA+ community a highly politicised and deeply contentious matter in question, Labor remains shamefully invited to LGBTQ+ Pride events such as the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras. Notwithstanding their repeated violations of rights affecting queer and trans people in the state, including respect for self-identification, NSW Labor are proud to be marching at the annual Mardi Gras parade with the same LGBTQIA+ people whose basic dignity they have denied by delaying the Equality Bill many times. The unwelcomed presence of Labor is in spite of community pressure to uninvite them from Mardi Gras, echoed by calls from activist collectives and LGBTQ+ organisations such as Just.Equal Australia to ban Albanese from future parades for breaking Labor's promise to record the number of LGBTQIA+ people in the next census, and for erasing the visibility of trans and gender diverse people. The attendance of Mardi Gras by Labor is also in spite of their frequent attacks on LGBTQIA+ equality and decisions such as this ideological review of healthcare for the LGBTQIA+ community, which Labor has adapted for use as a major front in the culture war waged with their Liberal opposition and other outspoken bigots against queer and trans people.

There needs to be more funding for gender-affirming services, not less. There needs to be more support for transgender people, especially children and their families, to access the care they need, not less. The government needs to listen to the overwhelming evidence from medical professionals, researchers, and transgender people that gender-affirming care for all ages is essential healthcare and denying it is a cruel violation of the rights and autonomy of queer people.

Platform:

1. The SRC recognises that gender-affirming care is safe, effective, and life-saving.
2. The SRC recognises that delaying transgender youth access to puberty blockers means they will be forced to undergo puberty that may be distressing and will impact their healthcare and wellbeing for the rest of their lives.
3. The SRC condemns the federal Labor government for acquiescing to bigotry and ordering a review of puberty blockers.
4. The SRC recognises that further review into gender-affirming care is not only unnecessary but an active attempt to legitimise institutionalised transphobia and restrict the bodily autonomy of transgender people.
5. The SRC demands an immediate pause of all plans for a federal review of gender-affirming care.
6. The SRC supports increased access to gender-affirming care and increased funding to clinics and organisations providing these services.

Action:

1. The SRC publishes this motion on their social media, the website, and by any other relevant means.
2. The SRC encourages all council representatives and office bearers to attend the upcoming **National Day of Action for Trans Day of Visibility on 29-30th of March**
3. The SRC reshares promotional information on social media from QuAC and Pride in Protest about the **aforementioned National Day of Action for Trans Day of Visibility.**
4. The SRC President shall send correspondence to student unions across NSW and the NUS to urge them to condemn the federal review and **endorse the National Day of Action for Trans Day of Visibility and its demands**

Discussion:

Jesper Duffy spoke the motion, and read out some amendments.

Duffy spoke to the spoke about how trans health care has had many reviews, and has a lower level of regret level than knee surgery, which is not under review. NSW Labor need to be condemned for this review and its kowtowing to the right.

amendments to the motion:

- for action point 2, change "upcoming Mardi Gras street rally on Sunday, February 16 at 2pm at Pride Square, Newtown" to "upcoming National Day of Action for Trans Day of Visibility on 29-30th of March"
- for action point 3, change "aforementioned Mardi Gras street rally" to "aforementioned National Day of Action for Trans Day of Visibility"
- For action point 4, change "endorse the 2025 Mardi Gras Street Rally and its demands" to "endorse the National Day of Action for Trans Day of Visibility and its demands"

The amendments were proposed and approved by the movers.

Moved: Jesper Duffy

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

Angus Fisher resigned the Chair to Bohao Zhang.

Q9. The SRC will not play party politics at the expense of its activism in the 2025 federal election

Preamble

The 2025 federal election will be called sometime in the next six months. In the lead up, student activists and this SRC will inevitably face pressure to support the campaigns of the two major parties in control of the Australian political establishment. It is imperative that we do not bow to this pressure, and that SRC resources are not put towards the election of candidates and parties that hold policies incompatible with student unionism and the rights of the masses.

This current era of mainstream politics in Australia is characterised by the repression of political dissent, a crippling cost of living crisis, historic levels of economic and educational inequality, the rise of the fascistic far right, the flagrant erosion of political freedoms and shameless complicity in genocide. Both Labor and Liberal parties have played an active hand in the creation of conditions antithetical to student unionism and student activism, and we ought not put the resources of our union toward supporting them.

In principle, it is wrong for a student union to even implicitly aid in the election of a government whose policies make it difficult to be a student unionist. There is the immediate harm to activism posed by the Labor party in their penchant for harsh criminal punishments for protesters, with the Minns government expanding anti-protest laws so that peaceful demonstrators are faced with up to two years imprisonment or a \$22,000 fine. Anthony Albanese came out in favour of further expansion of these laws in December 2024 and supported their use specifically as a mechanism to silence pro-Palestine protesters. The kinds of protests the Labor party seeks to criminalise are precisely the means by which student unions and the progressive movement at large have won political victories in the past, and the idea that our union might sell out its activism for a chance at electioneering is repugnant.

Further, the SRC should not compromise its demands to placate either of the major parties. Free education robustly protected political freedoms, an end to the illegal Israeli occupation and genocide in Palestine, safe and affordable housing for all and radical action on the climate crisis can only ever be won by militant activism that pressures the political establishment to capitulate to the masses. To support parties that publicly denounce our platforms (see, as one of many examples, the federal Minister for Housing and Homelessness bragging on national radio about rising house prices and declaring point blank that the Labor Party does not want lower house prices) is to sell out the students our union purports to represent. If we do not drag the political moment to the left by way of our activism, we can never expect anything other than neoliberal conservatism dressed up as pragmatic centrism from so-called 'progressive' political parties.

We recognise the importance of political education and participation in conjunction with this activism. However, such education and participation is actively diminished by the capitulation of the SRC to the major parties. The rhetoric on which the Labor party relies to persuade young people to abandon their idealism, being that we must keep Dutton out of government at all costs, is obfuscatory and dishonest. Obviously, a Dutton government would be catastrophic. But the implication of such a statement cannot be that we all must sacrifice our principles at the ballot box or only rise to action at the announcement of a federal election every three years. We do not live under a two-party system, nor are we held ransom by first-past-the-post voting. We have the power to make it known via our votes that we support policies that align with the interests of our student union at no opportunity cost thanks to preferential voting. Awareness of this fact should be the focus of any campaign the SRC may participate in, such as the NUS 'Put the Liberals Last' campaign, not merely to further the interests of a major party under the false premise of necessity. Putting the Liberals last should not be misconstrued as requiring voters to put the Labor party first.

Platform

1. The SRC affirms its commitment to the principles and demands outlined in this motion and will not capitulate to the interests of any political party whose platform is oppositional to them.
2. The SRC does not endorse any political party or campaign that does not stand for the principles and demands outlined in this motion or otherwise constituting parts of its activist platform.
3. The SRC believes that student unionism is existentially threatened by the policy platforms of both major parties and supports its own right to exist as an effective advocacy body for the rights of students.
4. The SRC understands that preferential voting is an important aspect of Australia's electoral system that ought to be publicised and explained as the reason why voters cannot 'waste' their votes by first preferencing candidates whose platforms do align with the principles outlined in this motion.

Action

1. The SRC will not endorse, campaign for or in any way contribute to (including reports, statements, social media posts or reshares) the 2025 federal election campaigns of a political party or platform that does not stand for free education, radical action on the climate crisis, an end to Israel's occupation of Palestine, safe and affordable housing for all and an unfettered right to protest and protection for political dissent.
2. Members, councillors and office-bearers of this SRC will not endorse, campaign for or in any way contribute to (including reports, statements, social media posts or reshares) the 2025 federal election campaigns of a political party or platform that does not stand for free education, radical action on the climate crisis, an end to Israel's occupation of Palestine, safe and affordable housing for all and an unfettered right to protest and

protection for political dissent in their capacity as members, councillors and office-bearers of this SRC. This does not prohibit members and office-bearers from engaging in campaigns contrary to these objects in a strictly personal capacity.

3. Any messaging or materials related to the 2025 federal election produced, distributed or otherwise contributed to by the SRC or created using its resources (including, but not limited to, as part of the NUS 'Put the Liberals Last' campaign) will contain the disclaimer that *'the USyd SRC does not endorse or in any other way support the campaigns of any political party in Australia, especially the major parties as their policy platforms are incompatible with the SRC's position as an activist, independent student union.'*

Discussion:

Lilah Thurbon spoke to the motion and amended the wording of action point three (shown in red)

Proposed amendment: to strike action point three.

Seconded: Lucy Sullivan

The amendment was put and **FAILED**.

Lilah spoke against the amendment saying that the motion doesn't highlight any one party to campaign for and the disclosure is just copying and pasting into any materials.

Lucy Sullivan spoke to the amendment saying that adding a disclaimer and going on to just talk about the Major Parties ignores the dangers of endorsing any party to the SRC.

Moved: Lilah Thurbon

Seconded: Aron Khuc

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

The was a call for a quorum count.

the meeting was found inquorate.

Failing to get a motion to extend for quorum.

The meeting closed at 11:11pm.