



src

activism
advocacy
representation

Julia Robins, Secretary to Council
secretary.council@src.usyd.edu.au

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

Level 1, Wentworth Building (G01)
University of Sydney NSW 2006
PO Box 794 Broadway NSW 2007
t: (02) 9660 5222 f: (02) 9660 4260
int: 12871 www.src.usyd.edu.au
ABN: 597 391 306 68

MINUTES

of the 6th regular meeting of the 97th SRC held on **Wednesday the 2nd of July 2025**. Meeting held in **BHBS LT 1060** and via Zoom.

*There was a quorum count at 6:10pm.
The meeting was found quorate.*

A. Meeting open at 6:15 pm

A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Ethan Cao 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

Martha Barlow to Dana Kafina
Kaylie Su
Laura Alivio to Lauren Finlayson
Lilah Thorburn to Luke Mesterovic
Alisa Rao

Moved: Angus Fisher
Seconded: Ethan Cao
The apologies were accepted.

D. Changes to Membership

E. Electoral Report

E1. Consideration of any resignations

Connor O'Neill – original nominee rejected awaiting alternative
Madeline Clark TBD

The resignations were noted and held over for the next meeting.

E2. Suspension of voting rights from failure to meet attendance requirements

The Following Councillors have lost voting rights due to absence in accordance with the regulations Part 1 section 17.

Alexander Buchanan
Arden Skinner
Norn Xiong
Om Karki
Vieve Carnsew
William Khoury

The suspensions were noted and there were not requests to reinstate

F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Minutes of the 5th regular meeting of 97th SRC Council held on June 4, 2025 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the 4th of June 2025 be accepted.

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Bohao Zhang

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

G. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business for this item.

H. Question Time of 15 minutes, which may be extended by resolution for a further 15 minutes.

I. Visitor's Business

There was no business for this item.

J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

K. Elections

K1. Election of 2 First Nations Students' Officer – N/A

K2. Election of 2 Mature Age Students' Officers – N/A

K3. Election of 1 Ethno-Cultural Officer – N/A

Procedural motion to suspend standing orders to move to agenda item N. The General Secretaries Report then R. General Business to hear to motions from the floor.

Moved: Shovan Bhattacharai

Seconded: Deaglan Godwin

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

N. Report of the General Secretaries

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

June:

It's our last report of the semester, and it's been a big one!! From December to February, we were busy (single handedly) preparing and packing all of the SRC merch and cooking up the SRC Welcome Handbook for Welcome Week. Many students and staff remarked that it was one of the best looking and most organised Welcome Weeks yet!

All within a couple of months, we completed the 2025 Office Bearer department and collective budgets, provided monthly updates to OBs on said budgets, hired a great new caseworker, completed staff consults, attended SRC Legal Service and Legal Committee meetings, and selected our 2025 Electoral Officer (to be approved by Council). The EO selection also went smoothly, and we're happy with the Electoral Officer's report. The ideas and changes discussed were clear and helpful.

Anu has been helping the International Students Collective with recruitment to reach more students. We've been working with ANU representatives to build a network of international student reps, and after meeting with them this week, everything seems to be going well.

Anu has also supported several ISC events. She helped organise a market event that featured 12 small businesses run by students from different cultural backgrounds, creating a space to support and celebrate diverse communities. She also helped run two cultural movie nights, which were a great way to bring students together and share stories from different cultures

Grace has been keeping the SRC up to date with its activist orientation and activities, between contingents to the ASMOF doctors' strikes, on- and off-campus protests for Palestine, actions for public housing, and more. She has been busy plotting and scheming with the collectives, including supporting Wo.Co's Reclaim & Resist Week, ACAR's Israeli Apartheid Week event and the Disabilities Collective's masking campaign. Grace conducted a few staff consults with Angus that produced good feedback and things we can take on, such as the desire to get the new EBA underway.

The SRC x Disabilities Collective flu vaccination pilot was a great success, with strong engagement and positive feedback from undergraduate students throughout the process of launching, promoting, and enacting. Over 100 students have now been vaccinated or received a voucher to get a free vaccination in their own time. The results of this are being presented in the DIAP meeting tomorrow with the goal of

There are a lot of actions and campaigns happening at the moment for the SRC to support: urgent actions against removals of public housing residents, stopping cuts to injured workers' compensation and support, the current genocide and imposed famine on Gaza, and more. Monthly OB budget updates will be delivered soon, and we will be working over the holidays to make sure that OBs use up their budgets for this second half of the year.

We have started to think about campaigns and student weeks for Semester 2, namely Welcome Week and Radical Education Week, and also re-introducing 'SRC Week' as another opportunity to increase engagement with students, display the work of the SRC's departments and student unionism, and to complement the Student Journalism Conference! Dates and working group details will be coming out soon.

- Anu and Grace

July:

The bulk of our recent work is captured in last month's report, as we are on holidays and Anu is visiting her family back home!

In the meantime, there are a few things to note. Grace attended the National Union of Students (NUS) Education Conference (EdCon) in Canberra where she discussed campaigns with student reps from other universities, and advocated an orientation of the NUS more geared towards systemic issues affecting students, such as placement poverty, sexual violence on campus and reporting systems, and our government and universities' complicity in the genocide of Palestinians. As a result of EdCon, the NUS and multiple university student unions have agreed to and endorsed the National Day of Action about Palestine, weapons companies and repression of activism for August 7.

She also attended the University's Education Committee meeting to discuss contract cheating and to raise questions from our SRC caseworkers about the University being proactive in informing students about the risks of contract cheating and scams, and in informing students about the casework and legal services offered by the SRC and SUPRA. Following this, Grace and Angus met with Erin from the Integrity office to discuss more ideas about discussions of contract cheating, the risks (including financial blackmail and academic misconduct), and vulnerable groups - such as international students who are targeted online and with promises of visa and language help.

Anu has been helping the International Students Collective with recruitment to reach more students. We've been working with ANU representatives to build a network of international student reps, and after meeting with them this week, everything seems to be going well.

Anu has also supported several ISC events. She helped organise a market event that featured 12 small businesses run by students from different cultural backgrounds, creating a space to support and celebrate diverse communities. She also helped run two cultural movie nights, which were a great way to bring students together and share stories from different cultures

She's now preparing volunteers for engagement and event management for international students, and making of designs for sem 2 welcome week.

Discussion:

Anu-Ujin Khulan to her report covering its main points.

Grace Street spoke to her report and covered its main points. Adding to the report that the SRC has completed and signed and passed the audit for last year. Concluded by congratulated SNAP and other student groups for their work on fighting against unpaid placements.

Angus Fisher noted that the paid placements are only available to those who don't work.

Grace Street clarified that it was the opposite - if you can prove you've worked at least 15 hours a week, then you qualify.

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

Moved: Ishbel Dunmore

Seconded: Ethan Cao

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R. General Business

R1. Support the National Convergence on Canberra: Labor Must Sanction Israel Now

A national day of protest for Palestine is being organised for the 20th of July to demand that the Labor government sanction Israel now. This will be a nationwide convergence onto Canberra to coincide with the lead up to the opening of the 48th Parliament. With the combined death toll now reaching well above 50,000 since the beginning of the genocide's escalation in 2023, and the calculated starvation those remaining in Gaza, Israel has at long last faced some words of condemnation from its allies like the UK, France and Canada. In May, these three countries signed an open letter declaring they would be willing to threaten Israel with 'targeted sanctions'. However even this modest display of opposition is beyond the bounds of what our government is prepared to do - when asked if Australia would sign onto the statement and consider sanctioning Israel, all Anthony Albanese could respond was that "We follow our own path and determine our own foreign policy, and we have been consistent the whole way through".

As well as consistently supporting Israel through every war crime committed, the Albanese government has also lied about Australia's direct involvement in the murder of Palestinian people. Albanese claims that Australia "doesn't provide military assets to Israel", but in April this year it was revealed that the Australian company EOS Systems exported lethal long-range weapons to Israel, and Australia is a part of the global supply network that supplies parts for Israel's F-35 fighter jets. For example, the company SEC Plating helps to supply components for the fighter jets, and has a manufacturing facility right here in Sydney, which protestors were brutally assaulted in front of last Friday. The Australian Labor Party is not only committed to providing diplomatic and economic support to Israel, but is also increasingly aggressive in its attacks on peaceful-pro Palestine activists. The national convergence on Canberra will be an important day of united

opposition from right across the country.

Platform:

1. The SRC endorses the National Convergence on Canberra
2. The SRC demands the Australian government sanction Israel immediately
3. The SRC condemns the violent assault on pro-Palestine activists outside of SEC Plating

Action Points:

1. The SRC will commit \$6000 to the hire of busses from Sydney to Canberra on the 20th of July
2. The SRC commits to attending and endorsing the National Convergence on Canberra
3. The SRC takes picture to express solidarity with victims of the police assault outside SEC Plating

Discussion:

Annabel Pettit spoke to the motion and covered it's main points and this protest is to demand that Australia should put sanction on Israel and cut ties over the genocide in Gaza. Other countries have spoken about potentially placing targeted sanctions on Israel, Aus on the other hand has denied connections to Israel and that weapons are being sold to them, and dying the harm in which Aus is participating and trying to shut down any response to this, as we've seen with protesters being violently shut down,

Yoshi Leung spoke to the motion and spoke about how people are being desensitised in a way but also that this sets a precedent for the way the government can continue to shut down activism, while they continue supporting imperialist actions in the middle east. Adding that they hope we can send out a number of people to the convergence on Canberra as this is a huge action that will have a large impact and support the actions of the left.

Grace Street spoke to the motion saying this is an action we can contribute to and we have the funds for this, and if we are not spending out money on things like this, helping people getting to protests on issues many ran election platforms on, then what are we spending the money on. Adding that she would like to know who is going on the busses and that there should be some needs based, and make sure we are supporting students getting here.

Annabel Pettit said she would send an explanation through to the Exec for the final funding and attendance numbers.

Moved: Annabel Pettit

Seconded: Yoshi Leung

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R2. Support the NDA: National Student Strike for Palestine on the 7th of August

According to the Gaza Health Ministry, the confirmed death toll in Palestine has now risen to at least 62,614 with 134,105 people wounded. In the last 36 hours, the Israeli army has attacked Gaza at least 140 times. The United Nations has stated that Gaza is the 'hungriest place on earth' with the entire population at risk of famine. Aid is being systematically blocked. Gazans are herded into 'aid distribution centres' where they are massacred while clambering for food.

The genocide in Gaza has been greenlit by the West and the Australian government. With the media publishing articles about the barbaric forced famine in Gaza, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has only recently found distasteful the use of starvation as a weapon of war. In a press conference he said 'it is outrageous that there be a blockade of food and supplies'. This rhetoric condemnation has not been met with a severing of any diplomatic or economic support for Israel. Despite the Australian government's repeated claims that no Australian weapons have been sent to Israel, as of April 2025, the Australian Centre for International Justice has exposed the export of a remote weapon system developed in Canberra as part of Israel's trials of 'counter-drone' technologies.

Our universities are also complicit in propping up Israel's genocidal terror. The University of Sydney has extensive ties with weapons manufacturing companies Elbit Systems and Thales, both of which are the architects of the drones and surveillance technology being used to make precise, calculated attacks on the citizens of Gaza. USyd also sells research done by students to help produce the heat maps used by weapons companies to survey Gaza.

When students protested the universities tied to weapons companies, the University of Sydney responded by attacking pro-Palestine activists. The Campus Access Policy (CAP) was enforced last year with explicit restrictions on the rights of students to organise demonstrations. With USyd also adopting the Hodgkinson Report, making lecture announcements or breaking the arbitrarily decided 'Civility' rule has severely impacted the right of students and staff to resist their university's complicity in genocide. Multiple students and staff have been dragged through disciplinary hearings for their Palestine activism. The Student Representative Council of the University of Sydney defends free speech and the right to protest on and off campus.

At the National Day of Action called by Students for Palestine, students are protesting to demand:

1. Weapons companies off campus;
2. Sanction Israel;
3. Stop the repression of Palestine activists.

Students from Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Canberra and more will be walking out together to protest the complicity of their university to the genocide in Gaza.

Platform:

1. The SRC condemns the repression of pro-Palestine activists on campus.
2. The SRC commits itself to campaigning to kick weapons companies such as Elbit Systems and Thales off campus.
3. The SRC condemns the Australian Labor Party's continued economic and diplomatic support for Israel's genocide in Gaza.

Action Points:

1. The SRC commit resources to building the National Day of Action.

Discussion:

Emma Searle spoke to the motion and spoke about the increased attacks and pressure on Gaza and the conditions in which people have been living and trying to survive in what has been called the hungriest place on earth. This protest calls on sanctions to be placed but the Aus gov, on Israel and that the gov continues to act as though nothing is happening and has only begun to note any sort of issues is happening in this West sanctioned genocide, and the Labor government has Hannah Thomas who has was violently attacked by police and her case is being used as a test for the Minns government's bill around not protesting at religious sites and the Minns government has been using new policy to shut down pro Palestine protests and we should be going out and supporting the protest

The President resigned the Chair to the Deputy.

Angus Fisher spoke to the motion and spoke about how NUS is supporting this protest and we should be putting effort into this important cause and we will be looking to build and support this event and that we need to do that on this as we need a fighting and activist SRC

Lauren Finlayson agreed with Angus' comments but said that it need to translate into action from other groups as often there are only people for Socialist Alternative doing the work to build these events.

Jasmine Donnelly said she was happy to put this on the stall, and she knows that Socialist Alternative does end up doing a lot of work on these projects and wants to get more involved. Adding that she thought these two actions are good events to put pressure on the government, NSW Labor Students (NSWLS) will support it, if you want NLS (National Labor Students) support you'll have to talk to them.

Red Tilly spoke to the motion saying NLS was keen to get involved in the action, and there are no factions in this genocide, and that we need to be doing all we can to fight this and build these actions.

Philip Howard said that Unity will also be involved and supporting this.

Moved: Emma Searle

Seconded: Lauren Finlayson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

The President resumed the Chair

Procedural motion to move agenda items L, M, N1, and O en bloc.

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Shovan Bhattarai

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

L. Report of the President and Executive

L1. Executive Minutes

There were no new minutes to distribute.

L2. Report of the Executive

Report of the executive from 25th of May to the 1st of July.

L3. President's Report

Angus Fisher tabled a written report:

Despite the semester wrapping up, it has been an eventful month as SRC President, to say the least. Have a look:

Campaigns

The Opal card campaign is restarting stronger than ever. I am working with SUPRA to push to get concession Opal cards for NSW international and part-time students. We have a lot more stacked on our side this year to make it happen. First is the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) report, which showed the economic suitability of the scheme. Second, this change is now in the NSW Labor Party platform. Third is that we are working with closely independent Alex Greenwich, who has a better relationship with NSW Labour than the Greens, who were last year's partner. Notably, there is a new transport minister who may have the appetite to implement such a change. I will advertise the parliamentary petition through the SRC channels.

A huge win is that from next semester, students will be able to access \$5 hot meals on campus. This will be a massive relief to the cost-of-living crisis for many. The pilot will be where Laneway Cafe currently is, and then a larger site will be locked in for next year. Such a win could only be gotten through dealing with the university directly and collaborating with the postgraduate Senate fellow.

Shovan and I attended the inquiry on Antisemitism in New South Wales along with members from the UTSSA and the UNSW SRC. Despite some deliberately skewed questioning from some members of the committee, we made our case clear that the university is cracking down on free speech, particularly that related to Palestine, using policies and definitions to do so. While the inquiry was set up to find reasons to implement more restrictive laws and recommendations, the evidence we provided will hopefully stop this from occurring.

A few weeks ago, members of the SRC attended the Justice for Kumanjaya White rally held by the Blak Caucus, which started at Town Hall and ended at the Sydney Police Centre. It's important that the SRC uses its numbers to show up for important causes, like those that call for First Nations justice.

University happenings

The university released the report of the Investment Policies Review Working Group, which will hopefully mark a critical moment for the University of Sydney. For too long, our university has quietly profited from the machinery of war, investing in companies that manufacture weapons used in some of the world's most devastating conflicts, including the genocide of Palestinians. The report's recommendations are to divest from direct investments in companies involved in the production of arms listed under Australia's Defence and Strategic Goods List. This is a step in the right direction and is a hard-won victory made by students, staff, and the broader community for ethical and transparent investment practices.

However, the report also reveals a troubling contradiction. While direct holdings will be divested, the University intends to maintain its "blind" investments through private equity funds that include defence industry exposure. This loophole, driven by financial expediency, undermines the moral clarity the University claims to embrace. If the University is serious about its "commitment to human rights", it must go further. It must commit to full divestment from all weapons companies, regardless of the financial vehicle. The SRC calls on the University Senate to adopt the full recommendations swiftly, commit to long-term ethical investment, and to engage transparently with our community as this process unfolds.

SRC

The exec has chosen a new SRC logo, which will be soft-launched for semester 2. We are (likely) moving office, and the location is looking like the RC Mill's Building.

Ed Con

I attended the NUS Education Conference last week. Jasmine, Rose, and I held a workshop discussing the importance of a board-left student movement and analysing why such a movement may fail to be. It was good to meet with student unionists from all over the country to discuss campaigns the NUS should be doing in semester 2. The NUS and its member unions will be building towards an NDA for Palestine on August 7th.

In solidarity,
Angus

M. Report of the Vice-Presidents

Ethan Cao and Shovan Bhattarai tabled a written report:

May report:

April has been a busy month. These have been my highlights:

FoodHub

Throughout April, I've been liaising with USU staff to open lines of communication between the USU and the SRC. Meeting with Fiona Garnham, Operations Manager for the USU, I have been given a tour of FoodHub and discussed the current liabilities and problems. Our consensus has been that there are two fundamental problems. One, there is a lack of funding from the university

– something the SRC and USU can collaborate on when it comes to SSAF Applications later this year. Two, there is a lack of accessibility when it comes to donating products toward FoodHub.

I will begin to work on ways to fix this in conjunction with the International Student Collective and the USU. We plan to contact potential sponsors who are willing to donate extra products on a regular basis towards FoodHub and also increase awareness of donations towards FoodHub through Chinese social media.

We will also be mobilising the SRC, starting with the International Student Collective to help out at FoodHub. While volunteers are not in dire need, we will do what we can to output consistent and quality work such that it is not entirely reliant on the USU's V-Team.

Collectives

Throughout April, I have also been working with the International Student Collective to produce a range of events. We have hosted a Market Day, Movie Nights, and conducted street interviews. It's been great fun engaging with the student body and hearing advice on what else the Collective and the wider SRC could do in service of the students we represent. I look forward to the future work the Collective will be doing, including panelling events and hiking. The Collective will be continuing on our campaign with Opal Card concessions and re-opening International House – projects that we have been negotiating with SUPRA and other relevant parties.

I will be continuing to stand up for international students and for an expanded and more active FoodHub. Looking forward to reporting back to this Council in June.

Bohao Zhang

July Report:

This month has seen continued work across several areas of priority. Below is a summary of key developments:

O-Week Planning with ISC

I've been working with the International Students Collective on their Semester 2 O-Week preparations. This has included assisting with reimbursement form submissions, connecting members involved in merchandise coordination, and contributing to improved engagement strategies for welcoming new international students.

Information Sessions with SUPRA

Discussions have been progressing with SUPRA's International and Education Officers regarding the co-hosting of information sessions for students. Proposed topics include academic appeals, visa conditions, tenancy rights, and contract cheating. The sessions will initially be held as webinars, with the possibility of in-person formats if there is sufficient interest.

Meetings have also been held with the SRC Legal and Casework teams to explore content, delivery methods, and collaborative opportunities. The aim is to provide students with proactive support and reduce preventable casework issues.

Student Housing – Engagement with SUIHAA

In July, I also helped coordinate SRC engagement with the upcoming Sydney University International House Alumni Association (SUIHAA) Roundtable in August, which will focus on student housing and international student support. I've been working with the SRC Student Housing Officer to ensure that our participation reflects the lived realities and advocacy priorities of current students.

This initiative adds to our ongoing work in housing advocacy, and I see it as a valuable opportunity to build long-term relationships with alumni stakeholders who share our commitment to affordable, inclusive student living.

Food Equity and Access - FoodHub and Campus Canteen

Work is underway with the USU Operations Manager to enhance student involvement in FoodHub. Discussions have focused on improving volunteer coordination, ensuring consistent participation, and identifying potential donors. Efforts are also being made to explore multilingual outreach to better engage international students and increase awareness of volunteering opportunities.

In addition, I participated in one of this month's Canteen Working Group meeting, contributing to the planning of the \$5 meals initiative. We visited several possible locations on campus to assess their suitability for casual, affordable food service. Factors like accessibility, seating, and kitchen infrastructure were considered. This project represents a broader push toward more equitable food options on campus.

I'm looking forward to building on this work as Semester 2 begins. More soon!

Ethan Cao

N1. Report of the Standing Legal Committee

Minutes of the 2nd and 3rd meetings of the Standing Legal Committee held on the 30th of May and 2nd of July 2025 were circulated.

O. Report of Committees and Officers

O1. Report of the Education Officers

Luke Mešterović and Jasmine Al-Rawi tabled a written report

O1. Report of the Education Officers

May:

This May, we begin another term of Labor in power. While gratifying to see the Liberals lose many seats, including Peter Dutton's seat in Dickson, we know that Labor will not provide an improvement in the lives of the majority of people in Australia. We know this because in the last 3 years, people's living standards have dropped under Labor, refugees have continued to be denied

permanent protection, the cost of living has sky-rocketed, weapons have continued to be sent to Israel and more fossil fuel plants have been built. The SRC must continue to fight this Labor government as an enemy of students and workers.

In the past month we continued to take part in activist campaigns. The Education Action Group organised a protest against Tesla and Elon Musk at the Tesla showroom in Alexandria. This was an energetic speak-out which garnered some media attention. It was important to send a message that Trumpism is not welcome here.

We also went to show support for NSW doctors on strike for 3 days over better pay and conditions. There was an excellent rally at St George hospital in Kogarah that marched up to Chris Minns office to call him out as Premier for crying poor when it comes to paying doctors and other healthcare workers properly.

Jasmine spoke at the Palm Sunday rally for refugee rights on behalf of the Palestine Action Group, where she spoke to make the connection between Palestine and refugee rights, with thousands of Palestinian refugees denied visas into Australia.

A highlight from the month for Jasmine was attending the Marxism conference. This was an incredible 4-day anti-capitalist conference in Melbourne where we got to hear from socialists from across the world, from Egypt to Argentina to France to Sudan. We had really important talks and discussions to be best placed in understanding the hellscape we live in under capitalism today, with far-right governments on the rise, an accelerating genocide in Gaza and record levels of inequality. These discussions serve the purpose of being best placed to fight against the whole rotten system that breeds war and genocide.

As Education officers at USYD, we want to show our support for the campaigns being run across the country against education cuts. We have seen huge attacks at WSU, UTS, ANU and Macquarie and urge everyone to follow the campaign taking place to save degrees and staff jobs across the country from the cost-cutting measures being implemented by greedy managements.

There are 2 important rallies coming up. Firstly, the annual commemoration of the Nakba will be taking place on Thursday 15th May at 6:30. This day marks 77 years since the foundation of Israel that led to the displacement of a million Palestinians and the killing of tens of thousands of Palestinians in over a dozen massacres in 1948. In the face of an ongoing Nakba, coming out in solidarity with Palestine has never been more important.

Secondly, there is a National Day of Action against Trump on May 24, meeting at 1pm at Town Hall, to demand an end to AUKUS and all ties with the US and Trump. Make sure to be there!

Jasmine and Luke

O2. Report of the Women's Officers

Martha Barlow and Ellie Robertson tabled a written report

May:

This week is the week of Reclaim and Resist!

We have an array of engaging educational and creative workshops this week. Today (at the time of writing) we had a beautiful Welcome to Country ceremony performed by Auntie Nadeena Dixon and attended a fantastic writing workshop hosted by Hasib Hourani. The schedule for the rest of the week is as follows:

Tuesday: Screening of 'Fly in Power' at 5pm hosted by QuAC

Wednesday: Zine making workshop at 2pm

Thursday, we have a self-defence class at 2pm and panel discussion on why the legal system fails victim-survivors at 6pm

Friday: FALL workshop on the Thawabet at 11am, panel on reproductive rights at 2pm and our open mic night and mutual aid fundraiser at 5pm!

All details for the Reclaim and Resist schedule can be found on our Instagram @usydwoco.

In addition to this, we have seen an intense and worrying rise in far-right abortion abolitionists. They have been on our campus many times intimidating students at City Rd. We urge you to stay away from them for your own safety, as the hate and violence these people permeate is disgusting. Instead, join us in a sit-in on campus on Wednesday, 14th May. Bring your signs, bring your banners, bring masks if you feel more comfortable when doing so. We urge you to be there and show that these harmful narratives are not welcome on our campus.

We are also attending the counter-rally to the rally against the Greens abortion bill outside parliament house this Wednesday at 5pm. The rise of pro-life rhetoric must be fought against at every turn.

We have been contacted by the office of the National Student Ombudsman to attend an info session next week, which we plan on attending and receiving more information about to distribute to students. During this meeting we will ask if there is an implementation/consultation committee, and if we may be part of that.

Pop us a DM on insta if you'd like to get more involved in the Women's Collective.

In love and rage,
Martha and Ellie

July Report:

I hope everyone is enjoying their much-needed break! Whilst the last few weeks have been busy with exams, there is still plenty happening.

At the end of May, we hosted Reclaim and Resist week, which was a great success! Thank you to everyone who helped organise and came along to the sessions. Some highlights included the Welcome to Country with Aunty Nadeena Dixon, the resistance poetry workshop with Hasib Hourani, and the mutual aid fundraiser open mic night. Proceeds have been donated to the Mob Strong mutual aid fund.

We have started planning for next semester, including organising Welcome Week, Women's Honi,

and some communications around the national student ombudsman. We will also remain committed to the fight for Palestine, divestment and free speech on campus.

There are a lot of fucked things happening, and it's hard to name them all, but here are a few that are particularly on our minds:

The genocide in Gaza continues to worsen, with reports coming out that Israel is hiding oxycodone, a highly addictive and possibly fatal opioid, into bags of flour — the latest in an ongoing series of increasingly inhumane and unprecedented crimes committed by Israel. Furthermore, Gazans are being routinely slaughtered on their way to receive this aid, with almost 600 being killed by Israeli forces since the end of May. We are sickened by these cruel and depraved acts, and know that the calls for BDS and an end to the genocide must only get louder.

We saw this weekend NSW police violently arrest peaceful protesters on public land, using enough force that Hannah Thomas, Greens candidate in the recent federal election, may be permanently blinded in one eye. Shame on the police, and shame on Chris Minns' Zionist, pro-cop government. In other news, we are disgusted by the news of Adriana Smith, a pregnant woman who was declared brain-dead, being forced to stay alive on life support until the "birth" of her child. Even in death, women are seen as nothing but incubators and denied their bodily autonomy. We condemn the vile, violent anti-abortion laws in the US, and those who are trying to impose them in Australia. Our hearts are with Adriana and her family.

Finally, in news that is slipping under the radar, this week the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party introduced the Game and Feral Animal Legislation Amendment (Conservation Hunting) Bill 2025 into NSW parliament. This act aims to re-establish a Conservation Hunting Authority, offer bounties on hunting invasive species and open more public land to hunting. This bill is absolutely disastrous for a number of reasons. Firstly, it is a complete capitulation to the hunting lobby, which Chris Minns is likely only making to garner support for Labor's awful new workers compensation bill. Secondly, it is deeply unscientific and employs methods that are proven to not work, disguising recreational hunting as conservation. Finally, it includes the following provision:

Schedule 4.2 amends the Weapons Prohibition Act 1998 to provide that conservation hunting may be considered a genuine reason for the Commissioner of Police to issue a permit for the possession and use of a prohibited weapon.

Combined with the fact that the scheme is intended to make it easier to access these licenses, it is essentially a gateway to wider gun ownership. Considering the domestic violence crisis, we are already in, the potential consequences of this irresponsible bill hardly need to be explained. We are hoping to meet about this and get in contact with some MPs to see what we can do, but in the meantime we certainly think it should be on everybody's radar.

In solidarity,
Martha and Ellie

03. Report of the Ethno-Cultural Officers

May:

Hello! Keeping this short and sweet.

Since last council, ACAR has:

- Sent in People's Inquiry submissions, as a collective and for individual experiences
- Has had weekly meetings with our collective, with 5-10 people attending each meeting
- Are organising Nakba events alongside BDS youth and Liberation Cinema, strengthening cross-collective and community org. connections
- Are working on a solidarity panel and webinar to reflect on intersectional resistance & one year since the encampments
- Organising FALL alongside WoCo, planning a workshop on the Thawabet (principles for Palestinian liberation)
- Are organising a Kashmir solidarity event and teach-in

In the wake of the election, I want to urge you not to settle for electoral politics. Electoralism won't save us. Seemingly, we have 'defeated' the rise of fascism and removed Peter Dutton from this seat. However, 'Australia' is also a settler-colony — and it operates exactly as it is meant to, built on the continuous subjugation of First Nations peoples and anyone the system deems 'other'. Hold our government to account and go beyond: build power within your communities.

Dana Kafina

No June Report.**July:**

In the same week commemorating George Floyd's death, a young Black Warlpiri man, Kumanjayi White, was murdered by off-duty NT police, restrained and cutting off his airways, in the aisles of a Coles supermarket. Kumanjayi White was a disabled man who got attacked before even exiting the store for "theft" — he did not receive support, the situation was not escalated, and his life was taken away from him due to blatant racism and emboldened police violence in the NT. The release of CCTV footage was also denied under claims that it is now a criminal proceeding, with the family still not receiving information about what happened to Kumanjayi. There has *never* been any justice at the hands of the state or the colony — a colony that is built on the subjugation and genocide of First Nations peoples from its very foundation.

Police violence has also been rampant across the entirety of 'australia', with brutal, extreme force used on protestors at the recent SEC plating picket — NSW police asphyxiating protestors and severely injuring another's eye, permanently risking her eyesight. In Victoria, a protestor had a steel bar pressed into her back until her ribs cracked by Victorian Police. Police violence is only increasing with the rise of the far right. Our protest rights in NSW are put under threat by Chris Minns, and by the Albanese government in 'australia'. Tony Burke only yesterday said 'no one is above the law' in reference to the sec-plating picket.

Police are weapons of the colony, disproportionately targeting First Nations people and people of colour as a whole. From Turtle Island to Gadigal, we have to stand up and call for the complete abolishment of policing. No amount of reform can fix this murderous legacy.

In Palestine, the genocide has also escalated, with opioids being used to lace flour and aid in Gaza. The US-backed Zionist occupation has also started escalating against Iran. I urge you to keep centring anti-imperial and anti-Zionist struggle and keep Gaza and Palestine at the forefront of our minds, standing in solidarity not out of self-interest but as part of your moral duty.

Over the past few months, ACAR has:

- Has organised meetings with our collective and is preparing for actions for the following semester, including solidarity workshops and focusing on up-skilling
- Has been involved in attending and providing support for rallies in solidarity with Kumanjari White, such as through marshalling
- Have amplified mutual aid demands within our networks
- Has been in attendance with Action 4 Public Housing campaigns
- Has engaged in outreach to increase awareness about ACAR and our membership
- Has maintained a presence at protests and local actions for Palestine

Please follow us on our social @usydacar to keep an eye out for upcoming actions and campaigns!

O4. Report of the Disabilities Officers

June Report:

We hope everyone has been holding up with final assessments and exams. Good luck! We at Dis.Co have been progressing the masking campaign and also have been lucky to work in collaboration with Dis.Co's very own Grace Street (SRC Gen Sec) on the flu vax initiative. It went smoothly and was a fantastic initiative in SRC outreach. More details can be found in the Gen Sec report! On another bright note, Disco would like to congratulate Kinds, the neurodivergent network/society for having its inaugural meeting! We will be paying close attention to the project and how Disco can collaborate with them with regards to disability justice on campus, going forward.

It's never fun reporting on the NSW Labor Government in pretty much every report. We are disgusted and appalled by the Minns Government's attack on workers' rights in the broader context of their callous disregard for the mental health crisis that is escalating by the day. We stand staunchly against the absurd Workers Compensation Scheme 'reforms.'

Find the motion we brought to this (June) council for more information.

All the best and enjoy your winter holidays,
Remy Lebreton & Vince Tafea

O5. Report of the international Students' Officers

The International Students Collective have been very busy!

Since the revamp of our socials at the beginning of the year, the Collective in 2025 has been very much focused on maintaining an online presence and increasing our outreach. This has manifested itself through a consistent output of social events, alongside our internal Collective meetings which address the problems international students are facing and the campaigns to remedy them.

Since April, the Collective has hosted four movie nights, a flea market, and a club fair. All of these were successful in their own right. Movie nights on average maintained a turnout of around 20. The flea market which had local and independent vendors from across Sydney, saw a turnout of over 100 people. Similarly, our club fair which involved cultural societies across the USU, saw turnout of over 100 people as well.

The Collective has noted the successes of these events and will endeavour to continue innovating them going into Semester 2, alongside introducing new events.

Further, the Collective has maintained an active social media presence on Instagram and REDNote. Alongside short form content, we have also run photo competitions, polls, and guides for various services that are less well-known, such as the University's free airport pickup service.

The Collective now looks forward to Semester 2 O-Week, which has always seen a more significant turnout of international students compared to Semester 1. We have been and will continue to be working on new designs for freebies and are excited to see what other Collectives have in store!

International Students Officers

Motion: that Agenda items L, M, N1 and O be accepted en bloc.

Moved: Jasmine Donnelly

Seconded: Philip Howard

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

P. Special Business

There were no items of special business.

Q. Motions of Notice

Procedural Motion to suspend Standing orders to hear the following agenda items in this order, Q2, Q3, Q5, Q6, Q7, Q8 and Q9.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke against the procedural saying that this was just a way to bow down to Labor to avoid the next motion and this approach this as Labor don't support motion Q1 as they think it is fine to see student attack activist and silence and that they don't want to have a debate

as they want to see more of this happen, they don't want to see this motion as they want to get to their motions and if you are worried Labor are going to pull quorum on this when there has been no suggestion that they would event yet. We should have out the debate, and grassroots should be ashamed for a trying to avoid this motion. If you think they are going to pull quorum then it even more important that we have this debate. This is an unprincipled way to do this.

Grace Steet noted that Shovan had just done the same thing earlier this meeting

Shovan Bhattarai disagreed saying that moved a motion up, not skipping any. Adding that this procedural should be rescinded; Grassroots should withdraw this procedural.

Grace street responded saying this procedural is in practicality the same as the earlier on and something that Socialist Alternative does every meeting - move to the motions you think are important and then leave when you don't care about the other motions. Let's talk about the motion that we wanted to bring forward and speak about them, we are not trying to skip Q1, we just wanted to get to these motions first.

Deaglan Godwin responded saying that this suggestion that it was Socialist Alternative's fault that quorum that got pulled because we put this motion up, Grassroots can stand up to the ALP when it's state or federal but not when you are in the room apparently. Labor have said they're not going to pull quorum, and you are still proceeding with this motion.

Moved: Grace Street

Seconded: Ishbel Dunsmore

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural motion to hear and vote on Q2 and Q3 en Bloc.

Moved: Vince Tafea

Seconded: Grace Street

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q2. Workers Deserve Better: Shame on Mendacious Minns and Shame on Malevolent Mookhey, The USyd SRC Stands Against the Absurd Workers Compensation Scheme 'Reforms'

Preamble

NSW Labor and NSW Liberals; what we have learned so far through Minns' Malicious Ministry is that they are two sides of the same dusty worker-hating coin.

The NSW Minns Labor Government is seeking to pursue changes to the NSW workers compensation system that would ultimately result in worse outcomes for injured workers that do not exhibit a physical incapacity. They are seeking to tighten the same laws that they [decried as putting workers at risk of self-harm](#) while Labor were in opposition in 2018 and before the 2023 election.

Now, the Treasurer is backing proposed changes that would make it harder for workers to access long-term care, would raise the threshold for support to an impossible level, and cut people off sooner than ever.

The Government's proposed changes pertain to lifting the Whole Person Impairment (WPI) threshold from 15 per cent to 31 percent and to the lodging process for psychological injury claims, which includes claims of sexual injury that do not result in a clear physical impairment.

This is motivated primarily by a goal to reduce the cost of payments made to injured workers under the Government's self-insurance scheme (TMF), Mookhey has proposed these changes to cut costs as NSW Treasurer. Rather than cutting down spending on [coal](#) or [consultation to make further cuts](#), workers' compensation is on the chopping block.

The Government has rolled back some of the proposed changes after unions rallied together against the abhorrent 'reforms'. They have rolled back the requirement that workers seeking to make claim on a psychological injury due to racial or sexual harassment no longer require a determination from the Industrial Relations Commission (IRC), which would require victim-survivors to relive their trauma in front of a court. The impairment threshold would also be lifted gradually, lifted to 25 per cent from October 2025 and 31 per cent from 1 July 2026.

However, these paltry concessions still seek to put the budgetary bottom line above the rights of workers seeking compensation. The irony is palpable that a Labor government cannot even pretend to live up their name.

Psychological injury compensation claims only represent 20 per cent of all active claims, in contrast to 44 per cent of active claims within the State Government's self-insurance scheme.

Let's make the numbers clear for everyone with a case study close to home. From our University's own annual report for 2024:

- In 2024, 215 injuries were reported
- In 2024, 101 of these reports resulted in workers compensation claims
- The University states an "almost 50 per cent increase in psychological claims"
- In 2023, 10 claims were made
- In 2024, 19 were made

Tell us how this looks like the system is being 'gamed'?

It's quite clear that Minns and Mookhey are using workers who are making psychological injury claims as a scapegoat.

Psychological injury claims are a **minority** of all claims. Maybe consider the reason more psychological injury compensation claims are being made is because people are realising that they shouldn't be worked to the bone in a cost-of-living crisis instead of them 'gaming the system'. The rise in psychological injury claims should make Minns and Mookhey stop to think that it's the system that's broken and creating these injuries.

NSW Parliament conducted a rushed inquiry into the effects of these proposed changes. During the hearing, the state insurer icare, responsible for compensation claims, revealed that under a 31

per cent whole of person impairment threshold and based on their projections for an *anticipated* increase in claims only **27** people in the entire state of NSW would be eligible for long-term compensation. The current number of workers who would be able to access long-term compensation under the 31 per cent threshold is **12**. Unions and psychiatrists have claimed that it would prevent 99 per cent of people who are still psychologically able to function at work from receiving compensation.

These proposed 'reforms' expose Minns and Mookhey for what they are, servants of capital and no friends of the worker.

Inquiry Hearing Transcript:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lcdocs/transcripts/3522/TRANSCRIPT%20-%20CORRECTED%20-%20L%20and%20J%20-%20Psychological%20Injury%20-%2016%20May%202025.pdf>

Platform

1. The USyd SRC condemns the NSW Minns Labor Government for their absurd and anti-worker plan to change the workers compensation system to effectively bar workers from seeking compensation for psychological injury claims.
2. The USyd SRC recognises our role as a student union to stand strong with workers and our fellow unions against the NSW Minns Labor Government's unjust and unnecessary cost-cutting measures.
3. The USyd SRC recognises the compounding and disproportionate effect the policies have in the wider context of the Minn's government's war on doctors and nurses and the ongoing mental health crisis amidst a rapidly deteriorating public mental health system.

Action

1. In collaboration with the SRC Disabilities and Carers Collective (Dis.Co; @usyddisabilities), the USYD SRC will post on its social media pages a graphic and statement prepared by Dis.Co reflecting the platform of this motion.

Q3. CONDEMN CHRIS MINNS' AND NSW LABOR'S ATTACKS ON WORKERS!

Preamble:

In recent weeks, the NSW Labor government led by Premier Chris Minns and Treasurer Daniel Mookhey has proposed a series of cuts to workers' compensation, making it much harder for workers to claim compensation for psychological injuries. This is the icing on the cake for a state government that has committed itself to an all-out class war against NSW workers, attacking the nurses and midwives' union, the doctors' union, the rail and tram workers' union and the construction workers' union with a viciousness that rivals even that of the previous Liberal government. Chris Minns, not satisfied with allowing the public health system to crumble into a dysfunctional shell and punting public housing residents onto the streets, is now robbing workers of compensation for psychological injuries that his government is responsible for. Nurses, doctors and other public sector workers are at breaking point due to abysmal pay, overwork and understaffing. Meanwhile, the Premier rubs salt into workers' wounds by paying the police an up to 40% pay rise. It's become clear that Chris Minns is an enemy of all working-class people.

Given this context, it's disgraceful that when Unions Australia held a rally last Monday, not a single official even dared to mention Chris Minns, despite the fact that it's his government that's attacking workers' rights and conditions. Instead of calling out the outrageous slanders and pro-rich policies that have become the Premier's trademark, the union officials told burned-out nurses, teachers and construction workers to call their local MPs and beg them to take action, as if Labor and Liberal Party politicians aren't in on the government's anti-worker offensive. If this were the work of a Liberal government, the union officials would be shouting their condemnations from the rooftops, but because it's the apparently pro-union Labor Party that's been responsible, they've decided to keep their mouths shut. This is pure hypocrisy. Unlike the officials, we need to say it how it is: Chris Minns is a staunch supporter of Israeli genocide, hates workers and rules for the rich.

Platform:

1. The SRC condemns Chris Minns, Daniel Mookhey and the NSW Labor government's proposed cuts to workers' compensation.
2. The SRC stands in solidarity with all workers fighting against Chris Minns' attacks.

Action:

1. Release a statement on all SRC social media condemning Chris Minns (his name to be featured prominently) and NSW Labor's attacks on workers.
2. Take a photo expressing solidarity with NSW workers fighting the reforms to be posted to SRC social media.

Discussion of Q2 and Q3:

Vince Tafea spoke to the motion (Q2) and spoke about how the NSW Liberal Party is looking more progressive than the NSW Labor party there is a serious problem. The actions sound like something from a movie plot by a devious villain and there is a constant move to the right and he would like to hear the Labor students on this.

Lucas Pierce spoke to Q3 about the lack of a response by the government to the need. And also, that the unions haven't been fighting back about that, they seemed afraid to name Minns and their only solution was to ask you to call your local Labor MP and beg the people causing the problem to do something about it. They just spoke about how workers comp is important only in that it gets workers to back to making profit for the bosses. They used the same strategy as grassroots used a seconded ago. Capitulating to Labor is a dead end strategy and the unions need to stop doing it.

Yoshi Leung waved her right to speak.

Gerard Buttigieg spoke to the motion and said that there is a huge battle for workers comp in this state and spoke about the unions fighting back against the way this bill, noting that the way it has been written stops almost anyone for getting support. The way to lower your premiums is to actually invest in safer work practices, and prevent bullying, harassment and psycho-social injuries from happening in the first place. If the government wants to save some money, they shouldn't be giving themselves a pay rise. Adding that someone said that Unions NSW is not running a proper

campaign because the action wasn't outside parliament, it was held outside the ministerial offices, that where the decisions are actually happening and he thought it was a crazy world that the Libs are against this in support of workers' rights, even if it's just to wedge people. Concluding with we should be doing everything we can to oppose this legislation and the Labor party should be ashamed.

Yoshi Leung Agreed with Gerard Buttigieg's comments but said that they didn't answer the question as to why Minns was not condemned by the unions. The argument we are putting forward is that you need to be oppositional to Labor in order to actually fight for change, and we see Labor not getting criticism from the unions when they attack workers.

Grace Street spoke to the motions saying that it is even more insidious about this is how they've isolated themselves, they've given the SFF party what they want with their 'conservation hunting' bill to get this legislation through, and Labor are still thinking it's ok to support such a bill which will see more guns in NSW just so they can pass these workers comp changes. I want to note that when we told Salt who always say we never show up we invited them to oppose a Labor housing event and they didn't show up.

Deaglan Godwin responded to grace saying "we were literally there".

Q2

Moved: Moved: Alana Ramshaw

Seconded: Vince Tafea

Q3

Moved: Lucas Pierce

Seconded: Yoshi Leung

The motions were put and **CARRIED**

Q5. Justice for Kumanjayi White: No more black deaths in custody, an independent investigation into Kumanjayi's death now.

Last Tuesday, Kumanjayi White, a 24-year-old disabled Warlpiri man from Yuendumu, was restrained by police with a knee to his neck and killed in custody in a Coles supermarket in Mparntwe. It was alleged he was planning to shoplift, but nothing could ever justify this brutality and what was effectively the death penalty for this young man.

Kumamjayi White is from the same Yuenmudu community that was home to Kumanjayi Walker, another young First Nations man who was killed by police in 2019. This is a community who have been immeasurably hurt once again by our broken government and carceral systems.

Hundreds of family members and supporters gathered at Coles in Mparntwe on Friday to mourn and remember Kumanjayi and to demand justice for his death. They have immediate demands including:

- An independent investigator must be appointed in this case, not the Northern Territory Police.
- CCTV footage and other evidence (e.g. body cam) must be shared with the family immediately.
- Northern Territory Police to apologise and stop the criminalisation Kumanjayi in public statements

Following a vigil on Gadigal Land last Sunday to mourn Kumanjayi, there has been a protest called for this Saturday 7th June at 5pm at Town Hall that is calling for justice for the Yuenmudu community and Warlpiri mob, and justice for all black lives. This is part of a larger National Week of Action to stand with Yuenmudu, with rallies already organised across Cairns, Sydney and Adelaide.

This week, more than ever before, we need to be loud and organised. Taking the lead from local First Nations leaders and Elders, we call on our community to mobilise and turn out for the protest on Saturday and to work beyond just 'keeping First Nations justice in the forefront of our minds'.

Platform:

1. The USyd SRC supports the demands of Kumanjayi's family surrounding an independent investigation, the sharing of relevant footage, and for the NT Police to stop denigrating Kumanjayi's name
2. The USyd SRC recognises its responsibility as a student union to answer the calls of First Nations peoples to mobilise against this injustice
3. The USyd SRC reaffirms its commitment to First Nations justice and supporting future campaigns and protests against Black deaths in custody.

Action points:

1. The USyd SRC, with its councillors and Office Bearers, will promote, support, and attend all the rallies for stopping Black deaths in custody.
2. The USyd SRC will post this motion to its social media platforms along with the relevant bank account details to donate to materially support Kumanjayi's family in their sorry business
3. The USyd SRC calls for the implementation of the recommendations of the 1991 Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

Discussion:

Dana Kafina spoke to the motion and mentioned that just this last week there was another Black death in custody. We are all settlers here and we need to see an end to Black deaths?

Aron Khuc spoke to the motion saying that just today there has been another First Nations Death

in custody today in NSW, highlighting again the lack of care and consideration the system has for First Nations people.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke to the motion, saying this is one of the worst examples of colonial capitalism in this country and notes the handouts the police get while they fail to protect people, while cutting everything from the things that matter to give to the police. There was a rally last week protesting that Zachary Wroblewski was invited to talk at a police conference when he's a known killer and murderer gets invited and the red carpet rolled out for them while day to day nothing is happening on the recommendations of the royal commission from 1992.

Jessica Heap spoke to the motion and spoke about the event on the 7th of June, and how it is important that we continue to be loud and push for governments to implement the recommendations from the royal commission.

Moved: Dana Kafina

Seconded: Aron Khuc

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural Motion to move to Q1.

Moved: Grace Street

Seconded: Dana Kafina

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q1. Student unions should support free speech! Oppose the undemocratic policies in the University of Wollongong constitution

Preamble:

Last Thursday the University of Wollongong Undergraduate Student Association passed a series of motions at the student general meeting that could be weaponised to attack free speech. These motions were moved by members of Labor left and debate was stifled at the meeting. In the appendix of a motion on financial security it says the following:

8.8.2. The President is responsible for and is given the power to exercise censorship over all publications issued by the Council, such censorship shall be restricted to matters **which in their opinion:**

8.8.2.1. May involve the Council in civil or criminal liability, (including but not limited to defamation, contempt, obscenity, indecency, pornography and copyright); or

8.8.2.2. Are discriminatory on the basis of sex, sexuality, race, ethnicity, disability, or other protected attributes.

Today a series of motions passed at the student general meeting on campus including two containing contentious clauses that could be weaponized to attack free speech in our union.

This clause means constitutionally the President has ultimate power over the political content of publications issued by the union and has the power to censor based on their opinion. This is a blatant attack on the free speech of OBs. Even if these clauses are not used by Labor left to censor activists, it is a gift to the Right who have consistently weaponised victimisation over typical left-wing positions. For example, pro Palestine speech is often mis-labelled as racist, or men feeling offended by campaigns or meetings against sexism.

The odds are already stacked against the left. The increasing McCarthyite repression of dissident speech and protest have made its way to our universities in Australia already through undemocratic policies, such as the Campus Access Policy at USYD. These policies now give a constitutional precedent for the repression of speech in the UOW student union.

The meeting itself was carried out in an undemocratic way. Firstly, a motion to have contentious items discussed and voted on separately narrowly lost (approx. 18 for - 19 against), which meant all new proposed changes were voted on block. The contentious motions passed, but the numbers reflect the reservations that were held by many students; approx. 20 for, 10 against, with 10 abstentions.

Secondly, students found out at the beginning of the meeting that a 'zoom option' had been created for the meeting. This was announced from WUSA's Instagram story 12 mins before the start of the meeting. The link was not posted anywhere publicly, instead was passed on to a handful of students via private message. It was hardly surprising then that these students were there to vote up the contentious motions.

One of the arguments used by Labor students was that this was a standard clause, that every union and student union in Australia had this. It is firstly not a precedent worth following, but also, we know here at USYD that we do not have a clause that allows the president to censor council motions.

Megan Renae, WUSA Education officer said in a Facebook post, "In the era of Trumpism and repression of pro-Palestine, anti-genocide activism, we have to guard against things that could be weaponised to silence left wing and progressive speech. Potential changes to our constitution risk doing just that."

Platform:

1. The SRC opposes the changes to the WUSA constitution at the Student General Meeting on the 29th of May that passed the following clauses: 8.8.2., 8.8.2.1., 8.8.2.2. which enshrines ultimate power with the President over the political content of publications issued by the union.
2. The SRC recognises that this sets a bad precedent to other student unions regarding free speech.

Action:

1. The SRC president will write to the WUSA president opposing the constitution changes.
2. The SRC will commit to not moving similar undemocratic constitution changes.

3. The SRC will publish this motion on its social media.

Discussion:

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion covering its main points.

Remy Lebreton spoke to the motion and expressed concerns about the changes at the University of Wollongong (UoW), these are not the same as the SRC regulations. Ours only give powers around defamation, it is a shame this has come from another student union. Furthermore, the General Secretary at UoW has extraordinary powers of interpretation. This is so different to what we have.

Hanzel-Jude Pador (visiting from UoW) spoke about the motion saying that what has been presented to this council is untrue. And one issue is that the fact this is being presented that the President has overreaching powers, but the President's decision can be overturned by a simple majority. This motion is an untruthful and inaccurate representation of what happened and what these changes are.

Ishbel Dunsmore spoke to the motion saying that this is just an overreach of the President's powers. The issue is that what is acceptable is held entirely up to the President. If we can't fight for anything less we upset someone, how can we do anything? This change is about stamping out the democratic process at student unions and I think it sets a dangerous precedent.

Caitlin Veigel (General Secretary from WUSA (Wollongong University Students' Association)), responded to the motion saying that this misrepresents what happened, and that WUSA are small student org and don't have independence like the USyd SRC, and have very few resources. You are attacking a small student union and trying to stop us from getting SSAF. Don't lecture us on how to run our student union when you know nothing about it.

Deaglan Godwin responded to Caitlin Veigel that was sad, trying to leverage regional identity politics to excuse your actions. Adding that he shouldn't have to tell you we face our own attacks, USyd is ground zero on rolling back freedom of speech. We don't acquiesce and say don't cut our SSAF we go on the attack; you cannot get independence by giving over to management what they want. And you might find that your lack of independence now is from Labor students running campuses and the national students' union into irrelevance, using them only as a step on the career ladder of the Labor party. Come back with a real argument.

Gerard Buttigieg spoke against the motion wanting to echo the speakers from WUSA and saying that it's shameful the SALT are laughing at the students at WUSA. They get \$40 000, compared to what we get it is tiny, when SALT and Grassroots get stipends to cover their activism, and you are saying that this union can't make changes they need to secure funding to do their activism. In history it was Labor lead student unions that when VSU came in who negotiated to keep the unions alive. This is a reasonable change and I believe they will be able to keep their independence and this is a ridiculous debate.

Remy Lebreton agreed with Deaglan Godwin's comments and spoke about how they were from Wollongong and went to UoW but that doesn't mean I have any more of a say in what has

happened than anyone else who can see what is being done.

Grace Street spoke to the debate saying that we are not attacking UoW and WUSA, we are saying that you've got a constitution that changes have been made to that could be damaging to us if forced on us as well. Adding that she knew they did not get much money, but we are talking about how the changes were passed in an undemocratic way, and then SSAF was used as an excuse after the fact. The USU tried that here, and we were able to have an SGM and voted those changes down, and then they had another after listening to people's issues and addressed them. If the uni said this is what you need to get SSAF you need to talk about how and consult all your members.

Caitlin Veigel responded to the debate saying that she wanted to stamp out the notion that WUSA are not being combative with management. We have been nothing but combative with them, we are not sitting back idly waiting to get things, none of you understand what we are going through, you're in your own bubble here where you get funding.

Moved: Jasmine Al-Rawi

Seconded: Deaglan Godwin

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q6. Uni new policies

Preamble:

As of Monday 2 June, the University of Sydney community – staff, affiliates, students, contractors and visitors alike – will now be bound by five key policies concerning speech and expression on campus and online, where related to the University.

In an all-student email with the subject of "Making a safe and welcoming community for all," USyd Vice-Chancellor Professor Mark Scott announced the implementation of the five new policies the University sought feedback on earlier in the year. These policies encompass the use of ICT and bulk emails, hanging flags, putting up posters or banners, and making personal public statements online that are about or linked to the University – euphemistically described by Scott as "policies that guide how we connect, communicate, and express ourselves across the University."

It is clear from the University's email and web page concerning the policies that the majority of changes in response to feedback has been focused on uplifting the complaints process. This flies in the face of the submitted feedback from the SRC, SUPRA, and the NTEU which highlighted the lack of consultation around or evidence for the policies, the imposition of the policies on the industrial rights of staff, and the infringement of the policies on free speech and expression that are political freedoms and well-established norms in higher education.

All of these policies state that "[promoting] conduct that breaches the policy on social media or in some other way" also constitutes a breach of the policy, for which the possible consequences

include misconduct proceedings. That means that speaking publicly, even online, about not complying with the policies is not allowed, which effectively limits dissent and what individuals or groups can say about or advocate for in regard to the policies.

Platform:

1. The SRC stands for staff and students' right to free speech and right to protest
2. The SRC maintains its commitment to opposing the University's attempts to stifle activism
3. The SRC condemns the University's continued attempts to sneakily introduce these policies during busy periods of semester or breaks, with no consultation of students and staff, or failing to incorporate the vast majority feedback that is submitted

Action:

1. The SRC will write a press-release, with consultation with all paid / major OBs, about these 5 new policies
2. The SRC will dedicate its resources to supporting students and staff impacted by the updated policies.

Discussion:

Dana Kafina spoke to the motion and spoke about the CAP and the new policies coming through the uni all the time. She spoke about the changes that have the uni monitoring students' social media. And spoke about how the University is conducting surveillance of students and suppressing free speech on campus.

Grace Street spoke to the motion and promoted an article in Honi:

<https://honisoit.com/2025/06/usyd-doesnt-listen-five-key-policies-updated-and-implemented-following-feedback-process/>

And mentioned that the policies changes that have come in are unrelated to any recommendations and concerns were not accounted for. Noting that it is against the policies to speak out and fight back against the policies, the uni is being trying to adapt to what we have been doing because we've been successful. We need to look at what we are doing, as we know that the Uni is coming for us. We need to talk about these policies and we need to respond, they don't want to listen, and they won't even tell us why they are ignoring us.

The President resigned the Chair to the Deputy.

Angus Fisher spoke to the motion and said he's been talking about this both at Academic Board and other committee meetings, in meetings with the NTEU, and parliament, and talking to all about the suppression of speech on campus. Like how the CAP was weakened, and I've been trying to get meetings with management on these changes and pushing that they can't do these without consultation. It's difficult to organise around as it's designed to make organising difficult.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke to the motion and said these policies are very dangerous to activism and the union. Adding that she doesn't think that it was Angus Fisher in a meeting with the Vice Chancellor that changed the CAP, but that it was the fact we sent a very clear message that this was not appropriate. What kept this in the news was that there was an activist campaign around this issues. It is hard to point out what we need to be able to do things in the abstract, we need to do this for this reason then people get behind it and understand. People are aware in the world and mobilizing around activism around Palestine is there, and people are doing it and we need to continue to mobilize students on the issue they care about, and these issues are coming to a head.

Moved: Dana Kafina

Seconded: Grace Street

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

The President resumed the Chair

Q7. Electoral Regulation Change Part A

That the following electoral reform be adopted. See the 2024 SRC Electoral Officer's Report for reference to "recommendations."

This is a revision of the adopted **1.2 Recommendation 3 (Intimidation Rule)** at the June Council of the 97th SRC to account for the concerns raised during the debate of the motion around the vagueness and subjectivity of "ordinary conventions of campaigning practices" which could be used unfairly by an Electoral Officer.

Amend 8.69(c) It is a defence to subsection (b) if a person proves the actions which caused another person to feel intimidated were:

- (i) directed towards a candidate or campaigner;
- (ii) done for the purpose of campaigning;
- (iii) within the ordinary conventions of campaigning practices **of the University of Sydney SRC Elections, including political contestation**; and,
- (iv) the person has not previously been warned by an electoral official not to do similar acts towards the candidate or campaigner referred to in subsection.

Discussion:

Grace Street noted that we talked about his last council, just adding the red line as the addition from the last meeting, and this is just to make sure that the language is clear to assuage any concerns.

Jasmine Donnelly spoke to the motion saying that SRC USyd's ordinary conventions is bedlam and so this doesn't really do anything,

Grace Street responded to Jasmine Donnelly's comment saying she was not sure what she meant, but as said earlier ordinary campaigning conventions was also unclear and vague so this was just about a small clarification.

Jessica Heap wanted to flag that when talking about the USyd SRC conventions these things can lead to bullying, and if we are asking them to look back and determine what is acceptable it's just going to allow for abuse and bullying,

Lauren Alivio said she thinks political contestation is pretty important part of democratic and removing that capacity get rid of the point of campaigning.

Rose Donnelly said that we need to remember we represent students, and the way our elections are conducted are hated by students and puts them off, and they want to get out. I think political contestation is important, and I think there is a difference between calling it political contestation and teaming up and bullying a student. The majority do not agree with how we conduct ourselves.

Grace Street asked if Labor was opposing the motion.

Moved: Grace Street

Seconded: Aron Khuc

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q8. Electoral Regulation Change Part B

That the following electoral reform be adopted. See the 2024 SRC Electoral Officer's Report for reference to "recommendations."

1.4 Recommendation 4: Relax cross-campaigning rules in the event of uncontested Honi Soit Elections. At present, the cross-campaigning rules restrict Honi candidates from campaigning in other ballots even if they are elected by virtue of running a single ticket. This is overly restrictive, serves no purpose, and should be adjusted. As a separate but related comment: the trend of uncontested Honi Soit elections is an issue of concern for Council. It indicates that there is insufficient engagement to generate competing tickets and visions for the paper.

Add 8.27(f) The clauses in this section apply only if the Election of Honi Soit Editors is contested.

Discussion:

Vince Tafea spoke to the to the motion saying it was just a recommendation from the EO's report but the only one left out of the last bloc of changes at council. I think that we should have contested Honi elections but if we don't they should be allowed to campaign for whoever they would like

Jasmine Donnelly spoke against the motion saying it was just a clear attempt to get more campaigners from Honi Editors as they want to run for Honi but also campaign for SRC. How can Honi report on the SRC election while running with them. Cross campaigning rules mean that people can't run for Honi and campaign for others.

Philip Howard spoke against the motion saying he didn't understand the reasoning for this. It is just a conflict of interest where people have friends running for Honi and they want them to campaign for them as well.

Rose Donnelly this is written in a way as though Honi are only the 10 people we can get to campaign.

Vice Tafea said he put this motion up as it was the only one left out of the EO's recommendations, and I thought we should debate this. This isn't a whole strategy to get people involved, it just the more people who get involved the better. I thought it was a sensible change recommended by the EO.

Grace Street said that if you don't agree just don't vote for it. We do like contested elections, this is not us saying we need campaigners. If you think that Honi is just for grassroots, maybe look at yourselves and get involved in Honi and maybe it will be contested more.

Gerard Buttigieg said he didn't know why we were getting bogged down in who's faction can run for what. Honi is supposed to be un-biased to an extent, when it comes to the council and the OBs we want it to be un-biased and while we know that there always biases we shouldn't be allowing people to set up support deals.

Rose Donnelly spoke to the motion saying that Grace proves again and again she can't separate personal and outside, and proves that Honi also telling people who are student activists they should get involved in student journalism is ridiculous

Deaglan Godwin this is functionally self-interested and to get more people to campaign for you. Adding that as you can't convince them to not run for Honi but to work for you anyway. Our opposition is that Honi Soit has never been unbiased, it has always been made up of ex or current members of political factions, it's wrong to portray it as such. It should be openly political but it shouldn't just be the case when the election is uncontested. I don't see why this is only when things are uncontested, if you really wanted to openly declare that Honi is openly political, people should be able to have cross campaigning all the time. I really dislike this grovelling to Riki Scanlan as though the Electoral Officer's report should be learned by heart. The EO is not objective, they were a member of grassroots back in the day no one involved is not objective, and this argument is just hinting that the EO and grassroots have more in common.

Alex Poirier spoke to the motion saying that generally in the media and arts alliance journalists aren't supposed to take part in the elections, just report on them. And I think we shouldn't have journalists campaigning outside their own elections.

Moved: Vince Tafea

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

The motion was put and **FAILED**.

Q9. The SRC condemns the violence against and arrests of protesters at the SEC Plating picket on Friday 27 June 2025

Preamble:

At 6am on Friday 27 June, NSW police arrested four protestors and one legal observer at the community picket of SEC Plating in Belmore, on Bidjigal Land. Many more were brutalised, one was illegally strip-searched, and one protester hospitalised.

This was the fourth community picket of SEC Plating organised by Weapons out of the West (WoW). SEC Plating is a key player in the production of weapons components and technology, such as the plating, engineering coatings and finishes for F-35 fighter jets used by Israel to conduct its genocide in Gaza. It has contracts with a number of weapons' manufacturers, including Thales, Ferra, and BAE Systems.

As a student union, we stand in solidarity with our fellow community members, activists and unionists that were attacked, and we vehemently oppose this new example of state repression.

Reports from protesters and legal observers in attendance state that people were choked, slammed into fences, and beaten for questioning the legality of the order. Hannah Thomas was dragged along the ground and then denied first aid from medics despite having an eye injury that later required surgery and may lead to her losing sight in that eye. Another protester was brutally strip searched in public and in the cold.

Legal Observers NSW affirmed that the police issuing a move on order for the reason of individuals causing "fear and alarm" and the protest being "unauthorised," neither of which are valid reasons for the issuing of a move on order to a public assembly. Even those who complied with the move on order were arrested.

Police have said that this incident is not being formally investigated as a critical incident, despite the widespread coverage on social media and in the news about the brutalising of protesters. Since, Labor's Home Affairs Minister, Tony Burke, simply stated that "no one is above the law" to brush off this incident of overreaching police powers and violence.

Platform:

1. The SRC condemns NSW Police for these actions against peaceful protesters and the refusal to investigate them
2. The SRC recognises and condemns the fact that State and Federal Labor governments' vilification of pro-Palestine protesters has enabled and emboldens such police violence
3. The SRC supports calls for the repealing of Chris Minns' unconstitutional and undemocratic anti-protest laws and applauds the recent case brought by Palestine Action Group to the NSW Supreme Court
4. The SRC condemns the mainstream media for their lack of reporting on the incident and their victim-blaming rhetoric

5. The SRC supports calls for NSW Police and the Minns Government to investigate, take accountability, and stop their complicity in stifling protest against genocide

Actions:

1. The SRC President will write to the NSW Premier and Police Commissioner (cc'ing or including the Vice-Presidents and General Secretaries in the email) expressing the above platform
2. The SRC's office bearers and councillors will commit resources to supporting rallies and campaigns against the crackdown on the right to protest, and to support victims of anti-protest measures and laws
3. The SRC will commit to better promoting attendance of and resources for protests

Discussion:

Grace Street spoke to the motion saying that we put together a post on this and the media has been focusing on the Hannah Thomas on this, but it should not just being a big event that get the attention, this is the cumulation of years and years of anti-protest laws coming in and thus is about attacks on anyone who isn't a Zionist. We had this same discussion at NUS Ed.Con and there were a number of Labor and independent groups saying that protests don't work or get bad attention. But we need to not back down and we need to point out that it shouldn't take a high-profile person getting hurt to draw attention to what is happening.

Aron Khuc spoke to the motion echoing grace that if Hannah wasn't a high-profile figure it would have just been victim blaming, as we've seen with so many other people in the past. Adding that you could be brutalised or even detained for participating in a peaceful protest. And that Minns is increasing the pays to the police who brutalise people pointing out.

Jessica Heap spoke to the motion and thanked the movers and said that the right to protest has been eroding for a time and is has been escalated under Minns.

Yoshi Leung said they I agreed that the Minns' government has escalated the attacks on the right to protest. The Labor government has rewarded the police with a 40% pay increase for attacking protesters, and the religious protest bill was from the caravan hoax, and yet still pushed through. They say no one is above the law but Israel is above the law when they sell them weapons, Minns was above the law when he lied to get these anti protest laws through, and I think if we let this precedent be set, the attack on anti-war protesters will continue. There is a way to protest wrong and that is to not be in opposition to what Labor is doing. Adding they liked Hannah Thomas' statement calling Minns out for allowing this to happen and being opposition to Labor like we all need to be.

Rose Donnelly said that she wanted to speak to this motion and condemn the Minns Labor government. The police act for the government and at the moment the NSW Labor party is against workers. They give the cops a pay rise and ignore everyone else. We've seen people shutting down condemnation of Israel and the IDF, being silenced at Glastonbury, calling it violent language, even as the IDF literally shoots civilians.

Vince Tafea – It won't be to long till these actions will be moved from anti-war activists, to the unions, there is opposition to Minns within Labor and concern about what he is doing. Minns said happy birthday to Israel 2 years into them committing a genocide. NSW Labor is particularly right wing, and particularly brutal.

Jess Heap spoke to the motion and spoke about the public back lack, and how it was so large that the NSW police are now investigating this - they should not be as it is a conflict of interests – but it is good to see that it has scared the state actors that people are outraged at this.

Moved: Grace Street

Seconded: Aron Khuc

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

There was a 15 minute break called at 8:59pm in line with the regulations.

There was a quorum count at 9:15pm

The meeting was found quorate at 9:20pm

The meeting resumed at 9:21pm

Q4. Universal and accessible healthcare now: Free vaccinations for students at university

On Tuesday 27 May, the SRC's General Secretary, Grace Street, and Disabilities Collective initiated an influenza vaccination drive for undergraduate students. The primary aim was increasing the availability to and accessibility of vaccination by removing the cost, time and uncertainty barriers for students. The secondary aim was that of increasing awareness around sickness prevention and community strength and care, linking with the larger Disabilities Collective (Dis.Co) campaign to encourage the wearing of masks and protecting vulnerable people.

More than half of people in this country are not getting vaccinated and this comes at the risk of vulnerable students who are carers or work with vulnerable people. The flu has its greatest impact on those with chronic health conditions, the elderly, First Nations peoples, and pregnant people. Upon seeing that the University was offering a flu vaccination scheme for staff, we had the idea of replicating it for students. Using the same company, AusVacs, a pilot scheme for students went ahead with a three-hour session last week and the opportunity for up to 100 undergraduate students to otherwise receive a voucher to independently get a free vaccination at a later date.

The pilot was a great success, with strong engagement and positive feedback from undergraduate students throughout the process of launching, promoting, and enacting. Over 60 students were vaccinated on campus during the three-hour session. This would have been a greater number if not for some students being sick and unable to get the vaccination as planned and if not for the

busyness of students in Week 13. Almost all of the students completed an anonymous feedback form after their vaccination or after receiving a voucher.

The results are clear: students loved the idea and the scheme, and they want to see it again on a larger scale and regular basis.

- The majority of respondents indicated that they probably would not have received a flu vaccination this year if not for the scheme, which highlights the importance of it being offered at the University.
- In response to the question *“how easy was the process of finding out about, registering for, and receiving your vaccination/voucher?”* the average rating from 70 responses was 4.66 (out of 5 stars).
- For the question *“how would you rate this free vaccination/voucher program overall, considering cost and health benefits for students and our community?”* the average rating from 70 responses was 4.93 (out of 5 stars). Many students noted that they required vaccinations for placements or that they were students from overseas or of low socioeconomic status who wished they had more support from the University in this regard.

The constructive feedback was mostly limited to issues associated with the program being run on a small scale by student representatives, namely the lack of University-wide communications, the lack of available appointments, and lack of clear communication about the location through the AusVacs system. Otherwise, everything was overwhelmingly positive, and students were very grateful for their health being thought about.

We call on the University to partner with the SRC and other representative bodies to host vaccination drives on a larger scale and with the increased frequency that is needed to make the program a success. In a similar way to FoodHub being an initiative brought to life by the SRC who saw a need and found a solution that now is on a larger scale with the USU, universal and accessible vaccinations have now been tried and tested. The demand, the results, and the feedback are clear – now all the University has to do is work with us on it.

Of course, healthcare and providing community care during a cost-of-living crisis goes beyond just vaccinations. We see that students face various barriers – such as time, language, money, accessibility, location – that prevent them from getting the services they need, whether that be vaccinations, GP visits, STD check-ups, getting contraceptives, and more. This is just one piece of the puzzle, but an important one that will hopefully protect more of our community this flu season and set the stage for future healthcare and community care initiatives.

Mover: Grace Street

Second: Remy Lebreton

WITHDRAWN.

Q10. Universal and accessible healthcare now: Free vaccinations for students at university

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Platform:

1. The SRC recognises the need for universal and accessible healthcare for all students
2. The SRC recognises its role in fighting for students' rights and the importance of the University and government providing free services to account for the various barriers facing students
3. The SRC recognises the flow-on effects for our broader community that come from vaccination and other services that increase immunity, stop the spread of disease, and raise awareness

Actions:

1. The SRC will support attempts to make this a University-wide and University-funded initiative
2. The SRC will, in future, support the promotion of such schemes and initiatives with the use of its full resources, such as social media posts, mailing lists, posters, and stalling

Discussion:

Grace street spoke to the motion and spoke about the SRC's vaccination drive in response to the uni running a staff one but that did not extend to student and spoke about how this was run to show the uni is was valuable and worth investing in,. This is not to say we should be running it ourselves, as we have limited resources. But this was received well and we got the data to back

that up, and we've taken this to DAP people as this intersects closely with their work and we hope to push this and escalate this and we hope that to can be pushed out to all students and we know the SRC does have a mailing list but we weren't able to use that for this, and hope that we can see this done more in the future,

Remy Lebreton spoke to the motion saying if anyone wants to take anything masking block please do fill that out, so we have the data to show people are using it so we can get funding for this and show there is support for it. As we know vaccines work and so do masks, we've had a spike in covid and flu is up this year as well. Students and staff need to feel safe on campus and people are not getting vaccinated. We got a really positive responses from student many of who said they would not have otherwise have gotten vaccinated.

Aron Khuc spoke to the motion saying that that so many said they would not get a vaccine otherwise speaks to the cost of living crisis and that cost is a barrier. We know that there are many barriers for students to get their vaccine, and I'm glad the SRC did this, but the uni should be taking on this cost considering how much Mark Scott is earning.

Vince Tafea said that this was a great initiative and was happy with all the work done, but wanted to acknowledge this was spear headed by the General Secretary Grace Street, and on the day and the level of outreach we did through this was really great. Adding that they had asked students if they knew about the SRC who came in for this and they didn't, and this shows that these programs are really good outreach opportunity.

Alex Poirier said that the Conservatorium Students Association (CSA) helped promote this and thought it was really great. Adding that if music students get lung impacting illnesses many can lose their degree, and livelihoods. Other Uni's offer this to all students and USyd is bigger so should be doing this even just for the social impact of herd immunity. It would be great to see this expanded to other vaccines as well - not paid for by us. A lot of Con students got access to this though the vouchers promoted by the CSA and this was great to see more of this and maybe even a SRC newsletter.

Grace Street said she wanted to respond there, that she agrees but the flu shot was what we had set up for and on the mailing list, I know that Angus used it for his own event, the next week but not for that, and also note that our TikTok was taken down which was about the vaccine program, it was called offensive but I'm not sure how as it was about vaccine dive. Wanted to thank the CSA for their support

Moved: Grace Street

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q11. We need more public housing, not more privatisation and police.

Preamble:

Despite NSW ALP Housing Minister Rose Jackson's 2023 promise to keep 82 Wentworth Park 100% publicly owned, the estate is now boarded up and a week away from demolition. Residents evicted by the NSW Liberal Government have not been rehoused or moved back in by the new Labor NSW Government, and some of the former residents are sleeping unhoused across the road in Wentworth park. Residents of other public housing estates in Waterloo, Maroubra, Mascot, Kingsford, and South Eveleigh have also received eviction notices. The waitlist for public housing in NSW has gone up from 6,000 to 67,000 in the past two years alone. The Labor government has consistently prioritised profit over people, putting the interests of property investors and developers over the needs of the people, following the Liberal party's example.

Our state governments continue to push aside the dignity and lives of public housing tenants. Evicting people and demolishing existing homes during a cost-of-living crisis is perverse and sickening. Instead of retrofitting and upgrading older estates, the Labor government has used this opportunity to sneakily demolish and rebuild private and social housing, instead of public housing.

It has almost been two years since police shot and killed Jesse Deacon who was in severe mental breakdown at a Glebe public housing estate. He is being remembered in the upcoming *Memorial March: Justice for Jesse* at 1pm on Saturday July 19 at Sydney Town Hall being organised by Judy Deacon (Jesse's mother), Action for Public Housing, Justice Action, Sydney Socialist Alliance, Greens NSW, Hands Off Glebe, Australia-NZ Lived Experience Advisory Council for Police Related Deaths (ANZLEACPRD), and other groups.

The Facebook event states that "justice for Jesse Deacon and all the other victims of police violence occurring while someone is experiencing a mental health crisis, is a call for:

1. An end to the senseless killing of mentally ill community members by police.
2. Mental illness is a health problem, not a police problem. We want an end to sending police into mental health crisis cases.
3. Provide specially trained mental health first responders programs nationally, to replace police.
4. The federal government, with new infrastructure, must immediately fund the development and expansion of '000' to include the addition of a mental health response hotline so people can call mental health workers, not police.
5. Relevant governments must reinstate supported, quality and dignified accommodation for mentally ill people, fully federally funded, and free. We need a massive funding injection with no diminished rights embedded in the structure for mental health, government run, quality services.
6. End police investigating police. End police impunity from the time of the incident, not the time of the court outcomes. Accountability and repercussions are currently not in place.
7. Implement any Coroners' Recommendations from cases involving police killing people in mental distress."

It is not just about housing and having a roof over one's head. It is about the human right to shelter, the supposed promise to public housing tenants that they will be secure and be there for life, a quality of life, and caring for vulnerable people in our community.

Platform:

1. The SRC recognises that rising cost-of-living stress exacerbates mental health problems among our community
2. The SRC condemns the actions of previous Liberal and current Labor state governments to evict, sell-off, demolish, and privatise public housing
3. The SRC recognises that the state and police force are worsening the current mental health crisis, between the underfunding of services, police violence and inappropriate interventions, and reduction of public housing
4. The SRC condemns these policy decisions for their disproportionate impacts on First Nations peoples, who bear the brunt of state and police violence, mental health issues, and housing instability.

Actions:

1. SRC office bearers and councillors will build and attend the *Memorial March: Justice for Jesse* protest on Saturday July 19, 1pm at Sydney Town Hall
2. The SRC will commit its resources to supporting action for public housing campaigns
3. SRC office bearers and councillors will attend the rally this Saturday at 10am for 82 Wentworth Park Road

Discussion:

Dana Kafina spoke to the motion saying that Rose Jackson promised to keep it all public housing, it has now be boarded up. Noting there was a Labor for housing event on the weekend yet housing is now harder to get, and public housing is closing, people are waiting longer and longer for housing and Labor isn't doing anything to help.

Ishbel Dunmore spoke to the motion and said that the timing to launch Labor for housing and noting that Rose Jackson was elected on the back that she would keep public housing open, is disgraceful, she spoke to public housing tenants saying they were going to keep it open, but they are closing public housing for a new fish market. There are people are sleeping rough when there are empty apartments nearby, and Labor is more interested in protecting developers needs than peoples.

Tobias Hansson spoke to the motion saying that this is a really clear indication of where Labor's priorities lie, we are in a housing and cost of living crisis, the NDIS , mental health, and public health are all in shambles. Asking Where is the budget for these? There is a billion dollars for developers, money for a movie studio, and nothing for ordinary working people. This is further emblemised with the pay increases to the police. The government would rather see people shot in

the street, than see people have access to quality, affordable, or public housing.

Moved: Luke Mešterović

Seconded: Dana Kafina

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 9:41pm.