



src activism
advocacy
representation

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

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MINUTES:

of the 7th regular meeting of the 95th SRC held on **Wednesday the 2nd of August 2023**. Meeting held in the **New Law School Lecture Theatre 104**, and via Zoom.

*A quorum count was called at 6:11pm
The meeting was found quorate.*

A. Meeting open at 6:20 pm

A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Tiger Perkins 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

Satvik Sharma
Emily Mackay
Cooper Gannon
Qiana Harvey
Bryson Constable
Thomas Thorpe
Simone Maddison to Iggy Boyd
Akee Elliot to Kiera Garland
Daniel O'Shea to Daniel Bowron
Eliza Crossley to Grace Street
Jasmine Donnelly to Henri Collyer
Honey Christensen to Jamie Bridge

The apologies were noted.

D. Changes to Membership

E. Electoral Report

E1. Consideration of any resignations

Emily Mackay resigned from exec and from council, and therefore from Exec as well.

Motion: That the Council accept the resignations.

Moved: Yasmin Andrews

Seconded: Victor Zhang

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

E2. Report of the Electoral Officer

Notice of the 2023 Annual Elections for the Students' Representative Council.

All University of Sydney students enrolled in undergraduate degrees or diplomas, or as other non-degree students, are eligible to vote in or nominate for the Annual Elections.

Nominations are called for the following elections/positions:

Election	Number of Positions
President	1
Representatives to the 96th Council	37
Editor(s) of Honi Soit	1 (Up to 10 people may jointly nominate.)
Delegates to the National Union of Students	7

Nominations will be accepted online from 9:00am July 24th 2023 via the SRC nominations page bit.ly/SRC-noms. The close of nominations shall be at 5:00pm August 18th 2023. For more information on how to nominate, please refer to the Candidate Information Pack available on the SRC website at: bit.ly/SRC-noms

On-campus polling will be held on the 19th, 20th, and 21st, September 2023.

- Jane Foss Russell: Tuesday – Thursday, 8:45am – 5:15pm
- Fisher Library: Wednesday & Thursday, 8:45am – 5:15pm
- Manning House: Wednesday, 10:45am – 3:15pm
- Conservatorium of Music: Wednesday, 10:30am – 3:30pm
- Susan Wakil Health Building: Thursday, 10:45am – 3:15pm
- Peter Nicol Russell Building: Thursday, 10:45am – 3:15pm

Voters who are unable to vote in-person at the specified times above are able to request an online absentee vote via bit.ly/SRC-vote

The SRC Elections are conducted according to the SRC Constitution and Regulations, which are available here: bit.ly/SRC-regs. Appeals to the decisions of the EO can be directed to the ELA via ela@src.usyd.edu.au. For further information, please contact the Electoral Officer via elections@src.usyd.edu.au.

The number of Representatives was set at 37: on the day before the Notice was released, on the latest information available, there was 36,880 students enrolled, with one Representative apportioned to each thousand students or part thereof, raised to the next odd number if it is even. That means there are 37 Representative.

Motion: That the Council accept the report of the Electoral Officer.

Moved: Yasmin Andrews

Seconded: Victor Zhang

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Minutes of the 6th regular meeting of 95th SRC Council held on 5th of July 2023 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the 5th of July 2023 be accepted.

Moved: Grace Porter

Seconded: Victor 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.

Daniel Bowron asked Lia how was it going?

Lia Perkins responded she was tired from Welcome Week.

Alex Poirier asked how did we go with handing out Welcome Week Planners?

Lia Perkins replied that we still have leftovers to put on stands.

I. Visitor's Business

There was no business for this item.

J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

K. Elections

- K1. Election of 3 Indigenous Students' Officer/s ****
- K2. Election of 4 Mature Age Students' Officer/s**
- K3. Election of 3 Ethno-Cultural Officer/s ****
- K4. Election of 1 member the Executive Committee
(opens with the acceptance of Emily MacKay's resignation)**

Nomination: Matylda Hayne

There being no other nominations Matylda Hayne was declared elected unopposed of as a general member of the executive committee of the 95th SRC.

** Affirmative action and Active member requirement provisions apply
(Part 1 section 4 and 4A, of the regulations)

L. Report of the President and Executive

L1. Executive Minutes

Minutes of the Executive meetings from the 26th of June to the 11th of July 2023

Motion: that the minutes of the executive meetings from 26th of June to the 11th of July 2023 be accepted.

Moved: Jack Scanlan

Seconded: Daniel Bowron

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

L2. Report of the Executive

Report of the executive from the 3rd of May to the 31st of July 2023.

The report was circulated and noted.

The President deferred the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson.

L3. President's Report

Lia Perkins tabled a written report:

The majority of August has been the Uni Semester break, but that hasn't stopped things going on at the SRC.

Activism

Save Lee Point – No Defence Housing on Larrakia Country

- I attended the action outside Tanya Plibersek's office on the issue of defence housing being built without the consent of traditional owners on Larrakia Country. This was a powerful rally, and the Black Lives Matter rally on August XXX has the same demand

End unpaid student placements

- As we go into Semester 2, more students will be completing placements without any compensation for their labour. Unpaid placements were mentioned in the Universities Accord interim report, but real action was not committed to – and subsidies and one-off payments are not enough.
- For this campaign, I've been part of the organising group and attended the forum we ran earlier this month. I also spoke on radio to Disrupt Media about unpaid student placements.

Concession Opal Cards for International Students

- We've started a group organising around concession Opal cards for international students with SUPRA and students from UNSW. We want the NSW to end discrimination against International Students as extra levies on international students are completely unfair (including that proposed in the Universities Accord).
- We're hosting a forum on August 11th.

5-day Simple Extensions

- 5-day simple extensions came to the Academic Board on Tuesday 11th. Prior to the meeting, I arranged meetings with SUPRA and student reps to speak to academic members about the importance of Simple Extensions. We also put together statements for social media, and made a submission based on our survey, and myself and other student reps spoke to this in the meeting. It was a tight vote, and it's necessary to understand the importance of student unions as the only bodies consistently standing up for student interests, support and rights.

More + upcoming

- I attended the Women's Collective strategy day and working bee
- On Sunday 23rd I went to the Refugee Action Coalitions' Labor's Refugee Shame Rally at Town Hall. It was important to highlight the uncertainty and pain that Labor's refugee policies perpetuate.
- There's the LGBTQI+ rally Defend Trans rights and stop the religious discrimination bill on Saturday, join the student contingent!
- On Weds 9th August there's the NUS Welfare not Warfare rally, starting at USyd <https://www.facebook.com/events/517575337169578>
- On Thursday 10th August the SRC is supporting a Yarn Circle organised by the Sydney Peace Foundation on the Voice to Parliament <https://srcusyd.net.au/ents/event/68/>
- On Saturday 19th August there's the Black Lives Still Matter rally at Town Hall - there'll be a motion for the SRC supporting this later

Sem 2 Welcomes

I spoke at two International Student Welcomes and the FASS Welcome, and the SRC occupied stalls at the International Student Welcomes, Engineering Welcome and Business School Welcome. I was pleased to add engineering to our schedule after liaising with the faculty and I hope it is a fixture of our welcomes going forward. Thanks to everyone who helped at these

welcomes – Tiger, Jasmine, Ishbel, Rand, Rose, Daniel, Harrison and Victor.

It was great to have so many collectives active and excited for the Sem 2 Welcome, which is usually much smaller than what we achieved this year. Hopefully this is a good sign for the semester to come.

SRC

- I attended a Privacy and Data resilience workshop with the Administration Manager. It provided a few suggestions for improvements on our privacy and data protection, which I will be looking into over the coming months.
- I organised a clean up of the Ish Varlin OB Room – thanks to those who attended! It helped make the space more functional going into the semester.
- Later this month Chitra, the SRC's Administration Manager will be returning from maternity leave, and we will be saying goodbye to Paula who has been working with us over the past year. I'd like to thank Paula for all of her assistance and work in the SRC, and wish her the best for the future!
- I'm putting together a submission from the SRC to the Senate Inquiry on the Worsening Rental Crisis in NSW, highlighting much of the activism we've done this year about the dire state of renting for students, the lack of student accommodation and the disaster of rent increases.
- The Universities Accord Interim review was released earlier this month. On the whole, very few commitments have been made and students are left in the dark about whether we'll continue having to pay increased fees and complete unpaid student placements. The levy on International Students is concerning and should be scrapped – the government has enough money to fund education and research and perpetuating the cycle of International Students funding education and receiving poor treatment. I provided comment to Honi here: <http://honisoit.com/2023/08/higher-education-reforms-announced-by-labor-government-as-accord-interim-report-released/>

Committees

- Academic Board – A big focus of the meeting was on 5-day simple extensions, which I've outlined above. Another important change at the meeting was the introduction of the University's anti-racism statement. I spoke to student reps prior to the meeting, and in the meeting I expressed support for the anti-racism statement, but concern about the inclusion of the IHRA definition of antisemitism in the references. For resources on this see: <https://www.ijvcanada.org/unveilingthechillyclimate/> and <https://www.notoihra.com/>
- Undergraduate Studies Committee
- Scams and Student Safety
- UE Education
- Academic Standards and Policy Committee - a large number of changes to the student discipline rule were discussed at this meeting. I raised concerns over a large number of these. I find the most concerning change the inclusion of a reference to unlawful and criminal behaviour, which I believe may be used against students who participate in protest action. I'll be making a statement about the rest of the changes ahead of the academic board. I managed to make a change to the confidentiality

clause, which will give students the opportunity to request removal of confidentiality at the conclusion of the investigation.

Motion to accept the report of the President.

Moved: Jordan Anderson

Seconded: Yasmin Andrews

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

M. Report of the Vice-Presidents

Daniel Bowron and Rose Donnelly tabled a written report:

Welcome Week

Congratulations to all involved for a very successful S2 Welcome Week! We hope that you all enjoyed the zine :))

FoodHub

Foodhub has been going strong on its new 5-day opening schedule, with approximately 60 visitors daily over the Semester break and more than 200 sign-ins on Monday 31 July. A FoodHub Working Group has been established with the SRC VPs and USU representatives, which has met multiple times already and will continue to meet throughout Semester to discuss FoodHub's operations and direction.

CALL OUT: We are once again asking for FoodHub volunteers. Our new worker James has been overwhelmed by the demand for Foodhub, so the USU has asked if the SRC is able to provide volunteers in the hours of 10am-2pm. 10am to 12pm: most helpful times.

The volunteer work will be standing in FoodHub only, with no heavy lifting.

Voice BBQ

The USyd Students for the Voice campaign held a BBQ event with the National Union of Students on Tuesday 1 August at the Manning sunken lawns.

Aunty Norma spoke about how Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people have been the custodians of the land for over 60,000 years. She spoke about how a voice for Indigenous people to advise parliament about issues concerning Indigenous people will be beneficial because it will be an honest representation of issues facing the community. She spoke about how she believes a voice to parliament will help close the gap. (2022 report

here: <https://www.niaa.gov.au/sites/default/files/publications/niaa-closing-the-gap-annual-report-2022.pdf>

The event was very successful and well-attended and thanks to everyone here who showed their face!

Upcoming:

- Postering for the Voice: 10th of August,
- Strategy Meeting, 12th of August - join our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/751978086681322/>
- We have Rachel Bos coming back in for voice training, time TBA to make sure we are as educated as we can be around the referendum.

Student Leadership Training

Once again, we encourage everyone to get involved and attend training sessions when available. Keep an eye on the 95th SRC group for future announcements.

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

Moved: Grace Porter

Seconded: Gerard Buttigieg

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

N. Report of the General Secretaries

Jasmine Donnelly and Tiger Perkins tabled a written report

- Welcome week
 - Thanks to everyone who helped out with the stalls, it was rly great to chat to so many students, propagandise them and talk about the src and upcoming events.
 - We've got plenty of leftover flyers and merch so keep an eye out for posts about helping on mini stalls in the coming weeks to get rid of the remaining stuff
- Rad Ed week
 - Will be known as the Festival of Radical Thinking this year and will take place August 22-25 (week 4), put it in the calendars
 - Sessions are being planned by a range of great organisers all keen to get a hold of interesting speakers and host sessions w engaging formats!
- Congrats also to Ishbel on her excellent panel at the Green Left housing forum!
- Wentworth building future, attended a meeting on its future and found out some potentially worrying information about the extension of industry partnerships on campus
 - Also published an honi article on this, this excerpt will fill u in on what's happening:
 - This integration of industry onto campus, a seemingly integral part of the plan, would bring USyd up to speed with the rest of the Go8 Universities - when questioned on exactly that and on whether Thales Group would be included in this, Robinson noted that existing partnerships with companies such as QANTAS, Rio Tinto and Microsoft would provide a frame of reference to be expanded and upscaled. Although UE will have the final say, one can imagine that this expanded relationship with industry, with scope for closer relationships, head office outposts of private companies on campus and on-site jobs for students may include such companies as Thales Group
- Contestable funding
 - After a long wait in what feels like a very drawn out process that was very time-consuming during the application phase, we can confirm the following funding has been granted to the src through the contestable ssaf process
 - \$10,000 further for ut WW activities
 - \$12,000 for rad ed and rad sex and consent weeks
 - \$24,662 for stipends for Disabilities, Ethno and Indigenous OBs
 - \$7,769 to promote the SRC elections
 - \$2,750 for SRC policy and procedures overview

- \$5,500 to maintain the honi website
- \$0 for our 100+ years of international students project as that will apparently come through student life instead
- We are very pleased to have received the vast majority of funding for almost every project that we applied for!
- Accordingly, we are happy to present you with the full budget of the 95th SRC, which may be of some interest to you. Previously it has only been the breakdown of OB budgets and collectives, here you can see in much greater detail where all the SRC's money goes:

SASH		1500
Student Accom		500
Social Justice		500
Queer		3800
Welfare		3000
Women's	Department Discretionary	6580
Honi Soit	Department Discretionary	9000
Total		63,000
Total of collectives/budg		709,403
NUS		
<u>Item</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	
Affiliation		58,455
Conferences		18,500
Total		76,955
SRC legal service		
<u>Item</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	
Salaries		202,060.00
Employee costs		1000
Operational		13,000
Total		216,060.00
Publications		
<u>Item</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	
Salaries		198,935.00
Other employee costs		2860
Administration		2,000
Marketing + publications		2,000
Operational (inc Honi print		56,000
Total		261,795.00
SRC Casework		
<u>Item</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	
Salaries		774,318.00

95th University of Sydney Students' Representative Council

Income		
SSAF		2,434,569
Honi adverts	2,871.88 as of 01/08/23	
Expenditure		
	Projected	
Base		2,371,888
Contestable		62,681
Net deficit or surplus		
Department	Office	Allocation
Administration	n/a	8,000
Executive	Department discretionary	0
	President's stipend	46,692.00
	Vice President's stipend	31,127.41
	General Secretary's stiper	31,127.41
Office Bearer Stipend	Education Officers	31,127.41
	Women's Officers	31,127.41
Honi Soit	Honi Editors	112,500
Total		291,701.64
Office Bearer Budgets		
Education	Department Discretionary	19000
Disabilities		3220
Environment		6900
First Nations		\$1,100
Global Solidarity		500
ACAR		4200
Intercampus		300
Interfaith		300
International Students		2000
Refugee Rights		600
SASH		1500

Salaries	774,318.00
Other employee costs	5,600
Marketing and Publications	12,000
Administration	2,000
Operational	2,000
Total	795,918.00

Administration	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Salaries	473,830.00
Other employee costs	6,626
Utility and maintenance	2,000
Administration	76,000
Operations	26,500.00
Total	584,956.00

Elections	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Salaries	53,500
Marketing and publications	3,000
Operational	7,000
Total	63,500

Orientation and transition	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Administration	2,000
Marketing and publications	15,000
Operational	9,000
Total	26,000

CONTESTABLE ☰ Contestable Fund...

Contestable Funding	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Semester 2 Welcome Week	10,000
Student Weeks	12,000
Election Promotion	7,769
SRC Policy and Procedure	2,750
Maintenance of Honi Soit	5,500
Office-bearer Stipends	24,662
Total	62,681

Discussion:

Deaglan Godwin asked why there were not stipends for Global Solidarity, Social Justice and Environment, and suggested that stipends requested from contestable funding appear to be factional.

Tiger Perkins responded saying it was not a factional decision, it was on the basis of which Office Bearers' were representing autonomous identity-based collectives, we would love to have applied for all Officer Bearer positions to have a stipend, but the uni wasn't going to do that, we looked at who were having the most challenges and made requests so we only applied for three. We didn't know if this would be successful and we plan to apply for more in the base uplift funding next year as well.

Deaglan Godwin asked why not split the funding across more positions then?

Tiger Perkins replied saying then it would be a tiny amount of money for each office bearer.

Lia Perkins asked in that case of the Education Officer's stipends should also be split across

Deaglan Godwin said no as their stipends were set by the constitution

Lia Perkins clarified that it was not in the constitution but the regulations

Deaglan Godwin suggested that was a semantic difference

Tiger Perkins noted that the whole thing was a bureaucratic argument and suggesting it is factional is wrong adding that only one of the office bearers getting a stipend from this is in switch/grassroots.

Alexander Poirier asked when the next SAFF allocation was occurring.

Lia Perkins said that it will be in the 4th quarter of 2023m but not set date was known, adding that the current Exec had a number of suggestions to take to the incoming executive from the upcoming elections about what to look into applying for next year.

Alexander Poirier asked about next year's budget and these stipend decisions

Lia Perkins noted that this years exec approved these stipends and if people were wanting to do more to talk to the Executive.

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

Moved: Harrison Brennan

Seconded: Tim Duff

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O. Report of Committees and Officers

O1. Report of the Education Officers

Ishbel Dunsmore and Yasmine Johnson tabled a written report

We're back on campus for semester two! On Monday and Tuesday we were out letting students know about our upcoming projects and events for the semester.

The first rally coming up is the Welfare Not Warfare national day of action on August 9. Students are facing a deepening housing and cost of living crisis. At the same time, there are near-constant announcements of both more spending on importing weaponry, and defence deals which are part of the government's project of putting Australia in the top 10 global weapons exporters. We'll be rallying against the AUKUS deal, which commits Australia to a dangerous drive to war with China.

This rally, which we were involved in organising at the National Union of Students Education Conference, is demanding:

1. No to the AUKUS military alliance
2. Money for welfare and housing, not nuclear submarines
3. No to universities collaborating with AUKUS and the military
4. No nuclear waste dumps on Aboriginal land

We've organised a cross-collective meeting with the Welfare Action Group and Enviro Collective for this Friday, at 3pm in New Law. We also have new anti-war, anti-nuclear merch on the way, hopefully in time for this protest! Check out the event here: <https://fb.me/e/3HkNuikUG>

ANU staff took half-day strike action on July 27, demanding better pay and conditions. Enterprise bargaining campaigns are ongoing at universities around the country. We stand in solidarity with these campaigns and their fight for pay raises that don't see workers' living standards forced backwards by the cost of living crisis.

We've also been supporting the Students Against Placement Poverty campaign, and in the last month saw the launch of the grassroots, student-led campaign nationally. Keep an eye out by liking the campaign on Facebook, here:

<https://www.facebook.com/StudentsAgainstPlacementPoverty> or on instagram

@sapp_endplacementpoverty . Read the report about the national launch here:

<http://honisoit.com/2023/07/were-the-workers-of-the-future-so-we-should-be-treated-right-students-launch-national-campaign-against-placement-poverty/>

The interim Universities Accords report was also released recently. This document demonstrates the priorities of the federal government around higher education - continuing to gear it towards the needs of Australian industry. The interim report isn't about getting rid of the idea that students should pay for the majority of their degree, or massively boosting government funding to improve the quality of education. Aside from recommending the abolition of the 50% pass rule, the report fails to decisively recommend the repealing of the differential fee model introduced by the Jobs-Ready Graduates package. The report centres on the idea that the key role of universities should be to provide skilled graduates and research which is beneficial to the economy. The report

also fails to recommend or mention solutions to tackle the crisis in student accommodation, particularly the colleges, especially as it relates to the culture of sexual violence and classism that permeates these spaces. Students have the right to safe and affordable housing.

We'll also be supporting the August 19th Black Lives Still Matter: Still Here, Still Fighting rally at 12PM outside Sydney Town Hall. We've been building this rally during O-Week and intend to send a student contingent as well because even despite the mass BLM rallies 3 years ago, we continue to hear more reports of police brutality, violent racism and institutional abuse against Indigenous people. We need to take back the streets in protest to ensure First Nations people don't remain statistics in the national mind and that the families and communities of victims killed in custody feel solidarity in demanding accountability and justice. Join us in a few week's time to demand:

1. Stop the war on Black youth
2. Stop the war on Black lives
3. Stop the war on Black land

Event here: <https://fb.me/e/2RCCePrXq>

See you on the streets!

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

Moved: Harrison Brennan

Seconded: Rose Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O2. Report of the Women's Officers

Iggy Boyed and Alev Saracoglu tabled a written report

The Women's Collective has been getting back into the rhythm of things after a long semester break. Before the end of semester, we held a campaign strategy day to plan for the next semester and discuss what members of the Collective wanted to do and accomplish in Semester 2. We created a timeline for our plans, started envisaging the theme for Women's Honi, which will be in Week 7, and chatted about potential approaches and ideas for Radical Pride and Consent Week.

Welcome Week was exciting, giving us the opportunity to reach a broad variety of students, raise awareness about issues of sexual violence on and off campus and encourage involvement in those feminist struggles. During this time End Rape on Campus (EROC) and Fair Agenda called a snap action for the sixth anniversary of the Change the Course Report on sexual harassment and sexual violence at universities to highlight management's criminal disregard for students. This comes in light of the University Accords Interim Report, and recent stories about Universities Australia dumping a taxpayer-funded \$1.5 million consent campaign after taking the money. On brand with USyd's criminal complicity in rape on campus alongside routine destruction of relevant data, the university seeks to cover its track by releasing an internal report on their sexual violence roadmap at the end of the month. This highlights the urgency of the more recent push to implement an expert-led independent oversight mechanism – like a Taskforce on University Sexual Violence as proposed by EROC, which we took some photos on the stall for to campaign online.

We've planned a picnic next week at Tuesday, 1pm in Victoria Park to welcome new members to the Collective and discuss feminist issues on and off campus, all those who identify as women and/or non-binary are welcome.

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

Moved: Grace Porter

Seconded: Zoe Coles

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

03. Report of the Queer Officers

QuAC's June started with a queer officer delivering a workshop at Provocations conference in early July about queer and disability anti-capitalist activism.

As the year progresses we are continuing to see the rise of hate-speech entering the public discourse with a growing number of rallies on the street. As recently as July 18th, members of QuAC monitored such an event in Hyde Park advertised as a "Leave the Kids Alone" rally, drawing in a crowd of roughly 150 people. Many of the speakers from this event have come out of the anti-vaxx movement, having been prominent on social media. There were numerous chants and signs denouncing the existence of queer people, even going to the extreme of the statement "LGBTQ = paedophilia" claiming that queer folks are inherently groomers. Not only was this event a showing of the rapid growth of the anti-queer sentiments throughout Sydney, but that even in the face of blatant injustice and violence, the cops will not protect marginalised communities. In a confrontation with a member of a crowd, a cop misidentified one of the speakers as a counter-protester, dragging her out for questioning with the force to leave bruises down her arm. After questioning about why she was at the event, they simply let her back into the crowd – once again showing that the bigots will always protect themselves.

On the 23rd, we hosted the queer contingent to the Refugee Action Coalition rally. We seem to have been received positively, which is nice. We have also continued building the student contingent to the upcoming LGBTQI rights rally.

Furthermore, we have also sent the reprint insert of Fagi Soit to the presses, to be included in the week 2 edition of Honi Soit. Thanks to all but four of the collectives for contributing.

This August, we will see debate begin on yet another iteration of the tired, bigoted religious discrimination bill (though this time under a different name), and a needlessly stripped-down equality bill, and so the fight continues.

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

Moved: Jack Scanlan

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

04. Report of the Refugee Rights Officers

This past month on July 19, marked 10 years since Kevin Rudd took anti-refugee policy to heights the Liberals aspired to, declaring that “refugees who come here by boat without a visa will never be settled in Australia”. Since Rudd’s announcement, refugees have suffered through a decade of torture. Hundreds were trapped in the Manus and Nauru prison camps, many died from treatable illnesses and still to this day there are refugees remaining in Papua New Guinea. Thousands of refugees are still denied the right to a permanent home and safety. On July 23rd, we joined the Tamil Refugee Council and the Refugee Action Collective to protest against 10 years of torture, and demand the Labor Government end offshore detention and grant all refugees permanent protection.

We have also been involved in building the upcoming ‘Welfare not warfare’ National Day of Action for August 9th. The Labor Government’s spending on nuclear submarines and weapons in preparation for war is making the world a more dangerous place for ordinary people and will create more refugees. Millions of refugees are already forced to flee their homes every year from war-torn countries like Syria and Afghanistan. It is really important that every Office bearer not only attends but helps to make this a success by promoting it.

Discussion:

Annabel Pettit spoke to the report covering its main points.

Amelie Roediger gave a verbal report saying that she had been organising some panels with organisations for next week to host Refugee Week on campus, we held it back till week three due to some organisations’ availability. So far attending are the Social Enterprise, the Bread and Butter Project who should be having a stall in Eastern Avenue next week and encourage everyone to come down and learn more about the work they do with Refugees. Amelie continued saying there would also be someone from the Asylum Seeker Centre coming to talk about their work, and someone from the Refugee Council to do a face to face talk about the refugee experience, and hopefully tie that into a university context.

Motion: that the report of the Refugee Rights Officers be accepted.

Moved: Zoe Coles

Seconded: Jordan Anderson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O5. Report of the Environment Officers

Last July was the hottest ever. Temperatures broke 100,000 year-old records. In Europe and the Mediterranean, wildfires have started in Greece, Algeria, Italy, Croatia, Portugal, Turkey, Spain, Tunisia, causing mass evacuations and dozens of deaths. In America, ocean temperatures off Florida reached a record-breaking 38 degrees.

This is the reality of 1C warming yet governments across the world are investing in fossil fuel expansion. In the UK, Rishi Sunak has approved 100-plus new drilling licences for the North Sea for

“as much gas and oil” as possible. In Australia, funding for the Antarctic program has been cut by 16%, right when Antarctic sea ice has reached its lowest level ever. The Australian government continues to underwrite the expansion of the Australian fossil fuel industry by approving and funding projects such as the middle arm development in Darwin.

Meanwhile, governments around the world continue greenwashing. Bizarrely, COP28 will be held in Dubai this year, under the presidency of Sultan Al Jaber, the current CEO of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company. The entire UN climate framework is bankrupt. COP is nothing more than a chance for the world’s biggest polluters to get together and make grand promises that they have no intention of following through on, while the rest of us are forced to survive on an increasingly inhospitable planet. Protesting the COP summit in November and December is a necessity.

Protest remains the only option for winning a world not run in the interests of fossil fuel capitalists and the governments that serve them.

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

Moved: Julius Whittfoth

Seconded: Gerard Buttigieg

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O6. Report of the Disabilities Officers

Hi everyone!

We, like many other collectives, finished our recruitment effort over Welcome Fest! We expect that the Disabilities Community Room -- that's the official name for our autonomous space -- will be finished in mid-October following updates from the University. There are lots of moving parts in this project as we are in the unique position of having three student organisations presiding over the same space.

We are also working on a history of our Collective alongside SUPRA. Here's a sneak peak: it was not until 1987 that we made real inroads into the SRC and then, 1988 that a Disabled Students' Committee was finally installed in the SRC Regulations -- making it 35 years since our establishment.

We will have a meeting next week and we are also planning a movie screening for Radical Education Week. On Friday 6 October, we will be hosting a panel event featuring disability activists, students and other advocates on Disability and Higher Education with a focus on how to attain political change following the Disability Royal Commission. On this note, we and the wider SRC executives are working on proposals looking at accessible and student-friendly disability awareness training events to promote disability knowledge and pride on our campus.

We thank our fellow collectives and the SRC executive for being their assistance with our projects and proposals so far."

You have our thanks as usual and our apologies for the late submission of our report.

With love,
Khanh Tran and Jack Scanlan

Discussion:

Khanh Tran spoke to the report and went into additional detail about the Disabilities Royal Commission and the impact of Robo Debt, and how the government did nothing about it just buried the

Jack Scanlan spoke to the report and about the state government's review of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act and making spaces due for renovation more accessible.

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

Moved: Jamie Bridge

Seconded: Victor Zhang

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

07. Report of the Social Justice Officers

This month, the social justice officers Julius, Eddie, and Keira have been building the August 5th LGBT rights rally. This has been a major priority of ours for a number of reasons.

Worldwide there has been an alarming increase in anti-LGBT, specifically anti-trans, rhetoric and attacks this year. The sharp increase in anti-trans legislation being passed in the USA has limited trans people's access to healthcare. There has been bans on drag shows and censored lgbtq+ content in school curriculums. The current Republican Party primary process is revealing as to the strength and confidence of the far right in America. Not only is it a real possibility that Donald Trump, a detested bigot, is a real possibility for the Republican nomination, but his closest competitor Ron Desantis, has made his name as a virulent transphobe.

America is currently the face of the far-right's campaign against trans people. However the far right in Australia want nothing more than to follow their lead. In Sydney, the christian right have won a concession with the new Religious Discrimination Bill that is designed to give religious institutions a legal right to discriminate against LGBT people. This underscores the importance of building this rally and of building an LGBT rights movement more broadly, to combat these politics.

As part of building this rally to be a successful public show of support for LGBT rights, we have been postering, leafleting and petitioning on stalls. During this process, it has become clear that LGBT rights is a really important issue for people. It is the most motivating issue to stop somebody to sign a petition and people are quite clued into the attacks on LGBT rights happening in America. This means the August 5 rally has great potential to attract a large audience of left wing people. This will only happen if serious work is put into building the rally and engaging with that audience and this SRC should push its resources into that effort.

Discussion:

Jordan Anderson gave a verbal report speaking about the protest at Tanya Plibersek's Office demanding that no Defence housing be built on Larrakia country without permission. Also working on the Concession Opal Card Campaign there have been two meetings on this so far. The Refugee Action Coalition Rally happened a few weeks ago marking the shameful initiation of the current refugee policy, and also that the ongoing rhetoric towards refugees needs to be fought. Adding that there was also a forum for Action for Public Housing at Redfern Townhall and it was really interesting to hear from the residents of public housing of their experiences and how the government is trying to push them out, showing how the current ALP state government is clearly in line with the bosses. Welcome Week was this week and there was a lot of promoting the Welfare not Warfare campaign, which makes the critical link between the cost-of-living crisis and where the ALP is spending their money which is on AUKUS and escalating militarism.

Eddie Stephenson spoke to the report and spoke about Posy Parker's letter to the New Zealand government about the protests against her and how she needs to come back she want's protection, noting this was a great outcome and it shows the effectiveness of the protests against her. Adding that these protests are important and we need to be reading out to everyone we know getting them involved as this is how we fight against the bigots and the far right.

Julius Whittfoth also spoke to the reports echoing the statements of the previous speakers. Adding that we know what Anthony Albanese is about now, militarism, tax breaks for the rich and protections for landlords and the cost of this is being pushed onto the working class. Concluded encouraging everyone to come to the anti-war rally noting that ordinary Australians have nothing to gain from this drive to war.

Motion: that the report of the Social Justice be accepted.

Moved: Ella Haid

Seconded: Rand Khatib

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O8. Report of the Indigenous Officers

Ben McGrory gave a verbal report:

- Released an insert of *Indigenous Honi Soit*; thanks to the President and Honi Editor Ethan Floyd
 - o Still looking for funding for a full edition later in the year
- Policy update:
 - o Seeking support for policy to grant exemptions to students campaigning for Voice
 - o Confirmation of Aboriginality change are still going starting with staff
 - The uni organised a number of yarning circles to discuss the policy change and they were called out for being racist and that the changes were not needed, and asked why the university was moving ahead with a confirmation policy through select land councils
 - This caused the policy changes to be paused until next year, so we will keep working on that in the future
- Indigenous collective:

- o We had an Indigenous artist make the logo, and we have a range of events upcoming
- o Running a yarnning circle with the USU
- o Having a Voice Panel with Government and International Relations
- o BLM protest upcoming, working to ensure accessibility for the protest.

Motion: that the report of the Indigenous Officer be accepted.

Moved: Jack Scanlan

Seconded: Henri Collyer

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

09. Report of the Intercampus Officers

Alexander Poirier gave a verbal report

- o Artists for yes
 - o SUDS - dramatic society - is now involved
 - o Changed the opinion of conservatorium management to now supporting the voice - I've spent a lot of time drafting a statement by the conservatorium
- o Conservatorium common room revamp plans are being finalised - this was a SRC supported student life grant from 2 years ago
- o The SRC used to provide a paid staff member to the CAS
 - o Looking to apply for SSAF to fund this with SRC to get this again
 - o Con students pay over \$300,000 in SSAF and get only \$6000-\$7000 back; the SSAF report recently released outlined the significance that a majority of students feel students shouldn't pay SSAF at satellite campuses if they don't get benefits
- o We've started the national music student's forum with CSA's and music student societies from around the country
 - o Looking to fill the gap in musical student unionism
 - o Will probably expand to all fine arts - looking at the lack of support and representation arts schools (i.e., NIDA and NAS) have to the NUS
- o Writing draft regs changes to get rid of this office

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

Moved: Ishbel Dunsmore

Seconded: Yasmin Andrews

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

010. Report of the Welfare Officers

Harrison Brennan gave a verbal report

- O-Week was successful

- o A lot of feedback for WAG Sem 2 - oriented towards renters' rights, particularly for a campaign on no-grounds evictions etc.
- Public housing attacks are ongoing
 - o Whispers of a demolition in Mascot
- Went to a forum on Renters Rights, Ishbel Dunsmore spoke it was an amazing panel
- Welfare Action Group (WAG) meeting happening next week Tuesday the 8th at 2pm
 - o Come along!
- There is a Greens Housing Community Action at 6pm on Thursday, it's less the Greens and more a community action
 - o Come along!

Ella Haid gave a verbal report

- Spoke about the Royal Commission into Robo-debt which was handed down in July
 - o 443,000 people were issued Robo-debt notices; harassed for four years by government or private debt collectors
 - o Victims who spoke out were smeared by the media / government
 - o Robo-debt was scrapped, but not through formal means but through victims of the scheme successfully pressuring the government
 - o The villains include Scott Morrison, Christian Porter, Katherine Campbell
 - These people should be in prison
- These issues underscore the importance of the Welfare not Warfare rally in challenging the Australian system of welfare.
 - o We should all be building for the demonstration next week

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

Moved: Yasmine Johnson

Seconded: Rose Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O11. Report of the Global Solidarity Officers

Kiera Garland gave a verbal report

- Upcoming protest the NDA — one week from today 1pm at Fisher Library for the Welfare not Warfare campaign
 - o This is the most important campaign run through the NUS
 - o The SRC must prioritise this
 - o The government is pouring money into the military not into welfare while people struggle
 - o Rents are skyrocketing and people are working multiple jobs just to survive
 - o Make sure you come to the NDA

Deaglan Godwin gave a verbal report

- Deaglan Echoed the comments of Kiera

- There's so little opposition, some sparks Port Kembla; Rally against the Quad; but no sustained protest movement led by activist groups or civil society
 - o In that context, the student union movement can lead a campaign against AUKUS, against war
 - o That won't happen though unless people put the work in and everyone gets involved and build and promote the campaign and get more and more people involved and put as much work in as they are putting in their SRC electoral campaigns
 - o Expects to see everyone there next week and expect them to bring 5 other friends

Shovan Bhattarai asked the room for a show of hands for who will be in attendance at the rally next week for the NDA, and asked what are some concrete things that people can do for the rally.

Deaglan Godwin said that people should share the event on social media, put up posters, send announcements on Canva to their classes and ask their tutors to promote the event or give an announcement at the start of classes themselves.

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

Moved: Yasmine Johnson

Seconded: Ella Haid

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

P. Special Business

There were no items of special business.

Q. Motions of Notice

Q1. Equality without Exceptions!

The queer community's fight for our rights has reached a crossroads. With more people coming out than ever before, staunch community support at its highest point in history and a burgeoning queer left, we have achieved significant reforms, including self-ID without the need for surgery in all states and territories outside NSW and a successful fight for marriage equality. There is also a culture war that has seen the religious right fearmonger against us in the parliament, in the media, and on the streets, in so-called Australia and around the globe. This homophobic movement seeks to drive us out of work, healthcare, education and all other aspects of public life.

It is in this context that at the ACON Community summit in early 2023, independent member for Sydney and yassified Liberal Alex Greenwich MP committed to moving a robust equality bill, with:

- Self-ID
- Decriminalisation of sex work
- Protections for sex workers as a protected class in the Anti-Discrimination Act
- Removal of exemptions to anti-discrimination protections for faith based organisations, private schools, superannuation funds, and sporting organisations

- A ban on all conversion therapy
- A ban on non-consensual 'corrective' surgeries on intersex children
- Reforms to anti-discrimination act nomenclature.

However, despite holding a critical seat in the new Labor minority government, Alex Greenwich has announced that he will be tabling a stripped-down version of the equality bill in NSW parliament, with:

- No decriminalisation of sex work,
- No ADA protections for sex workers,
- No removal of religious exemptions to anti-discrimination law, and
- A religious carveout from the conversion therapy ban.

This bill needs to be something our community can clearly and proudly rally behind as we fight for meaningful change, not a set of compromises. This is undeniably important given that the Minns minority government has now committed to religious vilification laws and has refused to commit to supporting any aspects of the equality bill, beyond a watered-down conversion therapy ban with religious exemptions.

Platform

This meeting of the SRC:

- ★ Reaffirms its past position in support of sex workers' rights. This includes full decriminalisation of sex work and adding sex work as a protected category to the Anti-Discrimination Acts. It also affirms its position that sex work is work.
- ★ Calls on Alex Greenwich to table the full version of the equality bill, including:
 - Self-ID without the need for medical intervention
 - Removal of exemptions to anti-discrimination protections, for faith based organisations, private schools, superannuation funds, and sporting organisations
 - Decriminalisation of sex work and the introduction of protections for sex workers, current and historical
 - A ban on all conversion therapy, regardless of the beliefs that seek to justify it
 - A ban on genetic discrimination and non-consensual 'corrective' surgeries on intersex children
- ★ Calls on NSW parliament to pass a robust equality bill in full
- ★ Condemns any suggestion that violations of queer people's human rights are excusable so long as they come from a place of religious beliefs, or that queer rights need to be 'balanced' with the ability for religious bigots and institutions to violate these rights.
- ★ Reaffirms its condemnation of the Labor party's in its attempts to reintroduce yet another iteration of the religious discrimination bill in NSW, and its commitment to do the same federally.

Action

- ★ The USyd SRC will publish this motion from its social media accounts, on its website, in Honi Soit (subject to editors' discretion) and circulate it through any relevant means, tagging Alex Greenwich MP and his office, and sending an Instagram collaboration invitation to @usydqueer.

- ★ The USyd SRC will share the NUS Queer/LGBTI Department’s press release *Equality Without Exemptions* on its social media accounts, on its website, in Honi Soit and circulate it through any other relevant means, sending Instagram collaboration invitations to @usydqueer.
- ★ The USyd SRC council and office-bearers will sign QuAC’s “equality without exceptions” banner at the end of the SRC meeting, then take a solidarity photo with it
- ★ The USyd SRC will sign onto and circulate Pride in Protest's open letter on its social media accounts, on its website, in Honi Soit and circulate it through any other relevant means, sending Instagram collaboration invitations to @usydqueer.
- ★ The USyd SRC will sign onto Pride in Protest's drag open letter (to be provided) and share it on its social media accounts, on its website, in Honi Soit and circulate it through any relevant means, and send an Instagram collaboration invitation to @usydqueer.

Discussion:

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion outline its main points

Tim Duff spoke to the motion expressing deep disappointment how little conviction Alex Greenwich has had on this issue and the way the bill has been watered down to almost nothing.

Jack Scanlan spoke to the motion saying they support the motion whole heartedly. Saying that it is disappointing from Greenwich / Labor / Greens to break the promise to ban conversion therapy in the state, especially with Victoria and Queensland banning it successfully. On sex work, NSW has a horrendous model; sex work is real work; plenty of Uni students and queer students engage in sex work, and it needs protections, because lack of protections is what enables predators.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke to the motion saying that the action points were supportable but wanted to examine why the bill has been watered down. Adding that Alex Greenwich kept Perrotte in power and he’s happy to water the bill down to get it to pass and fit in with Labor’s Religious Vilification Bill. Promoted the rally happening on the weekend on the Labor’s Religious Vilification Bill, because it’s about preventing the establishment of a new normal allowing people to discriminate against the LGBTQ+ and other oppressed groups on the grounds of religious protections. Adding that these large religious institutions are not oppressed but exert a lot of power.

Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion saying the watered-down version of a critical bill is disappointing and what has been excluded from it are critical aspects such as protections for sex workers. Adding that Alex Greenwich has an important and powerful position in state parliament he should not present these half-arsed stripped-down bills.

Ben McCrory spoke to the motion noting that Aboriginal brotherboys, sistergirls have been around for thousands of years. Adding that we need to remember that a large number of the community that face discrimination include LGBTI+ Indigenous Australians. This motion is important, we need to include First Nations LGBTI+ people in this process; eventually when we have a voice, we will be able to put a national spotlight onto issues like this.

Madeline Clark said that it was atrocious that Labor is passing this bill after it was defeated by a community campaign. Adding that it was first discussed after the marriage equality campaign in 2017, and echoed that comments of Shovan Bhattarai on the Religious Vilification Bill, and also spoke to the history and development of the bill. Adding that the bill is being presented against shows that the Alex Greenwich strategy has failed.

Jamie Bridge responded to Madeleine Clark's comments noting that this motion was not on the Religious Vilification Bill. Adding that this motion is on the Equality Bill and that it frustrating to not focus on positive demands, like self-ID; it's frustrating that we're trying to pretend this is not an Equality Bill motion.

Yasmine Johnson spoke saying that the Religious Vilification bill is extremely relevant to the motion. Saying that to not draw the connections to the two is to ignore the underlining issues. Adding that the Equality Bill accepted the framework of the Religious Vilification Bill and so both need to be engaged with. Speaking about the how the politics around the watering down of the motion are directly around the idea that the religious right need protections to discriminate. Adding that she agrees with the motion in general, but that a clause was added to this motion saying that sex work is work, taking this up is not about having protections for sex workers which they are for but the issue with normalising sex work as an industry, one of the most exploitative, violent and dangerous, and it's important to stop that violence and protect the workers but also it is an industry and impacts outside the industry too, propping up sexism in society with the idea that men have the right to women's bodies and the right to sex is one of the most egregious harms to women today. The fact that it is possible to buy the right to sex is a key part of propping up the idea that men have the right to women's bodies, and we can't agree with the normalisation on that.

Jamie Bridge said that they were disappointed but expected this, but glad that Socialist Alternative will abstain.

Moved: Jamie Bridge

Seconded: Tim Duff

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural motion: To limit speaking time to two minutes per person for motions.

Moved: Harrison Brennan

Seconded: Victor Zhang

The procedural motion was put and **CARRIED.**

R. General Business

R1. Demand Independent Oversight Over Unacceptable Campus Sexual Assault

Sexual violence is both a significant and deeply under addressed issue on campus and for students. The latest National Student Safety Survey, utilising data from 2021, showed that 18.5% of USyd students have experienced sexual harassment on campus, and 6.7% have experienced

sexual assault on campus, since starting University. Despite this number being very high, the survey was performed whilst Universities were by and large not offering in person classes to students, meaning the numbers for in person University, now that it has returned, are likely even higher. This is unacceptable, yet both USyd and Universities Australia have still failed to accept recommendations on combating sexual violence at University from as far back as 2017.

End Rape on Campus have noted that a number of recommendations from as far back as the 2017 Australian Human Rights Commission “Change the Course” Report have not been adopted by Universities. USyd has particularly failed to ensure that “staff and students know about support services and reporting processes”, which we know from the USyd-specific numbers in the latest NSSS. Further, USyd has failed to engage any independent bodies to survey the Colleges or other issues of sexual violence on campus or student accommodation. Elizabeth Broderick was a favoured candidate by the Colleges to perform the investigation in 2018 and Management have not been transparent in releasing their internal reporting numbers, instead choosing to destroy them.

Universities Australia has also failed to implement the recommendation to address the drivers of sexual violence that provides students and staff with education, as they just last week accepted \$1.5 million in tax payer money to run an anti-sexual violence campaign which they then chose not to deliver. Further, none of the GO8 Universities executives in the Senate Consent Inquiry had read End Rape on Campus’ submission when EROC delivered it to the inquiry. This clear lack of urgency and diligence in addressing this very important issue is damning, and it is demonstrated by both Universities Australia and USyd Management.

End Rape on Campus and Fair Agenda are demanding the Albanese government implement independent oversight and an accountability mechanism with a “mandate to address sexual violence at universities”. This would be independent of universities and residences, expert led, possessing the authority to sanction universities and residences which do not comply to standards and has the authority to compel institutional transparency. We call on USyd Management to immediately recognise and act upon the need for independent oversight of campuses, student residences and the Colleges. We further condemn their inaction thus far and resolve to continue campaigning on this issue until real change is made.

Platform

1. Sexual violence and sexual harrassment are significant issues on campus and the continued inaction by USyd Management on this issue demonstrates that they do not care about survivors and victims of sexual assault/harassment.
2. Sexual violence and sexual harassment are student issues which can, and do, affect student’s abilities to receive the quality education they deserve.
3. The SRC supports the work of the Women’s Collective and Sexual Harassment Officers in campaigning for action on sexual assault.

Actions

1. The SRC condemns the failure of the University to facilitate an open discussion about the issue of sexual assault and meaningfully respond to the 2017 Change the Course and 2018 Red Zone Reports.

2. The SRC condemns University Management's lack of action on this issue, and demands that the recommended actions proposed in 2017 and 2018 be implemented immediately.
3. The SRC posts a solidarity statement with End Rape on Campus' University Sexual Assault Taskforce Proposal on its social media platforms.
4. The SRC supports calls for independent oversight over sexual violence on USyd campuses and USyd student accommodation.
5. The SRC continues to fight against sexual violence on campus wherever possible by committing to supporting future Wo.Co actions in semester 2 protesting sexual violence and sexual harassment on campus.

Discussion:

Iggy Byde spoke to the motion covering its main points.
Alev Saracoglu waived her speaking rights.

Grace Porter spoke to the motion saying that that we just had Welcome Week for semester 2 and that 1/8 incidents of sexual violence on campus occurs around Welcome Week. Noting that the situation was dire and the university continues to take very little action on this issue and that continuing to hear about instances of sexual violence occurring at the colleges shows how much of an issue this is. Concluding saying the reporting system recommended by End Rape On Campus (EROC) would centre survivors and she looked forward to campaigning for it

Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion stating that the Federal Labor Party has made promise to take action of deal with this issues but nothing has been done, adding that Labor has broken this promise and has pushed dealing with this back onto the universities and is not taking the issue seriously at all.

Khanh Tran Spoke to the motion saying that EROC have submitted a comprehensive report to Universities Australia, and the federal government needs to do more to end sexual violence on campus.

Moved: Iggy Boyd

Seconded: Alev Saracoglu

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

R2. UNTITLED MOTION

Preamble:

University institutions are complicit in human rights violations against indigenous peoples across the globe, from here on Gadigal land, to Palestine. Violations can range from support and normalisation of the colonial state, discriminatory admittance policies, like systematically preventing racialised groups to attend university, but also through indoctrination and misinformation. Universities have a lot to answer for, and student unions have a duty to fight this fight and hold their universities accountable.

As a settler-colony, Israel has created various systems and structures to take over Palestinian land: a military occupation to suppress resistance, ethnic cleansing to achieve demographic targets and land theft, and an apartheid system of governance to give privileges to one people while denying the rights of others.

Palestinians have called for non-violent global solidarity action in the form of boycott, divestment, and sanctions upon the State of Israel, until it recognises the rights of Palestinian people to self-determination and fully complies with international law. As a student union, we must stand on the right side of history and demand justice and an immediate end to the oppression of Palestinians by the State of Israel. Palestinians have told us what they seek from us in global solidarity: boycott, divestment and sanctions; boycotts of institutions complicit in the settler-colonial project, divestment from corporations which profit from the injustice and calling for sanctions on the Apartheid state until it complies with international law.

The Australian government proudly proclaimed their support for the boycott movement against Apartheid South Africa - so why won't Australia support a BDS movement against Apartheid Israel? It's been made clear time and time again that there are double standards which apply to Palestinian right to freedom and self-determination. These double standards are deeply rooted in islamophobia, anti-Arab racism and Western imperialist interests.

In an attempt to silence criticism of Israel and intervene in grassroots mobilisation for Palestinian liberation, Zionist lobby groups have been pressuring universities to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism, in which 7 of its 11 examples of conduct said to constitute antisemitism directly refer to conduct regarding Israel. Particularly problematic is the example alleging that it is antisemitic to deny "the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming the existence of the State of Israel is a racist endeavour". This working definition has been used to suppress advocacy for Palestinian rights (for example, at universities).

Platform:

1. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council recognises the complicity of universities across the globe in violations against indigenous peoples.
2. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council stands in solidarity with the Palestinian people living under an Apartheid state.
3. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council supports the BDS movement in their calls for boycott, divestment and sanctions to achieve freedom, justice and equality for Palestinians.
4. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council rejects attempts to collapse Judaism and Zionism and reaffirms its position that anti-Zionism is anti-racism.
5. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council opposes the institutional adoption of the IHRA working definition of Antisemitism as it has been used to silence and discipline pro-Palestinian advocacy and activism.
6. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council rejects normalisation with the State of Israel.

Actions:

The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council will:

1. Encourage and support SRC councillors to engage in boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) actions that seek to end the occupation of Palestine and bring about justice, freedom and equality for Palestinians.
2. Boycott purchasing future Hewlett-Packard (HP) products, including printers and computers in the SRC and implementing a long term strategy to replace all current HP products.
3. Designate the University of Sydney Students Representative Council an official Apartheid-free zone.
4. Campaign against the University of Sydney developing or maintaining ties with organisations, companies and tertiary and/or government funded institutions that support/are supported by/are funded by the State of Israel.
5. Write a letter to the University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor to:
 - a. Condemn the reference to the IHRA definition as a 'useful tool to understanding antisemitism' in its new anti-racism statement and request them to remove it from the references.
 - b. Express the rejection of University ties with the state of Israel, including the new OLE unit titled 'Experience Israel'.

Discussion:

Rav Grewal spoke to the motion, covering its main points.
Jasmine Al Rawi spoke to the motion.

Michael Grenier expressed some concerns with the motion, noting that most of the motion is acceptable, and the government of Israel has committed crimes against Palestinian People, but the issue how the motion speaks about Judaism as a religion and it clearly not written by someone who is a practising Jew, speaking about the difference between cultural Judaism, religious Judaism and being of Jewish decent. Adding that you can say that cultural Jews and people of Jewish decent don't have a connection to Israel, but you can say the religious Judaism had no link to the land that is Israel, noting that Zionism as it is used today was coined by secular Jews but being in the land that is Israel or following practices that can only be done in Israel is much older than Theodore Herzl. Michael Grenier spoke about the different prays that make reference to Israel and noted that some religious groups referenced to by Socialist Alternative as anti-Zionists still believe in returning to Israel, but under different circumstances, and that when they do women will be subservient and black people will be enslaved, Michael noted that he thought such groups were 'nutcases'. Saying it would be better to actually speak to Jewish students about these issues rather than platform these really racist sexist groups. Michael continued noting that there are double standards in the motion, saying we should be in favour of Palestinian self-determination, but being against Jewish self-determination in the same motion was a clear double standard.

Tiger Perkins spoke to the motion, but noted from Michael's comments sounded like it was implying that you had to be Jewish to be anti-apartheid was wrong. Adding that his council has taken a clear position on that that we actively combat the racism of the state at every turn and the creeping influence of the pro-Israel lobby into institutions such as this university is exactly the way that it garners international complacency and support for the cause to continue illegal settlements and continued military occupation and human rights abuses. Tiger continued saying that the adoption of the IHRA might not seem like a big deal in isolation but it is, it is an attempt to silence

criticism of the state, and it normalises and exceptionalises that state of Israel which is an occupier, and oppressor and an apartheid state, we and academics should be able to describe it as such without fear of retribution from universities and intuitions. Concluding that it is not enough to just oppose these means of propaganda, we need to support and show solidarity with the Palestinian people and BDS as a way towards Palestinian liberation.

Gerard Buttigieg spoke to the motion wanting to reiterate the NLS and Young Labor position of support for the Palestinian cause, we see escalation of violence. Mentioning the pouring cement into Palestinian water wells by Israel, how people have been torn from families and violence escalating all tried to be wiped away in defence of the Israeli state as a 'haven of peace' which is an utter joke. Adding he also opposed the IHRA definition for the conflation criticism with antisemitism and condemned the Young Labor accepting the definition.

Michael Grenier responded saying that Gerard Buttigieg was on the money with the wells and said it was the first time he's heard people address the issues around water developments and that was really important, adding that assertion that claiming that what is said was that only Jewish people can be anti-apartheid was inaccurate and disingenuous, clarifying that what he said was you shouldn't speak on religious Judaism if you are not Jewish, because you will get it wrong. Adding that IHRA doesn't dictate government style, actions, borders, it says that Jews have a right to self-determination and if you deny that right that may antisemitism, adding that the motion misquotes IHRA, it says that "claiming the existence of the State of Israel is a racist endeavour" whereas IHRA says "A State of Israel", which doesn't mean the way it currently looks, and that is an important distinction as many Jewish people have very different views on what a State of Israel could look like. He also has concerns about a number of issues that don't get much attention such as the as the Israeli judicial reforms which will hurt more Palestinians than they ever will Israelis. The changes will allow the government to pass bills even the supreme court finds unreasonable and give more power to the IDF, more than half the country are mobilised a screaming about this, the protests by Israeli youth about this and the implications for Palestinians is important and if we accept that these changes are inherently bad then opposition to them is inherently good, and that these action that have had very little attention is very sad. Many of the motion we see on this issue are not effective and are clumsy and have the risk of disengaging Jewish student community who are actively engaged with wanting Palestinian liberation. It's not helpful for non-practicing students to explain what Judaism believes and there are issues that we aren't speaking about that we absolutely should be.

Yasmine Johnson spoke to the motion and responded to the speakers saying that people should have the full right to criticise Israel, weather it is under the current government or a future one, part of what Activists for Palestine have been fighting for is the right to say what is actually going on and to say that Israel is a racist endeavour. Noting that that is one of the things the IHRA definition restricts the right to do and that is precisely how it has been used saying that recently at the Uni. Lancashire a Friends of Palestine event was shut down using the IHRA statement, called Israeli apartheid week, on the basis it would not allow the description of Israel as an apartheid state, this is how the definition is being used and so it should be opposed. Continuing Yasmine said the fact that this is part of the USYD antiracism policy is a setback, but not reason to stop fighting for the rights of Palestinians, and the fac tis has been added shows something about the Australian government and institutions of the State's commitment to propping up the Israeli State.

Adding that at other universities where this definition has been adopted, people haven't shy away but have continued to fight such as the Students for Palestine club at Melbourne University, and we should follow that example here at USYD and continue to exercise our right to say apartheid is wrong and that is our responsibility to continue to do so.

Proposed amendment: to substitute words: "an individual's Jewish identity" in Point 4 of the platform for the word "Judaism"

Moved: Michael Grenier

As the amendment failed to receive a seconder the amendment **LAPSED**.

Moved: Rav Grewal

Seconded: Jasmine Al Rawi

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

In line with the regulations there was a 15 minute break at 8:25pm

There was a quorum count at 8:42pm

The meeting was found quorate

Meeting resumed at 8:43pm

James Sheriff proxies to Tim Duff.

Lia Perkins resigned the Chair to Tiger Perkins

R3. The Interim Accords Report offers next to nothing for students

Preamble

The Higher Education Accords Interim Report was handed down on July 19. The report is overwhelmingly concerned not with the real issues facing students, but with how to ensure that higher education fits the current and future needs of the Australian economy. This means that the report, while talking of "bold, long-term change", includes only 5 meagre recommendations and ignores the most pressing problems.

While recommendations such as the abolition of the 50% pass rule, a punitive measure felt most by students who were forced to juggle work with study, are welcome, we must view the report in its entirety. The report omits any solution to the crushing burden of student debt, impossible rental prices, the poverty rate of student welfare, or the hyper-exploitation of university staff. This is not an accident but stems from the purpose all along of these Accords; to reform the higher education sector so that it meets the needs of Australian industry, businesses and the military. The report is crystal clear about this; its primary concern is meeting the "skills challenge" of a large expansion in the number of workers who will require a degree by 2050. For example, the creation of Tertiary Study Hubs, is touted as a low-cost and low-tech solution to more people attending university. But these study hubs aren't even universities- they are simply places people can study their online degrees at! According to Jason Clare, this is all that students in working class suburbs deserve.

This pathetic report demonstrates why it was right for left-wing student activists to argue for no illusions in the Accords process. It was always a pipe dream to imagine that submissions to this body made by student unions would have any sway over this report. This is not a result of a lack of consultation, but again comes back to the purpose of these Accords- uniting unions, government and university management behind the project of reforming universities to make them better suited to the future of the Australian economy. This means making them more profitable, student degrees more determined by the needs of industry, and ignoring the needs of students.

Real solutions to those issues students are facing will not come about through committees which seek to reform higher education by making it more profitable and useful for the economy. Our strength and power lie on the streets, not in these committee rooms.

Platform

1. The USYD SRC condemns the Higher Education Accords Interim Report for its refusal to offer meaningful cost of living support for students, or to reduce degree fees and student debt.
2. The USYD SRC recognises the futility of engaging in the Accords process and that the report is an example of the failure of this strategy.
3. The USYD SRC demands free tertiary education, cancellation of student debt, the raising of welfare above the poverty line and immediate rent freezes.

Action

1. The USYD SRC will publish this motion on its social media.
2. The USYD SRC will not participate in any further Accords processes.

Discussion:

Yasmine waives speaking rights to Julius Whittfoth.

Julius Whittfoth spoke to the motion covering its main points.

Deaglan waives speaking rights to Kira Garland.

Kira Garland spoke to the motion echoing the comments of Julius Whittfoth.

Lia Perkins spoke to the motion saying the assessment of the Accords was correct, noting that the interim report is inadequate for students and the focus on skills is in line with the Job Ready Graduates, that there are some minor changes, but nothing substantive including free education. Adding that the 50% fail rule is important to remove, but the lack of immediate legislation will leave students struggling. The Accords process has an incredible amount of attention, and we need to talk about the real changes students need; in the SRC submission, we wrote “ that we believe nothing short of free fully funded education, ongoing income support and other changes listed below be adequate for students. We are rejecting their arguments, but we need to push our arguments at every step of the way, not raise our profile like Labor students want to do. The point is not to lobby politicians or raise profile but to put forward the left-wing view of students’.

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion saying that the position put forward by Lia Perkins was exactly the same as National Labor Students at Ed Con, which is that we need to be at the table, there is no reason that submission to the Accords will in any way build up the left-wing movement

or opposition to the Accords. The SRC submission did not get media attention, but the NUS Education Officer boycotting the Accords got national media attention. Adding that there is no correlation between participating and getting out message out about what needs to happen for students. Participating is just the same logic as Labor students who think that the policy wonk strategy will work instead of just outright rejecting these bodies who are not about advancing the interests of students or staff.

Harrison Brennan responded noting that it was important to argue that presenting position of left wing activists, and that does not make the outcomes worse. I agree that the process is rotten and futile and a way for Labor to pat themselves on the back, but the utility of making the submission, to show that we are fighting for and will fight for these things.

Ben McGrory spoke about the the lack of changes from the last government to this one, noting that they don't do anything for Indigenous students, there are not supports for remote Indigenous students and nothing for postgrad Indigenous students. Adding that there is nothing to address USyd policy and Linda Burney could have intervened for First Nations students with regards to the confirmation of Aboriginality via Land Councils process, saying Linda Burney needs to step up and do something about it - we need practical action, not a conference.

Proposed amendment: to ~~remove point 2 of Platform: "The USYD SRC recognises the futility of engaging in the Accords process and that the report is an example of the failure of this strategy"~~ and remove point 2 of the Actions: "The USYD SRC will not participate in any further Accords processes."

It was not amenable to the movers

The Amendment was

Moved: Rose Donnelly

Second: Henri Collyer

Debate on the proposed amendment began.

Rose Donnelly spoke to the amendment saying that free education is the goal, but you can still engage with the Accords.

Henri Collyer spoke to the amendment saying ignoring the Accords process is not a way to get change. Not engaging in the Accords process is detrimental to the student movement and I still believe in protest and free education.

Tamsyn Smith spoke against the amendment saying the whole approach of doing both was contradictory. Adding that the issue is was sitting at the table was giving them the opportunity to tick boxes saying they've consulted with students and then being backed into a right-wing alter. you cannot sit at the table and critique the process; sitting at the table is 100% giving it legitimacy.

Daniel O'Shea spoke to the amendment saying we have this platform and it would be a waste not to use it to engage with Accords process. It is futile and a betrayal of the students not to engage

with the Accords process. Concluding that he agrees with Accords protests and the Accords process; we can do both, and we must.

Ella Haid spoke against the amendment arguing that the Accords are going to achieve nothing. The point of them is to align the universities with the Australian economy, it's about ramping up to war, the latest technology, or what the Australian ruling class wants. It's going to achieve nothing because it is to streamline education into the economy. Even if you think the point is to reveal how pointless it is, no student is under the illusion that it will do anything. What we should be doing is calling out the government for wanting to make higher education so much worse. Concluded by saying this is why you need a strong position against it, we're saying that you shouldn't participate in something that is in the interests of the ruling elite.

Alex Poirier spoke to the amendment saying he was legitimately confused as to what an alternative is. Adding that we should submit something because if we submit nothing, then we leave an opportunity for the right wing to take it over. Until Socialist Alternative have an alternative to what is offered what are we going to do? Revolution? What do we do, unless we engage with the institutions in power what is going to happen?

Yasmine Johnson responded saying that it's a good question about what to do instead. On the one hand there's an argument about how the Accords are good, on the other hand there's an argument about submitting something to prove that it is futile, as if anyone knows about it or has any effect. The whole point is that nobody believes that the Accords are going to fix anything so why participate. What the NUS Education Officer did was to show that the entire process, that the Labor party is engaging with is total crap. It was about showing students that their demands aren't being listened to – people know their demands aren't being listened to.

Daniel Bowron spoke to the amendment saying the SRC should use everything, every channel available to it, the interim report has not given a good outcome, but it's short-sighted to not engage.

Lia Perkins responded to the debate saying there was value in a submission that uses what vulnerable students have told the SRC. To talk about the everyday issues outside of free education while also talking about the massive change that students need. It's important we put forward the clear arguments against the attacks on students in the interim report (e.g. levies on international students), we need to use every possible avenue to fight for students interests.

Jack Scanlan spoke to the amendment saying that we are a student union, we represent students, their bosses are the government / department education and when unions engage in enterprise bargaining, like when Nick Riemer spoke to Mark Scott - you must make submissions as a union. We are failing because we are divided on this.

Iggy Boyd spoke against the amendment noting that they don't agree with striking the platform point from the motion. Adding they she thinks it would change the motion, but also didn't think it's useful to bar the SRC from making submissions e.g. caseworkers want to make submission about particular issues. EROC are making their submissions, if you want to argue that they are endorsing a privatised university system, but there's no real argument that a submission endorses

the Accords. Granted that it does use student participation, it doesn't matter because other student unions are participating.

Rose Donnelly proposed to amend the amendment to just *remove point 2 of the Actions: "The USYD SRC will not participate in any further Accords processes."*
The amendment was updated accordingly.

Jasmine Al-Rawi spoke against the amendment.

Ben McGrory spoke to the amendment in principal saying we should have a right to make submissions. Adding that from a Frist Nations Perspective, the submissions does enable us to make our voices heard and raise issues - retaining that right is important because some collectives do believe that submissions have an effect. People do read them, and if there's no other ways to engage than protest and submissions, maybe First Nations students should be more involved with the submissions and we should target those students more.

The amendment was put to a vote

Amendment: Rove point 2 of the Actions: "The USYD SRC will not participate in any further Accords processes."

Motion to adopt the amendment to the standing motion

Moved: Rose Donnelly

Second: Henri Collyer

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Maddie Clark noted that the amendment vote demonstrated that Grassroots had the same position as NLS. This whole process doesn't put forward anything for students, it doesn't matter how well worded or researched your submission was, they're not going to listen to it. They have an agenda of skills for the military, so they weren't going to listen to your submission.

Jordan Anderson said that Grassroots and Switch's position was clear, they won't participate in a roundtable, the submissions do not have those constraints. Adding that they will continue to fight on the ground as it relates to free education and against AUKUS.

Shovan Bhattarai said that from Grassroots there have been two arguments, one on 'why these submissions are good' and one 'we just think that the process of submission that outlines students' grievances - which then fails, that is going to be a really big gotcha moment where it's clear where their priorities lie'. But we know where the priorities lie, we know they are not acting in students' interests. Adding that that is what student activists should be fighting about. The second argument is contradictory, because it is really important that we make the submissions, if only we can wake up Labor + management, then maybe they'll budget for us, that's the politics that underlies making these submissions. A lot of left posturing between NLS / Grassroots, this is cover and shows Socialist Alternative has the correct strategy of orienting to our enemies.

Ben McGrory spoke to the motion saying we need to participate in these formal processes as it gives us a platform to say what a lot of students think outside of the SRC chamber. A lot of students, Indigenous students have issues that need to be raise and that it gets things heard, last year with the consultation, our written submission made change happen. Those closed table

discussions did have something come out of it, and we should participate in these formal processes.

Moved: Yasmine Johnson

Seconded: Deaglan Godwin

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Lia Perkins resumed the Chair.

R4. Oppose the Middle Arm Development

To address the urgent challenges posed by climate change, governments must invest in renewable energy and immediately transition away from fossil fuels. According to a 2021 IPCC special report, “rapid and far-reaching transitions in energy, land, urban and infrastructure (including transport and buildings), and industrial systems” will be necessary to limit global warming.

By investing more than \$1.5bn in the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct (MASDP), the Albanese government is doing the opposite. The federal government and the NT government, both controlled by Labor, want to exploit the NT’s gas reserves to become global players in the international gas market.

The MASDP will make Middle Arm into an export point for gas extracted from the Beetaloo Basin. This basin is located onshore 500 km South East of Darwin and is one of the world’s largest untapped gas reserves. Modelling from RepuTex suggests that lifetime emissions from the development of the basin will result in approximately 1.4 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere. This is more than 2.5 times the total current annual emissions for Australia.

Middle Arm will also host a series of ‘downstream industries’, like a petrochemical processing plant that will use gas to make plastics, paints and chemical fertilisers, which will likely poison the air of the nearby town of Palmerston.

Platform

1. The SRC denounces the greenwashing of the Labor governments, both federally and in the NT, that are promoting this project. There is nothing “sustainable” about giving \$1.5bn to support the fossil fuel industry.
2. The SRC rejects the idea that opening the Beetaloo Basin to fracking is a step towards transitioning away from fossil fuels.

Action

1. The SRC will share this motion off their social media pages.

Discussion:

Simon Upitis spoke to the motion.

Lauren Finlayson spoke to the motion.

Tamsyn Smith spoke to the motion saying that the Labor party is just acting in their interests, they know the impacts of climate change and have since the beginning, always saying they'll do something about it, but it's always just tweaks around the edges of a broken system, it's all just green washing. Adding they they've raised more money in indexing HECS than taxing fossil fuel companies. There has been nothing to stop fossil fuel companies only to assist their profits and to suggest that this is a step towards a green transition is appalling.

Jordan Anderson spoke to the motion echoing the points of the past speakers and adding that this university is just another bootlicker having bought 300 000 BHP share and shares in Rio Tinto noting that these are direct investments in fossil fuels.

Annabelle Pettit spoke to the motion saying there is no clear difference between Labor's climate policy and Scott Morrison's 'gas-led-recovery' other than PR. Labor didn't bring a lump of coal into parliament and that all the aims to suggest clean gas, carbon capture or other such initiatives are not needed when renewables don't need such things. Everybody knows exactly what this is going to do, create record levels of Co2 and contribute to climate change.

Ben McGrory spoke to the motion saying we need to transition to net zero now, and that is the wishes of the majority of First Nations people. Adding that in terms of people they've consulted with, there's some split, but we need a plan for net-zero now and renewables, and adequate compensation for Indigenous people for mining and for renewables. We need to make sure that First Nations communities are compensated.

Angus Dermody spoke to the motion saying it was good but lacking in detail. Adding that this is part of a 'sustainable development precinct' and that gives you a clear look that the 1.5bn that Labor has allocated, is for getting more gas out of the ground. Adding that the idea that First Nations people can veto projects in the NT, is just not true. What we're seeing with Middle Arm is what we're seeing all over the country, where Labor is using the Voice to hide behind their actions. It'd be great to see everyone stand with Gomeroi people on August 10th 12PM outside the courts.

Moved: Simon Upitis

Seconded: Lauren Finlayson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Lia Perkins resigned the Chair to Tiger Perkins.

R5. Black Lives Still Matter: Demand Justice August 19th

Three years on from major Black Lives Matter rallies, Black people still experience police brutality, over-incarceration, violent racism and healthcare discrimination. Public community lands on Larrakia Country are being turned into Australian Defence Force housing despite outcry and protest from local First Nations communities.

On August 19th, the grassroots group Black Lives Still Matter have called a rally at Sydney Town Hall at 12pm. Demand justice for First Nations people and communities who are victims to the racism, violence and oppression in so-called Australia.

Platform:

- USyd SRC supports the demands of the BLM rally:
 - Implement the recommendations from the RCIADIC
 - Stop the war on black kids: end forced removals, shut youth prisons
 - Justice for deaths in custody: safework and DPP must prosecute
 - Defend Aboriginal lands from mining and climate devastation
 - Chris Minns, Anthony Albanese and Linda Burney to meet with families of black deaths in custody
 - No defence housing development at Lee Point, hands off Larrakia Country

Actions:

- The USyd SRC will promote this rally on social media, and print promotional material for the rally.
- The 95th SRC Councillors and Officebearers will attend the rally to stand alongside grassroots mob demanding justice.
- The SRC will take a photo at the end of this meeting in solidarity with the BLM rally.

Discussion:

Rand Khatib spoke to the motion covering its main points.

Lia Perkins spoke to the motion.

Ben McGrory noted that only one other person had come up to speak to this motion. Ben spoke to the motion, adding that Indigenous people have always used protests to as a platform to get justice for our causes, on a range of issues, there are a diversity of views and issues in indigenous communities this is reflected in the demands from the organisers. Ben also noted that he will be there and will work to support student to attend, and that there are also other ways that people protest than rallies and would be supporting students in whatever way they want to protest. Concluding this rally is important and last time it was held it garnered a lot of attention and we need to keep that attention, and that on Cassius Turvey no First Nations child should die in this country on their way home from school, that's why we need a Voice to Parliament so we can advise on policy as well as protesting.

Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion echoing the comments made by Rand Khatib and that recognition is multi-faceted it's not just about getting the Voice to Parliament but also turning out time and time again to protests and rallies.

Alexander Poirier echoed Ben McGrory's comments highlighting the fact that we know that police are not good to Indigenous communities, all over the world, and we need to be questioning what impact police have on these students.

Angus Dermody spoke to the motion saying the rally was really important and that this is the first opportunity to come together since Invasion Day in January to push for these demands, if you agree we should improve the lives of indigenous people you should be involved in building this rally.

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion saying this was an important rally and that there would be a queer contingent from QUAC and they hoped to see everyone there. Adding that wherever you stand on The Voice referendum it is important not to lose sight of these material demands that can only be won through a mass movement.

Moved: Rand Khatib

Seconded: Lia Perkins

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Lia Perkins resumed the Chair.

R6. Abolish the University of Sydney (USyd) Colleges- students need safe and public housing!

Preamble:

"Abolish the Colleges"- a feminist call for housing justice: USyd SRC and their successive Women's officers and collectives have called on many previous NSW Governments and Federal Governments to take the actions highlighted in this proposal. The ongoing call to abolish the USyd Residential Colleges has been a historic feminist call for justice that cannot wait.

USyd Residential Colleges are expensive: The costs associated with living in a Residential College typically include accommodation fees, which cover room rental, utilities, meals (in some cases), and access to college facilities and support services. These fees can range from at a minimum AUD 14,000, but usually closer to AUD 30,000 or more per year, depending on factors such as the type of room (single or shared), college location, and additional amenities provided.

Cost of living: University students typically have limited financial resources and often rely on part-time jobs, scholarships, or financial aid to cover their expenses. With HECS indexation rising for students and young graduates at a higher rate than their wages are, and very little in the way of welfare support - students need change now to ease financial pressures. The high cost of housing, particularly in major cities like Sydney where Universities are located, can pose a significant burden on students' budgets. Affordable housing options can alleviate financial stress and allow students to focus on their education.

Well-being and academic performance: Affordable housing contributes to students' overall well-being and can positively impact their academic performance. When students have access to safe,

affordable, and suitable housing, they can focus on their studies without the added stress of financial instability or substandard living conditions. Adequate housing promotes an environment conducive to learning and supports students' mental and physical health.

Socioeconomic disparities: The cost of living in a residential college perpetuates socioeconomic disparities among students. The NSW Young Liberals establishment in the USyd Residential Colleges is just one example of the elitism that can and will be killed with the USyd Colleges. The USyd Residential Colleges exclude those who come from lower-income backgrounds, gatekeeping access to the advantages and opportunities provided in the elite echelons of the Colleges — recreating generations of networks for conservatives and the rich.

Inclusivity and diversity: Affordable housing options play a crucial role in fostering diversity and inclusivity within universities. It enables students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds to access higher education, promoting equal opportunities for all. By providing affordable housing, universities can attract a more diverse student population (including more options for regional students, First Nations' students, Low SES students and International students), which enriches the campus community and promotes cross-cultural understanding. Instead of concentrating resources and students in isolated communities, a more inclusive model could involve integrating students into diverse and vibrant neighbourhoods, fostering a stronger sense of community and connection with the broader university environment. This can best be done with a public housing model or a co-op housing model.

Platform:

- USYD SRC condemns the Residential Colleges at the University of Sydney for their long and continuing history of sexual violence and abuse, all while ensuring those who partake in acts of hazing, bullying and abuse are protected wherever possible in the name of college reputation. These institutions have been given many opportunities for reform, and despite years of consent education, reformist policy change and external investigation reports- nothing has changed.
- USYD SRC recognises that is also an abundance of of formalised data about sexual violence existing as a result the continued fight waged by feminists on campus. USYD SRC condemns the inaction from universities and government despite this data being known. USyd SRC condemns practices of universities hiding and destroying data around sexual violence to save their own reputation and gain profits.
- USyd SRC recognises the historical campaign of Womens' collectives and feminists past in having this data collected in the first instance. This includes fighting hard to have the AHCR conduct its 'Change the Course' report in 2017 and publishing 'The Red Zone' report in 2019. This formalised data has led to a series of reports and reviews into USyd's Residential Colleges that have shed light on the issues and lack of change over the past 6 years. Behind every statistic in these reports is a real person. Every single incident of sexual violence is one too many.
- The USYD SRC recognises the power and privilege behind the USyd Residential Colleges, and the vested interests of the rich, Liberals, private schools and other conservative forces in retaining their cultural links to new generations through institutions like the USyd Residential Colleges.

Actions:

- USyd SRC call on the NSW Government to make legislation that would end the USyd Residential Colleges as they are currently legislated under the NSW Government (private and run by religious institutions with too much power) by ending leases to religious institutions that run private, expensive and exclusive housing specific to the University of Sydney
- USYD SRC NSW Government to transition the college infrastructure into a model of housing that is significantly more affordable, public & student controlled in nature, and makes student safety and prevention of sexual violence & elitism an integral part of any change
- The USYD SRC calls on the NSW Government to engage with with USyd SRC and the Women’s collective, in the creation of this legislation
- The USYD SRC commits to organising students around this legislation, engages with WOCO to build media strategies in support of any draft legislation and in defence of feminist activists organising in support of it
- The USyd SRC will publish this motion from its social media accounts, on its website, in Honi Soit and circulate it through any relevant means.

Discussion:

Iggy Boyd spoke to the motion covering its main points.

Alev Saracoglu waived her speaking rights.

Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion saying that in the midst of a housing crisis that fact we have these huge colleges, bastions of elitism and sexual violence they would be much better served being turn into affordable student accommodation. We have an accommodation crisis and international students are struggling and we are going to see the rise of hot-bedding, as well as this the Uni has been selling off accommodation to private providers such as UniLodge and Iglu for shoe box rooms that are barely functional. The Uni also sold off a number of functional and liveable terraces which was outrageous and we need to fight the sell offs of these so there are places for students to live. These colleges should be converted into student accommodation for all students and all backgrounds.

Alexander Poirier spoke to the motion saying that the colleges claim to be for everyone, but as an fine arts student, while they have music scholarships, they only supported incredibly Eurocentric works, operas, operettas and chamber music etc. Adding that St Paul’s Victoriana is the longest running musical in the world, but it is a circle jerk of English ideas and aristocracy. So the only ones they engage from the Con are opera students, who are <...>

Jack Scanlan spoke about recently moving into student accommodation at the Queen Mary Building and how it shows what you can do with space the university has, noting that it was hald the land footprint of St. John’s College while having all the amenities needed. Also adding that it has a nice “commie-inspired” brutalism aesthetic if you are into that, but that rental limits are still needed as rent has increase to \$340 a week.

Moved: Iggy Boyd

Seconded: Alev Saracoglu

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Lia Perkins remarked how great this council meeting has been, to general acclamation.

**R7. The SRC condemns pride in protest for supporting the no campaign
WITHDRAWN**

R8. Stop Santos in the Pillaga, fight the Narrabri Gas Project!

In 2022 Santos, one of Australia's largest oil and gas companies, plead for the Australian and NSW governments to fast-track the delivery of their pipeline licence and approval to drill 850 coal-seam gas wells in the Pilaga Forest in Northern NSW, a \$3 billion development. With the backing of the State and Commonwealth government, Santos put forth a Future Acts Determination Application which overruled the native title claims of the Gomeroi people, the Native Title Tribunal ruling that First Nations people had not been able to illustrate the "grave and irreversible consequences for the Gomeroi people's culture, lands and waters and (that the project) would contribute to climate change". The Narrabri Gas Project will fragment 95,000 hectares of land with well pads, roads and gas pipelines and cause irreversible harm to the local habitat, threatening the survival of endangered species. The inevitable leakage of methane gas in the gas field's production, transport and storage will only increase greenhouse emissions. Further, the gas project intends to store methane gas flares in 50-meter-high stacks in a region prone to bushfires. Previous projects run by Santos have been riddled with mismanagement and environmental ruin. Recently, it was discovered that retired and decommissioned Santos gas wells on the West Australian coast have been leaking for decade. The Narrabri Gas Project is at significant risk of contaminating the groundwater of the Great Artesian Basin, which provides safe and clean drinking water for the local community.

The Santos Pilaga-Narrabri gas project has been opposed by the Gomeroi people since it's inception. They have been joined by unions such as the Maritime Union of Australia and the NSW Nurses and Midwives Association. On Saturday the 12th of August unions and activists will rally against the Narrabri Gas Project in Coonabarabran - Back the Gomeroi against Santos: Rally and Roadtrip. As a radical student union, the USyd SRC should oppose any attempt by gas companies and the government to violate the land rights of First Nations people and oppose the extraction and use of fossil fuels. The SRC should, in turn, support and participate in the solidarity effort organised by grassroots activists.

Platform:

- The USyd SRC opposes the Santos Narrabri Gas Project and condemns the state and federal governments' support for the project.
- The USyd SRC opposes any new gas, oil or coal projects across the country.
- The USYD SRC expresses solidarity with the Gomeroi people and supports the fight for First Nations sovereignty and land rights.
- The USyd SRC supports an immediate just transition away from fossil fuels which prioritises workers' rights and First Nations' justice.

Action:

- The USyd SRC will share and publicise the *Back the Gomeri against Santos: Rally and Roadtrip* event on August 12th on its social media.
- The USyd SRC will share and publicise the *Gomeri vs Santos Court Challenge solidarity action* event on August 10th outside the Federal Court of Australia on its social media.

Discussion:

Harrison spoke to the motion.

Ishbel spoke to the motion.

Angus Dermody spoke to the motion stating that the campaign isn't just a year or two old but has been going on for decades, and that the Morrison government's 'gas led recovery' plan has accelerated it by giving Santos the go-ahead for the project. The disregard for Native Title and shows where the country is at in terms of Indigenous recognition and rights, and that government supports mining and fossil fuels over everything else. That there is a union delegation on the 12th is great but there is also an action happening next week.

Proposed amendment: to add to the actions "The USyd SRC will share and publicise the Gomeri vs Santos Court Challenge solidarity action event on August 10th outside the Federal Court of Australia on its social media."

It was amendable to the mover.

Moved: Harrison Brennan

Seconded: Ishbel Dunsmore

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 10:23pm.