



**src** activism  
advocacy  
representation

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## MINUTES:

of the 8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the 96<sup>th</sup> SRC held on **Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2024**. Meeting held in the New Law LT 104, New Law Annex.

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

### A. Meeting open at 6:12 pm

#### A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Rav Grenwal 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

Grace Street to Ishbel Dunsmore  
Jordan Anderson to Harrison Brennan  
Cara Eccleston to Alexander Poirier  
Ned Graham to Rose Donnelly  
Martha Barlow to Remy Lebreton  
Gabriel Crowe to Emma Searle  
Ivan Samsonov  
Angus Dermody  
Ethan Floyd to Rand Khatib

The apologies were noted.

### D. Changes to Membership

Procedural motion to suspend standing orders after Agenda item K, move straight to Agenda Items at Q and then R, before returning to the standing orders.

Moved: Sofija Filipovic

Seconded: Ellie Robertson

Simon Upitis spoke against the motion, arguing that reports and their scrutiny are necessary to the democratic and transparent functioning of the SRC.

Jamie Bridge spoke against the motion, concurring with the arguments.

Ellie Robertson spoke to the motion, saying that it is good to ensure debate on the motions.

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

## **E. Electoral Report**

### **E1. Consideration of any resignations**

Jamie Bridge resigns as Queer Officer

Motion: That the Council accept the resignations.

Moved: Jamie Bridge

Seconded: Esther Whitehead

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Procedural motion to hear the President and Vice President's reports before moving to Agenda Item Q.

Moved: Madeline Clark

Seconded: Shovan Bhattarai

the motion was put and **CARRIED.**

## **F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.**

Minutes of the meeting of 96<sup>th</sup> SRC Council held on 24<sup>th</sup> of July and the inquorate meeting of the 21<sup>st</sup> of August 2024 were circulated.

Motion: that the minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> of July and 21<sup>st</sup> of August 2024 be accepted.

Moved: Jasmine Donnelly

Seconded: Sofija Filipovic

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

## **G. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business for this item.

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

**I. Visitor's Business**

There was no business for this item.

**J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate**

**K. Elections**

**K1. Election of 1 Queer Officer**

Joint nomination from Jamie Bridge and Wendy Thompson

Nominator 1: Rose Donnelly

Nominator 2: Esther Whitehead

There being no other nominations Jamie Bridge and Wendy Thompson were declared elected unopposed.

**L. Report of the President and Executive**

**L1. Executive Minutes**

Minutes of the Executive meetings from the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2024

Motion: that the minutes of the executive meetings from 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024 be accepted.

Moved: Jasmine Donnelly

Seconded: Rav Grewal

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

*The President deferred the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson.*

**L2. President's Report**

Harrison Brennan tabled a written report:

*The chair was handed to Rav Grewal.*

Harrison Brennan gave a verbal report, speaking to the international student caps as a racist policy dressed up as an immigration policy, and the underlying structural funding gaps for tertiary education gaps that this policy papers over. The President spoke to the need for expanded higher education funding, as well as for SSAF funding to SRCs due to potentially declining student numbers.

The attack on the CFMEU is an attack on workers from the Labor Party ..

Spoke to the Merivale Student housing and sexual assault in these student accommodation services, and the need for reform around student housing.

Simon Upitis spoke to the report, questioning Harrison's relation to the strategy and tactics of the Palestine solidarity movement. Simon referred to the private negotiations with management,

criticising the view that earlier negotiations would have led to positive results as well as the view that negotiations were a useful tactic in general. Simon asked – What lessons have you learned from this process and the weaknesses of negotiating with management?

Harrison Brennan acknowledged that management will not budge due to their tight links with arms industries but argued that there was no net harm. Harrison criticised S.A. for withdrawing from the camp after a vote was lost to wind up the camp.

*There was an extended interjection from Shovan.*

Harrison Brennan replied to reassert the previous position.

Alex Poirier asked if the SRC has a presence on the new Uni investment committee given that the USU president is the only student representative on that committee.

Harrison Brennan replied saying that these committees are not a feasible pathway for change, since their results are foregone conclusions. The movements on the ground are what is needed to produce change on Australian ties to Israeli universities and arms industries.

Simon Uptis asked if Harrison's view was that the left should be present in these meetings, and what was the benefit of giving left cover to a right-wing / management tactic to deal with the political challenge to Mark Scott from the student Palestine solidarity movement.

Harrison Brennan sought clarification on the negative effects of the left engagement with negotiation and rejected the idea that Mark Scott's media strategy was materially relevant to the prospects for the movement.

Madeline Clark asked how there can be trust for the President after Harrison has turned to negotiation as a central strategy, and asked if Harrison will commit not to go into negotiation with management.

Harrison Brennan pointed out that representations made by other members do not reflect his views.

Motion to accept the report of the President.

Moved: Alex Poirier

Seconded: Alex McEvoy

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

#### **M. Report of the Vice-Presidents**

Jasmine Donnelly and Deaglan Godwin tabled a written/gave a verbal report:

Last Wednesday, I joined another successful student strike for Palestine. USyd students marched from our campus to UTS, where we joined students from other universities as well as high school students. It's our obligation to continue to show up for Palestine, demanding an immediate end to

the genocide, and forcing our own governments and institutions to end their complicity. It has been inspiring to see students across the country hold huge student general meetings over the past two weeks. Like our own, these student general meetings saw hundreds of students vote to demand their university cut ties with Israel.

In this context, I condemn Sydney Uni's decision to rename the Abercrombie Business School after outgoing Chancellor, Belinda Hutchinson. Hutchinson sits on the board of Thales Australia, who partner with Israeli arms manufacturers to provide weapons to Israel. Hutchinson is a war criminal. It is an insult to the people of Gaza to name a building over someone whose hands are red with blood. We demand the university rescind this decision. Watch this space for any protests.

I am saddened and enraged to hear of the death of Mano Yogalingam, a 23-year old Tamil refugee. Mano was on a bridging visa, and self-immolated on last Wednesday after hearing of the Labor government's plans to increase asylum seeker deportations. Mano's death is not a tragedy- it is a crime. The Labor government, and Home Affairs Minister Tony Burke, are guilty of his murder. The inhumane treatment of refugees must end now, and I encourage people to attend the refugee encampment at Burke's electoral office in Punchbowl.

- Deaglan.

Deaglan added verbal comments, criticising Rand Khatib's interventions earlier in the meeting, and arguing that electing Labor, lobbying institutional figures are unacceptable tactics for change. Limits on resources as well as contradictions in strategy mean that these tactics should not be pursued by student movements. The structural interests of these institutions, as with University of Sydney, are organised such that these kinds of tactics cannot succeed and are harmful. Deaglan criticised the approach to organising in the encampment by Grassroots which did not focus on organising students, and argued that this focus on organising a mass movement is crucial for political success in the campaigns for Palestinian solidarity.

...

- The SGM for Palestine — that went really well, had a massive turnout
- Unions Week 13th and 14th — to talk to students about why they should join their union, supporting UnionsNSW petition against junior rates
- Campus access policy organising
- Drug reform campaign— yesterday had a tour of Kings Cross Medical Injecting Centre which was open to all students
  - Also, drug summit coming up later this year so will be preparing submissions
- Also started preliminary discussions organising the annual Celebration of International Students, last year we had a badminton competition that
- Coming up we have SRC elections which is big for the SRC calendar.
- SSAF applications have opened so I'll be working on that— last year we got a base uplift approved to cover affiliation fee, so I'll be focusing on the NUS section.
- After that I will be working on renewing the SRC's Enterprise Bargaining Agreement, which is a fairly straight-forward process but an important part of governance, as its expired.

- There's also quite a bit of budget left in the SRC student weeks budget so if there is anyone with an idea as to how to spend it please contact me or the general secretaries.

Discussions:

Gerard Buttigieg asked about the attempts to deregister the CFMEU, and the campaigns to defend the CFMEU, and asked whether or not the CFMEU uses negotiation as a tactic.

Deaglan Godwin pointed out that the deregistration is orchestrated by the ALP and other allied unions.

Jasmine Al-Rawi asked about the record of NLS on student activism, and how Jasmine can defend herself when this track record has been against the interests of oppressed and working people in Australia.

Jasmine Donnelly disputed this position, by saying that they have participated in campaigns around the encampment, as well as campaigns around the CAP, and articulated the program of change from within the ALP.

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

Moved: Alex Poirier

Seconded: Yasmine Johnson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

*Moved to Q1, per earlier procedural.*

### **Q1. Fighting Junior Pay Rates: Adult Wages for Adult Ages**

Preamble:

In a dire cost of living crisis, junior pay rights are a plight for working university students. Currently, 18-year-old and 19-year-old workers in retail, fast-food, and pharmacy industries are grossly underpaid for their labour. Despite doing the exact same work and holding the same responsibilities as an "adult" 20-year-old, 18-year-olds and 19-year-olds are shamefully paid a lower rate. To demonstrate the appalling difference in pay, the casual hourly rate for an 18-year-old is \$21.64 compared to a 20-year-old's \$30.91; that's a difference of \$9.27 per hour. Students who work 20 hours to support themselves while at university miss out on \$185.4 per week.

This is much-needed income that could be used on rent, food, and other essentials as students disproportionately feel the crunch of above-target inflation. The current policy setting forces students and other young workers to expend extra hours working, digging into necessary study and leisure time that is essential for the university experience. Considering young workers are the most likely to be underpaid, overworked, and exploited by their employers, any policy that further empowers management to mistreat this vulnerable group ought to be rejected.

Last week, Unions NSW and members of the SRC stalled up on Eastern Avenue to educate and campaign towards students on junior pay rates. The response was strong and over the two days, well over 300 students were spoken to and it was made evident the immense outrage that students have toward this policy setting. It's essential that the most affected demographic, working students, is made aware of this mistreatment and incentivised to join their respective unions to fight against this blatantly unfair policy.

Further, as the representative union for students, the SRC must hold a definite and deliberate position of defiance against this particular policy and any other policy that unfairly treats students in their place of work, including but not limited to underpayment, discrimination, and management overreach. For the student union to be truly representative it has to recognise and fight for this large and vulnerable demographic, also urging them to get involved in their trade union and student union. Adult wages for all adult ages!

Platform:

- The USYD SRC supports the union-led campaign to scrap junior pay rates.
- The USYD SRC continues to work with unions, particularly the NTEU, in their fight against management oppression, underpayment, and poor working conditions.
- The USYD SRC calls on the federal government and the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations to immediately overhaul junior pay rates.
- The USYD SRC supports and urges working students and all workers to join their trade union.

Action:

- The USYD SRC will post this motion on social media
- The USYD SRC will continue to support and endorse campaigns for workers' rights, particularly those affecting student workers.
- The SRC will continue to work with the union movement to achieve these goals.

Discussion:

Angus Fisher spoke to the motion, criticising the underpaid rates for students that result in overwork and less time involved in campaigning within activist and union movements. Students deserve fair wages; there should be adult wages for all ages.

*Jasmine Donnelly waived speaking rights to Gerard.*

Gerard Buttigieg spoke to the motion, noting some scruples with the SDA but endorsing the call for fair wages for juniors, which emerges from the neoliberal and capitalist structure of our society. What's necessary is militant unions with growing membership, as was achieved in the Unions Week last week.

Simon Upitis spoke to the motion, arguing that the campaign is cover for the SDA's regressive approach to workers. The SDA does not call industrial action and prefers sweetheart deals with

bosses. Simon criticised this approach as corrupt unionism and class collaboration, and argued that the campaign in this motion represents only cover for the SDA.

Aria Pagrut spoke to the motion, criticising the SDA and the ALP for overseeing a cost-of-living crisis, and intersecting crises with refugees and Palestine. What's necessary instead is industrial action rather than just a petition.

Emma Searle spoke to the motion, criticising the idea that change and youth rates is accomplished through working with the SDA as well as criticising the approach of Labor Left in running a sausage sizzle and a petition to build a movement of young workers.

Ishbel Dunsmore spoke to the motion, objecting to the ALP members who have supported the SDA in putting this motion. Instead, RAFFWU is the union that represents a real possibility for change.

Moved: Angus Fisher

Seconded: Jasmine Donnelly

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Procedural to limit speaking time to two minutes.

Moved: Remy Lebreton

Seconder: Ellie Robertson

The procedural was put and **CARRIED**.

## **Q2. Save Community Legal Centres: End the Funding Crisis**

Preamble: Community legal centres provide trusted, local support to hundreds of thousands of people every year to resolve legal problems in areas like housing, relationships, debts, and discrimination. They also play a crucial role in the frontline response to domestic and family violence – these services make up community legal centres' largest area of work. These centres are also critical to activism due to their role in providing accessible support and representation to activists charged under anti-protest laws.

But right now, a funding and workforce crisis is putting all this vital work at risk. Following the 2024 Federal Budget, our sector is now in the most insecure position we've seen in a decade with no funding security beyond 30 June 2025. The crisis is already forcing community legal centres to turn away over 1,000 people a day nationally, and to begin closing outreaches and winding down programs – and it's set to only worsen until we secure guaranteed ongoing funding. These funding cuts will especially affect Indigenous, queer, and disabled communities who are disproportionately impacted by police violence and discrimination

One of the three campaign asks is explicitly a workers' rights/gender pay gap ask. Workers at community legal centres experience a pay gap of 10-35% from comparable roles in public or private sectors – and we're a 75-85% women sector. Workers are experiencing burnout and vicarious trauma, and are struggling on low wages in the face of cost-of-living and housing crisis pressures.



The community legal sector launched their campaign, *Save community legal centres: End the funding crisis* at Parliament House in Canberra on Wednesday 21 August. The campaign asks for:

1. \$35 million this year to address the workforce crisis.
2. At least \$270 million per year for community legal centres from 1 July 2025, committed by December 2024.
3. \$95 million for frontline domestic and family violence work.

At the launch, they published a sign-on statement (link: <https://www.savecommunitylegalcentres.com/take-action>) with organisational endorsements from a large number of allies across the community sector and union movement, to demonstrate the strength and breadth of support in the community for community legal centres' crucial work

Platform:

1. The SRC recognises the importance of community legal centres.
2. The SRC recognises the importance of frontline community services to addressing domestic and family violence.
3. The SRC recognises that community legal centre funding is a workers' rights issue.
4. The SRC condemns the Labor government's refusal to adequately fund community legal services.
5. The SRC endorses the demands of Community Legal Centres Australia's "Save Community Legal Centres: End the Funding Crisis" campaign.
  - a. \$35 million this year to address the workforce crisis.
  - b. At least \$270 million per year for community legal centres from 1 July 2025, committed by December 2024.
  - c. \$95 million for frontline domestic and family violence work.

Action:

1. The SRC will sign onto the Community Legal Centres Australia statement as an organisation. Sign-on form here: <https://www.savecommunitylegalcentres.com/take-action>
2. The SRC will share the statement on its social media, its website, and through any relevant means.

Mover: Wendy Thompson  
Seconder: Jamie Bridge

Wendy spoke to the motion, pointing out how community legal centres have been allocated no funding by the recent federal budget. CLCs provide support for protesters, people who experience domestic violence, and a range of other disadvantaged groups. The crucial work of CLCs is necessary and the SRC should sign onto this statement.

Jamie spoke to the motion, noting that this is one amongst a series of shameful decisions of the ALP, and that supporting CLCs is necessary because of the support they provide for protesters.

Gerard spoke to the motion, commending the work of CLCs and the attack on the sector funding is designed to lower wages and conditions for workers across the sector. Gerard commended the work of the ASU in backing this campaign, arguing that this signals the centrality of the trade union movement for social movements generally.

Eliza spoke to the motion, noting the necessity of the CLCs for assisting vulnerable people in their dealings with the justice system.

Ellie spoke to the motion, <>

Moved:

Seconded:

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

### **Q3. Save the Arts at Macquarie!**

The arts are under attack at Macquarie University. The university has put forward a change proposal to the arts that would merge 8 schools and departments into just 5 and cut the equivalent of 97 full time roles.

This change will be devastating for students and staff. Between 300-600 casuals will be sacked, and the quality of education will decrease. Macquarie Uni already has the worst student to staff ratios in the country, which degraded the quality of education and put a strain on tutors and lecturers. Many courses use recycled content for years, and students are regularly shown lectures from academics who no longer teach at the university. Course content is often out of date and there's little specialization and choice. The change proposal will worsen this situation.

The Macquarie Vice Chancellor and the Dean of Arts have justified the proposal as a streamlining measure, as a cost-saving exercise, and as a necessity to meet the new "closing loopholes" legislation. "Streamlining" means merging disciplines with little in common, increasing the teaching burden, stripping staff of their holidays and turning majors into just 8 subjects of mandatory learning with no choice or specialisation. The board was paid \$6m last year and oversees a multi-million-dollar university. They could afford to keep hundreds of staff and tens of courses, but profit has been prioritized over education.

This attack should ring alarm bells across campuses. The university bosses will always come after our education first if there is some threat to their bottom line. Anyone who cares about the quality of education has an interest in opposing the cuts to arts at Macquarie.

Platform:

- The USyd SRC opposes the cuts to arts at Macquarie University.
- The USyd SRC supports the “Save Macquarie Arts” campaign.
- The USyd SRC commits to opposing cuts to education at campuses across the state.

Actions:

- The USyd SRC will take a photo of support for the Save Macquarie Arts campaign.
- The USyd SRC will print posters and leaflets to help raise awareness and involve more students in the campaign.

Discussion:

Aaron Douglass spoke to the motion, criticising the cuts enacted by Macquarie Arts faculty of both permanent and casual staff. The Faculty is attempting to save \$800m for the University rather than investing in staff and teaching. The Macquarie SRC refused to vote on a motion about this; that SRC is dominated by Liberal Party and One Nation members.

Tom Williams spoke to the motion, condemning the Macquarie VC who >?>. The objectives of Australian universities is to draw closer to arms industries and produce workers, rather than improve education and support funding for workers. The reorganisation of universities needs to be reversed, and students at MU are angry and more people and more students can get involved through these campaigns.

Rav Grewal spoke to the motion, supporting the campaign against cuts at MQ and pointing to the similarities with the cuts on classes in Sydney University.

Tobias Hansson spoke to the motion, situating the current cuts in a larger history of cuts and amalgamations, including recent cuts to language departments and the Russian Studies department. These cuts are motivated by corporate interests which prefer STEM-trained workers rather than sociologists and historians.

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion, describing these cuts are particularly heinous due to their effects on both students and staff. Jamie noted that the MQ SRC refused to condemn these staff cuts, which is the outcome of a student union not being a fighting and leftwing student union.

Louisa Chen [UNSW] spoke to the motion, drawing connections with cuts at UNSW to MQ, and the arts cut campaign there which opposed management’s plan. The campaign brought students out which had widespread support, and this is the approach that should be taken.

Remy Lebreton spoke to the motion, describing the cuts in Philosophy of twenty-five units to five units, which has tangible effects on staff employment. These neoliberal cuts will continue happening until students make them stop.

Laura Alivio spoke to the motion, describing the MQ cuts as cost-cutting corporate tactics. In response is needed student movements that can challenge these cuts, as well as international student caps. This fight must be taken up across universities to oppose the precedent that this sets.

Moved: Aaron Douglass

Seconded: Tom Williams

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

#### **Q4. Reflecting on the Annual Report on Sexual Misconduct - WoCo demands real action now.**

Last month, USyd released their 'Annual Report on Sexual Misconduct' to students. The 2023 Sexual Misconduct Report reveals the University of Sydney's glaring failure to protect victim-survivors. With 246 reports of sexual misconduct—a staggering 100% increase from 2022—it's evident that sexual violence is deeply entrenched on campus, yet the University's response remains woefully inadequate.

In a university community of nearly 80,000, these reports barely scratch the surface. According to the National Student Safety Survey, one in six students experiences sexual harassment, this means thousands of cases go unreported each year. The Sexual Misconduct report fails survivors by neglecting the overall systemic factors which continue to affect the reporting, management, and healing of victim survivors. The clear and deliberate attempt to keep vague, alter and minimise the prevalence of sexual violence through a distilled report is a marketing strategy of the University that will not eliminate sexual violence.

While, increasing the number of reports alone won't end sexual violence, the current low levels of reporting does reflect the lack of information available to students about how to report incidents and access support services. Furthermore, to access such resources including Safer Communities, students must reveal some information about the incident, which is used in the annual report. The University's handling of the few reported incidents also fails survivors. Of the TWENTY-NINE University related complaints of sexual misconduct that were received in 2023 and proceeded through formal or preliminary University assessment processes, only SEVEN were resolved.

The process itself is also not survivor-focused and is not equipped to achieve real justice for survivors. For example, students who do report sexual misconduct must face restrictive confidentiality clauses that silence them, preventing them from sharing their experiences or seeking support from friends without risking punishment. Section 14 of the Student Sexual Misconduct Policy demands that survivors keep confidential the perpetrator's name, the details of the incident, and even the fact that a report was filed while their report is being processed. This gag clause discourages reporting and isolates survivors, leaving them without the support they desperately need. WoCo has demanded for two years now that this clause be revoked from the policy. Furthermore, requiring students to complete an almost 'box-ticking' exercise while reporting their experience with violence, in order to gain access to specific resources, unfairly forces them to provide deeply personal data.

The report also revealed that 8% of sexual misconduct cases occurred in university-owned or affiliated student accommodation. The university cannot effectively address sexual violence without confronting the toxic culture in its Residential Colleges. It's unacceptable for USyd to advertise student housing when it can't ensure the safety of those living there, especially when

the majority of residencies are managed by third parties and allows the University to brush off its duty of care for students.

The University of Sydney must recognise that it cannot prioritise profit while claiming to care for student well-being. Students need real action on sexual violence, including academic considerations for survivors, the elimination of restrictive confidentiality clauses, and a comprehensive approach to addressing sexual violence on campus. The university's current approach—focused more on cost-cutting and profit-making than on student safety—is a gross betrayal of the trust placed in them by their students.

#### Platform

1. Sexual violence and sexual harassment are hugely significant issues on campus and USyd Management's commitment to incremental, rather than large scale, change on this issue demonstrates how they prioritise profit and image over student safety.
2. The SRC continues to support the work of the Women's Collective and Sexual Harassment Officers in campaigning for real action to prevent sexual violence on campus.
3. The SRC condemns the failure of the University to facilitate an open discussion about the issue of sexual violence on campus and implement all of the recommendations of the 2017 AHRC 'Change the Course' and 2018 Red Zone Reports.
4. The SRC supports calls for independent oversight over sexual violence on USyd campuses and USyd student accommodation - not a toothless Ombudsman.

#### Actions

1. The SRC demands that all unadopted recommendations from **the 2017 AHRC 'Change the Course' and 2018 Red Zone Reports into** sexual violence on campus be immediately adopted in full.
2. The SRC condemns Universities Australia for refusing to commit to another National Student Safety Survey.
3. The SRC supports calls for independent oversight over sexual violence on USyd campuses and USyd student accommodation - not a toothless Ombudsman.
4. The SRC commits to changing the name of the Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment officer roles to Sexual Violence Officers. This name more accurately reflects the seriousness and ongoing effect of sexual violence.
5. The SRC continues to fight against sexual violence on campus wherever possible by committing to supporting future WoCo statements and actions, both on the sexual misconduct report and on sexual violence on campus in general.
6. The SRC endorses the 2024 Reclaim & Resist Week

Discussion:

*The chair handed to Rav.*

Eliza spoke to the motion, condemning the University's failure on action on sexual violence on campus. The Report is a PR exercise for the University's brand. The Report reveals unacceptable failings on the University's obligations to secure safety for student in student accommodation and residential colleges.

Ellie Robertson spoke to the motion, speaking on behalf of Martha Barlow, condemning the University and calling attention for the need for change.

*[Amendment moved, amenable to mover; in red above.]*

Ishbel Dunsmore spoke to the motion, saying that the facts are clear that the University is not safe for women and gender diverse people. Full systemic change for student safe and wellbeing is necessary, not a toothless ombudsman, or a consent module, or an apology.

Sofija Filipovic spoke to the motion, calling attention to the traumas experienced by real people who are retraumatised by the system. The renaming of the role is necessary for the seriousness of these issues.

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion, endorsing the renaming of the role and pointing to the pervasive nature of sexual violence beyond that revealed by the report.

Moved: Eliza Crossley

Seconded: Ellie Robertson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

#### **Q5. In fierce solidarity with all victims and survivors of domestic violence**

We see you, we hear you, and we fight for a better world for you.

The murder of a USyd student [name redacted] is a stark reminder of the devastating impact of domestic violence. This horrific crime underscores the urgent need to address the pervasive issue of violence against women and its consequences, all of which are entirely preventable.

Gendered domestic violence is not just a private tragedy; it is a societal failure. We are in the midst of a domestic violence and femicide crisis. In so-called Australia, at least one woman is killed every week by an intimate partner. Over 38 women have been murdered this year, a sharp rise from the last couple of years.

The Women's Collective demands accountability, pushes for comprehensive preventive measures, and demands real support for victim survivors. We must confront and eradicate the deep-rooted misogyny that allows such violence to persist. No one should have to live in fear or lose their life to femicide. We stand in fierce solidarity with all victims and survivors, and we call for immediate and sustained action to end this crisis.

The Women's Collective attended the vigil for this student. We reflected, grieved, and sent our love and our condolences to the victim's family and friends.

However, we were also enraged. The vigil was attended by and platformed the NSW Police, Labor politicians, and our own Vice Chancellor; this vigil took a moment of grief and reflection to shamelessly plug how 'progressive' and 'caring' these actors are. Cops were praised for their

response to domestic violence. USyd VC Mark Scott barely knew anything about this student, drawing on their academic and participation marks as their personality.

### **The Police**

Police do not prevent gendered violence, but instead reinforce the conditions for its existence and often perpetrate it directly. A Freedom of Information request from 2023, revealed that 37 NSW police officers were charged with domestic violence offences in the last two years. This is no coincidence, policing attracts men who want to exert and coerce vulnerable people. Furthermore, this number is likely much higher, as police officers are known to cover up each others' crimes.

This year we have seen police failings result in the deaths of women. Particularly relating to the murder of Kelly Wilkinson, Wilkinson's partner was released on bail for domestic violence offences, and she repeatedly visited police in fear. Shamefully the police refused to help and told other police stations that she was "cop shopping". Kelly Wilkinson was burned to death by her partner days later. Her blood is on the QLD Police's hands.

### **The Labor Party**

The Labor party was also praised for their "action" on domestic violence. This praise falls on empty shoulders. The federal government's decision not to increase funding for domestic violence services in the 2024 budget is shameful. Despite introducing the leaving violence payment, the program's delayed availability until mid-2025 means it does not address the current crisis where domestic violence services are overwhelmed and underfunded and women are, as a consequence, being left to fend for themselves in deeply unsafe situations.

In June of this year, Molly Ticehurst was promised state help to 'intruder-proof' her home after she reported domestic and sexual violence from a former partner. She was told she would be safe, but two-weeks later, nothing had been done and she was killed by him. Her death is a consequence of Labor's negligence.

### **The University**

Finally, both the victim and their murderer were University of Sydney students. Universities have a responsibility to their students, yet they turn a blind eye to the culture of misogyny festering within their walls. It is not enough to express thoughts and prayers after the fact, as Mark Scott has done, this tragic murder is a direct consequence of a system that fails to confront and eradicate gendered violence on campus, and an administration that refuses to uphold its duty of care to staff and students.

Universities should be bastions of progress, instead they allow misogyny and gendered violence to go unchecked. When institutions refuse to address the misogyny in their own halls, they are complicit in the violence that follows, whether on campus or at home.

Mark Scott must do more than just offer empty platitudes after a student is murdered. USyd must make real, substantive changes. This includes mandatory education on consent and respect, abolishing the residential colleges, and providing real trauma-informed support for victims. Anything less is a failure to protect their students.

Universities, politicians, and police are culpable and must start taking real action to end gendered violence. The blood of every future victim will be on their hands if they continue to do nothing. The Women's Collective won't wait for another tragedy to demand change. The time for action is now.

Platform:

1. The USyd SRC stands in support of victims and survivors of gendered violence.
2. The USyd SRC supports calls for greatly increased funding to address the issue of sexual and gendered violence in society, particularly funding that supports survivors.
3. The USyd SRC demands action by the NSW and Federal Governments to intervene on this issue before it culminates in murders, particularly through creating and funding programs that work with men to prioritise prevention over mitigation, and through making more public and social housing.

Action:

1. The USyd SRC will post this motion on social media in collaboration with the Women's Collective.
2. The USyd SRC will support future action by the Women's Collective and Sexual Violence Officers against misogyny and gendered violence, both on campus and in larger society.

Discussion:

Rand Khatib spoke to the motion, describing the vigil.

Eliza Crossley spoke to the motion, criticising the way police, ALP and Mark Scott deliver and enable gender based violence. Minns' recent measures are inadequate, because they aren't preventative and they still rely on the police, who call people cop-shoppers. Public resourcing and public housing is needed from the ALP, and prayers from Mark Scott are not enough when universities cultivate misogyny.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke to the motion, pointing to the structural roots of gender-based and domestic violence and links with gender pay gaps. Alongside social stigma, gendered pay gaps are key causes of why women face barriers to leaving domestic violence, which shows why one-off payments are insufficient in dealing with these structural causes.

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion, pointing to thirty-seven police officers who have been tried for domestic violence; this is by design because of the structural nature of the police force. More funding to police is not the solution; they are the problem; instead, the police must be disarmed, defunded, and dismantled.

Ellie Robertson spoke to the motion, expressing solidarity with victims of gender based violence, and noting that the University has failed to mention this. The University needs to take real action, not just vaguely worded emails.

Alistair spoke to the motion, criticising thoughts and prayers and platitudes from institutions as attempts to wash their hands of femicide and gender-based violence.



Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion, drawing connections to housing

Moved: Rand Khatib

Seconded: Eliza Crossley

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

*Harrison Brennan resumed the Chair.*

## **N. General Business**

### **R.1 Motion to oppose the Labor Party's attack on the CFMEU**

The ALP has launched a massive and historic attack on unions in this country with the appointment of a federal administrator with dictatorial powers over the CFMEU. Labor has gone along with the right wing beatup over allegations of corruption in the Victorian and NSW branches in order to impose control over the CFMEU federally. Labor is spearheading a plan to put a court-appointed administrator to take over the construction division of the union nation-wide. The administrator will have unchecked powers to purge the union of elected officials and delegates and rehire at will.

This is a staggering attack on union democracy and the control workers have over their own union. CFMEU union members have better pay and conditions than non-unionised workers and it is the prospect of destroying these wins that is seeing bosses and the government chomping at the bit to put the union into administration. Placing the union under the government's control erodes the unions ability to fight back against the government to win gains for their members.

The USYD SRC, and all unions, should vehemently oppose this attack. The significance of it can be seen by Liberal Party leader Peter Dutton calling it a "watershed moment for Australian politicians". The precedent that has been set by the Labor Party here will be used aggressively by future conservative governments to crush unions and their ability to independently organize in this country.

Private corporations are never put under government control when there are allegations of wrongdoing, so unions shouldn't be either. Activists and unionists should make no mistake, this is not a heavy handed way of dealing with corruption but a serious and concerted attack on unions and workers rights.

Platform:

1. The SRC stands for unions and workers rights.
2. The SRC stands with the CFMEU and their history of fighting for workers rights and conditions.
3. The SRC opposes putting the CFMEU under administration.
4. The SRC recognises this as an attack on all unions and workers.
5. The SRC recognises the Labor Party as an enemy of workers.

Action:

1. The SRC will publish a statement in support of the CFMEU on its social media accounts.
2. The SRC will use its platform and reach to promote unions.
3. The SRC will mobilise its councilors and office bearers to attend any future actions called in support of the CFMEU.

Discussion:

Julius Uptis spoke to the motion, condemning the ALP attack on the CFMEU as a beat-up to cover an attack on the working movement in Australia. This proves how the ALP is an enemy on workers in Australia.

Maddie Clark spoke to the motion, pointing to how delegates and officials are being removed from their positions and how this is an attempt to crush wages and conditions for workers. With this in place, any hint of scandal or corruption could crush a union; whereas instead what we need is to revitalise our unions with more members and more action.

Victor Zhang spoke to the motion, describing the CFMEU as the most effective union in Australia. When the ABCC was in place, worksite deaths increased; this is what happens when workers are not in control of their worksites. Failure to defend the CFMEU means every other union is next.

Yoshi Leung spoke to the motion, focussing on the ALP's response to introduce an administrator/

Angus Fisher spoke to the motion, saying Labor was not on the side of workers this time; the achievements of the CFMEU and the BLF before were incredibly significant wins for workers, including the Green and Black bans; these attacks on the CFMEU are unacceptable, and what we need is mass action through unions to challenge this decision.

Keira Fairley spoke to the motion, speaking to how the ALP crushed both the BLF and CFMEU, and how the ALP is not on the side of workers every time. Keira criticised Labor students for supporting Labor council campaigns rather than campaigning for the CFMEU. <>

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion, asking for a response from NLS about how their strategy of internal opposition is working.

*Procedural to reopen the speaking list.*

*Moved Alistair ??*

*Secunder Remy Lebreton*

Alistair spoke, saying that the speaking list should reopen until NLS gives one example of their strategy.

18 in favour

3 against.

Procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

Rav Grewal spoke to the motion, referring to how CFMEU Members called the ALP class traitors and sell-outs to the working class.

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion, drawing connections to the BLF Pink Bans as a precedent for queer solidarity movements, and as a result of this approach the BLF was crushed by the ALP. This approach of the ALP can be witnessed in the recent dropping of a sexuality question on the census, against their own caucuses.

Tom Williams spoke to the motion.

Moved: Julius Wittfoth

Seconded: Maddie Clark

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

*There was a break at 8.32PM.*

*Quorum count at 8.59PM.*

*14 Councillors present.*

*Council elected to wait 10 minutes for quorum.*

*Quorum count 9.10PM.*

*19 Councillors present, after some absentees and arrivals.*

*Procedural to move to R7 before returning to R2*

Moved: Sandra Kallarakkal

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

*Carried.*

## **R7. Motion to Backpay Huw Bradshaw as an Editor of Honi Soit**

Preamble:

In the Student Representative Council's Constitution and Regulations, under Section 4 of Part 6, there is a provision that permits the same rights and privileges, including receipt of the shared stipend, for Honi Soit editors appointed to fill a casual vacancy.

(vi) Honi Soit editors appointed to fill casual vacancies will have the same rights and privileges as directly elected Honi Soit editors, including receipt of the shared stipend.

(1) Council may choose to ratify or reject the motion through a simple majority vote;

(2) This motion may be moved at a Council meeting without prior notice. The SRC approves back pay for Huw Bradshaw from the fortnightly pay cycle dated July 2nd, 2024 until July 30th, 2024. This back pay will be equivalent to the SRC's stipulated rate of pay with the current Honi Soit editors. Please find the signatures and consent of nine Honi Soit Editors below.

Action:

1. The SRC approves back pay for Huw Bradshaw from the fortnightly pay cycle dated July 2nd, 2024 until July 30th, 2024. This back pay will be equivalent to the SRC's stipulated rate of pay with the current Honi Soit editors.

Sandra Kallarakkal waived their speaking rights  
Rav Grewal waived their speaking rights.

Moved: Sandra Kallarakkal

Seconded: Rav Grewal

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

*Harrison Brennan resigned the Chair to Rav Grewal*

## **R.2 End the Racist System of Violence: Abolish Prisons now**

Preamble:

Last week, a teenager died at Banksia Hill Detention Centre. This marks the second suicide of a First Nations youth in custody within a year. This is part of a broader pattern of systemic abuse and neglect that has its roots in colonial violence in the so-called “justice system”.

The 17-year-old is the second child to die in custody in the Western Australia in less than a year. Cleveland Dodd is another First Nations youth who recently died in youth detention last October at Unit 18. Despite repeated cries for help, including eight direct threats to take his own life, and repeated pleas to officers in the hours before his death, Cleveland's pleas were ignored. He was left without water in his cell. A nurse who had been working at the facility for months before Cleveland's death kept a journal detailing six previous self-harm attempts by Cleveland, including one which required him to be resuscitated.

Cleveland's death was not a failure that happened in isolation—it was a systemic, and preventable, one, indicative of a broader failure, that of incarceration and the carceral system. The youth detention to prison pipeline destines children to prison and offers no real solutions to systemic issues of colonisation, racial injustice and socioeconomic status. In 2023, there were 31 First Nations people died in custody. The recent death at Banksia Hill, although we know few details, follows a chillingly similar pattern. The neglect and disregard for the lives of First Nations youth in these facilities is nothing short of state-sanctioned murder. These children are being sacrificed for political capital, as evidenced by the recent election in the Northern Territory, in which the Country Liberal Party announced the lowering of the age of criminal responsibility to 10 years old as part of their campaign. the jailing of children as a campaign strategy. The Labor party is also complicit, with Premier Jacinta Allan bac stepping in announcing that Labor will not raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14.

These are policies deeply rooted in a system of violence and racism. Criminalising children is disgraceful and has no positive outcomes either for the child or the community generally. As abolitionists, we wholeheartedly reject this draconian new policy, and know that community-led solutions are the way towards true justice.

A recent resurgence in “tough on crime” policies are a clear demonstration of how deeply embedded colonial violence remains in Australia. This is what occupation looks like. This is the ongoing impact of colonialism. Where major parties jail children for political capital.

First Nations youth are targeted, incarcerated, and killed by a system designed to oppress them. Prisons are extensions of colonial control—places where the state exerts its power through violence and coercion.

We call for prison abolition, for the dismantling of a system that is fundamentally rooted in racism, oppression, and violence. The deaths of Cleveland Dodd and the teenager at Banksia Hill are not anomalies—they are the inevitable outcomes of a system that values punitive control and punishment over care and justice.

Platform:

1. The USyd SRC reaffirms its commitment to First Nations justice and supports campaigns and protests against Black deaths in custody.
2. All cops are bastards - fuck the police.

Action:

1. The USyd SRC will post this motion to its social media platforms.
2. The USyd SRC will endorse and use its resources to build protests against First Nations oppression, which demand real justice and improvements in the lives of First Nations people.
3. The USyd SRC calls for the implementation of the recommendations of the 1991 Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.
4. **That the USYD SRC demands Sydney university cut ties with Parklea Correction Centre and other prisons.**

Discussion:

Ishbel Dunsmore spoke to the motion.

Harrison Brennan spoke to the motion, pointing to the carceral role of the police on Indigenous youth.

Julius Wittfoth moved an amendment to the Action Points: That the USYD SRC demands Sydney university cut ties with Parklea Correction Centre and other prisons.

*The amendment is amenable to the mover.*

Julius Wittfoth spoke to the motion, noting that in a FASS unit there is a visit to correctional centres to make recommendations about reforms. In this prison, there was a BLM riot where prisoners rioted, got onto the roof, and spelled out BLM to draw connections between the police action on Indigenous people and American BLM campaigns. The partnership between USyd and these prisons is whitewashing the prisons.

Rand Khatib spoke to the motion, condemning the prison system and its effects on marginalised and oppressed people; and that this continues in the face of failure to enact the Royal Commission recommendations.

Eliza Crossley spoke to the motion, criticising ongoing political support for incarceration of children and the colonial and racist policies which bring this about.

Taleen Jameel spoke to the motion, criticising carceral techniques as methods of torture and how the QLD Labor government suspended the Human Rights Act to implement these policies. The Labor party adopts the policies of conservative politics, and they do so in response to pressure from the right-wing.

Jamie Bridge spoke to the motion, outlining how suicides of Indigenous people in custody is a murder by police.

Moved: Ishbel Dunsmore

Seconded: Harrison Brennan

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

### **R.3 Stop the bombing; stop the raids; stop the injustice; BDS now!**

Preamble

While Israel continues its current genocide in Gaza, it is also carrying out the worst offensive on the West Bank since 2002, during the second intifada. Across Gaza, the '48 territories, Southern Lebanon, the Golan Heights, or the West Bank, Israel's settler-colonial violence is reaching a peak. Yet, the media and world leaders refuse to go beyond feeble calls for a ceasefire.

Jenin has been besieged for four days, with 70% of its roads destroyed by Israeli forces, its stadium has been heavily damaged, and telecommunications shut down. The Jenin refugee camp is home to about 11,000 Palestinians. 29 Palestinians have been killed in Jenin and its surrounding areas, alongside an arrest campaign of Israeli soldiers rounding up dozens of Palestinian youth and subjecting them to interrogations, beatings, torture, and disappearances.

There have been raids on Ramallah, el-Bireh, Burqa, Silwad, Nablus and Odala. Israel has prevented Muslim worshippers from entering the Ibrahimi Mosque but allowing Jewish settlers, who are there illegally under international law to enter. Just a week ago, Israeli National Security Minister Ben-Gvir threatened to build a synagogue on top of the Al Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem, access to Jerusalem is one of the Palestinian red lines as the third holiest site in Islam. Today, there are no mosques or churches left in Gaza due to Israel's relentless bombing. These are examples of Israel's system of Jewish supremacy and total intolerance for other religions.

On the 31st of August, the United Nations Human Rights Office condemned the use of "unlawful force" by the Israeli occupation army during its military operations in the West Bank, including its "use of military weapons and tactics," "unlawful killings" and "grave concerns of a systematic disregard for the rights of the Palestinian population."

When the United Nations Human Rights Office is declaring that "the only way to ensure security for Palestinians and Israelis is to end the occupation," the world should be listening. Yet it remains silent while the violence of apartheid and occupation manifests itself across occupied Palestine.

Right now in Gaza, the massacres continue and polio is rife – for the first time in 25 years. We know that the beginning of a polio vaccination campaign in Gaza by the United Nations and Palestinian health authorities is not enough, and impossible to complete without a permanent ceasefire. Israel has destroyed Gaza's health system and water supply and wastewater disposal networks, which will continue to facilitate the spread of this serious, but preventable, disease.

A ceasefire deal is still being prevented by Netanyahu, despite huge pressure by the Israeli population to accept a ceasefire deal to protect their Israeli citizens. Across the '48 territories, there have been Israeli mobilisations of up to 500,000 people for ceasefire/hostage return. Israel's largest trades union federation, Histadrut, has called for a general strike to pressure the Israeli government into signing a ceasefire deal, in response to public anger over the recently announced deaths of six Israeli hostages.

Meanwhile, Israel continues its bombing of and artillery attacks in Southern Lebanon. Its warplanes and drones are shelling villages in Southern Lebanon, which has been under the sound of bombing and the threat of a wider war for months.

The movement of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) has never been more important. Israel is an apartheid, violent state that needs to be dismantled. The International Court of Justice has ruled that Israel is guilty of apartheid, and we have the responsibility as individuals, institutions, and countries to not be complicit in this abuse of human rights. The University of Sydney and our government must cut their ties and their support of Israel and abide by international law. States and institutions have a duty to comply with international law, and following the precedent of the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, that compliance looks like dropping contracts with HP, ending exchange programs with complicit Israeli institutions and enforcing a two-way arms embargo.

The USyd SRC is proud to be an official Apartheid-Free Zone and supporter of the BDS movement, following our motion from the August Council of the 95th SRC. We call on other student unions and institutions to also commit to answering the calls of Palestinian civil society for BDS. We seek to do this through the upcoming National Week of Action for Palestine being organised by BDS Youth and the National Union of Students on Monday 28 October - Friday 1 November 2024. Each campus and student union, including our own SRC, should be part of this project that seeks to highlight the complicity of higher education institutions and to coordinate students for a mass mobilisation for Palestine. The people united will never be defeated.

### **Platform**

1. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council condemns the ongoing genocide in Gaza, the siege in Jenin, the raids in the West Bank and attacks in South Lebanon.
2. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council reaffirms that Palestinian freedom, justice and equality must be realised and are a collective duty of the international community, governments, institutions and the people.
3. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council recognises the importance of the Boycotts, Divestment & Sanctions (BDS) movement in dismantling apartheid and calls on the University of Sydney to divest from weapons companies, businesses listed as

complicit in Israel's settler-colonial enterprise and occupation of the Palestinian territories as per its obligations with the ICJ provisional hearings.

4. The University of Sydney Students' Representative Council publicly rejects the IHRA definition of Antisemitism and its listed examples which seek to blur the lines between legitimate criticism of Israel and antisemitism.

### **Action**

1. The University of Sydney SRC will post this statement to its social media.
2. The University of Sydney SRC will take a picture in solidarity with Palestine, posting it with the above statement.
3. The University of Sydney SRC will promote the [UNSW panel discussion](#) about International law, divestment and the encampment on its social media.
4. The University of Sydney SRC will publish its findings from its FOI request on investments.
5. The University of Sydney SRC will organise, support and endorse the NUS x BDS Youth National Week of Action for Gaza; Monday 28 October - Friday 1 November 2024.
6. The University of Sydney SRC encourages other student unions and local community spaces to become Apartheid Free Zones and will support them in doing so.
7. **The University of Sydney SRC supports the "Degrees of Complicity" panel discussion on 18 September, hosted by Students for Palestine.**

Discussion:

Rand Khatib spoke to the motion, condemning the war on Gaza and Israel's settler-colonial project in the West Bank, Lebanon, and the Golan Heights. Palestine is under attack on all fronts, in diaspora or in Palestine, and all of us are affected by the Zionist project. The war on Gaza is the worst invasion since the Second Intifada: Israel is not just destroying lives, but destroying infrastructure, institutions, and mosques. What's necessary is a movement for BDS and solidarity with Palestine.

*Remy Lebreton waived speaking rights.*

Jasmine Al-Rawi spoke to the motion, pointing to the approach and strategy of the student movement in orienting towards mass movements, not negotiations and settlements with management and governments.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke to the motion, identifying the split between strategies for mobilising mass student actions, which have sparked a nation-wide student movement; versus a grab-bag strategy of lobbying, organising, and so on. Shovan called for a focus on organising students, not negotiating and lobbying, which are harmful for the success of the student movement.

Ellie Robertson spoke to the motion, calling attention to the violence and injustice underway in Palestine now, and the ways in which Israeli actions are in breach of international law.

Emma Searle spoke to the motion, disagreeing with the previous speaker.

Alistair spoke to the motion, pointing how the Usyd SRC and encampment was vastly more successful than at universities where these campaigns were led by Labor. Alistair asked what the



point of difference was with the campaign in Sydney and accused S.A. of demobilising the campaign.

Taleen Jameel spoke to the motion.

*Harrison was named by the Chair.*

Eliza Crossley spoke to the motion, criticising SA for shutting down the encampment, demobilising the movement.

Maddie Clark spoke to the motion, framing the debate as over the strategy into the next year. Mobilising around the encampment was a success, and it was right to demobilise at that time in order to organise towards second semester and the SGM.

Deaglan Godwin spoke to the motion, expressing disappointment that the debate has been about old grievances and not focussed on the strategies necessary going forward. The movement this year has been successful, and it has been successful because of its mass movement on the streets.

*Procedural to reopen speaking list.*

*Moved: Shovan Bhattarai*

*Secunder: Maddie Clark*

Rand Khatib spoke to the motion, arguing that strategy meetings during the encampment were never pursued; and that mass movements are important parts of the strategy, and that the movement should not speak over the voices of those affected by the genocide. The campaign for BDS is the strategy for opposing Israel. Rand explains how their approach was not about lobbying.

Simon Upitis spoke to the motion, asking what a campaign for BDS actually looks like, and how these actions flow through into the strategy for next year.

Rand Khatib spoke to the motion, explaining the week of action which includes a film screening, banner painting, a webinar on the IHRA antisemitism definition, a strike, and an art exhibition.

Shovan Bhattarai spoke to the motion, commending the National week of action and particularly the strike as key to a mass mobilisation strategy. Linked to this should be the rally called in October on the anniversary of the war in Gaza. The number one priority for student activists should be building the student movement for Palestine.

Jasmine Al-Rawi spoke to the motion.

Amendment: The University of Sydney SRC supports the “Degrees of Complicity” panel discussion on 18 September, hosted by Students for Palestine.

Moved: Simon Upitis

Secundered: Jasmine Al-Rawi

It was amenable to mover and so accepted.

Moved: Rand Khatib

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

#### **R4. Solidarity with the Refugee Encampments, Permanent Protection Now!**

##### **Preamble**

Hundreds of refugees around the country have spent the last 50 days camping outside of the Department of Home Affairs in Melbourne, and the last 28 days outside of Tony Burke's office to demand permanent protection for all. The Melbourne encampment has stood strong amidst attempted neo Nazi attacks and has mobilised over 300 supporters every Friday for the past three weeks, and last Saturday 700 rallied outside Sydney's Punchbowl encampment.

Many of the refugees partaking in these protests have been on bridging visas for over a decade, barring them from access to citizenship, secure jobs, travel rights or Medicare. Many have had to flee persecution in countries like Sri Lanka, Iran, Pakistan and India and leave their families behind, whom they have been separated from ever since. Although last year the Labor government abolished Temporary Protection Visas, they have offered no path forward for over 10,000 refugees on bridging visas, many of whom have been pushed to the point of suicide trying to survive in an indefinite state of limbo.

Last week alone, two Tamil refugees died, one being Mano Yogalingam who set himself alight under the strain of life on a bridging visa. Refugees like Mano on a bridging visa category E are subject to being deported at any moment, so not only are they unable to plan a future here, but they must live with the constant threat of being sent back to a country where their life is at risk. In Mano's case this was Sri Lanka, where as a Tamil man he would have been victim to an ongoing project of ethnic cleansing by the ethno chauvinist Sinhalese state.

##### **Platform**

The SRC supports the demands of the refugee encampments and calls for all refugees to be granted immediate permanent protection.

The SRC condemns the Labor party for its inhumane bridging visa policy and holds the Albanese government responsible for the death of Mano Yogalingam.

##### **Action Points**

The SRC will take a solidarity photo with the Sydney refugee encampment

The SRC will post this motion from its social media

Discussion:

Annabel Pettit spoke to the motion, highlighting a meeting with Tony Burke with the refugees camping outside his office, where Tony met with them and replied to their stories by saying that it

sounds hard, and that he couldn't do anything; followed by telling them leave and they should have patience.

Lucas Pierce spoke to the motion,

Elliot Kameron spoke to the motion, criticising Labor Left MPs and students for their strategy of change from within on the refugee question.

Zackir Hossain spoke to the motion, criticising Labor's track record and the abolition of TPVs.

*Ishbel Dunsmore moved a procedural to move R4 and R8 en bloc.*

*Seconder: Ellie*

*Carried.*

Ishbel spoke to the en bloc motions.

Rav Grewal spoke to the en bloc motions, reading a statement from ACAR Honi Soit on Mano Yogalingam.

Ewan McMurtrie spoke to the motion, referring to Sentaor Julian Hill's comments that the issue is too complex, and patting him + Labor on the back with the abolition of TPVs.

Tiana Moore spoke to the motion, criticising Labor and Labor students, as well as calling for action and campaigning for refugees.

Lauren Finlayson spoke to the motion, condemning the ALP for the refugee crisis, and their no access for working rights, health rights, and education rights; the ALP is no less committed than the Liberal Party in their opposition to refugees, students, and workers.

Moved: Annabel Pettit

Seconded: Lucas Pierce

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

## **R8. We stand with Mano & Tamil refugees. Stop Labor's visa-purgatory for refugees**

### **Preamble:**

Last week, Mano Yogalingam died after self-immolating in Melbourne. He was 23 years old, a young father, and a Tamil refugee from Sri Lanka who arrived in this country in 2012. The Tamil Refugee Council confirmed that Mano spending almost 11 years on a bridging visa in Australia was a contributing factor to his death.

Mano had been attending the weeks-long protest outside the Department of Home Affairs, and had been protesting in the days leading up to his death. He was protesting for and alongside others who have spent years on bridging visas, demanding that the Australian government provide asylum seekers with permanent visas.

Mano's death is the outcome of the grief and despondency of being left in the limbo of a bridging visa for over a decade, with the constant fear of being deported. He was failed by successive governments who do not care about refugees. He was a victim of the Labor government's 2014 'fast track' policy that froze claims for refugee status of more than 25,000 asylum seekers who arrived by boat between August 2012 and January 2014, in an attempt to deter boat arrivals. He had previously been denied refugee status due to the 'fast track' policy and he was seeking to appeal the decision.

We echo and seek to amplify the words of, Tamil Refugee Council's spokesperson, Renuga Inpakumar:

"Mano, a 23 year old Tamil was in fear of being deported. Mano was just 23 years old. He would come to the 24/7 action everyday and help everyone.

He felt he had nothing to live for because of the harsh Australian migration laws. This is the life of refugees who have been in limbo for 14 years. We will remember Mano and the many refugees who died due to suicide for the past 14 years because of the harsh immigration laws. We will not give up this fight for permanent visas. We will carry the legacy of refugees who have been victim to these laws."

Shame on Liberal and Labor governments for their similarly racist and unjust immigration policies.

Shame on Tony Burke for failing in his capacity as Home Affairs Minister and for failing to respond to Mano's death.

Shame on white supremacists attacking the refugee protest encampments.

Shame on the police for arresting one refugee and pepper spraying others during the commemorative vigil for Mano at the refugee protest encampment outside the Home Affairs department.

We pledge our solidarity with and support for the encampments in Naarm and on Dharug Country.

Melbourne location: 808 Bourke Street, Docklands

Sydney location: Shop 29, Broadway Plaza, Punchbowl

**Platform:**

1. The USyd SRC condemns Tony Burke and the Labor government for the persistent harm of their policies to refugees and oppressed peoples.
2. The USyd SRC supports the refugee protest encampments in Melbourne and Sydney.

**Actions:**

1. The USyd SRC will post this motion and use its resources to promote and support the refugee encampments in Melbourne and Sydney.
2. The USyd SRC supports the 24/7 refugee encampment in Punchbowl, and will contribute in any way deemed fit.

Moved: Ishbel Dunsmore

Seconded: Rav Greawl

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Procedural: that all remaining motions and reports be moved with zero speakers.

Mover: Alex McEvoy

Secunder: Maddie Clark

Procedural was **WITHDRAWN.**

Procedural: that all remaining motions and reports be moved with two speakers.

Mover: Alex McEvoy

Secunder: Maddie Clark

The procedural was put and **CARRIED.**

## **R5. Do Better, the Sad State of the Response to The Disabilities Royal Commission and the NDIS Bill**

The Federal government's response to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of People with Disability is utterly disappointing and shameful.

The Royal Commission's 222 recommendations are a product of years of work and over 10000 submissions from the community. The Federal government has only seen fit to accept in full 13 recommendations and accept in principle 117 recommendations.

The Commission recommended the implementation of a Disability Rights Act that goes beyond the current discrimination and human rights frameworks that are failing people with disabilities. Submissions to the Commission included cases of NDIS provider misconduct that robust legislation can act as a step towards solving. The Commission also recommended an end to migration discrimination against people with disabilities on the grounds that their disability might incur additional costs to Australia's healthcare system. Furthermore, recommendations were made to end restrictive practices in healthcare and education.

The Federal government has set \$369 million towards the Response, \$227.6 million of which is for an employment program. We condemn the cynical view that what people with disabilities most need is to become compliant and gainfully employed.

Alongside this shameful response to the Commission, Labor and the Liberals joined together to pass the NDIS Amendment Bill to cut at least \$14.4 billion from the NDIS, which will make it objectively more difficult for people both to get on the scheme and get the support they need.

Make no mistake, this is austerity disguised as co-design. The NDIS is already fraught, but disabled people depend on it for critical support. Slashing its funding, and diminishing its capacity to deliver services, will set disabilities justice back decades.

Over the past few months, the government has further scapegoated sex workers in seeking to remove support for sex workers from the NDIS. This is particularly egregious given the case *National Disability Insurance Agency v WRMF (2020)* – which sparked the government’s response – concerned highly-specialised sexual therapy services for a person with multiple sclerosis and serious medical conditions. These services, as the person’s clinical psychologist noted, “significantly improved her mood and confidence.” Sexual freedom and satisfaction is a fundamental right that disabled people are entitled to, just like any non-disabled person is. To argue otherwise is to engage in highly-damaging stereotyping of disabled people.

Platform:

1. The USYD SRC condemns the government’s shameful response to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of People with Disability;
2. The USYD SRC condemns the passing of the NDIS Amendment Bill slashing \$14 billion imposing austerity on those that depend on it for critical support;

Action:

1. The USYD SRC continues the fight for justice for people with disabilities;
2. The USYD SRC shares the Disabilities Collective statement on the NDIS Amendment Bill when published on all social media platforms.

Moved: Victor Zhang

Seconded: Remy Lebreton

## **R6. No Gas in NSW**

On the 14th of August the NSW Legislative Council voted down the *Petroleum (Onshore) Amendment (Liverpool Plains Prohibition) Bill 2023* which would have seen the petroleum titles cancelled and future petroleum exploration and development banned in the Liverpool Plains, Gunnedah, Narrabri, and the Warrumbungle Shire.

The Labor government has perpetuated the myth that exploration for more gas is required for a just transition to renewables. If gas is truly needed the solution is to nationalise petroleum giants (a common sense and pragmatic approach) and cease exports. Even by a neoliberal freest trade logic, Australia lacks the comparative advantage of mining gas compared to nations like Qatar. The gas quality in NSW is of poor quality and done at extreme cost.

This is before we mention the most important aspect which is the destruction it would bring to the lands of the Gomeroi people. We stand in full solidarity with the Gomeroi people in their fight against Santos and both Liberal and Labor governments. It is shameful that a Labor government that claims to be committed to reconciliation fails to even consider the needs and wants of the Gomeroi people.

Given that many motions on gas development in NSW (including specifically in the Pilliga) have been passed at this SRC, there is no need to reiterate the many reasons why further gas development is a **stupid** idea. The need is to take this fight to every level.

Platform:

The USYD SRC condemns NSW Labor for voting down the *Petroleum (Onshore) Amendment (Liverpool Plains Prohibition) Bill 2023* including members who have a related portfolio:

- Penny Sharpe, Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, and Minister for the Environment;
- Paul Scully, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces;
- Yasmin Catley, Minister for the Hunter;
- Tara Moriarty, Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional NSW;
- Courtney Houssos, Minister for Natural Resources;
- Rose Jackson, Minister for Water;

The USYD SRC affirms their solidarity with the Gomeroi people in their fight against Santos and the Labor government;

**Action:**

The USYD SRC reaffirms its commitment to oppose new petroleum developments in NSW;

Members of the USYD SRC commit to use every avenue to express their utmost disgust and opposition to petroleum developments in NSW.

Moved: Victor Zhang

Seconded: ???

**R9. Solidarity with international students, solidarity with staff! Scrap the international student cap.**

**Preamble:**

We strongly condemn the Labor government's recent announcement of plans to cap the number of international students starting at Australian universities and vocational training providers at 270,000 from 2025. Labor has been threatening a larger international student cap for months, despite estimations that up to 14,000 workers at Australian universities could lose their jobs if a cap was introduced.

This is a decrease of 53,000 students from 2023's international student cap, and is one part of the federal government's ongoing attacks on international students. It is steeped in racism, and occurs as the Coalition continues to blame international students for the housing crisis. The Labor government announced earlier this year an increase of visa fees, English testing requirements, and financial capacity requirements for international students. Both the major parties are telling international students that they are nothing more than cash cows in the eyes of the government, or that they are a burden to society.

The Labor government's newly proposed cap of international students is not a benevolent policy to be able to better serve students in smaller quantities. The Labor government has been stripping international students of visas, refusing to respond to calls for rent freezes and cost-of-living relief, and continues to underfund social services. They solely want to control the narrative around immigration being 'out of control'.

Labor says that their goal is to evenly distribute international students around the country's institutions, which treats international students as pawns to be moved around and stripped of their freedom to choose their own universities and courses.

After years of austerity in higher education funding, this Labor government policy of reducing international student enrolments will have severe knock-on effects for universities and vocational education institutions. Successive Liberal and Labor governments have created the conditions for higher education institutions to have to rely on international student fees and the exploitation of these students. Now, by significantly reducing these enrolments without funding to replace that which would be lost from international students, the Labor government is sending a clear message that they do not care about higher education, domestic or international students, or staff. Australia already falls far behind the OECD average of GDP spent on higher education, and this is another big blow.

The response of universities has similarly been insidious. Rather than opposing the policy for its racist characterisation and treatment of international students, university management are worried about their salaries and surpluses. Their first move was to flag austerity towards staff and a hiring freeze. Again, the corporate university is showing that it will always first sacrifice staff and the quality of education in times of difficulty. During 2020 and the COVID-19 lockdowns, the University of Sydney was all too quick to pursue mass-layoffs and a \$58.5 million decline in staff spending.

At the University of Sydney, management seems to forget that they have had six consecutive years of six or seven figure surpluses – making job cuts and hiring freezes wholly unnecessary and unjust. Staff are already struggling with the cost-of-living crisis, casualisation, and being underpaid and overworked. This threat will increase job insecurity and threaten the livelihoods of the teachers and staff who make this University run.

We stand with international students and we stand with staff against these attacks from our governments and higher education institutions. We know that these profiteering elites do not really care about education, students, staff or the community.

The National Union of Students has called on the government to reverse this decision, to protect our universities and to tell international students that they are indeed welcome here. The National Tertiary Education Union has also been vocal about the proposed policy, and has over 5400 members and staff colleagues who signed a petition that demands the government to guarantee

- \* no job losses
- \* phase-in periods for any caps
- \* funding equivalent to any shortfall due to caps
- \* neutral regulators oversee the sector
- \* provider risk ratings are made public

Platform:

1. The USyd SRC joins the National Union of Students and National Tertiary Education Union to demand that the federal government reverse its plans to instate this proposed austere international student cap



2. The USyd SRC condemns all other racist and unjust policies towards international students, including increased financial and English language requirements
3. The USyd SRC opposes the meddling of Labor and Liberal governments in higher education, whether it be their policies of austerity funding, Voluntary Student Unionism, the Jobs Ready Graduates Package, or international student requirements and caps
4. The USyd SRC demands fee-free and accessible education!

Action:

1. The USyd SRC will post a statement condemning the proposed international student cap and affirming its solidarity with international students and staff
2. The USyd SRC will use the resources at its disposal to be part of the campaign against the international student cap, including through the Education Action Group and its International Student Officers
3. The USyd SRC will support the demands of the NTEU from their recent petition, as stipulated above.

Mover: Harrison Brennan

Secunder: ???

## **N. Report of the General Secretaries**

There was no report for the General Secretaries.

## **O. Report of Committees and Officers**

### **O1. Report of the Education Officers**

Grace Street and Shovan Bhattarai tabled a written report

We have had inspiring and successful campaigns recently through the Scrap the CAP: Stalls Day and Student General Meeting for Palestine, but our fight goes on as the University and Labor government continues their attacks against students and social services.

The Campus Access Policy is still alive and well, even if not enforced by Campus Security. It is still being held over activists' heads as a threat to our actions, stalling and flyering. We will continue to oppose the CAP for as long as it seeks to quell dissent and scare off students from engaging in protest and campus culture.

The recent Student General Meeting was a huge testament to the strength of the student movement. In our hundreds, we voted to cut ties, oppose the CAP, for the right to resist, and a one state solution. We defied the CAP afterwards by taking the crowd down to F23 and right to Mark Scott's office. The response from Mark Scott and university management is a shameful attempt to de-legitimise our official Student General Meeting through the SRC with a near-unanimous vote of 600 students. The response seeks to take away our influence and power as the student union and as the representation of the student body's support for Palestine.

We know that management does not care about the SRC or genuine student unionism. They are hosting the 'Student Voice Australasia' Symposium later this month, which seems to be the corporate answer to quietening student activists. USyd is happy to fork out the \$5000 membership fee and arrange this symposium which falsely advertises its events and network as lead by student leaders. Rather, they have only invited their paid and employed Student Ambassadors, and solely told the President of the USU, Bryson Constable. We reject this corporate consultancy approach to student representation that has deliberately not invited the elected representatives and office bearers of the SRC, SUPRA, or faculty representatives.

This choice to crowd-out the SRC and student unions comes as the Labor government announces their plan to cap international students at 270,000 from next year. It is another step in a bigoted sweep of policies that restrict the numbers of international students arriving in Australia, particularly those from non-English speaking countries or those from a lower socioeconomic background. After years of austerity towards higher education from both Labor and Liberal governments, this decision to dramatically reduce international student enrolments without offering alternative funding is highly damaging. We know that universities have learnt to get most of their funding from international students, who they have learnt to exploit, and we know that universities will first sacrifice staff when they come into financial trouble. Despite six years of continual 6 or 7-figure surpluses, USyd has already flagged hiring freezes and job cuts to its staff in response to this proposed cap. We stand with international students, and we stand with staff against these attacks from the federal government, the opposition government, and from our corporate universities.

We will have a meeting next week to discuss the state of student activism and unionism amidst all of these attacks and developments, and we hope to see you there!

## **O2. Report of the Wom\*n's Officers**

Eliza Crossley and Rand Khatib tabled a written report

Over the past two weeks, we have been planning Reclaim & Resist Week, this week is dedicated to championing feminist liberation in all its forms, through radical sex education, decolonisation and celebrating queerness.

We also, with ACAR held another Feminist Anti-Racist Liberation Library (FALL) event, Resisting Erasure: Writing for Liberation hosted by Palestinian author, poet, human rights lawyer and community organiser Sara Saleh. This is an important fortnightly gathering centring topics like gender, race, class, resistance, incarceration, liberation and justice. We also held another Cheese & Tareez event, aimed at outreaching to more women and gender-diverse people!

Last week WoCo also attended a vigil for a USyd student who was murdered, the vigil was hosted by the Women and Girls Emergency Centre. We reflected, grieved, and sent our love and our condolences to the victim's family and friends and for all victims and survivors of domestic violence.

The Women's Collective demands justice and accountability, pushes for comprehensive preventive measures, and demands support for victim survivors. We must confront and eradicate

the deep-rooted misogyny that allows such violence to persist. No one should have to live in fear or lose their life to femicide. We stand in fierce solidarity with all victims and survivors, and we call for immediate and sustained action to end this crisis.

In addition, we also raise concerns about the University of Sydney's recent Sexual Misconduct Report. With 246 reports of sexual misconduct—a staggering 100% increase from 2022—it's evident that sexual violence is deeply entrenched on campus, yet the University's response remains woefully inadequate. Students need real action on sexual violence, including academic considerations for survivors, the elimination of restrictive confidentiality clauses, and a comprehensive approach to addressing sexual violence on campus.

### **O3. Report of the Environment Officers**

We've seen a huge semester of Palestinian activism.

Over 700 students voted in the historic Student General Meeting, demanding that our University cut ties with genocide. This result demonstrated that, without a doubt, students support the struggle for a free Palestine and oppose our University's complicity in genocide. It also highlighted the success of the months of the Gaza Solidarity Encampment. Students are now aware of our university's complicity.

The University has been shameless in their response. We are fighting against a genocide that has killed over 180,000 Palestinians in Gaza, but instead of doing anything to stop this, the University has tried to portray our movement as violent and minoritarian. They have not listened to our demands and continue to grow our University's ties to weapons companies. University management have also instituted the Campus Access Policy, designed to stifle student activism on this campus; a draconian policy that the USyd Enviro Office commits to fighting against.

The school strike we had last week was a continuation of our movement and it was amazing to see other university students and high school students band together. We marched to UTS and back to USyd, marching up to the Quad. This was important to show that all universities have ties to genocide.

We are facing so many fights and we see time and time again our universities and our government oppose what is right and what ordinary people want. The Labor Party has proven without a doubt that they are a party of genocide and of the bosses. They are a party of racism.

It will take fighting on the streets and mobilizing students and workers if we are to win anything against those in power. This is why our office will continue to organise and build activism that can bring more students into these important fights.

### **O4. Report of the Social Justice Officers**

On the 7th of August, the social justice officers helped to organise a historic student general meeting to demand usyd digest from Israel. 800 people attended the meeting, and 600 students

voted in support, showing what side of history we stand on. Importantly, this meeting was as successful as it was due to the effort of students for Palestine activists in leafleting, posterage, and making social media posts to reach as many students as possible.

The student strike for Palestine on the 28th of August was the other main activist event we took part in! This brought along high schoolers and university students from across Sydney to show we are still fighting for Palestine!

## **O5. Report of the Welfare Officers**

Last month welfare officers Jasmine and Julius helped organise the Student General Meeting to demand Sydney uni cut ties with the genocide in Palestine. The SGM was a massive success as around 800 USYD students came out and lined up so they could vote for Palestine. This is the kind of action we need more of if we want to see our university break ties with Israel's genocide. Over the course of the past months, it has become obvious that negotiating with management is a dead end. Management are utterly unsympathetic to our demands and have responded with total hostility to them every step of the campaign. They have offered nothing in negotiations and have responded aggressively to our demands by denying their links to genocide and trying to discredit the campaign. They have said that our demands do not represent students and that they have no plans to review their investments.

The SGM proved that this is a lie and that actually hundreds of students oppose our university's ties to Israel and want to see them broken in light of the genocide and oppression Israel is inflicting on the Palestinians. This should be a warning shot to management but also an important lesson for student activists. The SGM proves there is a big appetite for Palestine activism among students. This SRC needs to take a more leading, activist role to mobilise these students for a sustained, mass campaign that can break our university's ties to genocide.

## **O6. Report of the Refugee Rights Officers**

The Refugee Rights Office is glad to see a political movement by and for the rights of refugees occurring in Australia at the moment, with refugees and their supporters setting up encampments and organising protests and speakouts. There has been an outpouring of support and solidarity; a refreshing change to the silence, especially by the media, of the plight of refugees in this country. What this movement has brought to light is the cruel and dehumanising conditions tens of thousands of refugees are forced to endure. Some have been waiting for over a decade to obtain a permanent visa, forced to regularly go through soul-sucking bureaucratic processes, and unable to access any social services or forms of government assistance. Their status in this country is perpetually unclear, and one can imagine the constant worry of potential deportation or the exaction of arbitrary payments.

Now, refugees are making their voices heard, and directing their justified anger towards the Labor Party. This government has done absolutely nothing for refugees languishing on temporary visas or those languishing in the cells of Manus Island. In fact, they've done worse than nothing; only a few months ago, they attempted to pass a bill which would see refugees forced to organise their own deportation or face imprisonment. The Labor Party have proven they are no friend of

refugees, and the thousands of refugees in Melbourne, Sydney, and now Adelaide, who have set up encampments have made this clear. They are unequivocally demanding the Labor party grant them permanent protection, and show no sign of backing down. The Refugee Rights Office ardently support these efforts, and condemn the criminal conduct of the Labor Party.

On the 30th of August, Annabelle Petit, one of the Refugee Rights Officers, went to speak at a rally organised by the encampment in Punchbowl out the front of MP Tony Burke's office. Over 700 people were in attendance, a large turnout to demand Burke address their calls and advocate for the granting of permanent visas. Since then, Burke has spoken to the encampment, telling them they should be 'patient' and 'these things take time'! This is utterly despicable.

The Refugee Rights Office urges everyone to go down to the encampment in Punchbowl and show your support!

## **07. Disability Officers**

It has been a grim month where the Federal government has published the pitiful response to the Disabilities Royal Commission where only 13 out of over 200 recommendations were accepted in full. The majority of the \$369 million in funding set aside for the response is for employment programs for people with disabilities. We reject the idea that all people with disabilities need to do is to become gainfully employed and compliant. The Commission is a product of years of submission and consultations from 10000 participants.

The NDIS Amendment Bill was also jointly passed by both Labor and the Liberals where over \$14 billion in funding was slashed from the NDIS imposing austerity on people who rely on this critical funding. While we are of the belief that the NDIS is deeply flawed in using private market solutions to provide for people with disabilities and the extreme difficulty it takes for people to get onto the scheme, it cannot be denied that the cuts will negatively impact the lives of those currently do rely on the scheme.

This week (first week of September) is Disabilities Inclusion Week, there is a packed program across this week from our collective, SUPRA, and staff. More information is available on the Disabilities Inclusion Week webpage.

Many congratulations to the team that edited and contributed to ACAR Honi, which included several of our collective members.

Khanh and Victor

Discussion of motions and reports:

Jamie Bridge spoke to the en bloc proposal, on the NDIS proposal, criticising the NDIS system.

Yasmin Johnson spoke to the motion, on the international students proposal, where the two sides of the government vs university bosses – identifying how the government is seeking the

restructuring of universities towards technical skills mixed with a racist rhetoric; the universities meanwhile call for no cap to use international students as cash cows, where international students are only an input into the economy and university revenues.

Motion: that motions R5, R6, and R9 and the reports of the SRC Officers be accepted en bloc.

Moved: Jamie Bridge

Seconded: Yasmine Johnson

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

**P. Special Business**

There were no items of special business.

*The meeting closed at 10:53pm.*