



src activism
advocacy
representation

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MINUTES:

of the 8th regular meeting of the 89th SRC held on 4th October. Meeting held in the Professorial Board Room, Quadrangle.

Quorum count was called at 6:15. The meeting was found quorate.

A. Meeting open at 6:17 pm

A1. Election of Deputy Chairperson

The Chair moved that Bella Pytko be elected Deputy Chairperson.
The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

B. Acknowledgement of Country

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

C. Apologies, Proxies and Leaves of Absence

Apologies were received from:

Amelia Chan
Alex Fitton
Vinil Kumar
Dominic McDonald
Kimberley Murphy
Parvathi Subramaniam
James Gibson

Proxies

Angus Berg to Vanessa Song
Adam Boidin to Brandon Hale
Brendan Ma to Jacob Masina
Edward McCann to Patrick Peter Hendy
Katie Thorburn to Jazzlyn Breen
Andrea Zephy to Nicola Haggerty

Motion to accept the apologies
Moved: Connor Wherrett
Seconded: Dominic McDonald
The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

D. Changes to Membership

E. Electoral Report

E1. Consideration of any resignations

There were no resignations.

F. Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

Minutes of the 5th, 6th and 7th regular meetings of the 89th SRC held on the 15th of June, 1st of August and 6th September.

Motion: that the minutes of the 5th, 6th, and 7th SRC meetings be accepted.

Moved: Aiden Magro

Seconded: Harry Gregg

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.

Connor Wherrett inquired about Isabella Brook's health.

Isabella Brook informed the council that she has been unwell.

Connor Wherrett wish her well soon.

I. Visitor's Business

There was no business for this item.

J. Report of the Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

K. Elections

There were no positions up for election

L. Report of the President and Executive

L1. Executive Minutes

Minutes of the Executive meetings from the 26th May – 6th September 2017

Motion: that the minutes of the executive meetings from 26th May – 6th September 2017 be accepted.

Moved: Daniel Ergas

Seconded: Bella Pytka

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

L2. Report of the Executive

Report of the executive from the 26th May – 4th October 2017.

The report was circulated and noted.

The President deferred the Chair to the Deputy Chairperson.

L3. President's Report

Isabella Brook tabled a written report:

Education Conference:

At the beginning of July I attended NUS Education Conference at the University of Queensland. The conference was really well organised and covered a broad scope of issues. There were some important discussions around the direction of the education campaign for the remainder of the year and how we can ensure collaboration with staff and the NTEU in our activism and campaigns.

Orientation:

I spent the first couple of weeks of semester representing the SRC at a number of orientation events and activities in order to make sure that newly commencing students are aware of the SRC. There was generally a good response from students to the SRC and its services.

NTEU Strikes:

Over the semester the SRC geared up its support for staff and stood in solidarity with the NTEU. We attended the members meeting on August 8 where the members voted for industrial action and held a speak out before hand. Members of the SRC also attended the NTEU's strike and protest on open day.

There was a very strong student contingent at the NTEU's 24hr strike on the 13th of September. I'm immensely proud of everyone who showed their support and solidarity with the strike.

The NTEU has settled on an agreement with the uni and I think as a student Union we should be extremely proud of our contribution to their campaign. Student and staff solidarity is extremely important and the next couple of years are going to be very uncertain times for our staff in terms of job security. I hope to see the SRC continue their support for staff in this time as we have done during the EBA period this year.

Academic Issues:

Committee meetings for the past couple of months have been bogged down with course changes in the lead up to the new curriculum. I have done some work with the casework team in regards to the Student Affairs Unit and changes to the student complaints and resolution policy as well as looking into DNF and DNC grades.

I attended a student roundtable on assessments, and argued for more formative and less summative assessments as well as a consideration around the impacts of group work. This roundtable was mainly focused on graduate qualities and the timing of assessments.

2019 Semester dates were approved at the July academic board meeting. 13 week semesters have been retained, the major change is that semester one will start a week earlier and semester two a week later allowing for an extended winter break. A lot of the issues observed in the earlier proposal have been addressed and this has alleviated a number of our concerns in regards to the impact that these changes will have on students.

There is discussion at the University Executive level in regards to creating a uniform late penalty across the university. Whilst to some extent the SRC supports uniformity we do not support harsh late penalties that will unfairly target disadvantaged students. There are a number of issues with the university's proposed model so I have been working alongside SUPRA to argue against these changes. Having a fair late work policy is especially important considering the state of our special considerations system and the centralization of vital uni services.

The Student Reps of the Academic board have also been given 30 minutes to the present to the academic board next Tuesday. We will be discussing the student experience and focusing on the impact of centralization of student services as well as the postgraduate and international student experience. I have been working closely with the other student reps to pull this together.

AHRC Report:

At the beginning of August the Australian Human Rights Commissions released their report into sexual assault on university campuses along with Usyd specific report. What is evident from these reports is the utter failings of universities to provide a safe a sexual assault free campus for students.

The Safer Communities Advisory Group has met several times over the past month to discuss a range of things from an impact plan for the release of these results to our next steps forward from here. Whilst this has included important topics of discussion such as the information disseminated to staff and students regarding support services as well as training for student services staff, what is still clear is the universities reluctance to make any meaningful and impactful change to prevent sexual assault.

I want to especially thank the Women's Officers for pulling together the SRC's response to the release of these results. This report is not the end of the fight against sexual assault on our campus. The SRC will continue to place ongoing pressure on management to address this issue meaningfully. We need a zero tolerance policy towards sexual assault and adequate support must be provided for survivors of sexual assault.

Bookshop

Over the course of the year the executive has been having a number of discussions in regards to the future of the SRC bookshop. The executive has moved to begin the managing change process as per the SRC's EBA in order to close the bookshop. This is due to a number of reasons - the first being the decline of the physical book industry as a whole, with students now buying books online etc. the bookshop has seen a decline in students using its services. Whilst the bookshop is a service for students and not a business making venture for the SRC we have also considered the financial situation of the bookshop, especially with the almost \$20 000 rent we are now being charged by the USU. We acknowledge that this is a big decision for the SRC to make and a massive undertaking for the organization and the executive has the full commitment of doing things the right way by our staff and by the EBA. So far within this process we have met with the Staff committee twice and have made contact with the CPSU.

Security Incident

Campus security entered the offices of the SRC and stole student property from the OB room. I emailed the head of campus security to express our outrage at this event and let them know that they are not welcome in the SRC offices, but I am yet to hear a response. I've also spoken to SRC staff to ensure that this does not happen again.

Postal plebiscite

The SRC is committed to social justice and equality and has been campaigning heavily for a YES vote in the postal plebiscite. We had the disgusting display of homophobia on campus last month and it was so amazing to see SRC activists coming together to protest these bigots. I think events like that are important as they remind us that we can't be complacent in our fight for equality.

The Queer Officers have been doing amazing work over the past couple of months, running stalls and organising phone banks. I want to encourage everyone to get involved in the campaign. I also want to acknowledge that this is a difficult time for our LGBTI comrades so please make sure you're looking after your own mental health and seek help and support if you need it.

ELA

I have re-offered appointment to Barrister Greg Young of Sir James Martin Chambers as the Electoral Legal Arbiter for this year's elections. He is the same ELA that was used last year. I am bringing this appointment to council for ratification.

Motion to accept the report of the President.

Moved: Dominic McDonald

Seconded: Claudia Gulbransen-Diaz

The motion was put and **CARRIED**.

Procedural Motion to move to R1.

Moved: Connor Wherrett

Seconded: Vanessa Song

The procedural was put and **CARRIED**.

R.1 Condemnation of Honi Soit

Shortly after the most recent SRC and *Honi Soit* elections, an article was posted to the Honi Soit facebook page detailing matters relating to the unsuccessful presidential candidate, Bella Pytko and her respective faction, SLS.

This article;

1. Was based on screenshots that were obtained by a member of the faction without Pytko's consent.
2. Did not bring up the fact that such screenshots were obtained in such a manner that should be brought into question
3. Did not disclaim the person who obtained the screenshots.
4. Was not authorised by any of the Directors of Student Publications.
5. Was a personal attack on a Presidential candidate who was going through an election loss.
6. Angled itself as more of a character assassination than an authentic insight into student politics.

Shortly after, Honi Soit published another article that thankfully did bring the actions of the person who obtained the screenshots into question.

However, this new article still failed to name the person who obtained and supplied the screenshots.

An apology was issued, but this was inadequate considering the gravity of the article before it. Notably, the apology;

1. Was attempted to be buried at the bottom of the article, rather than in a separate statement.
2. Did not acknowledge any complicity in the breach of personal privacy.
3. Did not name the person who was responsible for the breach of privacy, despite interviewing them for the article.
4. Did not acknowledge that despite admitting to issues with the first article, it remained live online for over 10 hours after issues were admitted.
5. Did not address that it was a piece designed to bully and harass rather than report.

Platform

1. The SRC condemns the current editors of *Honi Soit* for their complicity in the targeted bullying and humiliation of the co- General Secretary and presidential candidate Bella Pytka.
2. The SRC condemns the current editors of *Honi Soit* for their failure to acknowledge their complicity in the targeted bullying of the of the co- General Secretary and presidential candidate Bella Pytka.

Action

1. This motion will be posted on the SRC Facebook page.
2. This motion will be sent to the editors of Honi Soit.
3. This motion will be published in the next edition of Honi Soit.

Moved: Connor Wherrett

Seconded: William Edwards

Connor Wherrett spoke to their motion.

William Edwards spoke to the motion

Bella Spoke to the motion expressing her hurt at the article, explaining the impact it had on her and noting that the way the article was written felt like they were validating the invasion of her privacy.

Gabe Long spoke to the motion, and added that while he was not at the meeting the article referred to, he was asked to go on record to say that the majority of people who wanted those photos leaked were under the false impression that they had not been taken from Bella's private messages and they were leaked ethically, this is ridiculous, and there were a lot of people who were yelled at to release them a number of people. I would like to apologies that I was not at the meeting to yell at Casey Thompson like she yelled at others to release those messages.

Natassia Chrysanthos spoke on the motion, saying that while she was not that the Honi meeting where the editors decided to publish the article she was deeply sorry at the pain caused and that proper procedures were not followed that would have prevent this from published. Adding that while some have felt that there should have been a clearer apology for the article added sooner, she would like to assure the council and Bella Pytka that there was never any intension to bury the apology. She added that she would like to acknowledge fault here for Honi, and that while she did not wish to absolve any blame or dismiss what anyone is feeling, she would like the council to know Honi will work to make sure that this doesn't happen again.

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

M. Report of the Vice-Presidents

Iman Farrar and James Gibson tabled a written report:

Since the last meeting, the federal government has announced that the PATH internship program will now include basic retail internships.

This effectively means that young adults and students could be forced to work for 3 months unpaid, performing menial tasks like stacking shelves in basic retail outlets like coffee shops and bakeries in order to access their already woefully insufficient welfare payments.

The Vice Presidents agree with the ACTU's assertion that the PATH internship is a 'government-sanctioned program that actually borders on slavery' and if an internship program did create more jobs 'people should be paid for those jobs'.

As such, over the next two months we plan to organise a campaign that denounces the PATH program and informs the student population of the program. Material is nearly finalised and so if anyone is interested in being involved, please contact us at

vice.president@src.usyd.edu.au

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

Moved: Bella Pytka

Seconded: Imogen Grant

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

N. Report of the General Secretaries

Bella Pytka and Daniel Ergas tabled a written report

Bella Pytka:

I attended two different committee meetings, on behalf of Isabella, whilst she was at the NUS Education Conference. The first of which is the Undergraduate Studies Committee, at which, minor course amendments were passed in relation to a variety of degrees, across the university. A few issues of concerns were raised by the Casework staff, however they were resolved. The second was a working group for Academic Board, which was established to discuss the voting rights of ex-officio members to vote for the Chair of the Academic Board. The working group came to the conclusion that the current system of voting for the Chair of the Board were sufficient, however it is unclear as to whether the position of the working group is being followed.

I attended the Learning Analytics Advisory Board, which I am now sitting on permanently. The first (and inaugural) meeting of the committee was held a couple of months ago, and its work is relating to the access of data at the university, and how a student's data is handled. The next meeting for the board is in the last week of September.

I have been working closely with Will Edwards, one of the Queer Officers, regarding the YES campaign. Prior to the closure of the AEC enrolment database, a group of students from the SRC and the Queer Collective campaigned on campus to drive up enrolment. A few days ago, I attended the Queer Collective call night to help the yes campaign and the equality campaign.

The NTEU had their first strike during Open Day, which we both attended in solidarity, and there will be another strike on the 13th of September.

We have been working with Isabella, the executive, and the staff committee to begin the process of closing the bookshop, and ensure that anything that is done is done in accordance with the EBA.

Finally, attached is the current Year to Date:

Collectives and Departments	Budgeted	YTD 19.07.17
Autonomous Collective Against Racism (ACAR)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,782.22
Campus Refugee Action Collective (CRAC)	\$ 2,846.00	\$ 400.50
Disabilities and Carers Collective	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 149.68
Education Action Group (EAG)	\$ 19,100.00	\$ 6,289.06
Environment Collective (Enviro)	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 7,912.66
Indigenous Collective	\$ 950.00	
International Students' Collective	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 358.50
Queer Action Collective (QuAC)	\$ 3,760.00	\$ 1,215.39
Wom*n's Collective (WoCo)	\$ 4,884.00	\$ 1,980.41
Global Solidarity Department	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 636.53
Intercampus Department	\$ 400.00	
Sexual Harassment Department	\$ 360.00	\$ 13.00
Social Justice Department	\$ 750.00	\$ 343.95
Student Housing Department	\$ 200.00	
Welfare Department	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 635.45
Executive resources pool	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,053.82
Subtotal	\$ 56,450.00	\$ 22,771.17

Daniel Ergas:

Daniel's month, by the \$\$\$:

\$113 – amount Campus Security owes us and SUPRA for stealing the A0 posters I designed (private property rights, anyone?)

\$5 000 – amount Honi said we planned to spend on the 10 metre inflatable 'Scabby the Rat'

\$79.46 – amount *actually* spent on renting the 10 metre inflatable 'Scabby the Rat' from our comrades at the ETU

Priceless – having 'Scabby the Rat' for a whole week (Monday to Friday next week)!

Hello! Welcome to my little bit of our Gen-Sec report for this week. I'd like to cover three themes of what I've been up to:

1. USU

I'm launching a petition this week to requisition a General Meeting of the USU, in the wake of the Board's decision to keep its outlets open during the staff and student strike next Wednesday. This only needs 200 signatures from Access card holders to force the USU to convene a members' meeting, where we can start the process of changing its constitution, and pass motions demanding the Board stand up for students' learning conditions.

Take a look (and sign it!) here – <https://form.jotform.co/danielergas/ourUSU>. (You can take a look here for the wording – https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rak1pA-tjP4mzB3cUAmR7B2_tbeCWmKGUGJ5pqXVygw/edit).

2. STRIKES

As foreshadowed in the ‘my month, by the \$\$\$’ I have been working with the EAG on building for the staff strikes next Wednesday.

With Nic Avery from SUPRA, I designed and printed snazzy A0 posters that were put up around campus – a few of which were then stolen from the OB room (!). These posters have been a wild success, and even friends of mine from *outside stupol* (yes, such a thing exists) liked them.

With the ETU in Victoria (excellent union), I have organised a Scabby rental (A HUGE RAT) for the strikes. It is so, so cheap, and probably the best thing I’ve ever done at Uni. Get keen.

3. CO-OP

I will speak to this item! Actually I can’t.

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

Moved: William Edwards

Seconded: Connor Wherrett

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

O. Report of Committees and Officers

O1. Report of the Education Officers

Report of the Education Officer, April Holcombe, from September council.

Strike

The Education Action Group has done great work in the past few weeks to raise awareness amongst students for the staff strike on Wednesday 13 September. We have created materials that explain the NTEU’s demands, which we have also translated into Mandarin. Lots of poster runs have also taken place, and we condemn the censorial intimidation antics of management who sent security into our democratic union space to steal student property. They should never be allowed into our offices.

The Open Day strike and action was a huge success, and we have been holding stalls on Eastern Avenue which students have reacted very positively to. We have designed banners for supportive students to hold on the picket lines. I have also been in communication with student activists and education offices across Sydney who will be travelling to USyd to assist with the strike.

The ETU Vic has kindly offered to send us Scabby the Rat for the pickets, which we will have towering over City Rd entrance.

The union is facing an escalated offensive from management who are attempting to hold a scab ballot. I've been attending NTEU members' meetings and campaign committee meetings so we can mutually stay in the loop and support each other. Talk of further strike action beyond Sept 13 is encouraging, and we are prepared to support as many strikes as necessary for staff to win all their demands.

Pickets will begin from 7am on Wednesday, all around the perimeter of USyd. We encourage every student unionist to rock up from then.

Marriage equality

In light of the urgency of the issue at the moment, i have also been helping to organise the campaign for the YES vote. We have organised a protest for Sunday 10 September which is shaping up to be the largest LGBTI rights rally in Sydney's, if not Australia's, history. Don't miss it!

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

Motion: Harry Gregg

Seconded: Jake Williams

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

02. Report of the Wom*n's Officers

- Changes to 1800 RESPECT
 - From the end of October they will no be answering the calls. They have said that by accepting the contract they would have to place files into the hands of the MHS and that confidence and trust of survivors would be compromised as a result of this.
 - There would be issues with training, and there would also be difficulties with regards to pay and working conditions. The work model is not conducive with the support needed.
 - They have had to fire 50 staff members already and will probably have to shutdown completely to cover costs.
- From now on the hotlines to refer people to would be - National University Support Line – this is a number that is for sexual assault services, as you can there are issues with the name, students are often expecting to be able to get academic support from this line which has created some complications.
- HRC report came out has a number of activities and reform with regards to it.
 - We are asking the University to develop an action plan to put the recommendations on the human Rights Commission into effect. We have a clause in the report asking them to explain why they won't respond to the recommendations so they at least have to say why.

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

Motion: Aiden Magro

Seconded: Bella Pytka

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

P. Special Business

There were no items of special business.

Q. Motions of Notice

Q1. Vote Corbyn and build the fight!

British Prime Minister Theresa May has called a general election for 8th June 2017. The SRC must support Jeremy Corbyn's election campaign and take note of his principled left-wing stances for our own policies and campaigns.

The Conservative party and New Labour have presided over vicious austerity in Britain. Here are a few examples of what the current government has wrought in Britain:

1. The sacking of 1 million public sector workers by last November.
2. 4.3 billion pounds in pay cuts for NHS staff.
3. Raising of the cap on university tuition to 9 thousand pounds a year.
4. Cuts to disability benefits that have seen thousands of people with physical or mental illness left without ample support – there are many cases of people dying in the days and weeks following having their benefits cut.
5. Cuts to NHS budgets to the point where 4 out of 5 hospitals are now deemed unsafe to practice in.
6. Racist scapegoating of refugees and Muslims.
Border controls that have left thousands in makeshift camps in Calais, which were subsequently burnt down and evacuated by French authorities.
7. Military interventions, weapons trading and support for allied military interventions throughout the Middle East.

This is just a handful of the crimes that the Tories have committed in government - all of which are building on the neoliberal policies implemented by New Labour.

Corbyn represents a break with this neoliberal consensus - he has put forward widely supported social democratic policies, gained the support of a large majority of the Labour Party membership, and has transformed the Labour Party into the largest social democratic party in Europe.

Despite this, the majority of the Parliamentary Labour Party have persistently attempted to undermine Corbyn, formally challenging his leadership last year, putting forward Owen Smith, a "soft leftist" and damp tea towel and failure. Some prominent figures in Labour, such as Tony Blair, have gone as far as to encourage people to vote Liberal Democrat or Tory. The right wing members of the PLP who continue to sabotage Corbyn in this way must be purged from the party if Corbyn is to have a chance at winning the upcoming election.

Whichever party wins, it is vital that Britons engage in struggle on the streets and in the workplaces to push back the bosses and the austerity agenda. A left wing election campaign

run by Jeremy Corbyn could push the political debate substantially to the left, increasing the confidence and combativity of students, the working class and the oppressed.

Platform:

1. The SRC supports Jeremy Corbyn's Labour in the upcoming UK general election.
2. The SRC recognises that many of the policies put forward by Corbyn, such as increased funding for education and healthcare, and an increase to the minimum wage, are positions that are or should be supported by the SRC, and that we must actively involve ourselves in campaigns for these reforms.
3. The SRC recognises that Jeremy Corbyn is far more left wing than any parliamentarian in the Australian Labor Party.

Action:

The SRC will publicly condemn the Australian Labor Party for meeting with Mike Pence, Donald Trump's Vice President.

Connor Wherrett spoke to the motion, saying that regardless of your position, if you can win an election he will support you, but there is no election coming up in the UK anytime soon so this seems irrelevant and the motion will need updating. Adding that with regards to the Australian Labor party meeting with foreign government officials, that regardless of what you think of them, the government and the opposition need to communicate with other governments.

Harry Gregg spoke to the motion nothing that the action point seemed unreasonable. Adding that while he will vote for the motion the idea that the Australian Labor Party would just stop talking to the American government was absurd.

Liam Donohoe spoke to the motion adding that there were many weird statements that had occurred in the last 5 minutes, noting that he thought the most interesting was that politics don't matter as long as the labor party wins, though he found it unsurprising.

Harry Gregg added that we should Nationalize the Banks

Moved: Gabriel Long

Seconded: Aiden Magro

The motion was put and **FAILED**

Q2. Motion: Streamlining assessment submission guidelines

Across the university there is wide variation in how courses are organised and assessed. The university has made headway in standardising administration for units-of-study through standardised unit-of-study outlines. This reform, while beneficial, does not go far enough. Submitting assignments is still fraught by a vast number of different requirements depending on faculty, department and unit of study. There are no standardised requirements for hard-copy or soft-copy submission; nor required submission times; nor protocol regarding turn-it-in requirements. The lack of clarity and consistency is concerning.

For example, in the law faculty assessments must be submitted in hard copy to the law school at a variety of cut-off times. In the arts faculty, depending on department, assessments can be hard or soft copy and are often (but not always) required at 12:00 AM midnight on the due date.

The lack of consistent requirements is unnecessarily complex, confusing and unfair. In many cases it inhibits the submission of fairly completed work. Unduly onerous submission requirements often affect disadvantaged students the most. For those who live far from university, having to spend several hours commuting to submit a single document before going home is costly. For students who work long hours and can't afford to take time off hard-copy submissions are a nightmare. Stories of day or two day early submissions for hard copy assignments simply because the person couldn't attend the due date in person are not uncommon. These systems punish students who deserve it least and impact academic performance. Simplifying and standardising submission requirements is an important reform that will greatly benefit the student body.

As the peak body for student welfare on campus, the SRC should take active steps to lobby the university administration to change this poor policy.

Platform:

- (1) The SRC supports the introduction of a universal and streamlined submissions process for undergraduates across all faculties.
This process will:
Abolish hard-copy submissions
Require all work to be submitted online via turn-it-in before midnight (12:00 AM) of the due date where possible
- (2) The SRC supports all reforms that streamline submission requirements and make the submissions process equitable for all students.

Action:

- (1) The SRC will lobby the university administration to adopt the policy outlined hereto & will support any policy changes which streamline the submission process.

Moved: Timothy Berney-Gibson

Seconded: Brendan Ma

Timothy Berney-Gibson spoke to the motion noting the inconsistency of when assessments are due and that this makes submitting assessments unnecessarily complicated.

Jake Williams spoke to the motion saying that it was a good motion but there needed to be a slight amendment as it's not always physically possible over all faculties to submit online, of example where physical models or artworks need to be submitted. Suggested the motion be amended to say "where possible" at the end of platform point 2.

It was amenable to the movers.

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

Q3. Censure Lecturer Tim Anderson for Supporting and Enhancing the North Korean Regime

Preamble

The North Korean regime is a rogue state that has consistently violated international sanctions and the human rights of their people. It should be without recognised without a doubt that Kim Jong Un is a dictator who has systematically deprived the North Korean people of their liberties, starved people en masse and conducts public executions of dissenters regularly. The United Nations has adopted a resolution every single year since 2005 to condemn the regime. Activist and North Korean survivor Park Yeonmi calls the regime “Indescribable. No humans deserve to be oppressed just because of their birth place.” The flagrant violations of human rights must be remembered in the context of the North Korean regime.

Beyond this, Kim Jong Un regularly threatens peace and stability across the Pacific. His pursuit to develop nuclear missiles is a severe threat and act of blustering aggression against Australia, our allies in South Korea and the world. Efforts to denuclearize the Korean peninsula are paramount to preventing conflict.

Therefore, it is extremely concerning and deplorable that Mr Anderson has chosen to undertake a “learning and solidarity visit” to North Korea and pledged solidarity, through his social media channels, with the regime. Mr Anderson has previously disseminated material and assertions that support other dictatorships, such as the Assad regime, with extreme propaganda. It is unknown whether his claims on these matters are being exhibited throughout his courses, as a lecturer of international politics. If they are, it would be gravely concerning.

Free speech and academic debate is important on campus. In a position of authority and academic counsel, Mr Anderson’s assertions and allegiance to dangerous propaganda that neglects the violated rights of millions of individuals deserve to be responded to be speech that condemns such assertions. These claims are not made as nuanced contributions to complex international issues – they are irresponsible, wrong and shameful. Beyond Mr Anderson’s statements, his trip to North Korea would have directed funds directly to the regime. Funds paid for by our universities.

Drawing upon the experiences of people who have experienced and survived through the horrors of Kim Jong Un’s North Korea, Park Yeonmi criticises people in the West for laughing at the regime rather than acknowledging them as pure, ruthless murderers. The SRC should listen to the stories of people like Park Yeonmi, and criticise in the strongest possible terms

people in positions of authority and stature who not merely laugh at Kim Jong Un, but support him and his brutality.

Platform

- (1) The SRC reaffirms in the strongest possible terms that the rogue dictatorship of Kim Jong Un is both a blameworthy threat to international peace and security and also a barbaric and despicable violator of the rights of the people of North Korea.
- (2) The SRC condemns Mr Anderson for pledging solidarity with the Kim dictatorship and promoting its propaganda through tour funding and praise.

Action

- (1) The SRC calls on the University to review Mr Anderson's conduct, particularly in the academic context, and undertake appropriate responses if any.
- (2) The SRC respects the facilitation of free debate on nuanced matters of international relations, but condemns the wilfully blind propaganda of the North Korean regime.
- (3) The SRC will, before the next meeting, invite representatives from the Brain and Mind Centre to meet with representatives with the object to further collaboration on promoting eHealth technologies and/or initiatives to support students.
- (4) The SRC will share the new online course on its Facebook page.

Moved: Brendan Ma

Seconded: Ed McCann

The motion was put and **FAILED**.

Q4. We Will Fight, We Will Win, Put The Bigots In The Bin

Preamble:

Last week in Melbourne a monumental moment took place - over 20,000 people marched for marriage equality, making it the largest demonstration for LGBTI rights in this country's history. This is the best possible thing that could have come out of Turnbull's postal vote campaign. Turnbull's postal vote is a scornful move, it is another way of trying to delay passing marriage equality. And also it tries to stymie and disenfranchise the demographics most supportive of LGBTI rights, while trying to give a leg-up to the reactionaries.

In the past few weeks in Australia we've seen great work of ramping up the Yes campaign and gearing up people to vote. All manner of progressive groups and organisations have put in time and effort to promote enrolment, the yes vote, and rallies for marriage equality.

In the same timeframe we've seen arch-reactionary dinosaurs and cretins crawl out of their hovels. From the likes of the usual offenders of the Australian Christian Lobby, to Tony Abbott, who tried to turn the debate into one about 'political correctness' and 'free speech', because he knows he's lost the debate about gay rights - to the far-right Antipodean Resistane who posted obscene posters that said 'stop the fags' among other things. The marriage equality discussion and issue has been a pole for the hard reactionary right to

coalesce around and push their bigoted drivel. But the left have been doing a great job so far of calling them out and drowning them out with messages supporting marriage equality and LGBTI rights, and messages of contempt for the likes of Turnbull who have held out granting what is fundamentally such a basic reform.

To win marriage equality won't just mean that same sex couples can get married, that LGBTI people will have one less civil barrier torn down for them, and it will mean that we've won a victory against the bigots. Tearing the goal of marriage equality out of the hands of the politicians that have been denying it from us for so long will be a massive step forward for the rights and the confidence of LGBTI people. And a loud and proud defence of those who want to marry their same sex partner can naturally lead to sympathy with other groups who are targets of the conservative powers that be - such as trans people, refugees, Muslims, and indigenous people. A win for one oppressed group is a win for all the oppressed, because it's a blow against our common enemy - the reactionary ruling class that has an interest in keeping the masses ground down.

We have an opportunity to make history again, by beating the record set in Melbourne at Sydney's rally for marriage equality on September 10th. And I daresay that will be an important stepping stone for bringing home a smashing victory for a yes vote come the survey - and a step towards wrenching the reform of marriage equality out of the crusty claws of the politicians who have held back for years - and winning this battle over the bigots once and for all.

Platform:

- The USyd SRC recognises the postal vote is a garbage delaying tactic by a useless government
- The USyd SRC believes that marriage equality should just be passed, but with the postal vote going ahead, that everyone should enrol and vote yes
- The USyd SRC acknowledges the vital role mass rallies and protests have played in pushing forward the fight for marriage equality over the past 10 years

Action points:

- The SRC will share the FB event for the October 21st rally from their FB page
- Every collective will share the FB event for the October 21st rally from their FB page
- All SRC activists will attend the October 21st rally for marriage equality and bring as many people they know with them as they can
- SRC collectives will bring contingents to the September 10 rally for marriage equality

Moved: Aiden Magro

Seconded: William Edwards

Aiden Magro spoke to the motion and said that now that this has passed please come to the protest at 21st October Belmore Park.

Will Edwards amended the motion to update the dates to be for the 21st October rally and asked that people try come out to a calls or dock knock for marriage equality.

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Q5. Get ready to STRIKE!

Preamble

Sydney University staff are striking for 24 hours on Wednesday 13 September. The trade union will also hold a protest action at 1pm on that day. On Monday 3 September, management emailed a farcical online poll to prepare for a non-union ballot over their offer of job losses and wage cuts. The trade union is already contemplating additional industrial action in response.

Platform

1. Sydney Uni SRC supports every demand of the National Tertiary Education Union.
2. Sydney Uni SRC condemns the University of Sydney Union for voting to scab on strike days.

Action

1. Sydney Uni SRC reaffirms its prior commitments to shut down the SRC offices during all strike hours in solidarity with striking staff, so no one employed by the union will work in the building.
2. All SRC councillors and office bearers should join the picket lines around campus from 7am on Wednesday.
3. SRC will have a lawyer present and/or contactable on the day to assist with any legal questions or concerns.

Moved: April Holcombe (Education Officer)

Seconded: Lily Campbell (Welfare Officer)

William Edwards noted that this fell into a similar tense issue as the previous motion but hoped everyone had attended regardless.

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

Q6. Security Motion

Preamble:

On the 30th of August, Sydney University security entered the SRC Office bearers room and removed SRC property from the site. The property in question were posters organised by the Education Action Group detailing information about the upcoming NTEU Staff Strike on the 13th of September. It not only shows that University management trampled on students freedom to support political activism on campus, it shows the extent to which they are willing to go to undermine student/staff solidarity in the upcoming industrial campaign.

The SRC is a democratically elected body by and for the students of this University to right authorities such as University Management and as such, the SRC must enforce its right as a representative body to uphold freedom to politically organise without interference from University management or security.

We do not accept that campus thugs, who are out to do the dirty work of management, have complete and free access to our space, let alone our activist space.

Action:

1. The SRC condemns University management and Campus security for raiding the SRC.
2. The SRC will Brief SRC Office Bearers and Staff on not allowing Security to enter the facilities.
3. The SRC maintains its commitment to uphold the rights of students to organise political activism without interference from the University Administration.

Moved: Kim Murphy (Social Justice Officer)

Seconded: Daniel Ergas (General Secretary)

Daniel spoke to the motion noting that the word raid may be little over dramatic but if it works.

Aiden Magro expressed his anger at securities actions by saying fuck them.

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

R. General Business

R2. Thank you Macklemore for stopping homophobia in Australia

Over the weekend, Macklemore performed his wonderful version of ally anthem 'Same Love' at the NRL Grand Final

Platform

The University of Sydney SRC thanks Macklemore for his commitment to ending homophobia in Australia

Action

The University of Sydney SRC will record a 10 second video whereby we will sing the lyrics of 'Same Love'. We will then post this on the SRC Facebook page.

Moved: Connor Wherrett

Seconded: Harry Gregg

Connor Wherrett spoke to the motion stating, "We were expecting Mackeless, but we got Macklemore. Heaven knows that a game where men touch each other needs a little more

gayness in it. Go buy the song iTunes. You may think it was expensive– but shit, it was 99c. Will I voting for this motion? Damn right I support it.”

William Edwards spoke to the motion adding that perhaps due to contention, there should be included a pronunciation guide on how to pronounce Macklemore. Also suggesting that Honi be asked to tweet at Macklemore and that all Councillors who can do also.

Aiden Magro wanted to add that Macklemore threw the first brick at Stonewall to the motion. It was no amendable to the movers and was withdrawn.

I was suggested that the action point be held over till next Council meeting.

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

The meeting closed at 7:21pm.