

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



Wednesday 14 May 2025, 6:00pm

University of Adelaide North Terrace Campus, Hughes 323

Zoom Link:

AGENDA AND MEETING PAPERS

AGENDA

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

The SRC acknowledges that we meet on the traditional country of the Kurna people. We acknowledge that the land upon which Australia has been built was and always will be an integral part of the spiritual and cultural history of Indigenous people and that this land was never ceded.

1.2. Attendance

- President: Aiden Wang
- General Secretary: Edward Archer
- Education Officer: Edward Faulkner
- Environmental Officer: Colby Miles
- Social Justice Officer: Jarod Xia
- International Student Officer: Jennifer Tran
- Mature Age Officer: Nick Li
- Postgraduate (Coursework): Janini
- Disability Officer: Madhav Aiyappa
- Rural Officer: Oscar Harding
- Waite Office: Weiya Zhu
- Welfare Officer: Patrick Pile
- Women's Officer: Lin Huang
- Queer Officer: April Glyn-Roe
- General Councillors:
 - Lachlan Priest
 - Rachel Files
 - Kris Duda
 - Sudharsanan Venkatraman
 - Prasanth Ramesh
 - El Hall
 - Raphael Duffy
 - Adrian Nicolescu

1.3. Apologies

1.4. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: that the agenda as circulated be adopted.

1.5. Welcome

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Recommendation: That the SRC accept the minutes of the meeting of 16th December 2024 as a true and accurate record (Appendix 1).

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

ACTION	PERSON	STATUS
SRC Casual Vacancies	Edward Archer, General Secretary	Ongoing

4. Correspondence

5. New Members

6. Office Bearer Reports & Motions

6.1. President

Dear Council Members,

After a period of challenges that temporarily affected our council's functionality, I am pleased to confirm we are now fully positioned to continue delivering on our commitments. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the student representatives who have consistently placed student needs first, advocating passionately during this uncertain time.

As we step into the final year before the University merger, I am deeply honoured to serve once again as your SRC President. At the beginning of my term in 2024, I established four strategic pillars to guide our work: Health and Wellbeing, Academic Excellence and Employability, Inclusivity and Diversity, and Sustainability. These pillars remain at the heart of my efforts as we continue to shape a supportive, inclusive, and forward-thinking campus community through advocacy.

Among our commitment, the SRC Food Pantry stands out as a powerful testament to the strength and compassion of our student body. Since developing this idea to launching it as a subcommittee of YouX with support from SRC Officers, the Pantry has supported over 4,000 students, significantly addressing food insecurity and demonstrating what we can accomplish through solidarity and collaboration. My sincere thanks go to every student volunteer, partner, and YouX staff member who has contributed to the Pantry's success. I would also like to welcome any student who has not yet accessed this service to visit Union House level 4 every academic Wednesday 12-2pm for the food pantry.

The upcoming University of Adelaide and UniSA merger is the most significant transformation in our institution's history—and it is happening this year. Throughout this transition, safeguarding student representation remains my top priority. I am actively involved in cross-university working groups to advocate for robust, independent student voice structures post-merger. Your perspectives are vital in this process, and I encourage all Officers to engage wherever possible through consultations and feedback sessions.

Beyond these core initiatives, the SRC has reinforced its commitments to inclusivity and sustainability—from advocating for mature-aged and international student support, to petitioning for

continued funding for essential programs like the Period Poverty Program and Gender-Based Violence prevention initiatives.

As we move forward, I urge you all to remain actively involved. Our Council thrives when we have fresh voices and ideas. Please encourage students to attend our meetings, join our initiatives, and participate in our advocacy work, especially during this crucial transition period.

Reflecting on my journey at university—from engaging with clubs, volunteering with YouX and SRC, to reading OnDit as a first-year student—I feel privileged to now work alongside all of you to represent our student body. Every conversation with students and every project we deliver reinforces why our work matters.

Having served as General Secretary in 2023, President in 2024 and as a Board Director and Executive of YouX in 2025, I've had the privilege of working closely across various university committees, Academic Board, and governance bodies. These experiences have deepened my commitment to advocacy and shown me how meaningful student voices are in shaping our shared experience.

Now as President for one last time, I treat this position with both humility and passion. Every conversation with students, every meeting, and every project reminds me why I do this work. I always strive to put students first, working hard to champion the changes that will have a lasting, positive impact on our community. This is more than just a role—it's a responsibility I hold with deep respect and a genuine desire to make our university a better place for all of us.

Now, more prepared than ever, I look forward to leading this organisation to success one more time. Together, let's make this year impactful, inclusive, and memorable.

Student Passing and Media Enquiry

On 8 May 2025, the SRC received a media enquiry from Channel 10 regarding the tragic passing of University of Adelaide student Samiya Malik. As I was not personally aware of the incident nor had any contact from her family or friends, I considered it inappropriate to provide detailed comment without further information.

I advised YouX marketing that while we are deeply saddened by the loss, we were not in a position to speak personally about Samiya just yet. I plan to raise this matter at the next Council meeting to check if any Officer has been contacted or is connected.

If any SRC Officer knew Samiya personally, has been contacted by her friends or family, or would like to assist by speaking to Channel 10, please contact me directly.

Delegation of Authority for YouX Amalgamation Related Affairs

Since early 2024, I have actively represented the SRC as part of the University Merger Student Representation Working Group, advocating for the protection and strengthening of student voice in the context of the proposed amalgamation between the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia.

Through these efforts, it has been agreed between YouX, USASA, and the universities that a Student Representative Council will continue to exist within the new student association. However the

governance, form and membership of the SRC has not been established and its currently an ongoing process.

Given the pace of developments and the importance to perform actions to ensure the SRC's interests are properly explored, protected, and advanced during this transitional and uncertain period, it is appropriate for Council to formally delegate authority to the President to act as the principal representative on merger-related matters.

Motion:

That the Student Representative Council:

1. Appoints the President as the principal representative and liaison of the SRC in matters arising from or related to YouX's proposed amalgamation, including any engagement and actions with YouX or other relevant stakeholders.
2. Authorises the President to explore, initiate, and coordinate any preliminary inquiries, proposals, or actions necessary to assess the options available to the SRC in the context of the merger, including governance, structural, and operational implications, and to report findings or recommendations to Council for deliberation and transparency.

Moved: Aiden Wang

Seconded:

Motion Carried/Failed

Executive Recommendation – HDR Officer

The Executive did not include the appointment of the HDR Officer in the previous meeting's recommendations. For this meeting, the Executive now formally recommends the following to Council:

Motion:

That the Student Representative Council:

- Appoints Yuchen (Allen) Xie to the position of Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Officer for the remainder of the 2025 term, as recommended by the Executive.

Moved: Aiden Wang

Seconded:

Motion Carried/Failed

Procedural Governance

As I step in to the role of SRC President, I'm bring a few procedural compliance matters to the council's attention for approval:

Motion:

That the Student Representative Council:

- Authorises Aiden Zeyang Wang (President) as a signatory to the SRC bank account;
- Appoints Edward Archer as the new Public Officer of the Student Representative Council (Adelaide) Incorporated;

Moved: Aiden Wang

Seconded:

Motion Carried/Failed

Executive Election – Vacant Position

In accordance with the SRC Constitution, the replacement of executive vacancy shall be elected at the next meeting of Council,"

Council is required to hold an election to fill the vacant Executive position.

Motion: Executive Election – General Executive Member

That the Student Representative Council:

- Holds an election at this meeting to fill the vacant General Executive member position previously held by Jayde Thyer, in accordance with the SRC Constitution.

Moved: Aiden Wang

Seconded:

Motion Carried/Failed

NUS 2025 Student Wellbeing Survey

I have received an email from Lucy Fawcett, the National Welfare Officer of the National Union of Students (NUS), regarding the launch of the 2025 Student Wellbeing Survey. The survey seeks to gather student experiences around course affordability, academic accessibility, housing security, mental health, and employment conditions.

I have forwarded the details to our Welfare Officer, Patrick Pile, and will defer this item to him for further information and any proposed action or promotion through SRC channels.

That's all from me now, thanks for reading this far and as always, as the SRC President, I'm here to support you and the students anytime. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at: srcpresident@adelaide.edu.au

Yours sincerely,

Aiden Zeyang Wang

President, Student Representative Council

6.2. General Secretary

Dear Council Members,

At the previous meeting, I discussed the idea of setting up a campaigns committee to assist with the managing of campaigns. Given we currently have two petitions ongoing I believe it would be wise to have a member of council overseeing the progress of these petitions and so that Council can have a singular point of contact for updates on campaigns. I have decided to reduce the scale of the committee to just having a Campaign Liaison as opposed to having an entire committee.

If there are interested members, I would like to move a motion to appoint a member of council as a Campaign Liaison and if necessary to conduct an election under the Hare-Clark voting system.

Motion:

For SRC to recognise a member of council as the campaign liaison. Their responsibility is to:

1. Provide weekly reports to the SRC on the progress of ongoing campaigns
2. To assist campaign organisers in the coordination and running of campaigns

Moved: Edward Archer

Seconded:

Motion Carried/Failed

I had the opportunity to attend the Dr Duncan memorial that was organised by the SRC Queer Officer and the Pride Club. There was an amazing turnout and it was great to see that the University of Adelaide community come together to remember the importance of the death of Dr Duncan.

Outside of this, I have not received additional updates from the university in regards to the merger, but I will continue to provide these as I am aware of them.

6.3. Education Officer

To be Submitted

6.4. Queer Officer

7. *YouX SRC Queer Officer's Report*

The past few weeks have been extraordinarily busy in the Queer Space. The organisation of the Dr Duncan Memorial was clearly at the forefront of everyone's minds, with there existing immense difficulties in receiving funding. It was put to my attention that a number of people within the university were interested in holding their own event which quickly fell through. Due to their high budget though, some of us suspected that there might be a chance of finding funding somewhere within the university to make it a bigger event. All such attempts at receiving more funding resulted in failure forcing us to make a number of difficult decisions at the last minute. Without the prompt assistance of Tony Gunn, the YouX Student Engagement Coordinator, we would have struggled to receive the funding that we needed.

I wish to shout-out the staff's new Pride Network, who showed a strong willingness in getting involved in spite of having little to no resources to work with. In my personal view, this willingness to collaborate is what allows the essence of community to flourish. The Pride Club played a substantial primary role in organising the event; graciously hosting the pre-ceremonial Afternoon Tea in the Rainbow Room with a few non-committee members even deciding to graciously help out with some on-the-day organisation. Without the special contribution of the Pride Club Treasurer Marika Colby to budgeting, purchasing products, and object procurement during the week we would have likely been rushing around last-minute trying to pull the event together.

The presence of a series of politicians from the Labor Party shows testament as to how important remembering Dr Duncan is, as is commemorating the 50th Anniversary of homosexual acts between males being decriminalised. I would like to thank Professor John Williams AM, Ian Hunter MLC, Rob Simms MLC, Elizabeth (Birdie) Jagersma, Natrydd Sigurthur, and Will Sergeant OAM for each taking the time out of their day to contribute to our event and speak to people. In my opinion, having around 25-30 people present at the event – which includes a range of politicians that were not even scheduled in to speak, is a personal win.

I am grateful to have been offered the opportunity to host the event, and most certainly look to learn from the mistakes that I made in the lead-up to it as well as during the ceremony. I also wish to formally apologise for the un-tempered and uncontrolled passion that I showed during speaking, and wish that I had spent more time in preparing my script and fixing errors, especially those that were present within the introductions of multiple of our Ceremony's speakers. I shall endeavour to not

make any attempts in the future to balance the difficult role of emcee with that of speaker, and will do my absolute best to seek earlier feedback from other organisers. I've had to learn a harsh lesson in the Ceremony's aftermath to not let myself get ambitiously overconfident in my personal capacity and abilities.

The Queer Rights Department has also been formalised, and due to not receiving the maximum number of nominations all who applied have been automatically appointed. I wish to congratulate Scarlet Betterman for being appointed as the Department's Chair by the Pride Club President and look forward to working with her in fighting for the rights of Queer students here at Adelaide. The community has desperately needed a radical wing, divorced from factional politics, for quite some time. It is my hope that this year the new members of the Department are able to prove the necessity for such an institution and potentially ease the amount of commitments and work that the Queer Officer has had to do almost single-handedly for over the past decade. It is also my hope that the more we are able to accomplish, the more people who will be interested in contributing over future years.

Regarding the Waite Rainbow Room petition that I submitted last week, those of us from the North Terrace in tandem with interested students and staff on the Waite campus will soon look to meet with the school as well as infrastructure to determine a path forward for Queer students at Waite to get access to a safe on-campus space.

Ad Future

April Glynn-Roe (She/Her)

7.1. Postgraduate (Coursework) Officer

Postgraduate Coursework Report – SRC Update

Student Feedback and Academic Experience Over the past few weeks, I've had the chance to speak with several postgraduate students, and a few recurring concerns have come up that I'd like to bring to your attention:

- **Struggles with Maths:** A lot of students are having a tough time with mathematics. Given that everyone comes from different academic backgrounds. While the Maths Learning Centre is there to help, several students have mentioned that the support they're receiving just isn't enough. It might be time to revisit how this service is structured and promoted.
- **Large Lecture Sizes:** Many students are finding it difficult to engage in lectures with large class sizes. This is especially challenging in courses that require more interaction or detailed explanations. It's something we may want to look into to ensure a better learning experience for everyone.
- **Assessment Overload:** In some subjects, students are being asked to submit major design assignments and sit for tests on the same day. This kind of scheduling makes it hard for them to perform well in either task.

Student Wellbeing and Support Services

- **Networking Events:** We really appreciate the effort the university puts into hosting networking events — they're a great opportunity for students. That said, many of these event's clash with assignment deadlines, so students often can't attend. It would help if these were scheduled earlier in the semester, maybe before the mid-semester break, when students have a bit more breathing time.
- **Canteen Hours During Exams:** With exams around the corner, students are spending longer hours on campus. It would be incredibly helpful if the canteens in the Hub Central could

extend their hours during this time. Just having access to food a bit later in the day could really ease the pressure.

- Stress Relief for Trimester Students: Lastly, while it's great to see stress relief activities being offered for semester students, those in trimester programs often miss out. Extending these initiatives to include trimester students would ensure everyone has access to the same level of support.

7.2. Ethno-cultural Officer

Dear Council Members,

First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude to the YouX Student Representative Council for appointing me as the Ethno-Cultural Officer. It is an honour to serve in this role. As the President of the University of Adelaide Hong Kong Macau Society, I am confident that my experience and cultural involvement equip me well to take on this position.

For the remainder of the year, I aim to focus on the following key priorities:

Promote Cultural Awareness

I Organise campaigns and events that showcase the diverse cultures represented on campus, helping to foster mutual understanding and appreciation among students.

Support Cultural Clubs

I Work towards increased funding and more streamlined administrative procedures to support cultural clubs in hosting inclusive, engaging activities.

Advocate for Diversity and Inclusion

I Collaborate with the SRC and university bodies to implement policies that promote equity, representation, and cultural sensitivity within all student services and initiatives.

As an international student myself, I understand the unique challenges faced by students from diverse cultural backgrounds - including language barriers, difficulty making friends, and challenges in connecting with campus life. Through my involvement in cultural leadership, I have also become aware of issues such as insufficient funding and limited institutional support for cultural clubs.

Therefore, during my term as Ethno-Cultural Officer, I am committed to addressing these concerns by proposing practical initiatives and advocating for policies that foster a more inclusive, supportive, and culturally vibrant university environment.

Yours sincerely,

Hok Him (Keith) Chou
Ethno-Cultural Officer, Student Representative Council

7.3. Waite Officer

Dear Council Members,

It is a great honour to have recently been appointed as the Waite Officer of the Student Representative Council. As I have only just begun in this role, I have not yet launched formal projects or initiatives. However, I am excited to represent the students of Waite Campus and contribute meaningfully to the SRC's work throughout the remainder of the year.

Waite Campus holds a unique position within the University of Adelaide, with its strong focus on agricultural science, viticulture, and postgraduate research. At the same time, the campus's physical distance from North Terrace presents challenges in terms of student engagement and access to services. As I begin my term, one of my primary goals is to strengthen the connection between Waite students and central SRC and YouX activities, ensuring our cohort is well informed, well supported, and well represented.

My upcoming plans include:

- Engaging with students and staff at Waite to understand their current concerns and priorities;
- Improving visibility of SRC and YouX services on campus, especially for HDR and international students;
- Exploring opportunities to organise small-scale events that promote wellbeing and a sense of community;
- Staying actively informed on the progress of the University of Adelaide and UniSA merger, with a focus on representing Waite-specific needs during the transition.

Although I am new to the SRC team, I am committed to learning from fellow Officers and contributing to our collective mission. I welcome collaboration and look forward to working with you all in the months ahead.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have advice, ideas, or opportunities to collaborate on initiatives that can benefit the Waite student community.

Kind regards,
Weijia Zhu
Waite Officer

7.4. Mature Aged Officer

Hi everyone,

As the Mature Age Officer, I recognise that mature age students often experience isolation and a lack of belonging within the university community. Fortunately, we already have an active Mature Students Association (MSA) on campus, which provides a strong foundation to address these issues. My approach is to work closely with the MSA to strengthen their impact and reach. First, I propose establishing a formal partnership between the SRC and the MSA, so that we can work as allies in advocating for mature age students. This partnership would include regular communication and collaboration to ensure their voices are heard at the SRC level.

Second, I aim to support the MSA by helping to promote their events and activities through SRC's official social media channels and communication platforms. By increasing visibility, we can ensure more mature age students are aware of and can access these opportunities.

Third, I have identified that the university currently provides a Mature Students Lounge, which is a valuable space for mature age students to relax and connect. However, I have received feedback from students raising concerns about the quality and suitability of the furniture and facilities in the lounge. I plan to gather more feedback from students regarding their needs and preferences for this space, and

to work with the SRC and the Mature Students Association to advocate for improvements to make the lounge more comfortable, accessible, and family-friendly.

Fourth, I will advocate for the university to offer more tailored support services for mature age students, including career development workshops, employment advice, and wellbeing programs that address both physical and mental health needs. I believe that collaborating with the MSA, Student Wellbeing, the Careers Service, and other departments can help create targeted initiatives that better support the unique challenges faced by mature age students.

Finally, I propose setting up a dedicated online community, such as a Facebook group or a messaging platform, where mature age students can freely share their ideas, raise concerns, and receive updates in real time. This community would create a more informal and accessible way for students to engage, stay connected, and have their voices heard beyond formal meetings or surveys.

Through these combined efforts — formal partnership, greater promotion, advocacy for improved facilities, expanded support services, and a direct communication channel — we can create a more connected, inclusive, and supportive environment for mature age students at the University of Adelaide.

8. Other Motions on Notice

National Day of Action to Cut Ties with Trump's America

Far-right billionaire Donald Trump sits at the head of the most powerful and militaristic state in the world. He is using that power to spearhead a revival of American military supremacy and a global movement of reaction against working-class people and oppressed groups.

Australia is not immune from these global shifts in politics. Billionaires here like Clive Palmer and Gina Rinehart have embraced the cause of Trumpism and want to push politics to the right here as well.

Students need to stand up to this far-right threat and demand that Australia cut ties with Trump's America. The \$368 billion earmarked for nuclear-powered submarines as part of the AUKUS deal should be spent on healthcare, education, and housing.

The 24 May National Day of Action demanding Australia cut ties with Trump's America is an important initiative on the part of Students for Palestine groups, independent peace activists, IPAN, Labor Against War, and other organisations. The SRC welcomes this initiative and pledges its support.

Action

1. The SRC endorses the 24 May National Day of Action demanding Australia cut ties with Trump's America;
2. The SRC will help to promote local protests happening around the country as part of this National Day of Action;
3. The SRC authorises its members to speak at local rallies as SRC representatives.

Moved: El Hall

Seconded:

Motion Carried/Failed

9. General Business

10. Emergent Business.