# STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



Thursday 28th April, 6:30pm

University of Adelaide North Terrace Campus, Hughes 322

https://adelaide.zoom.us/j/89097626674?pwd=MHg0dG0ybEtrNWIZY1daSnkybjlDUT09

Passcode: 798894

**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 Kaurna 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

# 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 7 April 2022 as a true and accurate record (Appendix 1).

# 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

ACTION	PERSON	STATUS
Bank handover	Billy & Ana	Ongoing
Certify SGM Attendees	Billy	COMPLETE
Publish a Facebook post asking the AUU to disclose information related to the rebrand of the AUU	Billy Zimmermann	Ongoing
that the SRC makes a post on its Facebook page linking the Roseworthy petition and outlining its importance.	Liam Johns and FB Admin	
The SRC will write to the Premier Peter Malinauskas and Labor's education spokesperson Blair Boyer expressing the SRC's opposition to their proposed university merger.	James Wood & Ana Obradovic	
write to Blair Boyer and Susan Close expressing the SRC's opposition to the militarisation of Universities and their research.	Ramon O'Donnell	
The SRC President will seek the support from the SRC Presidents of Flinders University and the University of South Australia in relation to this policy. The SRC President will then write jointly with the SRC Presidents of the other noted South Australian universities to:	Ana Obradovic	



<ul> <li>the Australian Federal Minister of Immigration and the Australian Federal Minister of Education; and</li> <li>Study Adelaide</li> </ul>		
noting the position and requesting a response.		
<ul> <li>The SRC President will also write to the relevant officer of the University requesting their endorsement of the above.</li> </ul>		
The SRC President will write to the AUU President requesting the AUU Constitution Schedule 4 be repealed at the next meeting of the AUU and that the SRC President provide a response to the above points noted and that the SRC will publish the AUU President's response to this request.	Ana Obradovic	

- 4. Correspondence
- 5. New Members
- 6. Motions on Notice
- 7. Office Bearer Reports
  - 7.1. President
  - 7.2. Welfare Officer

MOTION: Address the Limitations of the Universities' Mental Health First Aid Training Course.

- 1. The SRC recognises the benefits that the Mental Health First Aid Training Course provides in introducing initial support to adults who are developing mental health problems.
- 2. The SRC approves of the following recommendations, as listed under the Welfare Officer's Report, section 1.2 Mental Health First Aid Training.
- If passed, the SRC President writes to the relevant authority detailing the SRC's recommendations to improve the accessibility and availability of the University's Mental Health and First Aid Training Course.

MOTION: Addressing the Challenges Faced by Current and Future University Policies.

1. The SRC requests the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice President (Academic) to allow the first report of the *Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2024* to be made accessible to the general public, as stated under the Strategy,



- 2. The SRC requests a response to the relevant authority on any documents regarding the Wellbeing Operational Group, and the future status and viability of this taskforce,
- The SRC requests future continued consultation into the development of strategies
  that are relevant to the roles and responsibilities, set forth by members of the
  Council.
- 4. The SRC requests for current plans/strategies to be updated and uploaded on the University's website, at the earliest possible basis,
- 5. The SRC requests future policies to adopt a target-approach model, that provides timelines for the University to achieve its objectives.

# **ACTION POINT:**

- If passed, the SRC President writes to the relevant authorities detailing the SRC's recommendations to address the current challenges faced by current University policies.
- 7.3. Women's Officer
- 7.4. Environment Officer
- 7.5. Ethno-Cultural Officer
- 7.6. Rural Officer

#### Motion:

The SRC:

- 1. Amend points 7.a.ii of the constitution such that subpoints 16 and 17 are added, with these points reading "Roseworthy Campus Officer" and "Waite Campus Officer".
- 2. Amend point 7.d of the constitution such that subpoints XI and XII are added, with these points reading:
  - a. "XI. To be Roseworthy Campus Officer, a person must be studying at least one subject at the university's Roseworthy campus."
  - b. "XII. To be Waite Campus Officer, a person must be studying at least one subject at the university's Waite campus."

# 8. General Business

# 9. Other Reports

**Motion:** The SRC Accepts the Executive's report and recommendation on the Mature Age Officer Casual vacancy and accordingly appoints Naziul Karim Khan to fill the vacancy for Mature Age Officer.

**Moved:** Billy Zimmermann **Seconded:** 

# 10. Emergent Business



# Item 7.1: President's Report - Ana Obradovic

Hello all and welcome back to Term 2. I hope you're well rested and looking forward to a busy end of semester. I enjoyed liaising with student councillors, unionists and socialist activists interstate over the break and have returned to campus with some serious ideas regarding next steps for the SRC and student politics on campus.

I'd like to begin by flagging some issues we as a student union should evaluate politically.

#### 1. The federal election

Many probably know that the contest between the Liberals and Labor party has become increasingly tight. In the latest Guardian Essential poll, Labor is on 47% (down three points in a fortnight), the Coalition on 46% (up one point), and 7% of respondents undecided. I think there are lessons we can take from the increasingly tenuous lead of Albanese's ALP over Morrison's Liberal Party.

In 2022, ordinary people face the devastating effects of climate change, continued surges of COVID-19, inflation rising above wages, insufficient welfare and pension rates, mass inequality (Australian billionaires doubled their wealth over the pandemic!) and even the threat of nuclear warfare in Ukraine.

The upcoming election should be about easing the burden and addressing the issues faced by the people who have made the rich unimaginably wealthy while suffering through the crises of the past two years. The minimum wage and welfare should be increased, the rich should be taxed more, serious climate targets and anti-racist policies to free refugees adopted and acted on and so on.

Instead, the Opposition have:

- argued they want to be <u>"a pro-business, pro-employer Labor Party"</u>,
- reneged on promises to look into raising Jobseeker,
- passionately advocated for the Liberal's murderous policy of refugee boat turnbacks,
- attacked the Liberals from the right on the China-Solomons Island pact (arguing Morrison should treat the country akin to a colonial outpost in which we dictate their foreign policy),
- reduced their emissions reduction target from 45% to 43% by 2030,
- and tried to greenwash support for new fossil fuel projects: "If coal mines stack up environmentally, and then commercially... then they get approved".

At a time when the Opposition should be fighting for the working class, they are offering up uninspiring, pro-business and right-wing policy. No wonder people are turned off.

For us on the SRC, the takeaway should be that nothing will change without people fighting for it.

Our council has voted to oppose imperialism, racism, and inaction on climate change. An Albanese ALP government offers no alternative on these questions.



No matter who wins government, then, we'll need unions that are strong, independent, and clear on the causes they represent. Our only power is the mass involvement of the people we represent.

To that end, the SRC should use the next term (and rest of the year) to spearhead further campaigns like the SGM that involve students actively in fighting for their rights on campus and in society.

This brings me to a related issue, which is state Labor's proposed university merger and our public opposition to it.

2. ABC Radio debate on SA Labor's three-way university merger

On the 7th of April, Education Officer James Wood and I liaised with ABC Radio for an on-air debate on SA Labor's merger proposal. While current members of the party didn't defend the policy, former senator (and architect of the Dawkins education reforms that corporatised higher education) Chris Schacht defended the policy with typically neoliberal arguments: that the rationalised mega-uni would be more competitive nationally when pitching for research funding. This amounts to an argument against the responsibility of government to fund education for the sake of providing decent, accessible and affordable education for all. The logic of the argument is that work at universities should only be funded if private partners or state departments have an interest in it.

Happily, James put the SRC's position against mergers eloquently and convincingly. The host was noticeably sympathetic to the arguments against cuts and "rationalisation" of universities already running on a razor's edge. It's impressive that our council members can hold their own on public forums like this and put forward a serious, left-wing argument that champion the possibility of a decent and quality education system.

3. Defence Trailblazer: Concept to Sovereign Capability (CSC) bid

As an addendum, Schact's logic is what leads to disgraceful private partnerships with destructive but powerful industries. We saw this exemplified on April 20th when UoA celebrated its successful recent bid ('Concept to Sovereign Capability') with the Department of Defence. Management lauds UoA's "ongoing investment in defence expertise" in the screenshot below. This should be a source of shame in a volatile world riven with imperialist tensions – but, because it brings more money, is considered good governance by our VC.

Comments from Major General Susan Coyle, Head of Information Warfare, give some sense of the dark significance of this new contract, drawing academia and military development research ever closer and normalising the militarisation of our campuses:

'The Defence Trailblazer: Concept to Sovereign Capability program signals the start of a closer relationship between Defence, research organisations and defence industry that will see Australia's sovereign defence capability significantly strengthened.

'Mutually reinforcing this relationship is the key to accelerating the translation of research into commercialised and deployable Australian Defence Force capabilities.'



#### [Alluniversity] Trailblazer bid endorsement



# Todav at 11:14 am

#### **Dear Colleagues**

As many of you will no doubt already be aware, on Wednesday this week, the Prime Minister announced endorsement of our Defence Trailblazer: Concept to Sovereign Capability (CSC) bid, led by us in partnership with the University of New South Wales, under the Trailblazer Universities Program.

A government commitment of \$50 million in cash over four years will be matched by a mixture of in-kind and cash funding from the two universities and \$10 million from the CSIRO. More than \$140 million will be invested in the project by over 50 industry partners located around the country bringing the total value of the program to approximately \$250 million.

Over 80 per cent of industry commitments to the program are from Australia-based SMEs: an unprecedented level of commitment. This involvement of SMEs underlines the potential to upscale Australia's sovereign defence capability, support national security and drive economic growth through commercialisation in dual-use technology areas.

It is estimated that CSC will have a net economic benefit to the Australian economy of \$1.5 billion over ten years and will deliver more than 2500 FTE jobs over four years directly linked to the activities of the program.

CSC represents a change in the Australian defence innovation culture to allow research and industry innovators to respond quickly to the Department of Defence's priority research translation challenges, from securing capital and creating prototype solutions, through to commercialisation and delivering new capabilities into the hands of Australian Defence Force (ADF) operators.

Our successful bid, in partnership with UNSW, recognises our ongoing investment and growth in defence-related research expertise, and the important role university-industry partnerships play in Australia's sovereign defence capability and economic future.

I'd like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to all staff who worked on our bid under the leadership of Stephen Rodda in the Division of Research and Innovation. This fantastic result reflects a strong collaboration across Divisions, Faculties and Institutes as well as with our partners.

This success follows many other excellent results over the last few years. Our total research income rose from \$185m in 2019 to \$234m in 2020, with our 2021 total expected to be in excess of \$295m. Our research excellence includes milestone projects such as the South Australian immunoGENomics Cancer Institute (SAiGENCI), the South Australian Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub, the Sparc Green Hydrogen Project, the Centre for Augmented Reasoning, and many more.

These projects are of critical strategic importance to South Australia and the nation, both economically and socially. The real-world translation of our research continues to benefit our wider community and cement our University's role as a social, cultural and academic thought leader, as well as positioning us for a strong recovery from the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you to all staff, across all areas of the University, who support, enable and undertake this excellent work.

## 4. SGM coverage in <u>local media</u>

I have continued to work with local media to build awareness of our successful SGM.

It's important to stress what a huge achievement and positive step forward successfully gathering students for a democratic mass meeting is, particularly in such politically challenging times. Keeping up the fight and showing that students are not passive objects to be acted on by management is a big part of our role as unionists.

It's great to see the media sympathetic to the example our council has set by pouring our time and energy into enlivening campus and pointing towards an alternate form of democratic power on campus.

# 5. Political outreach on campus stalls

Over the weeks since our last meeting, I've met with and spoken to literally hundreds of students on regular campus stalls on topics ranging from the need for divestment (promoting Fossil Free UoA's petition), solidarity with Palestine and history and lessons of past student struggles. I find these stalls



are particularly important ways of reaching ordinary students and building some legitimacy on campus: students regularly comment that they respect political activists and representatives who dedicate the time for face-to-face outreach on the ground. The Palestine stalls included a photo petition to express solidarity and outrage at the Israeli state once again attacking the holy Al-Aqsa mosque during the holy month of Ramadan. Our SRC has taken strident positions in favour of Palestinian liberation and it is important that we make some efforts to intervene into public discourse to this effect. I was also happy to share On Dit's article condemning the attacks to our FB page.

I look forward to a rich discussion at our meeting.

Kind regards,

Ana Obradovic



# Item 7.2: Welfare Officer's Report - Ulian Cox

#### 1. Talk Out Loud Australia - Mental Health Support Group.

As noted in my previous report, Talk Out Loud is a South Australian, not-for-profit organisation that introduces mental-health and wellbeing programs that seek to develop resilience and positive life decisions for youth and young adults. Following a delay in correspondence, I had the chance to discuss:

- Practical approaches to improving mental health,
- Addressing strengths and weaknesses of certain welfare initiatives introduced at a Governmental level (e.g., Head Space, Beyond Blue, etc.),
- Identifying the issues that face University students, and,
- Finding areas of collaboration between Talk Out Loud and the SRC.

These discussions were fruitful and informative, with a strong emphasis on the need to develop strategies that have a practical focus on addressing mental health, both at a university and governmental level.

#### 1.1 Quiz Night

Due to being a not-for-profit, Talk Out Loud raises capital primarily through donations to fund its youth wellbeing programs. As such, Talk Out Loud has an upcoming Simpson's Quiz Night at the Tea Tree Gully City Soccer Club, at 7:00 PM on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April. \$20 per person. More information is provided here: The Simpsons Quiz Night I extend this open invitation to all members of the Council to support this terrific organisation.

#### 2. Mental Health First Aid Training.

The University offers a complimentary Mental Health First Aid Training course to all students. This course runs over two consecutive days of face-to-face training, that provides 'initial support to adults who are developing a mental health problem, experiencing a worsening of an existing mental health problem, or in a mental health crisis until appropriate professional help is received or the crisis is resolved.' In addition, participants will learn to understand the signs and symptoms of mental health problems, and how to receive and access support from mental health professionals.

Although the course has significant benefits, there are some limitations. There is a small number of dates available for participants to be involved in the training course, with it only being two days per month. Another limitation is the required face-to-face interaction to participate. Although beneficial, it potentially limits the accessibility for students to be actively enrolled in the course, due to requiring a whole two days of participation. Furthermore, there is a lack of awareness of the course's existence. Several of my peers, when asked, didn't realise this was a service offered by the University and would have participated had it been promoted more frequently.

I have expressed these concerns to Jill Allan, the course coordinator, and at the time of writing, I am awaiting correspondence.

The following recommendations to resolve the issues above include:

- Increase the availability of times available to staff and students, who wish to access face-to-face training on a fortnightly basis.
- The University to promote the training more frequently, on their social media platforms, through university emails, and physical advertisements.



 Provide greater accessibility for staff and students by introducing a pre-recorded/Zoom functionality to allow participants to partake in the course on their own time.

The next training course is available on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of May. I would recommend, if possible, for councillors to attend the course.

# 3. The University's Mental Health Strategies.

During the semester break, I began inquiring about the specific university policies and strategies for student mental health and wellbeing. These policies are set out by the University in an attempt to foster greater awareness of mental health issues faced by staff and students and find ways to address current challenges.

However, during my efforts to understand the university's policies, I realised that there are several limitations in the university's efforts to provide effective strategies to combat these significant issues.

The following policies include the <u>Wellbeing Plan</u> and the <u>Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy</u> <u>2021 - 2024</u>. I will address these issues individually per plan/strategy and provide a holistic list of challenges faced by these policies. These policies are still active and are available on the University's website.

#### 3.1 Wellbeing Plan

The Wellbeing Plan was introduced during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and attempts to recognise '[the] heightened degree of uncertainty, stress, and anxiety.' This plan acknowledges the University's awareness of the challenges faced by students. The Wellbeing Plan focuses upon four key principles;

- 1. Reduce isolation by helping students stay connected,
- 2. Promote the importance of staying actively well,
- 3. Helping students manage stress, anxiety, and other emotions to COVID-19, and,
- 4. Encourage healthy routines and a balanced lifestyle.

At the time of writing, this policy is still operational, with no timeline, or deadline provided, and still available on the University's website.

With this considered, the policy states, under How Are We Going to Implement This Plan -

'This plan has been developed with our students, for our students. We are working with student leaders, club presidents, volunteers, and ambassadors to help shape and share resources and initiatives.

We have established a Wellbeing Operational Group, with representatives from AUU, SRC, International Student Support, Counselling Support, AU Sport...this group will develop, oversee, and implement a range of activities, resources, and events for our students.' – pg. 3, Wellbeing Plan.

As this plan is ongoing, the evaluation process to assess the operational success of the policy falls under the Wellbeing Operational Group. As stated,

'Through the Wellbeing Operational Group, student voices will be central to the resources and activities we design and deliver. This collaboration means student representatives will have direct input into resource creation and will be able to share student feedback and sentiment.' – pg. 5, Wellbeing Plan.

This policy introduced the Wellbeing Operational Group, a task force that includes the Student Representative Council (SRC). At the time of writing, the Council has not been informed of any developments regarding the continuation of the group, nor, have I, as the Welfare representative been



directed by the management of the University of Adelaide, to provide direct input into student wellbeing and engagement at the University. In addition, there is no information available to access despite mentioning '[the] shared student feedback and sentiment' as stipulated under the plan. Furthermore, the plan reiterates the importance of staying connected and having a 'holistic approach to wellbeing', despite the SRC, as of this year, not receiving any consultation regarding the policy.

3.2 The University of Adelaide - Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021 - 2024

This strategy over three years will attempt to 'demonstrate the University's commitment to supporting student mental health and wellbeing throughout their academic ventures.' It emphasises on the importance of consultation with stakeholders, utilising 'evidence-based services', and ensuring that the strategy reflects upon the specific needs of staff and students.

Similarly, this Strategy encompasses the need to adopt a 'holistic approach' in order 'to collectively promote and support student mental health and wellbeing.' The University's commitment to evidence-based approaches, rigorous evaluation, and feedback to 'inform continuous improvement.' There are five action points that are the foundational underpinnings of the Strategy's development –

- 1. University Culture to create a safe, supportive, and respectful culture, that is conducive to optimal individual mental health and wellbeing,
- 2. Learning Experience to foster a flexible, engaging learning environment that recognises the mental health and wellbeing of students in its structure and delivery,
- 3. Community Awareness to build a knowledgeable University community with awareness and understanding to optimise individual mental health and wellbeing in all aspects of University life.
- 4. Capacity Building build upon the resilience of students, and the skills and knowledge of staff supporting students, to navigate mental health and wellbeing challenges,
- 5. Service Delivery and Response deliver high-quality, evidence-based, appropriate, accessible, and timely services to support optimal individual student mental health and wellbeing.

The following action points have a series of enablers on how to achieve its objective. These enablers are holistic in nature and do not acknowledge any timeline, target, or benchmark for the University to compare with previous results. The evaluation process of the Strategy highlights the 'importance of sharing progress and outcomes with both staff and students, and is key to creating a sense of community, [and] shared ownership of mental health and wellbeing.' These reports are 'reported annually to the Vice-Chancellor's Executive and Academic Board' however, no reports – at the time of writing – have been uploaded onto the University's website.

#### 3.3 The Problem

The strategies listed above display a significant collection of faults and errors by the University to maintain the effectiveness of policies over a longer period of time. These limitations include, but are not limited to;

- The lack of transparency in accessing valuable information,
- The lack of continued consultation with the SRC, and other student groups by University management to provide direct input into such policies,
- The utilisation of a holistic approach, whilst at times beneficial, limits the University's ability to provide effective statistical targets to achieve, and,
- The difficulties in obtaining information regarding the policy's effectiveness.

The problem with the University's handing of their policies, is that it permits an issue-and-forget approach. By beginning to present the importance of mental health through the issuing of a policy that attempts to



address the problem, then leaving out the necessary requirements – introducing specific targets, continued consultation with stakeholders, or setting out benchmarks for the University to meet. A culmination of these faults results in the loss of accountability and responsibility in maintaining, potentially effective, University policies.

This is a significant problem if the University is committed to addressing long-term challenges. This isn't to say that the policies that the University has introduced are substandard or inferior, they are meaningful and well-intentioned, however, the lack of providing any standards to measure the effectiveness of these goals, is a significant issue and should be addressed.

It's by recognising the current faults of guidelines and objectives that help to shape future programs to become more effective, more meaningful, and more transferable for future reference.

I have written an email to the Council Secretariat of the Academic Board for the release of *The University of Adelaide – Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021 – 2024* annual report. At the time of writing, I am awaiting correspondence.

Ulian Cox

MOTION: Address the Limitations of the Universities' Mental Health First Aid Training Course.

- 3. The SRC recognises the benefits that the Mental Health First Aid Training Course provides in introducing initial support to adults who are developing mental health problems.
- 4. The SRC approves of the following recommendations, as listed under the Welfare Officer's Report, section 1.2 *Mental Health First Aid Training.*

#### **ACTION POINT:**

If passed, the SRC President writes to the relevant authority detailing the SRC's recommendations
to improve the accessibility and availability of the University's Mental Health and First Aid Training
Course.

MOTION: Addressing the Challenges Faced by Current and Future University Policies.

- 6. The SRC requests the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice President (Academic) to allow the first report of the *Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2024* to be made accessible to the general public, as stated under the Strategy,
- 7. The SRC requests a response to the relevant authority on any documents regarding the Wellbeing Operational Group, and the future status and viability of this taskforce,
- 8. The SRC requests future continued consultation into the development of strategies that are relevant to the roles and responsibilities, set forth by members of the Council,
- 9. The SRC requests for current plans/strategies to be updated and uploaded on the University's website, at the earliest possible basis,
- 10. The SRC requests future policies to adopt a target-approach model, that provides timelines for the University to achieve its objectives.

# **ACTION POINT:**

• If passed, the SRC President writes to the relevant authorities detailing the SRC's recommendations to address the current challenges faced by current University policies.



# Item 7.3: Women's Officer's Report – Georgia Thomas

# <u>NSSS</u>

Mat, Falie and myself have begun to take action on our campus based on the results of the National Student Safety survey. We have been in regular contact with and conducted a meeting with Health and Wellbeing Project Officers Nicola and Jacqui. We discussed the results of the survey and what areas were of particular concern. We identified the following 5 priorities for us to formulate a plan to address this year:

- 1. Consent Matters
  - Should this be compulsory?
  - Is it the right platform?
  - Is it engaging?
- 2. Social media
  - Use faculty level media more
  - Use SRC, AUU, societies and clubs more
- 3. Colleges and student accommodation
  - Proper SASH responses for these students
- 4. Roseworthy & Waite campuses
- 5. Gender diverse and queer students

In terms of actions on these priorities, UoA Health and Wellbeing are now assessing their social media use based on our feedback and recommendations - this includes increasing the accessibility and simplicity of our SASH reporting procedures on our websites and social media. We will also be assisting them in reviewing Consent Matters and seeing what can be improved. I have reached out to equity officers from Adelaide colleges, along with Urbanest, to meet and discuss our respective responses to the survey, and how our SASH processes overlap and can be improved. We'll be looking to work with Liam as Rural Officer to examine how our SASH procedures operate on our other campuses, particularly as it will tie in with improving mental health support. Given the alarming over representation of gender diverse and queer students in the NSSS report, Mat will be working with clubs and students to hear their experiences and provide actionable improvements and feedback to the health and wellbeing teams on campus.

## **SACAT** case email

On the 20th of April an email was sent to all students from Vice-Chancellor Peter Hoj regarding sexual assault allegations currently before the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. I want to note that this email was so poorly executed in directing students to support. Whilst it may seem small or insignificant to some, providing hyperlinks to university counselling pages and the transforming culture webpage is incredible poor when information can be provided directly within the email. Emails like this are received by all students and it is a space where simple improvements that have been recommended by students time and time again can be implemented. This is something I have reached out to the Vice-Chancellor's office about. It is such a simple way to begin improving the knowledge and accessibility of support pathways on campus yet feedback is still not being implemented.

Given no recommendations were given to universities in the 2022 NSSS report, I really believe small steps like this are important in holding the university accountable.



# Item 7.4: Environment Officer's Report - Nix Herriot

#### School Strike for Climate: #PeopleNotProfit

It was great to speak as Environment Officer at the climate action organised by School Strike for Climate and Extinction Rebellion on March 25. In my speech, I highlighted the inaction of our leaders and argued for the kind of movement we need to end fossil fuels, transition to renewables and champion land rights over mining rights. You can view a recorded livestream of the event <a href="here">here</a>. I look forward to supporting further strike and protest actions to demand climate action now.

#### Media communication

I spoke with CityMag for an <u>article</u> covering our successful Student General Meeting and motion of no confidence in the university leadership. It's been great to have had some media interest in our ongoing campaign against the corporate university. I have also been contacted by the *Advertiser* regarding a possible article on climate change and the upcoming federal election. On this issue, we simply can't trust Labor or Liberal politicians to take the urgent actions required. Labor's climate targets are worse than in 2019 and Albanese has expressed his commitment to expanding coal and gas. If we want to see the change we desperately need, we'll have to keep putting pressure on those in power to act.

# NTEU and Labor's university merger proposal

The National Tertiary Education Union plans to meet with the SA Labor government once it has gathered staff views regarding Labor's university merger proposal. They intend to hold a state-wide Zoom forum to discuss the merger policy and member feedback. I communicated my strongly held opposition to merger proposal as part of the NTEU member survey and have urged the union to take a strong position against this. As we have discussed on council, any mergers would be a significant attack on higher education and result in job losses, course cuts and further corporatisation.

## Militarisation and greenwashing on campus

The militarisation of our campus continues full steam ahead. Last week, Peter Høj boasted of Scott Morrison's endorsement of Adelaide University's "Defence Trailblazer: Concept to Sovereign Capability" bid which involves \$250 million of investment from the government and industry partners to "upscale Australia's sovereign defence capability, support national security and drive economic growth through commercialisation in dual-use technology areas". This agreement is quite explicitly linked to the ramping up of war and militarism as the university seeks to harness academia to "sustain[ing] the ability of the Australian Defence Force to defend national security interests in a highly volatile geo-strategic environment". It's revealing that the Defence Trailblazer has already been celebrated as "transformative" for academic-defence partnerships by the general manager of Northrup Grumman (Asia Pacific) — one of the world's largest weapons manufacturers.

Earlier this month, the university also launched its new Institute for Sustainability, Energy and Resources (ISER), chaired by former US military officer and fossil fuel researcher Michael Goodsite. Dropping the word "sustainability" into the former Institute for Mineral and Energy and Resources



does not change the fact that, to the best of my understanding, this institute is geared towards ensuring the long-term profitability, competitiveness and productivity of the minerals, mining and energy resources sector under the dubious pretext of achieving "net zero".

Both these developments are alarming and highlight the further corporatisation of the university. It is a reminder of the importance of our ongoing work to expose the university's partnerships with destructive industries and organise for divestment.



# Item 7.5: Ethno-Cultural Officer's Report – Marilee Hou

I hope everyone enjoyed their mid-semester and Easter break.

As always, I have been keeping myself available to speak with students about any issues they may have (whether related to my portfolio or not).

I have actually received really good feedback about the accommodations made for remote learning, Covid-related absences, and particularly in relation to extra support being provided for international students. This has been so pleasing to hear despite knowing University staff are under pressure due to the faculty mergers and staff/funding cuts. I do note that this is mostly in relation to the Professions (now FABLE) so if there are people experiencing the exact opposite (which I'm sure there are) I am happy to put be in touch to see what I (or the SRC) could do.

# **Ethnocultural Safe Space**

In my last report I mentioned an ethnocultural safe space on campus. I have been looking into this from two perspectives: (1) the willingness of the University to provide one and (2) the amount of interest from ethnocultural students.

On the first point I am looking into the right person/office to speak to about this. Billy/Georgia have kindly suggested the Infrastructure Branch, so I will be writing to them shortly and will hopefully have a report back in the next meeting.

On the second point there are a few individuals who are really keen, but I am trying to gauge if there is broader interest. This is important as if we need to campaign for one, the more interest the easier that will be. It is obviously also important that the space will get used. Feel free to float the idea around with ethnocultural students you know and direct them my way with any feedback.

# **Student Visa (subclass 500)**

Early in April changes were made to student visa conditions for higher education students which requires the Minister approve any changes to courses/PHD topics. This means international students studying post-graduate courses are not allowed to change their course of study if the Minister does not approve. In order for the Minister to approve the change, the they need to be satisfied that "there is not an unreasonable risk of unwanted transfer of critical technology by the visa holder". If there is an "unreasonable risk" the Minister must cancel the visa (except for certain protection visas where cancellation is discretionary).

These have been added as visa conditions 8204A and 8204B, which apply to visas issued after 1 July 2022.

We won't know the implementation or effects of these changes for awhile. I have briefly spoken with Eddie, as Eddie and Jack are likely better placed monitor this issue.



Regardless, we should oppose any conditions which gives the Minister arbitrary and broad powers to cancel student visas. Any prohibition on someone's choice to study a course/topic of their choosing should also be opposed.

I'm hopeful that a new government will be elected very soon, and look forward to working with Eddie to advocate for the removal of these conditions.

#### **Events**

I think there is great value in encouraging the intermingling of international students with domestic students as part of University events, and this is also something that Cultural Club Presidents have raised.

In the coming weeks I will aim to speak with Faculty/Course based clubs to see what (if any) events are being run. These events are (in my view) the best placed to encourage the intermingling of students across different cultures and also between international students and domestic students. For example, the Adelaide University Law Students Society recently held an event to welcome back international students but encouraged teaching staff and domestic students to come along too.

Of course, I am also keen for an SRC-run event and will be thinking about logistics (particularly given our lack of funding) in the coming weeks.

Kind regards

Marilee Hou

Ethno-cultural Officer (She/Her)



# Item 7.6: Rural Officer's Report - Liam Johns

Since my last SRC report, I have spent much of my time working to create Roseworthy and Waite Officers.

An important aspect of this work has been liaising with rural students in order to create a motion to their liking. Notably, I have had extensive communications with former Rural Officer Tobias Threadgold, as the creation of rural campus representatives was a key priority during his term. Ultimately, the final motion was a constitutional amendment which created the positions of "Roseworthy Campus Officer" and "Waite Campus Officer" and required students to be enrolled in at least one subject at these locations in order to be eligible representatives.

Unfortunately, our motion was obstructed by the Socialist Alternative faction through their abstention vote. SRC President Ana Obradovic and Education Officer James Wood argued these positions were unnecessary since Roseworthy and Waite students could run for other OBs if they pleased. It is worth noting that such attempts have been made previously but have always failed due to the sheer size difference between campuses: 27,798 at North Terrace, 934 at Roseworthy, and 852 at Waite. Ana Obradovic and James Wood also stated that they found it "hilarious" how angered the Council was at their abstention given that the motion is "irrelevant" compared to other issues facing students such as education cuts.

It should come as no surprise that such comments provoked the ire of not only rural students, but also of the broader university community. Indeed, in response to Socialist Alternative's actions students from North Terrace, Roseworthy, and Waite took to Overheard to express their anger. On the night of the motion's failure, I received phone calls from Roseworthy students exclaiming how furious they were with Ana Obradovic. Students went as far as saying that Roseworthy might as well become its own university at this point given how little management and even the SRC president cares for them.

In consultation with such students, I started a petition demanding that Socialist Alternative's SRC members either pass our constitutional amendment or step down from their position immediately. This petition garnered significant attention from students, with it obtaining close to 200 signatures and being shared to Overheard where it garnered over 100 reactions. Socialist Alternative's actions also drew the attention of the NUS Small and Regional Officer, who endorsed our petition and formally condemned the faction's actions.

Weeks after this outrage, my co-convenor Caitlin Battye and I met with Ana Obradovic and James Wood to discuss their gripes with the motion. James Wood alleged that I had organised a concerted smear against Socialist Alternative, evidenced by how quickly Tobias Threadgold posted to Overheard and the number of Grassroots members condemning them. The Education Officer was seemingly unaware that calling the autonomous representation of students irrelevant - particularly when they have been treated as insignificant by the SRC and university for years - would cause natural outrage. Both representatives also expressed that they believed the motion was undemocratic, as it would result in students being appointed to casual vacancies rather than being



elected. We finally agreed upon organising snap elections for the positions, with the specific details of which we would organise in the future.

A day later, I was contacted by Ana Obradovic to discuss how the elections would be conducted. Notably, she enquired who would be able to vote for these positions, to which I explained only Roseworthy and Waite students could vote for their respective officers. In response, she noted that rural voters "getting a disproportionate say" is how Trump got elected, and that it is undemocratic for "a small number of students to suddenly get more representation than anyone else."

It is insulting for any SRC representative, let alone the SRC President, to imply that allowing Roseworthy and Waite students to have autonomous voting will strengthen the far-right. It is also insulting to argue that autonomous voting for these campuses would provide them with more representation than anyone else, given that all 22 of this year's representatives are from North Terrace. Based on the above outlined statistics, North Terrace gets roughly a 30:1 say in representation compared to Roseworthy and a 33:1 say compared to Waite. Guaranteeing these students representation that only they have a say in is anything but undemocratic. It ensures Roseworthy and Waite determine who represents them on the Council, rather than allowing tens-of-thousands of students who have never visited either campus to have the final say.

I will again be motioning for the creation of Roseworthy and Waite Officers. I urge all SRC members to vote in favour of the motion so we can not only help rural students, but also put this unnecessary conflict to rest.

#### **Motion:**

- 1. Amend points 7.a.ii of the constitution such that subpoints 16 and 17 are added, with these points reading "Roseworthy Campus Officer" and "Waite Campus Officer".
- 2. Amend point 7.d of the constitution such that subpoints XI and XII are added, with these points reading:
  - a. "XI. To be Roseworthy Campus Officer, a person must be studying at least one subject at the university's Roseworthy campus."
  - b. "XII. To be Waite Campus Officer, a person must be studying at least one subject at the university's Waite Campus"



# Item 9.1 - SRC Executive Report

Name	Ana	Billy	James	Ulian	Georgia
Amy Myles	Ana didn't submit her thought s for the exec report.	Amy seemed incredibly well-rounded with lived experience of someone trying to balance coming back to uni with the other stresses of life. Amy would make a great addition to the SRC.	James didn't submit his though ts for the exec report.	Amy presented herself well. A well-informed and confident individual, who has experienced the challenges of being a mature-aged student first hand whilst presenting a number solutions to combat these issues. Amy will be a fine addition into the Council	Amy spoke of a number of volunteering roles she currently undertakes and presented herself as an engaged member of the university community, with many great ideas for improvement.
Naziul Karim Khan		Naziul (Bir) had the experience of someone who has advocated for many different causes. His activism work for social causes as well as in cultural groups stood out. It's clear that if Bir were to be on the SRC, it would be a more diverse, active space.		Naziul is an informed and passionate individual who presented himself with deep cause and conviction about the importance of social causes and local activism. Naziul with his previous experience and connections with the ethnocultural and mature-aged community represents himself as a strong contender for the position.	Naziul is a passionate activist with an impressive involvement in a variety of causes. He has existing connections within the mature age student community and was keen to collaborate with our ethnocultural and international communities as well.
Sonnay					Sonnay was not present to be interviewed.
Wayne McCosh		Wayne had a well rounded experience and knew the unique challenges that mature students face.		Wayne presented an alternative approach to the challenges faced by matureaged students. A fascinating and joyful individual, who has been engaged extensively with the university community.	Wayne had a unique perspective on issues that mature age students face. He was well spoken and open about his experiences and involvement in the university community.

On deliberation, the SRC Executive decided that Naziul Karim Khan would make the best Mature Aged Officer and would be the best addition to the SRC. Accordingly the following motion passed the Executive:

**Motion:** The SRC Executive recommends that Naziul Karim Khan fill the casual vacancy for Mature Aged Officer.

This motion carried unanimously. We are now asking the SRC to finalise this pick to finish the process.

**Motion:** The SRC Accepts the Executive's report and recommendation on the Mature Age Officer Casual vacancy and accordingly appoint Naziul Karim Khan to fill the vacancy for Mature Age Officer.



# **Appendix 1: Minutes of the Previous Meeting (7 April 2022)**

# Meeting in Hughes 322 Thursday 7th April 2022

#### 1. Procedural Matters

Ana Obradovic opened the meeting at 6:33

## 1.1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

Ana acknowledged the owners of the land we were on as that of the Kaurna people.

#### 1.2. Attendance

Ana Obradovic, Billy Zimmermann, James Wood, Ulian Cox, Georgia Thomas, Mat Monti, Nix Herriot, Jack Crawford, Eddie Satchell, Marilee Hou, Ramon O'Donnell, Chanel Trezise, Francesco Ciampa, Steph Madigan, Alicia Turner, Henry Southcott, AJ Francotirador, Wendy Yu (joined at 6:37 left at 7:14, rejoined 7:23), Dhuruva Padmanabhan, Liam Johns

#### 1.3. Apologies

Tom Wood

#### 1.4. Absences

James Dimas, Dhuruva Padmanabhan

# 1.5. Adoption of Agenda

Procedural Motion: That the agenda be adopted as circulated

Moved: Billy Zimmermann Seconded: Alicia Turner Motion carried

# 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

**Recommendation:** That the SRC accept the minutes of the meeting of 24 March 2022 as a true and accurate record (Appendix 1).

Moved: Billy Zimmermann Seconded: Francesco Ciampa Motion carried

# 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

ACTION	<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>	STATUS
Bank handover	Billy & Ana	Ongoing
Certify SGM Attendees	Billy	Ongoing
The SRC Social Justice Officer will publish a post on SRC social media that summarises Amnesty International's recent report and condemns Israel's oppression of Palestinians.	Tom Wood & FB Admin	Withdrawn
Publish a Facebook post asking the AUU to disclose information related to the rebrand of the AUU	Billy Zimmermann	Ongoing
The SRC will release a statement on the SRC	James Wood and FB	COMPLETE



Facebook page opposing opposition Labor's university merger plan.	Admin	
A response to the NSSS is published on the SRC Facebook page after it is released that provides a summary of key issues and information.	Georgia Thomas and FB Admin	COMPLETE
that the SRC makes a post on its Facebook page linking the Roseworthy petition and outlining its importance.	Liam Johns and FB Admin	Ongoing
The SRC will write to the Premier Peter Malinauskas and Labor's education spokesperson Blair Boyer expressing the SRC's opposition to their proposed university merger.	James Wood & Ana Obradovic	Ongoing

- 4. Correspondence
- 5. New Members
- 6. Motions on Notice

# 7. Office Bearer Reports

#### 7.1. President

Ana handed over chair to Billy Zimmermann at 6:41

Ana delivered her report

Billy handed over the chair to Ana Obradovic at 6:44

# 7.2. General Secretary

Billy delivered his report noting Casual Vacancy, Committees and other communications. Questions were asked about committee attendance from appointed representatives.

## 7.3. Education Officer

James delivered his report noting opposition to the Uni Merger plan and his Radio Adelaide appearance.

# 7.4. Queer Officer

Mat provided an update on their work meeting with people on how best to support queer students on campus as well as a meeting with student wellbeing regarding the response to the NSSS.

# 7.5. Post Graduate Officer (Research) Report

Jack gave his report giving an outline of much of the Postgrad survey results

## 7.6. Post Graduate Officer (Coursework) Report



Eddie gave his report continuing on from talking about the survey results.

#### **Motion:**

- 1. The SRC supports the removal of 40 hour a fortnight cap on international student work attached to international student visas.
- 2. The SRC President will seek the support from the SRC Presidents of Flinders University and the University of South Australia in relation to this policy. The SRC President will then write jointly with the SRC Presidents of the other noted South Australian universities to:
  - a. the Australian Federal Minister of Immigration and the Australian Federal Minister of Education; and
  - b. Study Adelaide

noting the position and requesting a response.

3. The SRC President will also write to the relevant officer of the University requesting their endorsement of the above.

# **Amendment proposed by Liam Johns:**

Add point 4 & 5:

- 4. That the SRC acknowledges that the University should play a larger and more active role in disseminating information regarding international students' right to work.
- 5. That the SRC President contact the relevant University officer to discuss ways that the University can better advertise working rights for international students, and for all students broadly.

#### Amenable to the mover.

Moved: Eddie Satchell Seconded: Ulian Cox Motion Carried

Motion: The AUU to Repeal AUU Constitution Schedule 4 and Abandon the Proposed AUU Rebrand

# **Motion:**

- 1. The SRC opposed AUU Constitution Schedule 4 and the proposed rebrand of the AUU;
- 2. The SRC supports the repeal of AUU Constitution Schedule 4; and
- 3. The SRC President will write to the AUU President requesting the AUU Constitution Schedule 4 be repealed at the next meeting of the AUU and that the SRC President provide a response to the above points noted and that the SRC will publish the AUU President's response to this request.

## **Amendment proposed by Liam Johns:**

4. The AUU redistribute exisiting AUU merchandise among AUU affiliates such as On Dit and SRC, and if there is excess then to university student as an alternative from discarding them

Moved: Eddie Satchell Seconded: Billy Zimmermann Motion Carried

Francesco Ciampa was noted as voting against this motion.

# 7.7. Social Justice Officer's Report



Tom's report was taken as read as he was a late apology.

# 7.8. Disability Officer's Report

#### **Motion:**

- (1) Events are created in collaboration with disabled people.
- (2) The location of the event is accessible, as deemed by disabled students consulted as per 1.
- (3) All SRC events are to have an online option via a platform that has adequate captioning.
- (4) For larger events, a separate area is set up close to the event that is quiet and adheres to the needs of disabled students with sensory issues.

#### Amendment put forward by mover:

Change point 1 so it reads 'in collaboration with the disability officer and DIDA'

# Amendment proposed by Henry Southcott

Change point 3 so 'SRC events' is replaced with 'SRC and University Events' **Amenable to mover** 

Eddie asked a question whether point 2 would mean that the disability officer could veto an SRC event. Falie clarified that yes it means that. Mat commented that that would not be enforceable.

Ana handed the chair to Billy Zimmermann at 7:23

Ana spoke about her concerns with the motion including the slippery slope of allowing DIDA and Falie to veto events and that activism is inherently inaccessible.

Ana additionally said that some of this doesn't make sense like including an online option for a BBQ.

Ana further added that activist events sometimes cannot be accessible. By moving this motion, she argues that this undermines the work of the SRC.

## Amendment proposed by Francesco Ciampa.

Add to point 2: The location of the events will be selected with the aid of the disability officer to maximise the inclusivity of all persons

# Amenable by mover.

Mat spoke about the need to look at this at a later date due to the variety and quantity of disagreements present with the motion and what it has become through amendments.

#### Falie tabled the motion until the next meeting

Billy handed over the chair to Ana Obradovic at 7:35



# 7.9. International Officer's Report

Dhuruva was absent so his report was taken as read.

#### 8. General Business

# 8.1. Demand the Malinauskas Labor Government Act for the Environment Motion: Motion:

The SRC demands that the Malinauskas Labor Government:

- 1. Commits to free, publicly owned and green public transport in South Australia.
- 2. Act on its stated opposition to the construction of a federal nuclear waste dump at Kimba on the Eyre Peninsula and rule out developing a nuclear industry in South Australia.
- 3. Act on its commitment to grant world heritage for the Great Australian Bight.
- 4. Make salt mining companies responsible for environmental damage pay for the remediation of the St Kilda Mangroves
- 5. Act on the climate emergency, including supporting the rapid phasing out of fossil fuels.

# Amendment proposed by Franceso Ciampa:

Change point 2 to remove 'and rule out developing a nuclear industry in South Australia'

Change point 5 to remove 'rapid', and adding to the end ',replacing them with alternate sources that provide the same number of jobs'

Ana rules that Francesco's amendment is out of order.

Frankie moved a dissent in chair motion dissenting against Ana's decision to block his amendments.

Moved: Francesco Ciampa Seconded: Henry Southcott Dissent motion failed

**Original motion moved:** 

Moved: Nix Herriot Seconded: James Wood Motion carried

# 8.2. Labor Must oppose the militarisation of Universities and their research

# **Motion:**

General Councillor Ramon O'Donnell will write to Blair Boyer and Susan Close expressing the SRC's opposition to the militarisation of Universities and their research.

Moved: Ramon O'Donnell Seconded: Mat Monti Motion carried

## 8.3. Roseworthy and Waite Officers



## **Motion:**

## The SRC:

• Amends point 7.a.ii of the constitution such that subpoints 16 and 17 are added, with these points reading:

# 16. Roseworthy Campus Officer

# 17. Waite Campus Officer

• Amend point 7.d of the constitution such that subpoints XI and XII are added, with these points reading:

XI. To be Roseworthy Campus Officer, a person must be studying at least one subject at the university's Roseworthy campus.

XII. To be Waite Campus Officer, a person must be studying at least one subject at the university's Waite campus.

Moved: Liam Johns Seconded: Francesco Ciampa Motion failed

SALT are noted as abstaining and causing the motion to fail.

Liam noted that SAlt seem to be arguing that rural representation doesn't matter.

Ana notes the passionate opposition to Salt's position is the most passionate she has seen SRC members argue for on something so irrelevant.

# 9. Emergent business

#### **Motion:**

The SRC affiliates to CAPA for 2022.

The SRC authorises the General Secretary to negotiate a waiving of fees with the CAPA board and facilitation of documents for submission to CAPA.

Moved: Billy Zimmermann Seconded: Alicia Turner Motion Carried

#### **Motion:**

The SRC Delegates authority to the SRC Executive until Thursday 28 April.

Moved: Billy Zimmermann Seconded: Mat Monti Motion Carried

Ana Obradovic closed the meeting at 8:14



# **Appendix 2: SRC Executive Minutes (27 January 2022)**

# **Executive Meeting over Zoom - Thursday 27th January 2022**

#### 1. Procedural Matters

Ana opened the meeting at 5:37

# 1.1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

Ana acknowledged the Kaurna people as the owners of the land we were on.

#### 1.2. Attendance

Ana Obradovic, Billy Zimmermann, James Wood, Ulian Cox, Georgia Thomas

## 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

**NONE** 

# 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

# 4. SRC Casual Vacancy Interviews

**Motion:** The SRC Executive recommends Falie Adeline fill the casual vacancy for Disability

Officer

Moved: Billy Zimmermann Seconded: Georgia Thomas Carried

Motion: The SRC Executive resolves to keep the application form open for ATSI Officer until

there is an applicant.

Moved: Billy Zimmermann Seconded: Ulian Cox Carried

# 5. Report Back

Billy reported back on the following items: successful registration of the new Public Officer with the CBS as well as communication from USASA confirming they passed the motion supporting the wage theft recommendations from the select committee.

Ana reported back on the SRC Office situation noting that it would be good to have some signage and that we should push to get in the office ASAP.

## 6. Items for discussion

Gosse student housing was discussed, Ana circulated a draft letter to be sent to ministers. It was mutually agreeable that she will send this on behalf of the SRC.

It was discussed and agreed that Billy will create a poll for SRC members to find a day mutually agreeable for future meetings.



The Women's Collective were mentioned as being keen to have a presence with us during O'Week. It was agreed that pending any restrictions on number of stall members, they would be able to have a member at the stall on each day. The Executive agreed to return to this if the advice or rules from the AUU change.

O'Week was further discussed, Billy will create a form to sort out a roster for our 2 days as well as Lazy Breakfast.

The Counter guide is being discussed at the EAN organising meeting. Ana to send email inviting people to write articles. An invitation will also be posted on facebook page by Ana.

There is a tentative design for the education campaign tshirts, we have received a quote from Bowden printing who may be interested in reducing the cost for us. It was mentioned that the AUU also print shirts, Billy to investigate this service and get a quote.

#### 7. General Business

**Motion:** The SRC seeks affiliation to the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations for 2021 and 2022.

**Motion:** The SRC Authorises the General Secretary to communicate with the present President or board of CAPA to negotiate a fee decrease/waiver.

**Motion:** The SRC appoints Eddie Satchell and Jack Crawford as voting delegates for the 2021 Annual Council Meeting (ACM) of CAPA.

Moved: Billy Zimmermann Seconded: Georgia Thomas CARRIED

# 10. Emergent business

Ana closed the meeting at 6:32pm



# **Appendix 3: Report Concerning the Student Representative Council's Student General Meeting held 24 March 2022**

Report Concerning the Student Representative Council's Student General Meeting held 24 March 2022

Approved by the SRC Executive – 21/04/2022

# Validity of Zoom Attendees

The 'Policy concerning the conduct of a Student General Meeting 'in section 5.b allows for the President to decide to hold the meeting over an online platform due to public health concerns. Due to the rising COVID cases at the time, the SRC President and Executive made the decision to host a mixed model.

Prior to the meeting a circular resolution of the SRC Executive was passed unanimously with the following wording:

Motion: Considering massive amounts of covid cases, the SRC executive resolves that in line with the policy concerning the conduct of SGM's, for public health reasons, SGM attendees may join over Zoom in addition to any joining in person.

In the opinion of the SRC, this legitimises Zoom attendees.

Further, the Constitution, Standing Orders and other SRC Policy still apply to Student General Meetings. With this in mind, Section 8.g.i can be cited, this clause reads:

# 8.g.i: Members may attend meetings via video link and vote via distance only when previously approved by the SRC President.

As genuine students are voting members in an SGM, this clause can be seen to apply. The SRC President gave their consent for anyone to join over Zoom, further validating their attendance.

## Verification of Attendees

Attendees in person were required to sign an attendance sheet to confirm their presence.

Attendees over Zoom were required to put their Student ID as their display name.

Both of these forms of attendee were recorded and kept digitally.

The SRC General Secretary in verifying attendees sent emails to all those listed as attending to further verify their attendance.

The email sent to Zoom attendees was as follows:

The email sent to in person attendees was as follows:

A few of the Student Numbers provided to us were not valid so these were taken out of our count.

Two weeks were given for students to express their non-attendance at the SGM.



As a result of this rigorous process there was concluded that **126** Students attended the SGM in person and **31** attended over Zoom. This combined for a total confirmed attendance of **157**.

There were several people who filled out the sign in sheet twice so therefore our original count was off, this has hopefully been corrected in the list of attendees. Screenshots of the Zoom chat and photos of the sign in sheet are available on request.

As a result of this, the SGM can definitively be proved that it had an attendance over 150 and was therefore a quorate and valid meeting as required by section 16.b of the SRC Constitution.

# Resolutions passed

# **General Business**

Order of Business	Motion	Status
1	Express opposition to university management's proposed faculty mergers, staff sackings, and course cuts.	CARRIED
2	Pass a motion of no confidence in Vice-Chancellor Peter Høj and the University Council	CARRIED
3	Defend student democracy: demand direct funding for the democratically-elected Student Representative Council	CARRIED

# Other Business

Order of Business	Motion	Status
4a	Demand that the AUU grant full registration to the Occult Club at the next clubs committee meeting and,	CARRIED
4b	Censure the AUU for exploiting the power of the Union to restrict student democracy & censor views opposing that of the governing progress-liberal coalition, as it has done by:  • refusing to affiliate the Women's Collective • defunding the SRC • prohibiting On Dit from criticising the AUU • refusing to affiliate the pro-choice club; and • not re-affiliating the Occult Club	CARRIED
5a	The AUU give back the funding it has stripped off On Dit for printing and social events including rejecting the requested honorarium of \$6000 which is still below average for student press director instead of reducing the already set amount of \$5000 to \$4500	CARRIED
5b	The AUU reverse their amendment in the student media rules of clause 10.4 which enables the 'Independent Committee' to employ any methods of inflicting punishments on the On Dit editors outside of official jurisdiction	CARRIED



5c	The AUU Student Media Chair Director Oliver Douglas does not threaten On Dit with sanctions anymore just for practicing basic rights of any and all media institutions for simply practicing a media release	CARRIED
5d	AUU Board President Oscar Ong takes a class on how to respect women	CARRIED
6	Denounce the University management's casual wage theft and demanding making the processes that make this possible publicly accountable	CARRIED
7	Demand the university divest immediately from the fossil fuel industry	CARRIED