



Arc @ UNSW limited
SRC MEETING AGENDA
Monday, 18 July 2022
TEAMS
6:00 pm



Present: Nayonika Bhattacharya, Nick Palmer, Nadia Pandoulis, Tristan Johnson, Pratham Gupta, Luca Charlier, Aya Adel, Rosina Baumann, Paige Sedgewick, Liora Hoenig, Gina Elias, Zane Comarmond, Reid Hou, Cynthia Leung, Daniel Mulia, Mahin Zaman

In attendance: Alex Neale (Tharunka), Harrisen-John Leckenby (Tharunka), Zachary Morris, Caleb Watts, Kim Stern, Brendan Tate, Emma Terry, Cherish Kuehlmann

Apologies: Si Thu Zin, Jennifer Lin, Vihan Roy, Aadesh Kanda

Absent: John Nalus, Jiayang Wang, Jordan Bowling, Austin McDonald, Keshia Kimber

1. Meeting Opening

The meeting opened 6:08pm

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Completed by the SRC President.

1.2. Apologies

Apologies were received from S. Zin, J. Lin, V. Roy and A. Kanda.

RESOLVED

THAT the apologies received for S. Zin, J. Lin, V. Roy and A. Kanda are accepted.

CARRIED

1.3. Conflicts of interest disclosure

N/A

1.4. Previous minutes

1.4.1. Confirmation: 6 June 2022

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes from the SRC meeting held on 6 June 2022 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

1.4.2. Matters arising/ action list

N/A

1.5. Meeting administration

1.5.1. Items flagged for immediate discussion

There were no items flagged for immediate discussion.

1.5.2. Selection of meeting observer

L. Hoenig was appointed as meeting observer.

1.6. Procedural Motion

It was noted that the SRC would accept all reports (Item 3 – Item 4) en bloc as several members are sick with COVID. Any questions regarding reports can be raised in the group chat and responded to by a determined deadline.

G. Elias raised that while it is important for members to rest, the meeting should be delayed beforehand. It is important that people can ask questions at the meeting instead of after the meeting.

It was responded that members have been sick with short notices and that sicknesses were not planned, therefore the meeting could not be delayed and rescheduled in advance.

RESOLVED

THAT all reports under Items 3 and 4 are accepted en bloc.

CARRIED

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. UNSW SRC supports public sector strikes for better pay and conditions.

The paper was taken as read.

Points for the motion:

- Strikes are important while there is a continual series of crisis happening. Employers are profiting at the expense of workers. More public sector strikes should be supported in a united way.
- A fight is needed against management and Government whose interests are contrary to those of the public sector, and as an example, the Arts Faculty of UNSW that sits within the education sector.

Discussions:

- In Key Note 1, while it was noted that the SRC will publish the motion on social media, G. Elias noted that Collectives should also post about the matter. The issues are inter-connected, and the Collectives should show solidarity.
- Instead of Facebook, the motion should state 'social media' to include a wider variety of pathways of promotion.
- Spelling errors within the content of the motion to be promoted will be addressed.

Amendment proposed:

The UNSW SRC recognises the importance of industrial action and stands with those taking it to pursue higher wages and better conditions.

Motion 2.1. UNSW SRC supports public sector strikes for better pay and conditions!

Key Notes: 1. The UNSW SRC will publish this motion on its page social media pages to publicly stand in solidarity with public sector strikes.

Background:

Public sector workers in NSW lead the way in showing how people can fight the crises gripping working class people in Australia. Most recently in June, public and Catholic school teachers, nurses and midwives, and public servants went on strike and railway workers took industrial action for the better pay and conditions they deserve.

Despite getting through the first two years of the ongoing covid-19 pandemic, being punished with insultingly low wage caps, facing underfunding and understaffing, the NSW Liberal government has refused to grant these essential workers anything they are demanding that would actually solve their problems.

The UNSW SRC recognises the importance of industrial action and stands with those taking it to pursue higher wages and better conditions.

Points for the amendments:

- The motion should be kept simple and understandable for all.
- A non-participant approach from SRC is logical and sensible for a general public sector support on strikes and better conditions.

Points against amendments:

- The content is important, and governments should be openly criticised. The specific demands should be supported if the strikes were to be supported.
- The motion provides a clear title and set of outcomes. The naming of demands and people in the motion are important political points to address as it is not to be an ambiguous movement.

RESOLVED

THAT UNSW SRC supports public sector strikes for better pay and conditions with the amendments proposed.

CARRIED

2.2. UNSW SRC re-commits to opposing cuts to ADA and will continue to fight

The paper was taken as read.

C. Kuehlmann spoke to the motion that the SRC has been supporting the course cuts, with the SRC President having attended a meeting regarding course cuts, contrary to the motion carried at the last SRC meeting to oppose them. As a statement posted by SRC states that the course changes will positively impact students, a question was raised as to what information there is to demonstrate that. Further questions were raised about the information on course cuts and rested courses. C. Kuehlmann claimed that information leaked about the University planning to move classes online and stating that the University is wanting to move into 'flip' classrooms which involves online lecturers.

The SRC President responded to the questions and claims:

- The rested courses are courses from 2021, which are referring to course restructures due to the ADA merger and COVID. No courses are being rested currently. The SRC President is willing to speak to any sources of information to understand the issue. The meeting attended by the SRC President was a public academic meeting which was also open to other students. There is record that the SRC President is in opposition to the changes.
- Tharunka has been provided with and potentially other publications will be provided with a statement and report on what the SRC has done to show the opposition to changes.
- While proposed restructures are happening, the degrees are still complying within tertiary requirements and standards. The cuts are essentially only structural changes. Course subject matters will remain the same, with new course codes and names. If any courses were to be cut, the SRC will be opposing it.
- The number of course credits needed for major or minor declarations will be changed. Details will be published after Tharunka has published upon SRC's work.
- Classes are not moving online, where in fact there is a focus of in-person classes from the many conversations with faculties, schools, and course representatives, as well as several academics. There is also support and care for students with disabilities and access issues regarding in-person classes. The SRC President is willing to speak anyone who has information on the University moving classes online.
- The units required for a degree remains the same at 144 credits, while the major has been reduced from 60 to 48.
- 'Flip' teaching has existed for a long time, and it involves different models of teaching.
- The SRC President has reached out to the ADA manager, club president, Head of School, as well as ADA students. There is a problem with representing all students as students' needs

and wants differ across the spectrum. The SRC will continue to work with students, ensure no courses are cut, and keep track of rested courses.

- There is a reduced minimum number of courses from 10 to 8 for every specialisation, while there will be more courses at the same level.

Discussions from other SRC members show a preference for a reduced number of major courses from 10 to 8, as that would allow greater flexibility in choosing subjects for minors and free electives. Opposingly, L. Charlier raised that the degree combination is too extreme in that the choice of courses are from a much broader range of degrees that may not necessarily be relevant to the specific degree of the student.

RESOLVED

THAT UNSW SRC re-commits to opposing cuts to ADA and will continue to fight.

NOT CARRIED

2.3. The 2022 UNSW SRC appoints Caleb Watts as Councillor B

The paper was taken as read.

C. Watts provided an introduction of himself.

Focuses and goals for joining SRC:

- Work with SRC to improve student welfare.
- Ensure that services holistically cater to the needs and wants of students and are accessible to all.
- Ensure student voices are heard and improve the day-to-day experience of all students.

Q&A:

- As C. Watts also serves as a secretary at the UNSW Labour Club, he notes that he will maintain representation of both parties and balance the time between the two roles. It was noted that whilst unfamiliar with the work of an SRC councillor, he will be committed to the role.
- C. Watts noted his interest in joining the Welfare Collective, as his focus is on improving student welfare.

The SRC voted to appoint the above position.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC approves the appointment of Caleb Watts as the Councillor B.

CARRIED

2.4. The 2022 UNSW SRC appoints Zachary Morris as the Students with Disabilities Officer

The paper was taken as read.

Z. Morris provided an introduction of himself and raised his passion about disability activism.

The SRC President further noted that Z. Morris has extensive experience in the disabilities space.

P. Gupta left the meeting at 7:13pm.

The SRC voted to appoint the above position.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC approves the appointment of Zachary Morris as the Disabilities Officer.

CARRIED

3. Office Bearer Reports

3.1. President

- 3.2. **General Secretary**
- 3.3. **Environment Office Bearer**
- 3.4. **Ethnocultural Office Bearer**
- 3.5. **Queer Office Bearer**
- 3.6. **Indigenous Office Bearer**
- 3.7. **International Students Office Bearer**
- 3.8. **Women's Office Bearer**
- 3.9. **Paddington Domestic Officer**

All reports are taken as read en bloc.

4. **Councillor Reports**
- 4.1. **Tristan Johnson**
- 4.2. **Jennifer Lin**
- 4.3. **Pratham Gupta**
- 4.4. **Luca Charlier**
- 4.5. **Gina Elias**
- 4.6. **Austin McDonald**
- 4.7. **John Nalus**
- 4.8. **Peter Alexander**
- 4.9. **Paige Sedgewick**
- 4.10. **Jemma Lowinger**
- 4.11. **Jiayang Wang**
- 4.12. **Cynthia Leung**

All reports are taken as read en bloc.

5. **Matters for Discussion**

N/A

6. **Matters for Noting [discussed only on exception basis]**

N/A

7. **Meeting Finalisation**

7.1. **Meeting evaluation**

The meeting went great, along with a lot of conversation. The disagreements at the meeting were handled in a more civilised way than previously. The meeting was fast and was a great time overall.

7.2. **Next meeting date: 22 August 2022.**

7.3. **Meeting close**

The meeting closed at 7:16pm.



SRC President Signature - Nayonika Bhattacharya
Date: 05/09/2022