



Arc @ UNSW limited
SRC MEETING AGENDA
Monday, 21 February 2022
TEAMS
6:00 pm



Present: Nayonika Bhattacharya, Nick Palmer, John Nalus, Vihan Roy, Paige Sedgewick, Jordan Bowling, Peter Alexander, Nadia Pandoulis, Zane Comarmond, Liora Hoenig, Tristan Johnson, Reid Hou, Pratham Gupta, Aadesh Kanda, Luca Charlier, Mahin Zaman, Jiayang Wang, Gina Elias, Aya Adel, Samuel Pangilanan, Austin McDonald, Si Thu Zin

In attendance: Shovan Bhattarai, Emma Terry, Ruby Pandolfi, Keshia Kimber, Nadia Hirst & Harrison Leckenby (Tharunka)

Apologies: Rosie Baumann

Absent: Jennifer Lin, Jemma Lowinger

1. Meeting Opening

The meeting opened 6:05pm

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Completed by the SRC President.

1.2. Apologies

Apologies were received from L. Edwards, G. Castillo and R. Baumann.

RESOLVED

THAT the apologies received by L. Edwards, G. Castillo and R. Baumann are accepted.

CARRIED

1.3. Conflicts of interest disclosure

No declarations were made.

1.4. Previous minutes

1.4.1. Confirmation: 26 October 2021

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes from the SRC meeting held on 26 October 2021 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

1.4.2. Matters arising/ action list

The action list was noted.

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

G. Elias was appointed as meeting observer.

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. The SRC supports the push to #KillTheBill and prevent RDB from passing

Paper was taken as read.

Proposal to merge 2.1 and 2.3. was unsuccessful, noting that 2.3 is unique to 2.1 and is attached to a 2017 campaign (CARR). Proposal to merge the #KillTheBill & CARR action points from 2.3 into 2.1, amending 2.3 to cover the Mardi Gras & Condemnation of Liberal & Labour only was also unsuccessful.

It was discussed that no version of the RDB is acceptable therefore important to be supportive of scrapping the entire bill. Lobbying is not exclusively the only action. The Queer Collective will be spearheading the campaign, hosting explainer sessions and discussions with external organisations (such as Equality Australia) to push for protection of students and staff on campus.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC supports the push to #KillTheBill and prevent the RDB from passing.

CARRIED

2.2. The SRC calls on students to join the uni contingent to the March 25 Climate Strike

The paper was taken as read.

There has been an increase in climate disasters since the initial 2019 strike. Whilst there has been talk about committing to net zero 2050 targets, however no government around the world is going to meet their 1.5-degree global warming targets. Australia is one of the biggest contributors to the climate crisis. SRC to call to students to take part in genuine climate action, the SRC's role and responsibility is to drive this engagement amongst students.

Proposal to amend the motion by removing action (2c) "Have the SRC Collectives share the event on their social media pages and invite their members". The basis of the proposal being that Collectives are autonomous and it is not the SRC's role to dictate what they should promote. The SRC, as a whole, will promote.

Climate change is an important issue, and this is representative of what the SRC should be supporting as it affects all students and future students.

RESOLVED

THAT item 2.2 will be amended to remove action item (2c) "Have the SRC Collectives share the event on their social media pages and invite their members".

THAT the SRC calls on students to join the uni contingent to the March 25 Climate Strike, with the above amendment.

CARRIED

2.3. The SRC supports CARR's campaign to scrap the Religious Discrimination Bill

The paper was taken as read.

The religious Right will likely be bringing this bill back in harsher form. The SRC should support CARR specifically as they have been the leaders of this campaign since 2017.

Amendment suggested to separate action points of 2.3 into individual motions as they can be interpreted as separate issues (RDB, Mardi Gras, condemnation of Liberal & Labour). While there is an overlap in themes they are not explicitly interlinked. It was argued that it is important to leave the motion as it is, to provide clarity in the SRC's support of CARR which would include support of all three actions. It was also noted that both Liberal and Labour party's support the RDB and it is important to condemn both as part of the broader motion. This motion passed, noting the below separate motions.

The SRC President reminded the Council that they must abide by the SRC Spaces Policy and be respectful within the meeting chat.

2.3.1. THAT the SRC will publicly endorse CARR protests on social media

The majority of the Council support the endorsement of CARR. An alternate view was presented that the bill protects catholic teachers' rights.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC will publicly endorse CARR protests on social media.

CARRIED

2.3.2. THAT the SRC will publicly endorse the upcoming Mardi Gras rally

The history of Mardi Gras shows that it is only by taking to the streets that people are able to fight for the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community. The Queer Collective has had ongoing discussions about the corporatization of Mardi Gras and that it is important to continue supporting the minority members of the LGBTQIA+ community. The Queer Collective will host a Mardi Gras rally information session to discuss its history.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC will publicly endorse the upcoming Mardi Gras rally.

CARRIED

2.3.3. THAT the SRC condemns Liberal and Labour for supporting the Religious discrimination bill

It was argued that both parties support the discrimination of trans students to appease the religious right and continue the oppression of LGBTQIA+ people. The SRC represents students, and this bill discriminates against students. The Labour party has not pushed through any progressive legislation that supports the LGBTQIA+ community. It was argued that religious schools should have the religious freedom to make decisions based on their belief system.

The vast majority of the SRC abstained on this motion and thus it failed.

2.4. THAT the SRC appoints Ms Keshia Kimber as the Paddington Campus Domestic Officer.

The paper was taken as read. Keshia prepared a presentation and gave background on her student and professional life.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC appoints Ms Keshia Kimber as the Paddington Campus Domestic Officer.

CARRIED

2.5. The SRC supports the creation of the AISA (Australian International Students Association) by the NUS

The paper was taken as read. The President migrated agenda item 5.1 from a Matter for Noting to a Matter for Decision.

AISA was proposed at the NUS Presidents' summit in 2022 as a result of CISA falling through. Noting that there has been no clear structure of support for International Students from CISA. AISA will be controlled by a body which is independent but will be monitored by NUS. Several attempts to engage with CISA and correct governance issues have been unsuccessful. Membership fee of AISA is negotiable as opposed to CISA. It was noted that it is important that we support and join a strong lobbying and advocacy group for International Students as a result of CISA failing to deliver.

Amendment proposed to include an additional motion for the SRC to join AISA. This amendment passed.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC supports the creation of AISA (Australian International Students Association) by the NUS.

CARRIED

THAT the SRC will join as a member of AISA (Australian International Students Association).

CARRIED

2.6. The SRC supports the campaign to defend student democracy at Adelaide Uni

The paper was taken as read. An unelected Board has been created within the Adelaide Uni SRC, who will have control over what the SRC does. This action is undemocratic and prohibits the SRC from using its funding freely. Call to action for the UNSW SRC to firmly support the campaign for student democracy and against the rights of students being eroded. The Adelaide Uni SRC is requesting donations from supporting SRC's to contribute towards their printing budgets.

ACTION

THAT the SRC President will discuss with Office Bearers whether they would like to donate any of their budget to the Adelaide Uni SRC.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC supports the campaign to defend student democracy at Adelaide Uni.

CARRIED

3. Matters for Discussion

3.1. There were no matters for discussion.

4. Office Bearer Reports

4.1. President

The report was taken as read. The SRC President noted that in addition to the report, they will be advocating to the University to ensure that no students are penalised due to transport shutdown.

4.2. General Secretary

The report was taken as read.

4.3. Education Office Bearer

The report was taken as read.

4.4. Environment Office Bearer

The report was taken as read.

4.5. Ethnocultural Office Bearer

The report was taken as read.

4.6. Indigenous Office Bearer

Report was tabled and is available via Teams. Report was received late and was therefore not included in the meeting Papers.

4.7. International Students Office Bearer

The report was taken as read.

4.8. Queer Office Bearer

The report was taken as read. Update included that a collaborative event with the Art & Design Society has been confirmed (Paint & Sip, Mardi Gras themed focusing on Queer artists). Further responses received from other university Queer Societies to work on developing connections and events.

4.9. Welfare Office Bearer

The report was taken as read.

4.10. Women's Office Bearer

The report was taken as read. Update regarding IWD, collaboration with Arc EDI Project Officer for an IWD Picnic/Breakfast as well as collaboration with Ethnocultural Officer.

4.11. Students with Disabilities

Report was tabled and is available via Teams. Report was received late and was therefore not included in the meeting Papers. In the process of organizing first SWD Collective event (meet & greet) as well as T2 Event (guest speaker) and working with Arc on the Be a Better Human campaign. Also looking to engage with an external evaluator to produce a report covering UNSW Campus and areas of improvement.

5. Matters for Noting [discussed only on exception basis]

5.1. The SRC supports the creation of AISA (Australian International Students Association) by the NUS

Moved to Matter for Decision, item 2.5.

5.2. Councillor reports

All reports taken as read.

5.2.1. Tristan Johnson

5.2.2. Jennifer Lin

5.2.3. Pratham Gupta

5.2.4. Luca Charlier

5.2.5. Gina Elias

5.2.6. Austin McDonald

5.2.7. John Nalus

5.2.8. Peter Alexander

5.2.9. Paige Sedgewick

5.2.10. Jemma Lowinger

5.2.11. Jiayang Wang

In discussions with head of Electrical Engineering and Telecommunication School regarding the increased difficulty of papers as well as the quality of online delivery vs practical lab experiences. Looking to work with the Education Officer to make changes to exam difficulty. SRC President noted that they can assist with escalation to the Academic & Faculty Boards.

5.2.12. Cynthia Leung

5.3. Cynthia Leung will be appointed as replacement Councillor B as a result of Macy resignation

6. Business without notice

7. Meeting Finalisation

7.1. Meeting evaluation

Appointed meeting observer was unresponsive therefore Nadia (Tharunka) provided an evaluation. Meeting was successful, multiple motions were actioned, most disruption was mitigated by the President.

7.2. Next meeting date: 11 April 2022.

7.3. Meeting close

The meeting closed at 8.12pm.

Nayonika

Nayonika Bhattacharya _____

SRC President

Date: 02 May 2022