

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**



**MEETING 1 DECEMBER 2018**

**AGENDA AND MEETING PAPERS**

## AGENDA

### 1. Procedural Matters

#### 1.1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

#### 1.2. Attendance

#### 1.3. Apologies

Samuel J King, Sam Chapman, Bingzhang Wu, Carol Wu, Yuchen Zhang, Zihan Ma, Chuyue Qin

#### 1.4. Adoption of Agenda

#### 1.5. Welcome

### 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

**Recommendation:** That the SRC accept the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and accurate record.

### 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

### 4. Correspondence

### 5. New Members

Patrick Stewart, Sam Chapman, Xin Wu, Yuchen Zhang, Rebecca Etienne, Kynasha Temple, Prerna Kurup, Bingzhang Wu, Chongxin Ji, Zihan Ma, Chuyue Qin, Tobias Threadgold, Samuel J King, Lisa Hanson, Chelsea Fernandez, Joanna Barry-Murphy, Tom Auld, Michael Brohier, Isabel Hoo, Yoong Aun Lai, Haoyang Shi, Yiyun Tang

### 6. Motions on Notice

### 7. General Business

#### 7.1. Election of SRC Executive

#### 7.2. Constitutional Amendment (Tobias Threadgold)

**Recommendation:** that the SRC change the constitution to allow members to attend meetings via video link if approved by the SRC President

#### 7.3. Locked Martin out of Adelaide Uni! (Tom Auld)

**Recommendation:** The SRC calls on the University of Adelaide administration to cut all ties with Lockheed Martin, as well as any other companies which profit from the global military build up.

The SRC supports the Disarm Adelaide Uni campaign in its opposition to Lockheed Martin.

The SRC supports NUS's Books not Bombs campaign in its aims to challenge the priorities of government and universities toward militarism.

## 8. Office Bearer Reports

### 8.1. President

**Recommendation:** That all SRC Officer Bearers will commit to fortnightly 'drop in hours' to be available to speak to students in the Fix Lounge. The SRC President and General Secretary will organise putting together a weekly schedule that will be advertised on social media channels and around the Fix Lounge.

**Recommendation:** The SRC General Secretary will develop a roster in collaboration with Student Care for SRC members to participate in the Student Free Breakfast.

### 8.2. General Secretary

**Recommendation:** That Ali Amin (SRC President), Patrick Stewart (SRC General Secretary), and Nooria Muradi (SRC Administrator) be duly authorised as signatories to the SRC bank account. [*Account Name: Student Representative Council (Adelaide), Inc. Account Number: 188 648 140*]

**Recommendation:** That the SRC appoint Patrick Stewart (SRC General Secretary) as Public Officer and authorise him to notify Consumer and Business Services accordingly.

**Recommendation:** That the SRC supports the principle of holding non-partisan voter enrolment stalls and will investigate the possibility of holding such stalls in the coming academic year.

**Recommendation:** that the SRC delegates its authority to the Executive from the close of the meeting at which this resolution is passed until Monday 18 February 2018, in the week prior to Orientation Week.

### 8.3. Postgraduate Officer

### 8.4. Education Officer

### 8.5. Queer Officer

**Recommendation:** That the SRC authorise \$100 to be spent purchasing items for IDAHOBIT when the time comes.

## **8.6. Social Justice Officer**

## **8.7. Disability Officer**

**Recommendation:** that the SRC authorise the Disability Officer to:

1. Liaise with University associated organisations and services (i.e. *Urbanest*) to promote positive mental health within their communities.
2. Liaise with University of Adelaide associated colleges (i.e. Aquinas, Kathleen Lumley, Lincoln, St Ann's & St Marks) to promote positive mental health within their communities.
3. Communicate & network with external advocacy groups in an effort to supply the greater University of Adelaide community with additional resources.

## **8.8. International Officer**

## **9. Other Reports**

### **9.1 Executive**

*No report to consider.*

### **9.2 Administrator's Report**

## **10. Emergent Business**

**SRC Meeting 01-19**

**Saturday 1 December 2018**



## **Item 2: Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

**TO BE PROVIDED**

## Item 7.2: Rural Officer's Item

### Constitutional Amendment

In an effort to improve accessibility to all students I would like to change the constitution to allow SRC members to attend meetings via video link if given the permission of the SRC president. A draft of the change to the constitution is outlined below:

#### SRC Constitution – Section 8 – Meetings

- g. No Member may exercise a vote by proxy or in any manner other than by personal attendance unless by express permission of the SRC President.
- i. Members may attend meetings via video link and vote via distance only when previously approved by the SRC President.

*And renumber subsequent sections accordingly.*

**Recommendation:** that the SRC change the constitution to allow members to attend meetings via video link if approved by the SRC President.

## Item 7.3: General Councillor's Item (Tom Auld)

### Lockheed Martin out of Adelaide Uni!

This year, Adelaide University made the decision to sign a deal with the world's largest weapons manufacturer, Lockheed Martin. The deal entails that there will be research into artificial intelligence for military application at the old Royal Adelaide Hospital site on North Terrace.

Lockheed Martin is responsible for a long list of war crimes and other scandals. This includes:

- The construction of a laser guided bomb for the Saudi Arabian state which was used to destroy a school bus, killing 50 people, including 41 children
- Large scale production of nuclear weaponry, producing Trident nuclear missiles for the United States and the United Kingdom
- Reckless environmental destruction in which the Project on Governmental Oversight lists 85 instances of misconduct since 1995

Lockheed Martin is an enemy of social justice, students and is a company which profits from destructive war. Their collaboration with our university is antithetical to an education system which puts societal good above private interests.

**Motion:** The SRC calls on the University of Adelaide administration to cut all ties with Lockheed Martin, as well as any other companies which profit from the global military build up.

The SRC supports the Disarm Adelaide Uni campaign in its opposition to Lockheed Martin.

The SRC supports NUS's Books not Bombs campaign in its aims to challenge the priorities of government and universities toward militarism.

## Item 8.1: Presidents Report

### General Welcome

Welcome to the 2019 Adelaide University Student Representative Council and congratulations on your election to the SRC. I look forward to the ambitious and impactful initiatives you all have planned for the year.

First, I'd like to reflect on 2018. The SRC worked hard on representing student interests. We established the foundations for a successful SRC, we continued building on the work of the 2017 SRC in engaging with the various University Committees and making sure students are involved in all decisions made. We were part of the Investigation Into sexual harassment and assault at Colleges and University and succeeded in agitating for change, with St Marks now undergoing an overhaul of leadership and structure, and have pushed the University to develop a standalone sexual assault policy. Our relationship with the University has also significantly improved.

And in terms of events, we changed our approach to social events in order to offer new unique experiences. We launched the first-ever Multicultural Festival and worked closely with AUU to expand Stress Less Day, among other major undertakings like the George Duncan Memorial – and we believe these experiences will live on for years to come.

The SRC bloomed in 2018 as a result of members working tirelessly to plant the seeds from which the organisation could grow over the next decade. However, we need to further develop to deliver for the ever-changing student cohorts needs. We must drive a more responsive, vocal and active SRC in 2019.

I have benefitted from the hard work of many and am extremely grateful for the many contributions to the SRC by its former members. I am especially indebted to the former President Matthew Boughey for his help and guidance.

The successes of 2018 are the product of tenacious team efforts, both within the SRC and across our community. I am excited to share this journey with you as we take our next major leap forward into 2019.

My focus in 2019 will centre around further reinvigorating the SRC by:

1. Rebranding and improving our image. Improving our social media strategy and expanding into new mediums allowing us to reach more students than ever.
2. Improving collaboration with key stakeholders including Clubs, Faculties, TEQSA, the State/ Federal Government and the University.
3. Good governance with a focus on accountability, transparency and inclusivity.
4. Creating a vocal, responsive and active SRC with a strong presence on all our campuses.

### **Transparency, accountability, inclusivity**

The 2018 SRC identified outreach to the student population of critical importance for success. The SRC often does a lot of work unrecognised and this needs to change. Student outreach and awareness of the SRC is a very useful way to help us identify key issues and act on them quickly. Furthermore, wider consultation with the student body will help steer the SRC's strategic direction.

Some of my priorities to ensure the SRC is transparent and accountable include:

- Ensuring that students have access to University decisions and policy regarding student affairs in plain English.
- Ensuring that students are aware of the various committees the SRC sits on and the ability for all students to contribute to the management and day to day activities of the University.
- Collaborating with international student communities to ensure adequate representation of issues affecting them.
- Launching a campaign to inform students about the services the SRC and AUU provides.
- Improving reporting requirements for the SRC and producing an Annual Report reviewing efficacy, expenditure and initiatives.
- Setting consultation hours for the President so students can have their voices heard in a one on one setting.

### SRC Promotion and Outreach

Social media is one of our key platforms for communication and accountability to students. Additionally, the currently in-development AUU website will give us an opportunity to connect with students as well as advertise our campaigns and events. The SRC Social Media Policy put in place this year is a positive first step. I will spend the summer break reviewing our social media presence and implementations recommendations made last year.

Some recommendations to be implemented by O'Week.

- Diversifying communication channels – work closely with various international student clubs and societies to disseminate information to international channels we would otherwise not reach as effectively – eg WeChat
  - WeChat is the primary, exclusive means of disseminating information among many international student circles, especially Chinese-speaking circles. Because much of the AUU/SRC online presence and communication takes place through its Facebook account, a large portion of the UoA population is kept in the dark. After extensive consultation with the international student community, we believe that this is best done by helping core WeChat groups on campus, extend and promote its WeChat presence. This would involve working with to post articles about the SRC, and working closely with the various diverse clubs to ensure its WeChat is student-friendly.
- Make SRC related news and information clear and comprehensive by presenting it in digestible formats.

- Set up an SRC website.
- More feedback mechanisms
  - Communication is more than just a one way street. SRC needs to listen to students, and likewise create a continuous feedback culture. Currently, seeking feedback mechanisms is incredibly difficult, and finding the right reference or point of contact to refer on an issue is challenging. We are determined to make submitting feedback to a simple, easy and pain-free process. We will create a platform that allows students to continuously pass on their feedback to the SRC, and for that person to have a guaranteed follow up.
- SRC Awareness. Launch a campaign to raise aware of the various services offered by the University, SRC and AUU. We know that most students aren't aware of all the services provided by Student Care and other bodies, such as the Law Schools free legal service, or Student Life's mental health service. We want to make sure that students realise all of the options available.

### SRC Meet the Reps and Presence on Campus

Another way to improve the SRC's outreach which was discussed in 2018 is through the Reps themselves and the roles you all serve as members.

I urge all members to actively raise awareness of the SRC and the advocacy services we provide and hope you're able to refer students should they request assistance to the various services provided the AUU and University.

Given renovations to Union House and the Fix Lounge foot traffic will significantly increase around the SRC's office and this is a great way to increase our presence. Thus I will organise drop in hours for students to speak to Office Bearers. These hours will be advertised on our social media channels and around the Fix Lounge.

Furthermore, in previous years, the SRC has held a "Meet Your Reps" event in The Hub which has had proven success. It is in our interest to run a similar event to further increase our profile within the university community. I will also attempt to organise at least one Hub stall a 'term' to continue building our presence.

**Recommendation:** That all SRC Officer Bearers will commit to fortnightly 'drop in hours' to be available to speak to students in the Fix Lounge. The SRC President and General Secretary will organise putting together a weekly schedule that will be advertised on social media channels and around the Fix Lounge.

**Action:** The SRC President will organise a "Meet Your Reps" event for semester one.

**Recommendation:** The SRC General Secretary will develop a roster in collaboration with Student Care for SRC members to participate in the Student Free Breakfast.

### SRC Newsletter

In 2018 the SRC launched an online newsletter that is sent to students. It was a low density newsletter sent every month. The newsletter is a great opportunity to promote SRC services and political campaigns to students. I will be working on a new layout in the upcoming weeks

with the intention to send out before O-Week. I will be contacting Office Bearers before then re submitting content.

### Meeting and Reporting Requirements

Given we went into it in depth at training I hope everyone is aware of their meeting attendance and reporting requirements. I will be contact all members individually to make sure they understand their responsibilities.

### Counter Guide

Building on the work of the past two years we agreed to publish Counter Guide for first year students which will be distributed during O'Week. The Counter Guide tends to be a more down to earth realistic overview of University compared to University provided information. Please see the appendix re the Counter Guide motion passed.

### **RCC**

'In August the University of Adelaide announced that it had forged a partnership with the Fringe event Royal Croquet Club (RCC) to provide venues on the University campus during the 2019 Fringe Festival. The partnership was announced following no consultation with the Adelaide University Union (AUU) nor students about how this would impact them. (Read the AUU response [here](#)). RCC claims this has been a collaborative process of great benefit to students yet the Union nor students were ever consulted while details of the partnership were purposefully kept secret until the end of the semester.'<sup>1</sup>

In response to the sudden announcement of the RCC Fringe on campus the SRC moved the following motions:

- The Adelaide University SRC stands with the AUU and will support the AUU Board in holding the University to account over this announcement devoid of any transparency or consultation.
- The Adelaide University SRC calls on the University to explain how the Royal Croquet Club is expected to operate on University grounds during O'Week and Semester One. Additionally, the impact it will have upon the operations of the AUU and student clubs. Students deserve to know the impact this will have upon student life.

I have a meeting with the University's project manager for the RCC Fringe, Sonja Graetz, to discuss the RCC, the impact it will have upon the operations of the AUU and student clubs, and concerns raised to the SRC by students.

There has also been a Facebook group formed that now has over 30 student leaders from various clubs and other organisations. The core demands are:

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.change.org/p/peter-rathjen-get-the-rcc-off-our-campus-at-adelaide-uni?recruiter=467916450&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=facebook&utm\\_campaign=share\\_petition&utm\\_content=fhtcon-13910960-en-au%3Av5&fbclid=IwAR3ryFryrd15X8u8WxCf\\_3acNA5ePQcFjx82jCoe\\_e8fTKyr74KlohdLUoI](https://www.change.org/p/peter-rathjen-get-the-rcc-off-our-campus-at-adelaide-uni?recruiter=467916450&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_content=fhtcon-13910960-en-au%3Av5&fbclid=IwAR3ryFryrd15X8u8WxCf_3acNA5ePQcFjx82jCoe_e8fTKyr74KlohdLUoI)

1. More space to run O-week; no RCC in the following spaces:
  - a. Maths Lawns
  - b. Bonython Hall
  - c. Unibar
2. Uni to cover the increased \$20,000 costs to run O-week
3. No RCC after 2019
4. Work with AUU and SRC to develop framework of processes and requirements for uni dialogue where student experiences are affected

Furthermore, there has been a petition circulated titled “Get the RCC of our Campus” which now has over 200 signatures. The concerns raised are:

- Exclusive RCC access and booking of Barr Smith, Maths and Goodman Crescent Lawns, Bonython Hall, Little Theatre, Mayo Cafe, the Cloisters, the former Union bookshop, Unibar, Rumours Cafe plus remediation of lawns after Fringe;
- Student clubs and societies unable to run on-campus welcome events or regular planned events during O-week or weeks 1 and 2 of the semester (at least);
- O-week 40% smaller than in previous years but costing AUU and Clubs an additional \$20,000 to meet strict RCC set-up and pack-down time requirements;
- Disrupted and limited access to student spaces and services such as Clubs Lounge, Fix Student Lounge, Women’s Room, Rainbow Room, Islamic Prayer Room, Student Care, plus Clubs administration, equipment and lockers throughout Union House;
- Severe noise and access disruptions for students studying after 5pm, including scheduled classes 5-7pm;
- Highly limited on-site parking for students and staff, especially from rural areas;
- Presence of illicit substances on campus used by RCC patrons as in past years;
- Increased risk of sexual assault to students from increased presence of alcohol, illicit substances where RCC attendees are not held accountable to University policies;
- High availability of alcohol on campus (including from 11am Fridays) and large crowds of general public moving through campus spaces and facilities including the Hub, the Braggs and Union House;
- High likelihood of costly damage to campus green spaces and the heritage-listed Bonython Hall used for student graduations in April.

I will raise these concerns to Sonja as well as reach out to key stakeholders to further discuss.

### **Curriculum design**

The SRC has made a submission regarding plans to overhaul curriculum and curriculum philosophy at UofA.<sup>2</sup> Given that this will have a huge impact on student learning this will be one of the SRC core focuses for the year. I’ll have a report to present next meeting and recent developments.

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/strategy/curriculum-design/New\\_Curriculum\\_Futures\\_Green\\_Paper.pdf](https://www.adelaide.edu.au/learning/strategy/curriculum-design/New_Curriculum_Futures_Green_Paper.pdf)

## O-Week Preparations

O-Week is an unparalleled opportunity to speak to incoming students and inform them about our campaigns and services. We have organised with the AUU our stall arrangement. I have also been looking into potential resources we may need and supplies refilled.

We will also likely host the annual “Lazy Breakfast” during O’Week where we cook breakfast wraps to over 300 students.

I have a meeting this Wednesday with Anna Wockner from the AUU to further develop our plans.

## International Student Accommodation Issues

With Steven Marshall's plan to double the number of international students in SA<sup>3</sup>, the various issues associated with this should be tackled head on. There is significant risk in such a rapid growth of the international education sector, bringing a rise in demand for student accommodation in a State where traditionally domestic demand had been low.

As you may know international students remain particularly vulnerable to exploitation in their accommodation arrangements. Anecdotally, dissatisfaction is common but under-reported, with international students frequently experiencing poor service and exploitation in overcrowded accommodation through sub-tenancy arrangements. Often, international students lack an understanding of complicated accommodation processes, namely leasing arrangements, and their rights as tenants.

I wrote to the Attorney General to enquire as to any plans or potential legislative change being developed to improve the international student experience with accommodation to mirror eastern states and Federal recommendations. Specifically around reviewing licensing around tenancy and sub-tenancy arrangements and to provide for the regulation of boarding houses and other places of shared accommodation.

A New South Wales Parliamentary Report from 2011 outlines the problem of international students who are situated outside the mainstream rental sector.<sup>4</sup> The report identifies how international students are often unaware of their legal rights and be are often forced to live in poor conditions.<sup>5</sup> This is further supported by a 2018 Report by the Federal Government,<sup>6</sup> which outlines how international students may be the subject of exploitation and over-crowding within sub-tenancy arrangements.<sup>7</sup> The University of Technology Sydney also

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.adelaidenow.com.au/messenger/premier-steven-marshall-says-south-australia-should-have-10-per-cent-of-australias-international-students/news-story/0c91a566aa05c9f7c5472d5612296f81?nk=14cbb47d8dfd82e552395819a01a152d-1543408883>

<sup>4</sup> Social Policy Committee, Parliament of New South Wales, *Report Into International Student Accommodation in New South Wales* (2011).

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, 47.

<sup>6</sup> Expert Members of the Council for International Education, Parliament of Australia, *Outcomes of Issues Considered by the Student Service Delivery Working Group* (2018).

<sup>7</sup> Ibid, 9.

released a report in 2016 that elaborated on the problems faced by international students, such as how international students face the possibility of wrongful evictions, paying for repairs, invasions of privacy, unreasonable rent increases, and having their bond withheld.<sup>8</sup>

It is therefore clear there is a significant problem facing international student's accommodation in Australia. Considering this, there is a need to provide these students with a direction as to where they can ascertain clear and concise information about their legal rights and obligations, such that they may get effective help when they perceive that there is a problem with their accommodation.

I met the Director for International Education and Migration at the Department of Trade, Investment and Tourism Peter Klar and outlined my research findings to him and his colleagues. I advised them of the unique challenges international students face which they noted and are doing further research on. I also advised them of the need for a specialist legal clinic that deals with international student issues and examples interstate. They advised us that they will be looking into expanding The Office of Training Advocates resources to take on this task

I also spoke to the Attorney General, Hon Vickie Chapman, about the need for legislative reform. She was receptive and advised us there will be a National Tenancy Forum next year which will review the current legislation. They are willing to work with SRC on legislative reform.

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<sup>8</sup> Institute for Public Policy and Governance, University Technology Sydney, *The Wellbeing of International Students in the City of Sydney* (2016).

The Hon Vickie Chapman MP

18AGO2243

15 November 2018

Mr Ali Mohammad Amin  
1/6 Anglers Court  
WEST LAKES SHORE SA 5020

By email: [ali.mohammadamin@student.adelaide.edu.au](mailto:ali.mohammadamin@student.adelaide.edu.au)



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Dear Mr Mohammad Amin

I write in response to your email of 15 October 2018 in relation to student accommodation in South Australia.

Consumer and Business Services (CBS) has been working in conjunction with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to discuss the broader social, funding and regulatory issues regarding rooming houses in South Australia. This involved the establishment of a Private Rental Taskforce and Rooming Housing Roundtable.

Any proposed legislative reform will need to consider existing rooming house provisions in the *Residential Tenancies Act 1995* (the Act), and seek to maintain a fair balance between the rights and obligations of rooming house proprietors and residents. As such, any regulatory intervention will need to be carefully considered.

I am advised that CBS will be hosting the National Tenancy Forum next year, comprising of policy representatives from Australian State and Territory residential tenancies regulators. It is anticipated this will help inform proposed legislative reform in this area and the best way forward for South Australia.

I have asked the Commissioner for Consumer Affairs to consult with you on any proposed changes to the Act in due course.

Thank you for writing to me on this important issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vickie Chapman', written over a circular stamp or watermark.

**VICKIE CHAPMAN/MP**  
DEPUTY PREMIER  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL

**For Official Use Only**

Good Afternoon Ali,

Thank you for meeting with Peter Klar and myself today.

As promised during our meeting it was agreed that some contacts and information would be shared with you and your colleague Michael. Unfortunately, I do not have Michael's contact details so I would appreciate you sharing this information with him.

1. As mentioned Consumer and Business Services in the Attorney-General's Department is responsible for services related to renting and letting. Lauren Cahill [Lauren.Cahill3@sa.gov.au](mailto:Lauren.Cahill3@sa.gov.au) is our contact and has been involved in a campaign focussed on international students' rights around accommodation.
2. The Office of the Training Advocate, provides information, support and advocacy to all students but has a particular role in relations to international students as an independent complaints-handling authority for all matters related to international education and training in South Australia. I believe that this is a unique role and has no equivalent in the others states and territories. It would be well worth your time to speak with Therese O'Leary, the present Advocate who can be contacted on [Therese.O'Leary@sa.gov.au](mailto:Therese.O'Leary@sa.gov.au)
3. StudyAdelaide is also a valuable resource for international students and I am sure the CE would be interested in your project. Karyn Kent is her name and she can be contacted via Doreen Blewett on 8226 0111 or [doreenblewett@studyadelaide.com](mailto:doreenblewett@studyadelaide.com)
4. Finally, you should be aware of Student Accommodation Australia, which is a national industry body championing the value of quality student accommodation for the exclusive use of students. Their website is <http://studentaccassoc.com.au/>

You also expressed an interest in the governments program seeking to improve international students employability skills, Adelaide Engage – Work Experience Network (AEWEN). I have attached a client brochure, if the Adelaide

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1?ik=a6af4e77d3&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1618529510578105066&simpl=msg-f%3A1618529...> 1/2

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19/11/2018 The University of Adelaide Mail - FW: International Student Accommodation - DTTI meeting - 7 November 2018 [DLM=For-Official-...

Student Union is interested in submitting a project for either our November 2018 or February 2019 cohort.

I have also attached a couple of reports, which may be of interest, one relates to supply and demand for purpose built student accommodation and the other is on the economic value of international students in South Australia.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

**Mary Rieger**

## **Compulsory Classes during Friday Prayer Time**

In 2018, the President of the Islamic Students Society of the University of Adelaide gave a speech at an SRC meeting outlining various issues affecting the Muslim Community on campus and their ability to attend Friday Prayer. This issue was raised Michael Physick (Manager – Student Affairs) and Professor Philippa Levy (Pro Vice-Chancellor, Student

Learning). My understating is Philippa Levy had some benchmarking carried out to see what other Go8 institutions have in place.

However, I don't have an update as to progress on this issue. Given that this was raised directly to the SRC and we committed to working on it in 2018 it is important we deliver on our promise. I will follow this up and ensure the necessary action is taken. I have also spoken to TEQSA about this and they raised the possibility of submitting a formal complaint.

### **The SRC, Fix Lounge and Autonomous Areas**

There is a well-established principle that the SRC is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the Fix Lounge in Union House. Unfortunately, the Fix Lounge is in a poor state with old kitchen tools and equipment as well as decaying infrastructure. I have met with Andrew Klima and he notified me that there will be some money released by the University to reinvigorate Fix Lounge including buying new kitchen equipment. I imagine it will soon become a popular alternative to the Hub which will provide us a great opportunity to further engage with students.

Furthermore, there are various autonomous areas that the SRC was historically involved in maintaining including:

- The George Duncan Room
  - Under the responsibility of the Queer Officer
- The Women's Room
  - Under the responsibility of the Women's Officer
- The Mature Students Area
  - Under the responsibility of the Mature Age students Officer

I hope we can have a discussion as to how we can better utilise these rooms.

### **Sexual Assault Taskforce**

The SRC strongly advocated for independent and strong oversight of University' responses to sexual assault and harassment. The former SRC President Matthew Boughey and USASA President Jordan Mumford had a meeting with the former Education Minister Simon Birmingham to raise their concerns as to what was happening in the sector. The then Minister for Education put \$24 million towards a Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) investigative body to monitor higher education providers' adherence to the TEQSA code of standards. However this has now been axed by the new Minister.

From End Rape on Campus Press Release:

“Since February this year, with our campaign partners [Fair Agenda](#), [The Hunting Ground - Australia](#) & [NUS Women's Department](#), we have called for the federal government to establish an independent and expert led Taskforce to address sexual violence on campus.

Today we can reveal that Taskforce was about to be announced by former Education Minister Birmingham when the Liberal leadership spill triggered a Ministerial reshuffle in August.

Can you help build the pressure on new Minister Tehan to stop ignoring this urgent student safety issue and establish the taskforce that his predecessor was due to announce months ago? Share the story with your friends; and then sign the petition at: <https://www.fairagenda.org/taskforce>

You can read the full coverage here: <https://www.smh.com.au/.../we-were-so-close-education-ministe...>

Sexual violence is the biggest student safety issue on campuses right now - and we know many universities and residences still aren't doing what it takes to improve student safety and wellbeing. In fact, we're still hearing of students with urgent safety concerns having to wait months for responses from their uni; and unable to access the counselling they need to return to study after their assault. A Taskforce is urgently needed to hold universities and residences that jeopardise student safety to account.

We're really grateful for former Minister Birmingham's thoughtful engagement with our organisations on this important issue; and his commitment to action. We are deeply disappointed that new Minister Tehan has failed to deliver this urgently needed accountability and safety measure; despite having months to do so."

### **SRC Training Day**

SRC Training was held on 19-20 November. It was an opportunity to connect the SRC with relevant figures in the AUU and the university, as well as provide basic training about planning events and campaigns. I will attempt to organise a mini training session for members who missed out.

### **TEQSA Conference**

The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) is an Australian government agency that regulates and assures the quality of Australia's higher education sector.

I was proud to have been appointed the University of Adelaide Student Representative to the Third Annual TEQSA Conference held over 28-30 November 2018 at the Grand Hyatt, Melbourne.

The theme for this year's conference – Innovation, Excellence, Diversity – explored key objects of the TEQSA Act which call for us to protect and enhance these values in Australian higher education. There was also an additional student theme around the involvement of students in University decision making.

I will provide a full report next meeting.

### **National Union of Students**

Often the question I get is, what is the NUS? It is important to familiarise yourself with it and I look forward to a year where all SRC Office Bearers are comfortable reaching out to the NUS to further their objectives. Here is a quick spiel extracted from a Honi Soit article and further edited by myself:

Put simply, the NUS is the peak representative body for university students in Australia. It operates through a National Executive and multiple State Branches.

This national body is made up of multiple Office Bearer positions

President, General Secretary, Education Officer, Welfare Officer, Womens Officer, two Queer Officers, Ethno-Cultural Officer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer, Disabilities Officer, Small and Regional Officer and the International Students Officer.

These positions, plus the State Presidents and 12 General Members, make up the Executive, who is charged with governing the NUS and its activities between conferences.

*What does it try to do?*

The NUS exists to advance the rights and interests of undergraduate students by working with campus-based student organisations, running actions and campaigns, and making sure the voices of students are heard by parliamentarians.

This is why NUS and all of its departments are fighting the array of challenges that National face the higher education sector. From seeing higher levels of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation and retention in higher education to addressing the national trend of university cutting courses and staff, NUS has always been at the forefront of fighting for an accessible and quality-assured higher education sector in Australia.

*Why should I care?*

The SRC, which receives a portion of the SSAF fee paid by all undergraduate students at the University, chipped to the NUS last year. The NUS is funded by most other major universities too, so its budget is substantial and it's especially large in the context of student organisations. The NUS is in a uniquely powerful position. Most of the issues that concern students on one campus also concern students on campuses across the country—housing affordability, mental health, and discrimination, for example. As the national union, the NUS is well-placed to advocate for students' interests and it's important that all students get a say and get involved!

*Conferences*

Each year the National Union of Students (NUS) puts on three major national conferences: Presidents' Summit (January), Education Conference (July) and the NUS National Conference, or NatCon (December). These conferences attract students from all across the country, with most major universities represented.

*NUS National Conference*

The National Conference is the largest and most important gathering of the NUS. It's attended by well over a hundred people and determines NUS policy for the forthcoming year.

Aside from policy discussion, executive positions for the following year are also elected at the Conference. The people who hold many of these offices will be paid a salary. Outgoing



executive members will report back on their last year in the job – theoretically, an accountability mechanism. This year, the conference is in Ballarat from 10 to 14 December.

*NUS Presidents' Summit*

Presidents' Summit is an annual conference held by NUS. The Summit provides training and networking opportunities for the Presidents of affiliate campuses as well as hosting panels of speakers from the media and the higher education sector. The NUS National Office also present their reports and plans for the year. Various SRC Office Bearers and I will be in close contact with them in the lead up to O-Week so that we can run NUS campaigns on campus and have their resources prepared for our stalls.

*N.B. Please note appendix on following page*

## Item 8.1: Appendix to President's Report

SRC Meeting 06-18

Date 28-05-18

Item 9: Event Planning, Semester 2

### Memorandum

Meeting 06/ 2018



**From:** SRC Administrator  
**Regarding:** Event Planning, Semester 2  
**Date:** 21/05/2018  
**Recommendation:**

- That all events planned for Semester 2 be submitted, alongside an indicative budget, to the SRC President & Administrator by 13 July 2018.
- That the SRC President & Administrator develop a calendar of events for Semester 2.
- That the calendar be submitted for approval to the first Council meeting of Semester 2.

#### Summary of Issues

- Planning and authorising SRC events has been, to date, ad hoc. This is not necessary and limits the potential of our events.
- Most events share similar elements: a budget, a roster of volunteers, advertising, space booking and infrastructure booking.
- Having a calendar of events will ensure all events can proceed and that office bearers can be confident that all authorisations and planning can occur well in advance.

#### Background

In 2018, the SRC's events budget was transferred to the management of the AUU Events team. This has required a reappraisal of how we plan and authorise events and events expenditure. In particular, it is no longer feasible to undertake events with short turnarounds between authorisation and the event itself. As such, I am recommending that the SRC decide on a calendar of events for Semester 2 at its first meeting of the Semester.

The date for submissions has been set at 13 July, as this will allow us to review event proposals and begin the approvals process before the beginning of Semester 2 (23 July 2018).

Each event proposal should include a brief statement on the purpose of the event, its costs (estimated only), the number of volunteers required, proposed advertising, and the space and infrastructure requirements. If costs are not known, a recommended budget for the event should be provided authorising expenditure 'up to' a cap.

Reactive events (i.e. snap actions) are currently budgeted underneath 'Events', and so must go through the same process. I am recommending the creation of a new line item covering campaign expenditures for 2019.

## Item 8.2: General Secretary's Report

### **SRC TRAINING AND INDUCTION:**

Thank you to everyone for your work so far, across our two-day training and in preparing for our first meeting. It's been great to get to know you all, and to plan for a great year ahead.

A reminder that you've all been emailed a link to the SRC Training documents, which I can re-send if you need. Those include lots of useful tips for events, University committees, and more, so please give it a look if you missed any of training.

Also, for those who missed it at Training, I'm more than happy to help in the writing of reports, drafting of motions, or any of the other procedural bits and pieces. My goal is to help the SRC run as smoothly as possible, so please get in touch if you need anything.

### **BANK SIGNATORIES:**

In order to access the SRC's funds, we need to update our bank signatories to reflect the change of Office Bearers. This is a standard motion that is moved every year. Please note that Nooria will be a bank signatory on an interim basis while she is Acting SRC Administrator – this will be updated in early 2019.

**Recommendation:** That Ali Amin (SRC President), Patrick Stewart (SRC General Secretary), and Nooria Muradi (SRC Administrator) be duly authorised as signatories to the SRC bank account. [*Account Name: Student Representative Council (Adelaide), Inc. Account Number: 188 648 140*]

### **PUBLIC OFFICER:**

As an incorporated association, the SRC is required to have a Public Officer as a point of contact with the government agencies we have reporting requirements to. Per section 19 of the SRC Constitution, the General Secretary is the SRC's Public Officer, and with the authorisation of the SRC, I will notify the SA Government's Consumer & Business Services accordingly.

**Recommendation:** That the SRC appoint Patrick Stewart (SRC General Secretary) as Public Officer and authorise him to notify Consumer and Business Services accordingly.

### **COMMUNICATION:**

As discussed at the SRC Training, we're intending to trial Slack as a communication platform. This is an online platform which we can use to send messages and files, and also use "channels" to separate conversations by category and include relevant people. Information on this will be circulated at the meeting for discussion.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

I would like to flag my intention to put together a meeting schedule for each semester, so that SRC members can put them in their diaries well in advance. While I won't do this until early next year, when people's class timetables are confirmed, I wanted to give you some advance notice of this.

**DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY:**

At this time most years, the SRC delegates its authority to the Executive. This is because many SRC members travel interstate, overseas, or generally do not have time to engage with University or SRC activities. By delegating the authority of the SRC to the Executive (which will be elected at our first meeting), the SRC can continue to operate even though the Council will likely not be able to meet.

**Recommendation:** that the SRC delegates its authority to the Executive from the close of the meeting at which this resolution is passed until Monday 18 February 2018, in the week prior to Orientation Week.

**Patrick Stewart**  
**SRC General Secretary**

**SRC Meeting 01-19**

**Saturday 1 December 2018**



### **Item 8.3: Postgraduate Officer's Report**

*Report not provided*

## Item 8.4: Education Officer's Report

Unfortunately, I am physically absent from the inaugural meeting of the 2018/19 SRC however I'll take this chance to introduce myself, my reasons for running for this position and what I aim to achieve, with the limited knowledge I have now.

I have just finished my Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Corporate Finance and will be proceeding to a graduate certificate or similar program next year. I have always been passionate about quality and equality of education which is why I'm also a volunteer homework tutor at Woodville High School for the Smith Family. I have a strong belief that everyone should have access to high quality education, regardless of income. This is good for society and the economy alike.

I also have a strong belief that in many areas, the education we are receiving at the University of Adelaide is nowhere near a high enough standard. Many of my tutors and lecturers throughout the degree have been poor communicators and unengaging. My secondary school teachers were far more engaging than their university equivalents, a fact I find extremely troubling. I have discussed these experiences with peers across faculties to fierce agreement that their teaching has not been up to standard. This is the major problem I will be spending the year delving into as I believe my most important task is to ensure students are receiving the high-quality education they are paying for.

### Objectives

These objectives are certainly up for discussion and alteration as the year proceeds. While I know the general direction I want to focus on, the deliverability of these objectives is yet to be realised. If you have any you believe I should add or alter, get in contact with me and I can discuss it with you personally, or the rest of the committee.

In addition, please contact me if you would like to help me achieve any of these objectives. I will likely develop an Education subcommittee with members that are particularly passionate about objectives of the Education portfolio, so please contact me if you're interested in getting involved.

#### **1. Improving the teaching proficiency of tutors and lecturers, specifically focusing on improvement of verbal communication skills**

Tutors and teachers should all receive quality teaching training. School teachers almost all have a teaching degree, something that is rarely the case for university lecturers and tutors. Many university teachers are exceptional in their field but have never mastered actually communicating that vast knowledge to a wide audience of varying ability. Considering the core job of a teacher is imparting information in a coherent and digestible manor, this is a major issue. I believe for many this is a lack of support and proper training for such an important role.

## **2. Increased testing of communication skills for all teaching staff**

Clearly the testing for tutors and lecturers in relation to communication skills is not comprehensive enough. The requirements for key communication skills should be tightened and those who do not reach revised requirements after being offered relevant training should not be permitted to teach, until they can meet these requirements. The specifics of this are yet to be finalised however this is my current view on the issue.

## **3. Develop strategies for attracting and retaining exceptional teaching staff**

There must be a focus on developing and retaining teaching staff more broadly. This may be via longer or more lucrative employment contracts but also driving exceptional students with good verbal communication skills into teaching positions at the university. We must consider having discrepancies in teacher pay between different faculties to attract quality teaching staff to those faculties with the most lucrative opportunities after graduation. Graduates of degrees from the Business School and Engineering will concur that, despite having promising graduate opportunities their teaching was poor because of a lack of talented teaching staff being attracted to roles within the university.

## **4. Consult closely with a wide range of students**

I aim to be consultative with a wide variety of students to influence improvement in all subject areas and to see they want to change and remain constant in their university education.

## **5. Improve students 'feeling of community' within the university**

I am very committed to improving the 'feeling of community' within the university. I am a strong believer and living proof that university clubs are an essential part of this culture, however too much reliance is put on these institutions to provide students with a feeling of belonging. There must be more facilities put in place for students to build meaningful relationships with their peers. I have no doubt this would lead to improved attendance, higher student satisfaction and better academic results. This probably has more relation to the Welfare portfolio, but I am passionate about this and am happy to work closely with the incoming Welfare Officer, among other SRC members to achieve it.

## **6. Work with officers of minority student communities to better integrate education about and for these groups**

I plan to work closely with minority officers to create or improve specific education programs for, or about these groups. For instance, ATSI education should be taught by tutors with extensive knowledge of ATSI culture and preferably be of ATSI decent, and this often is not

the case. ATSI integration courses are also often crudely attached to unrelated courses such as Object-Oriented Programming.

**7. Investigate whether current course structures best support student involvement, satisfaction and preparedness for the workforce**

Course structure is a common debate that I am yet to be comprehensively informed on. While my current position is that we should not be streaming students so meticulously into their chosen field, I would appreciate discussing these issues with anyone interested. In my view, students should learn a wide variety of skills and information at university, regardless of their degree. This creates the 'well rounded' graduates employers consistently request.

**8. Promote quality and equality of opportunity for all students.**

This very broad objective applies not only to university students, but also those still in school preparing for a university education. All students should have equality of opportunity and while some steps have been taken by a variety of governments, there are still many more steps to take. I will be campaigning strongly to increase quality and equality of education across the board.

## Item 8.5: Queer Officer's Report

### 2019 OBJECTIVES

Although we achieved Marriage Equality in 2017, which shaped our world for the better, there are still more issues that need to be addressed and worked on in 2019. In recent times, the practice of Conversion Therapy has proven to be a topic of concern in not only the government, but also through art – two films sparking conversations in society.

In 2019, I aim to promote advocacy of LGBTIQ+ rights, spread awareness of significant days, plan and execute events on campus and to also make a positive contribution to the LGBTIQ+ community at university and throughout Australia.

### GEORGE DUNCAN MEMORIAL

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, 1972, Adelaide Uni Law Lecturer George Duncan became the victim of a homophobic attack. He was beaten, thrown into the River Torrens and unfortunately, drowned. This hate crime shocked the nation and, after much speculation and debate, the Homosexuality Discrimination Act came about on 27 August 1975, making South Australia the first Australian state to fully decriminalise homosexuality.

In this, I look to hold a memorial on the River Torrens to commemorate his legacy. I would like to invite David Elliot, President of the Adelaide University Pride Club, to say a few words on the event. Alongside the Pride Club, I would also like to invite the LBGT clubs from UniSA and Flinders University.

Details will be updated in next report.

### INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA AND BIPHOBIA (IDAHOBIT)

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of May, the world will be celebrating IDAHOBIT Day - International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. At a University level, I hope to set up a stall in the hub that will sell stickers, badges and posters, bought from Minus18, to raise funds for the foundation to continue doing their good work.

In addition, I would like to take this opportunity to engage with students, queer and non-queer alike, for feedback and their own personal experiences to gain knowledge on how not only me, but the rest of the university can become queer friendly.

Feedback and advice is welcome, as this idea is not set in stone.

### SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

To engage in the university community, I would like to set up a facebook and Instagram page that is regularly updated to connect with students on campus. Concerns can be voiced through an inbox and information on services can be shared. I would also advocate and call for action on LGBT issues throughout the year, on campus and in the wider population.

### RAINBOW ROOM REJUVENATION



As the only queer dedicated space on campus, the George Duncan Room (Rainbow Room) on Level 6 Hughes is in need of a little TLC (tender loving care). I recently got in contact with Sage, the event coordinator from Minus18, and she sent me a free 'pride pack' containing stickers, posters and booklets that contain very positive messages. For a start, I aim to put these posters up around the room and bring the resources too.

**Recommendation:** That the SRC:

1. Authorise \$100 to be spent purchasing items from Minus18 for IDAHOBIT when the time comes.

**Actions:** Get in touch with points of contact to organise meetings, seek 'expressions of interest' in SRC and Pride Club for support in George Duncan Memorial, complete further research and contact AUU marketing team.

**Rebecca Etienne**  
**SRC Queer Officer**

## Item 8.6: Social Justice Officer's Report

The Peer mentoring program that runs at the University of Adelaide aimed to provide first-year students with the opportunity to gain a sense of belonging at the university. In particular, registered peer mentors will help new students learn about campus life, engage in activities, and receive peer supports etc. However, the program has a lack of focus on students' online supports, in which foreign or international students who are incapable of attending face-to-face peer mentoring programs may find it hard to receive effective supports and benefits from the program. **This will negatively influence international students' learning experience as:**

- International students will be psychologically more willing to find support from people who share the same nationality, culture and language with them. This particular emotional preference may be used by others and damage students' financial, physical and emotional status.
- The deficiency in the current peer mentoring program will enlarge the gap between domestic and international students. As a matter of fact, domestic students will benefit more from the program compared with international students. The uneven distribution of resources will then become a potential risk factor for international students.

Thus, as a member of the SRC, I would make further investigation and research to find more information about the peer mentoring program to make practical suggestions.

## Item 8.7: Disability Officer's Report

### Topic One | Community Consultation

I have begun my tenor as Disability Officer by opening a community consultation with certain advocacy groups within the greater Adelaide Community. Giving priority to those advocacy groups that focus on the disadvantages affecting our University community (i.e. Learning, mental, physical and psychological disabilities).

So far, I been in contact with the following organisations (to name a few) and hope to report back with positive news as soon as possible:

- Advocacy for Disability Access and Inclusion Inc.
- Beyond Blue
- Black Dog Institute
- Headspace
- ReachOut

My ambition is to create a network that both students and the University have access to for now and into the future.

I will continue to update the council on future developments.

### Topic Two | External Community engagement (Mental Health)

Following the tragic events on November 14<sup>th</sup>, I believe there is an urgent need for greater focus on the mental wellbeing of our students; especially in and around exam times. I acknowledge the prevalence of these issues within the wider university community in South Australia. I wish to further explore the unique issues facing the international student population in respect of this topic.

#### **Recommendations:**

4. Liaise with University associated organisations and services (i.e. *Urbanest*) to promote positive mental health within their communities.
5. Liaise with University of Adelaide associated colleges (I.e. Aquinas, Kathleen Lumley, Lincoln, St Ann's & St Marks) to promote positive mental health within their communities.
6. Communicate & network with external advocacy groups in an effort to supply the greater University of Adelaide community with additional resources.

**Topic Three | Disability Officer Hand Over**

As of the time of writing this report, I have yet to conduct a hand over with my office-bearing predecessor. As a result, I hope to make note of such conversation in my next report. However, I would still like the opportunity to thank Timothy Hillhorst for his service to the University and its student community.

**Samuel J King**  
**SRC Disability Officer**

**SRC Meeting 01-19**

**Saturday 1 December 2018**



## **Item 8.8: International Officer's Report**

*Report not provided*

## Item 9.2: SRC Administrator's Report

### 1. Handover meetings

Thank you to all those who have attended a handover meeting. Please keep a copy of the minutes that was emailed to you for future reference. If you have not attended a meeting and would like to, please email me at [nooria.muradi@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:nooria.muradi@adelaide.edu.au) to arrange one.

### 2. ALLY Training

The University of Adelaide Ally Network is a visible network of staff and students across the University who support the University's commitment to providing an inclusive and respectful university environment for people who identify as being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ\*).

The University of Adelaide Allies are staff and students who are knowledgeable in, receptive to and understanding of LGBTIQ\* issues. Allies are not experts about matters of sexuality and gender identity - they are people who strongly support making the University an environment where all staff and students can safely work and study free of harassment or discrimination.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the ALLY Network, please send through a list of officers interested and I will arrange a group training early next year. Please note, the training only goes for 1.5 hours.

### 3. SRC Access Activation

As of 1st of December 2018, SRC will have access to the SRC Office and Fix Lounge. The president and general sec will have 24/7 access while other officers will only have access between 7am-7pm, 7 days a week.

Nooria Muradi

29/11/2018