

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



Friday, 1st March 2024, 6:00 PM

University of Adelaide North Terrace Campus, Ligertwood 111

AGENDA AND MEETING PAPERS

AGENDA

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

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

1.2. Attendance

Provisional for reference only:

Aiden Zeyang Wang, Briana Symonds-Manne, Xenon Lane, Valeria Caceres Galvez, Sage Jupe, Domin Joseph, Alex Bastiras, Ashraf Bin Abdul Halim, Nix Herriot, Lashhanth Dhevaraju, Jake Ford, Olivia Aston, Akshay Kumar Agarwal, Jocelyn (Yiyan) Zhang, Lani Bushnell, Louis Jiang, Yang Zhang, Afser Hussain, Binu Arundi Rajasuriya, Soraya Rezaee, Robin Wood

Late:

1.3. Apologies

Alec Tedesco

1.4. Absences

1.5. Adoption of Agenda

Procedural Motion: that the agenda as circulated be adopted.

Moved: Aiden Zeyang Wang **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion: That the SRC accept the minutes of the meeting 30th November 2023 as a true and accurate record (Appendix 1).

Moved: Aiden Zeyang Wang **Seconded:** **Motion Passed**

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Action	Responsible	Status
Bank Handover	Georgia, Aiden and Kim	Completed

4. Correspondence

5. New Members

Welcome all new members of the SRC 2024 (except Aiden Zeyang Wang as the only returning member of the council from 2023)

6. Office Bearer Reports

- 6.1. **President**
- 6.2. **General Secretary**
- 6.3. **Education Officer**
- 6.4. Welfare Officer
- 6.5. Women's Officer
- 6.6. **Queer Officer**
- 6.7. ATSI Officer
- 6.8. **Disability Officer**
- 6.9. Environment Officer
- 6.10. **Postgraduate Officer – HDR**

Motion that the SRC:

1. Demands that university management drops trimesters from its transition plan for Adelaide University.
2. Issues a public statement opposing trimesters and publicises this statement on social media.
3. Commits to campaigning against trimesters and other attacks that negatively impact student learning and staff teaching conditions, including course cuts and restructures.

Moved: Nix Herriot **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

- 6.11. **Postgraduate Officer – Coursework**
- 6.12. **International Student Officer**
- 6.13. **Social Justice Officer**
- 6.14. Ethno-Cultural Officer
- 6.15. Rural Officer
- 6.16. Mature Age Officer
- 6.17. Roseworthy Campus Officer
- 6.18. Waite Officer

7. Motions on Notice

Motion 1: Alter the Constitution and Standing Orders for minimum 14 days' notice for meetings

Moved: Valeria Caceres Galvez **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

***Please note this motion is a motion on notice for altering the Constitution, three quarters majority of voting position is needed to pass.**

Motion 2: Funding for March Student-Run Mutual Aid Campus Kitchen

Moved: Valeria Caceres Galvez **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

Motion 3: Promotion of March Student-Run Mutual Aid Campus Kitchen

Moved: Valeria Caceres Galvez **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

8. General Business

9. Executive Report

N/A

10. Emergent Business

N/A

11. Date of the Next Meeting

12. Appendix

12.1. Appendix 1: Minutes of the Council Meeting (30 November 2023)

Item 6: Office Bearer Reports

There shall be reports at every meeting from the SRC President and all persons who have attended formal meetings on behalf of the organisation. Additional reports submissions are encouraged outside of the compulsory meetings.

Reports are required from the General Secretary, Education Officer, Queer Officer, Postgraduate Officer – HDR, Postgraduate Officer – Coursework, Social Justice Officer, Disability Officer, International Officer **on every odd meeting.**

Reports are required from the Welfare Officer, Women’s Officer, Environment Officer, ATSI Officer, Ethno-Cultural Officer, Rural Officer, Mature Age Officer **on every even meeting.**

Item 6.1: President’s Report – Aiden Zeyang Wang (Acting President)

I am deeply grateful and honoured to chair our first meeting of the SRC at the University of Adelaide as the Acting President. I am eager to dedicate myself to amplifying the voices of our student body amongst all of you.

In the spirit of representation and advocacy, I stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the members of our council, echoing the collective effort to foster a democratic and transparent environment to advance student interest. It is through this commitment that we ensure every student feels heard, validated, and respected despite they are domestic or International.

As I acquaint myself with the multifaceted responsibilities of this role since the end of last year, and limited handover, I anticipate your patience, guidance, and support.

To begin the year, I would like to outline 4 of my key focuses for the Council as the Acting president and I hope this sets the tone for the year ahead:

1. Health and Well-being: Enhancing support systems to promote mental and physical health among students.
2. Academic Excellence and Employability: Initiatives to boost academic support and prepare students for future careers.
3. Inclusivity and Diversity: Creating a more welcoming and diverse campus culture.
4. Sustainability: Implementing eco-friendly practices and also promote sustainability in campus operations.

General Affairs

1. Career Service End-of-Year Celebration

On the evening of Wednesday, 15th November 2023, I had the honor of attending an end-of-year celebration hosted by our industry partners. This invitation was extended to me in my dual roles as the 2023 General Secretary of the Student Representative Council (SRC) and as a student who has actively engaged with the Career Services through an internship. The event was a gathering of industry representatives keen on scouting talent, providing a valuable opportunity for students to commence building their professional networks.

2. Employability Program Celebration

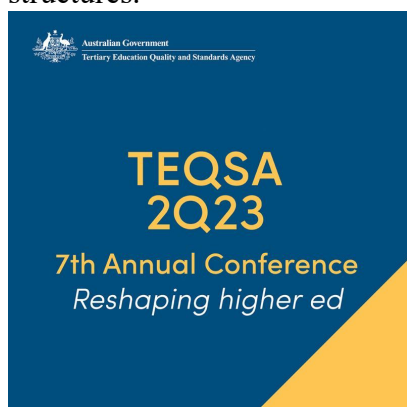
On Tuesday, 21st November, I participated in the celebration of the Employability Programs, acknowledging the achievements of participants from the Adelaide Graduate Award, Global IQ Connect, and the Career Access Mentoring Program. These initiatives are crucial for enhancing student employability, and my attendance underscores the importance of fostering strong connections with Career Services to promote such opportunities.

3. UEC Out-of-Session Meeting

I contributed to an out-of-session meeting of the University Education Committee (UEC), focusing on student support policies. This involvement is part of a legislative requirement for the university to develop policies ensuring comprehensive student support throughout their academic journey. My engagement allowed me to provide valuable insights into student needs and expectations.

4. TEQSA Conference

In November, I was nominated by the university to attend the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) conference. This experience enriched my understanding of governance, cross-institutional communication, and other critical areas. I aim to leverage this knowledge to assist the university in adapting to new changes and enhancing its governance structures.



5. SRC Bank Account Handover

On Monday, 18th December, alongside Kim and Mark, I participated in the handover of the SRC bank account, becoming one of the signatories. This step is vital for ensuring the continuity of the SRC's financial operations and governance.

6. SMHW Committee Engagement

As the Acting President of the SRC, I attended meetings of the Student Mental Health and Wellbeing (SMHW) committee, chaired by Professor Jenny Shaw. Our discussions focused on strategies to improve student health and wellbeing, including promoting physical activities and leveraging MediBank grants. My involvement ensures that student voices are represented in these vital discussions.

7. Education Quality

Reflecting on the UEC discussions regarding program review, it's clear that the university must align its review processes with TEQSA requirements to avoid falling behind on regulatory obligations. This area requires further examination of policies such as the University CAPP and the Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021. I propose a meeting to discuss how students and representatives can engage more effectively in this initiative.

8. Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Higher Education

In response to a national-level initiative addressing gender-based violence in higher education, I am coordinating with student representatives to consolidate submissions for the action plan. This effort emphasizes the SRC's commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive university environment.

YouX Student Representative Council

29 December 2023

Dear Students and University Community,

Call for Submissions: Gender-Based Violence in Higher Education

I have recently been approached by the Director of Higher and International Education at the Department for Industry, Innovation, and Science. The reason for this outreach is related to a significant issue: gender-based violence in higher education.

As the Acting SRC President and a fellow student, I'm dedicated to our collective well-being. Throughout my tenure as a student representative, I have been continuously advocating for student voice, welfare and success in various University Committees and leadership initiatives.

As we stand at a pivotal moment in witnessing gender-based violence being addressed at a national level, it's crucial to also recognize that this is not just a national concern but a pressing issue within our own community as well. Our response will also enhance our institution's commitment to safety, inclusion, and respect for all students.

Your Voice Matters!

In response, I am launching an initiative to gather your insights, recommendations, and experiences. I have set up a Microsoft Form: <https://forms.office.com/r/AzD1aQpPxX>. This platform ensures that your contributions are heard and build upon the university's existing initiatives to make our campus a safer and more inclusive environment for all.

The insights you provide will be collated and presented directly to the director, who plays a key role in the National Government Cross-Jurisdictional Working Group. This direct line of communication ensures that your perspectives significantly influence the decision-making process, enhancing the higher education experience at our university and beyond.

The Critical Issue

The issue of gender-based violence in higher education is a crucial part of the Australian Universities Accord interim report. The 2021 National Student Safety Survey found that **since starting university, 1 in 6 students had experienced sexual harassment and 1 in 20 had experienced sexual assault in a university context**. Working groups were established at the Commonwealth, State and Territory level to develop reform options to improve university governance, including the safety of staff and students.

In light of the comprehensive measures outlined in the Draft Action Plan it is imperative that we, as a university community actively contribute to this dialogue both nationally and domestically. These steps are crucial for creating a safe and inclusive academic environment for all.

**YouX
Student
Representative
Council**

Let's Work Together

I recognise the important role our institution can and should play to prevent gender-based violence and set the example for appropriate, trauma-informed responses to victim-survivors.

The draft action plan represents more than just policy; it's a commitment to creating safe, inclusive spaces at our university, touching many lives. I'm personally dedicated to this cause, striving to create an environment where all voices are heard, and every student feels secure. Together, let's build a culture of respect and safety, enhancing our community based on existing initiatives.

Your Voice, Our Priority

As we conclude this call for your valuable insights, I want to assure you that this is more than just a request for feedback. Every submission will be carefully reviewed, and I am committed to transforming your perspectives into actionable steps. To me, it is about making real, meaningful changes in our university.

I invite you to make submissions via the provided link until Sunday, **28th January 2024 at 6 PM**. For those of you sharing personal experiences and feedback, please know that your contributions will be handled with care and confidentiality. I will compile these into a comprehensive report to be submitted to the university for further review and action. My commitment is to ensure that your voices are not only heard but also acted upon, contributing to meaningful changes within our university.

I look forward to hearing from you and potentially meeting in a more interactive setting by demand.

Yours sincerely,



Aiden Zeyang Wang
Acting President
Student Representative Council
The University of Adelaide

9. Haide College Collaborations

I engaged with Boying Ding, manager of Haide College, to explore opportunities for collaboration and enhance student engagement. This initiative aims to foster a vibrant and supportive community for all students.

10. International Student Welcome and Orientation Week

I had the distinct honour of delivering speeches at two [#orientation](#) sessions held in the historic Bonython Hall, serving as the Acting President of the Student Representative Council. Addressing the 150th cohort during this special anniversary milestone was a truly humbling experience.

Reflecting on my journey and the transformative impact of university life, I shared insights drawn from my years at the University of Adelaide. It's a privilege to witness and be part of the remarkable growth and development that this institution fosters in each of us.

I am excited about the future of our institution and the paths the new students are going to take, filled with learning, discovery, and the pursuit of excellence in the coming years.



11. SRC Training and Induction

Working closely with Kim, we ensured the effective facilitation of SRC training and induction sessions. This effort is crucial for preparing new SRC members for their roles and responsibilities, fostering a productive and engaged council.

12. Education Quality Engagement and Reports

In collaboration with Ruth, the manager of education quality, we have overseen program reviews to ensure compliance with educational standards. This involvement demonstrates the SRC's commitment to maintaining high educational quality and standards.

13. Lazy Breakfast Event

I allocated \$1,000 of our event budget to the YouX for the organization of the Lazy Breakfast event during orientation, adjusting the contribution based on the year's event planning needs. This decision reflects the SRC's support for student engagement activities.

14. Trade Subcommittee Public Hearing

I nominated the International Student Officer to participate in a public hearing regarding international students, recognizing the direct relevance to his portfolio. This involvement is part of the SRC's advocacy for international student interests.

15. Memorial for a Passed Student

Following the tragic loss of student Alifia, I attended the memorial service and made a public statement, highlighting the community's mourning and remembrance.



23 February 2024

Dear Students and University Community,

SRC Statement on the Passing of a University of Adelaide International Student

I am addressing you with this letter with a heavy heart to acknowledge the unfortunate passing of a fellow student, Alifia, a beloved part of our university and international community.

The delay in this announcement stems from a respect and acknowledgment for the student's family and their consent to the content of this letter. In coordination with them, I aimed to ensure that their wishes were honoured, and to avoid additional distress from public and media attention during a period of intense grieving for everyone involved.

Last Sunday, I attended the memorial organised by her family and delivered heartfelt condolences through my speech to those gathered in mourning.

SA Police Safer Communities - 09 Feb 2024 12:50pm

"About 2.30pm on Wednesday 7 February, police and emergency services were called to War Memorial Drive after a woman was struck by a large branch that had fallen from a gum tree. Sadly, the 22-year-old Adelaide woman died at the scene."

She is Valued

As we come to terms with this sorrowful reality, I wish to extend, on behalf of the Student Representative Council and the entire student body, our deepest condolences to Alifia's family, friends, and to all those she touched during her time with us.

In the brief time since learning of her passing, I have been deeply moved by the stories shared by those who knew her and I was reminded of our commitment to each other as fellow students, educators, and humans, to uphold the values of our university: respect, diversity, and inclusion. With that in mind, I encourage all students and staff to support one another during this time.

Although this incident has for sure left a void in the hearts of her friends, family and community, yet it is through your collective memories and stories that her spirit continues to illuminate our lives.



Next Steps

In the coming days, I will be in touch with the university to ensure sufficient support resources and initiatives are provided for those who are in need. We will also reach out to the Indonesian Student Association to offer support to any students that are impacted and bridge them with the support they need as well.

University Crisis Line

- For after-hours crisis support service for University of Adelaide students: Call [1300 167 654](tel:1300167654) or text [+61488884197](tel:+61488884197)
- Weekdays 5pm - 9am, Weekends & public holidays 24 hrs
- Offshore students - use the text number for contacting the University Crisis Line during the designated hours.

Additional Supports

- Additional resources and services are listed on the [Getting Support](#) section of the Wellbeing Hub website.
- More tailored support options are also listed on the main category pages (see the Need Additional Info section): [Study Tips](#), [Mental Health](#), [Body Health](#), [Relationships](#), [Find Meaning](#) and [Corona Corner](#).
- Counselling services are accessible via: [Counselling Services](#).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Aiden Wang'.

Aiden Zeyang Wang
Acting President
Student Representative Council
The University of Adelaide

16. Repeal of Election Regulation

The SRC repealed an election regulation through a circular resolution, demonstrating our commitment to responsive and democratic governance practices.

17. YouX Board Meetings

As Acting President, I have consistently delivered reports to the YouX board, ensuring transparent communication and collaboration between the SRC and broader university governance structures.

This report encapsulates a year of dedicated service and engagement with the university community, underscoring the SRC's commitment to enhancing student life, governance, and academic quality.

18. Food Pantry

Since early this year, I have been in touch with Katheryn, University Student Life and YouX Student Care, and took the lead as the Acting President of the Council to spearhead the Food Pantry initiative. I have planned a initial launch event for the food pantry and I have engaged YouX Marketing to assist with promoting this event to ensure the grand opening of this initiative could proceed. YouX, SRC and Student Life together will have more updates coming up soon for the council and it is imperative that we as a council address food poverty as an significant issue of the students of our institution.

Executive Election

According to the Constitution, there shall be an executive that shall comprise of 3 elected members and 2 ex-official members. It is a requirement at the first meeting of a council's term using the Hare Clarke Optional preferential Proportional Voting System to elect the three general executive members.

Motion 1: That the SRC conducts its Executive Internal Election

Moved: Aiden Zeyang Wang **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

SRC Casual Vacancy:

Motion 2: The council authorises Aiden Zeyang Wang to advertise all current vacant positions via social media channels for a period of 2 weeks.

Moved: Aiden Zeyang Wang **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

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

Kind Regards,
Aiden Zeyang Wang
Acting President / General Secretary of the SRC

Item 6.2: General Secretary's Report – Aiden Zeyang Wang

N/A – Please refer to 6.1.

Item 6.3: Education Officer's Report – Briana Symonds-Manne

As the death toll continues to escalate in Gaza, as Israel starts its assault on Rafah, it has been more important than ever to stand up for Palestine against war and ethnic cleansing. Students have a role to play in protesting against our own government's complicity in a war that has killed mostly civilians and created a humanitarian disaster in the Gaza strip. I've spent a lot of time building activism for Palestine over the last few weeks.

Building a Palestine collective during O-week

I have been a part of regular meetings on campus to discuss the situation in Palestine and what we can do as pro-palestine activists on campus. These meetings happen 4.30 every Monday and are open to students and staff.

Speaking at the Sunday Palestine Rally

I was at the Sunday Rally for Palestine organised by AFOPA, Students for Palestine and ACARF. I spoke at the rally as Adelaide Uni SRC education officer about the need to stand in solidarity with Palestine in Australia.

Organising the Student Strike for Palestine

The student strike will go ahead on the 29th of February. I have been leafleting, making announcements in lectures to build the student strike on campus.

Opposing Staff and Course Cuts

The merger between Adelaide Uni and UniSA will mean the gutting of staff and courses. We are beginning to see this process. As outlined in Nix's report the NTEU is concerned about the upcoming merger with current proposals promising job losses and course cuts designed to maximise the universities profits. One of these measures includes a proposal for trimesters which will see heavier workloads for staff; the src should oppose this and begin a campaign against these restructures.

Item 6.6: Queer Officer's Report – Sage Jupe

No Pride in Genocide

Over the past few months as the war on Gaza has waged on, Israel has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians and displaced millions. Much of this land the Gazans have been displaced from has been reduced to rubble. Homes, hospitals, and schools have all been targeted by Israel and as of the time of writing estimates say that over 100 mosques have been destroyed. Almost two thirds of the Gazan population is now squeezed into the city of Rafah, with barely any food, clean drinking water or medical supplies. This obscene level of brutality and cruelty should be met with condemnation, both through our SRCs but also on the streets.

In light of this ongoing horrific war in Gaza I have been proud to be involved in building and organising the large fortnightly demonstrations standing in solidarity with Palestine in Adelaide. I am also currently part of organizing the student strike happening on Thursday the 29th of February hosted by Students for Palestine Adelaide, which will have happened by the time the SRC meeting occurs. This is a serious and pressing question for all officers of the SRC.

Despite the Netanyahu leading a hard-right anti-LGBTQ government, and same-sex marriage being illegal in Israel, Israel has long used “pinkwashing” as a tactic to excuse humanitarian crimes.

Alongside the harrowing scenes of aerial bombardment, murdered children, and targeted sniper fire on civilians we have also seen the stomach-churning images of the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) trying to “pinkwash” their project of ethnic cleansing. Images circulated online of Israeli soldiers flying rainbow flags amongst the rubble they just created and the lives they just destroyed.

Any argument that the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians from Gaza is in any way connected to LGBTQ liberation is to be rejected by anyone who takes oppression seriously.

[As Liv Kunins-Berkowitz, media coordinator for Jewish Voice for Peace \(JVP\) says](#), “[No one’s] liberation, queer or otherwise, could ever come from a military campaign of wholesale destruction of life and society such as we’ve witnessed the Israeli government wreak on Gaza.”

That is why it is imperative that the LGBTQ students, alongside all students, raise their voices against what Israel is doing and reject their cynical use of the pride flag to obscure the reactionary goals of their project.

For as long as the war on Gaza goes on, I will continue to be using my position as Queer officer to stand alongside the Palestinians.

Item 6.8: Disability Officer’s Report – VACANT

N/A

Item 6.10: Postgraduate Officer - HDR’s Report – Nix Herriot

Hitting the streets for Palestine

In the face of unimaginable Israeli brutality, it’s been inspiring to see a Palestine solidarity movement erupt worldwide, including here in Adelaide. Support for Palestine is an important principle and must be a priority for student unionists. [Nowar Diab](#), a university student in Gaza, said last year: “There is one thing that has recently given me hope in the face of the tragedy that has become our lives here in Gaza. It is the pictures of hundreds of thousands of people standing up for us and protesting in our name”.

Over summer, I’ve helped organise regular pro-Palestine protests and joined the recent demonstration against Peter Dutton’s disgraceful presence at an Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce event. It’s obscene that our rulers wine and dine in luxury while their actions are directly responsible for the humanitarian disaster unfolding in Rafah.

During O'Week, I was involved in a Students for Palestine workshop in preparation for the upcoming [Student Strike for Palestine](#) on 29 February. Inspired by high school walkouts, this strike is part of a national day of action demanding an end to the war, the siege on Gaza, the occupation of the West Bank and the Australian government's political and military support for Israel. It was heartening to see strong interest among commencing students for getting involved and a healthy sense of disgust at our own university's role in the Israeli occupation (The office of the Labor government's new Defence Trailblazer program, aimed at uniting "industry and academia to create the workforce and technologies" to support the drive to war has recently opened in the Engineering building - it features companies like Lockheed Martin, which supplies Israel with the weapons used to bombard Gaza).

National Union of Students conference

Last December, I attended the National Union of Students National Conference in Ballarat as a delegate, where I was able to connect with other student representatives from around the country and talk about our plans for campus activism in 2024. Key debates at the conference included the need for student unions to stand in solidarity with Palestine and oppose the Labor government's responsibility for worsening the cost-of-living crisis, as well as the general need for NUS, as the peak union body for students, to take left-wing stances on social questions and organise activist campaigns. I put forward a policy against establishing a nuclear industry in Australia.

Cuts, job losses, money for the bosses: opposing the Adelaide University merger

As we leave O'Week behind us, many new students are probably already feeling their first strains of disillusionment with the degree factory. University advertising promises a world-class education and opportunities to 'make history'. In reality, the corporate, for-profit university model has transformed our campus into an understaffed and overpriced business. Students are little more than customers sold degrees at a premium rate.

On 13 February, I attended a start-of-year barbeque hosted by the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) with Welfare Officer Xenon Lane. This event was useful for connecting with other HDRs and staff (both professional and academic), as well as gauging concerns about the Adelaide University merger, which I detail below. Current proposals advocated by management and their corporate consultants at Deloitte promise cuts, job losses and more money for the university bosses.

Staff are already frustrated about [workload increases](#) associated with the merger and the negative impact on their wellbeing. Particularly alarming are management's [proposed curriculum changes and trimesters](#). Changes to curriculum design will curtail the depth and breadth of teaching, learning and research. The new university plans to *halve* a combined total of 5000 courses to just 2500, abolish standalone honours degrees and give 'Advanced' degrees the boot. All this is motivated by profit-maximisation and threatens to massively reduce students' quality of education. Scrapping honours, for example, is a simple cost-saving measure given most honours programmes are small and 'inefficient' (i.e. not generating sufficient profits for the degree factory), even though they have significant value in preparing students for postgraduate study and providing an opportunity for immersion in research.

Adelaide University is moving towards a 'modular' approach in which ten-week courses consist of three modules for which students receive credit (and are charged). There are numerous issues with this approach, including increasing teaching workloads and reducing breaks for students to prepare for their assessments.

The desire for trimesters is similarly alarming. This is discussed further in my motion below.

All these proposed attacks demonstrate management's disregard for students and staff. Their motivation is to maximise 'efficiencies' and raise revenue. They expose the university's talk of 'co-creation' between staff, students and industry as the hoax it is. As usual, management is simply manufacturing consent for profit-motivated decisions already made by the high-ups in the Mitchell Building. As if to prove this point, the Transition Council, tasked with overseeing key decisions about the merger, meets on March 8 and has (predictably) been stacked with ex-politicians like arch-conservative Amanda Vanstone, managing director of weapons company Saab Australia, Andy Keough, and other veterans of the corporate and investment banking world.

The foundations for all these changes were built long in advance, as part of the longer neoliberal transformation of universities. Universities made a record \$5.3 billion surplus during the pandemic, while cutting costs. Education has become a commodity, staff are increasingly casualised, the campus is enmeshed further in the corporate sphere and revenue depends on the hyper-exploitation of international students. The future mega-university promises to worsen this situation.

The NTEU and the SRC, as a student union, must oppose the Adelaide University merger and its worst effects. I was concerned that the SRC President, during our induction, spoke of the need for the SRC to support the university's "prosperity and success" during its 150th Anniversary. In my view, the university should put the thousands of dollars wasted on its 150th celebrations into reversing years of cuts and job losses. More importantly, the job of a student union is to challenge, not to suck up to, university management. Bad publicity for the university's attacks would be a good thing.

HDRs are impacted as much as anyone else by the declining quality of our education. In my role, I hope to gather further information about the Adelaide University merger and involve postgrads, staff and other students in campaigning against the issues associated with it.

Motion: Stop Trimesters!

Preamble

University management is actively pursuing a trimester system as its "[preferred option](#)" for the future Adelaide University. Splitting the academic year into three 10-week terms, rather than two semesters, is bad for students, bad for staff, but good for business. This is a profit-maximising proposal motivated squarely by a desire to churn students through low-quality degrees as quickly as possible and squeeze an increasingly casualised workforce.

Where implemented, trimesters have placed enormous stress on students and staff. UNSW is the only other GO8 university to shift to a 10-week trimester model in recent years. There, the transition was [met with widespread resistance](#) and it continues to be a source of dissatisfaction. Trimesters were used as a Trojan horse for 400 job losses, course cuts, dramatically increased workloads (e.g. marking of assessments) and entrenched decisions between teaching and research roles. In some schools at UniSA, trimesters have reduced face-to-face learning and increased assessment pressure on students. Other concerns include racing through the same amount of course content in a shorter time, reducing breaks for students to study and recuperate and the further misalignment of teaching breaks and school holidays (disadvantaging students and workers with school-age children, particularly women).

Adelaide staff and students have already indicated dissatisfaction with the proposed trimester calendar. Feedback on the university's own IdeaPlace platform last year was almost unanimous in its condemnation of trimesters. Unsurprisingly, this sentiment seems to have been buried and ignored. We cannot trust management's paper-thin commitment to 'consultation' and 'co-creation'. The SRC must actively campaign to defeat trimesters while they are still management's "preferred option" and not yet reality.

Motion

That the SRC:

2. Demands that university management drops trimesters from its transition plan for Adelaide University.
3. Issues a public statement opposing trimesters and publicises this statement on social media.
4. Commits to campaigning against trimesters and other attacks that negatively impact student learning and staff teaching conditions, including course cuts and restructures.

Moved: Nix Herriot

Seconded:

Motion Passed/Failed

Item 6.11: Postgraduate Officer – Coursework's Report – Lashhanth Dhevaraju

Hi everyone I am Lashhanth, really honoured to be elected postgraduate officer by course work this year. It's only the beginning of the year so except for O'week I haven't yet delved into the intricacies of the various activities. However I'm sure ill deliver more in the coming months.

Item 6.12: International Student Officer's Report – Akshay Kumar Agarwal

Introduction: My role as the International Officer entails ensuring international students feel supported, integrated, and successful within our institution. This report highlights key tasks to aid in their smooth transition.

1. Integration Programs: To ease international students' transition, we propose organizing integration programs covering academic expectations, cultural adaptation, campus resources, and practical living tips. Collaborating with schools, academic coordinators and ISS with SRC will be pivotal in executing these programs.
2. Academic Support: International students often encounter academic challenges due to language barriers and unfamiliarity with our education system. SRC will work closely with academic advisors, ISS, and support services to provide tailored assistance. This includes language workshops, study skills sessions, and tutoring services, especially for Master's and Higher Degree by Research students.
3. Social Connections: Facilitating connections among students from similar backgrounds is vital for their well-being. Hosting social events at the University with at least one SRC member

presenting to that group to offer guidance will foster these connections. To attract the students to these dedicated groups SRC can provide free food and freebies during that event.

By executing these initiatives effectively, we aim to create an inclusive environment that enhances the overall student experience.

Thank you.

Akshay Kumar Agarwal, International Officer, SRC

Item 6.13: Social Justice Officer's Report – Alex Bastiras

Throughout the past four months, I have been proud to show solidarity with the people of Palestine, as they endure a humanitarian crisis at the hands of the Israeli regime. Nearly 30,000 Palestinians have been killed by Israel in this horrific war. Fighting for social justice means fighting for all oppressed people, and the Palestinians have faced brutal oppression for over 75 years. The struggle for Palestinian justice is a struggle against colonialism, occupation and racism. It is an outrage that the federal Labor government and most establishment institutions in our society have supported Israel throughout this war. This fact has made the need to protest even more urgent, so that we can take a stand against our appalling government.

In recent months, I have helped organise numerous protests for Palestine through the activist group Students for Palestine, as well as speaking at several of these protests. We have witnessed the biggest pro-Palestine movement in Australia's history. It is clear that an increasing number of people, especially young people, see Palestine as a key issue of social justice. It has also been wonderful to see a connection made between the struggle of Aboriginal people and that of the Palestinians. Many people attending the protests have displayed both Aboriginal and Palestinian flags. This kind of solidarity is so important in strengthening the fight against all forms of oppression.

As part of helping to organise the student strike for Palestine on the 29th of February I have spoken with many students on campus about Palestine. A very large number of students are horrified by Israel's war in Gaza and are angry with our government for supporting Israel. The student strike will be a great opportunity for students to show solidarity with Palestine and take a stand against oppression.

Item 7: Motions on Notice

Motion 1: Alter the Constitution and Standing Orders for minimum 14 days' notice for meetings

1. Replace Constitution Section 8d from "At least five days' notice must be given to all Members prior to a meeting being held" to "At least fourteen days' notice must be given to all Members prior to a meeting being held"
2. Replace Standing Order Section 2d from "The General Secretary shall issue the notice for a regular Council meeting at least five days before the meeting is to be held." To "The General Secretary shall issue the notice for a regular Council meeting at least fourteen days before the meeting is to be held."

Rationale: This change would give SRC members more time to ensure they can attend as many SRC meetings as possible. The current minimum 5 day notice period makes it hard for students who have other commitments such as work, to participate in SRC as swapping or dropping shifts with short notice may lead to repercussion in their workplace. This move would also align SRC's meeting notice period with YouX's governance.

Moved: Valeria Caceres Galvez **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

***Please note this motion is a motion on notice for altering the Constitution, three quarters majority of voting position is needed to pass.**

Motion 2: Funding for March Student-Run Mutual Aid Campus Kitchen

1. The SRC supports the mutual aid campus kitchens hosted by student, for students
2. The SRC will commit up to \$300 to buying raw ingredients to be used by volunteers to prepare meals for the next campus kitchen
3. SRC representatives who support this motion will help with the event.
4. The mover and seconder will confirm the date of the next campus kitchen via email to the General Secretary within 7 days of the motion passing.

Rationale: Student poverty is leaving many students in tough financial positions. We are hearing in the news that food insecurity is a major concern for university students. Last year, student organisers from Grassroots and CUDL began a campus kitchen initiative where students made and gave away free meals for other students in need. In a cost-of-living crisis, this kind of mutual aid is more important than ever to ensure students are maintaining well nourished and healthy. The next campus kitchen will occur in mid-March, the date and time is to be decided depending on the availability of SRC members who are able to help out with the initiative.

Moved: Valeria Caceres Galvez **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

Motion 3: Promotion of March Student-Run Mutual Aid Campus Kitchen

1. The SRC supports the mutual aid campus kitchens hosted by student, for students
2. The SRC will promote the next student-run mutual aid campus kitchen being on it's social media pages
3. SRC representatives who support this motion will help with the event's promotion.
4. The mover and seconder will confirm the date of the next campus kitchen via email to the General Secretary within 7 days of the motion passing.

Rationale: Student poverty is leaving many students in tough financial positions. We are hearing in the news that food insecurity is a major concern for university students. Last year,

student organisers from Grassroots and CUDL began a campus kitchen initiative where students made and gave away free meals for other students in need. In a cost-of-living crisis, this kind of mutual aid is more important than ever to ensure students are maintaining well nourished and healthy. The next campus kitchen will occur in mid-March, the date and time is to be confirmed.

Moved: Valeria Caceres Galvez **Seconded:** **Motion Passed/Failed**

Item 8. General Business

N/A

Item 10. Emergent Business

All emergent business matters as detailed here must be provided in writing to the General Secretary within a reasonable timeframe following the agenda reports deadline. It is anticipated that all emergent business items be submitted to the General Secretary at least two days prior to the scheduled meeting. Any submissions beyond this timeframe will be considered at the discretion of the General Secretary and President, or alternatively, they will be included in the agenda papers for the subsequent meeting.

N/A

Item 11. Date of Next Meeting

The date and time of the next meeting will be on (not yet decided) at University of Adelaide North Terrace Campus,(Not yet decided). In case of controversies, please refer to the below agreed timetable:

12.1 Appendix 1: Minutes of the Council Meeting (30 November 2023)

Meeting in Hughes Lecture Theatre 309 Thursday 30 November 2023

1. Procedural Matters

Georgia Thomas opened the meeting at 7:14pm..

1.1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

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

1.2. Attendance

Georgia Thomas, Aiden Zeyang Wang, Rafael Aquino, Yuka Maruyama, Adeline Tang, Yeganeh Solt, Wella Huang, Merlin Wang, Shuhui (Tom) Zhai, Veronica Yang, Owen Ong, Jiaming Lai

Late: Simranjeet Singh Dahia – 7:19pm, Leila Clendon – 7:24pm

1.3. Apologies

Lani Bushnell

1.4. Absences

Anjali Malhotra, Jayde Thyer, Daniel Garcia Zapata, Hamish McNamara, Tony Tu, Arnav Gupta, Ruby Stewart.

Georgia Thomas acknowledged there is one item for today's meeting and passed the chair to Aiden Zeyang Wang at 7:15pm

Aiden screen shared the item to members online and in person, acknowledging the petition

was received validly and that enough notice was given according to the constitution. Aiden asked Merlin to speak to the petition and the attached regulation to the council members (Appendix 1).

Aiden opened the opportunity for questions regarding the regulation.

No questions were raised and Aiden read out the motion submitted:

Motion: That the SRC adopts the Student Representative Council (Adelaide) Regulation Concerning Elections (Appendix 1).

Moved: Merlin Wang

Seconded: Shuhui(Tom) Zhai

Motion Passed

The motion to adopt a regulation requires an absolute majority of members. This motion received 12 votes in favour out of a total SRC Membership of 22 so was resolved in the affirmative.

Aiden Zeyang Wang passed the Chair to Georgia Thomas on 7:26 pm.

Georgia mentioned there's no additional items for discussion according to the petition received by members.

Georgia Thomas closed the meeting on 7:27pm.

2. Date of the Next Meeting

This is the last SRC meeting of the 2023 calendar year.

Appendix 1

Student Representative Council (Adelaide) Regulation Concerning Elections

1. Authority
 - a. A regulation enacted pursuant Section 14.g of the SRC Constitution to provide guidance on the conduct of Elections
2. Purpose
 - a. To provide guidance and governance to the SRC on the operation of annual elections.
3. Definitions
 - a. Definitions in Clause 2 of the SRC Constitution are applicable to this Regulation
 - b. Constitution shall mean the Constitution of the Student Representative Council (Adelaide) Inc
 - c. 'Election Rules' shall mean the AUU Rules Concerning the Conduct of Annual Elections, By-Elections, and Referenda.
 - d. 'YouX' shall mean the statutory body called the Adelaide University Union
 - e. 'Annual Election' shall mean the election held in conjunction with YouX to elect Board Directors and SRC Members.
 - f. 'Election Tribunal' shall mean the tribunal appointed by the YouX Board to oversee the Annual Elections
 - g. 'Declaration of the Poll' is the final declaration of the Annual Election Results by the YouX Returning Officer
4. Interpretation
 - a. Interpretation of this Regulation is within the jurisdiction of the President, pursuant to the authority of Council.
5. Timeline
 - a. The SRC Elections shall be held concurrently with elections to the YouX Board.
 - b. The timetable set out in the Election Rules shall apply for the SRC Elections.
6. Requesting the Annual Election
 - a. The SRC President shall make a request to the YouX Executive Officer and YouX President in writing no later than Monday ten weeks before the Annual Elections. This application must state the positions to be elected and any relevant eligibility requirements for those positions.
 - b. The SRC President shall request that all Council positions be taken to an election in addition to any other relevant elections for bodies the SRC is an affiliate of.
7. Conduct of elections
 - a. For the annual elections held concurrently with elections to the YouX Board, the SRC delegates authority to the YouX Returning Officer, and Election Tribunal.
 - b. For the filling of vacant positions outside of the Annual Elections, the SRC shall be responsible for their governance according to this regulation and the Casual Vacancy Regulation.
 - c. After the Declaration of Poll, the YouX Election Tribunal's involvement with the Annual Elections shall end and the SRC will be responsible for the filling of any vacancies.
8. Voided elections
 - a. If the Election Tribunal declares any part of the elections for SRC Positions void insofar as there is no candidate elected, it is the responsibility of the incoming SRC to fill this position in accordance with the Casual Vacancy Regulations.
 - b. In the case of a voided election resulting in less than half of the Council positions being vacant on the first day of the new SRC's term, for the purposes of the SRC Constitution, it shall be treated as a vacancy.

Student Representative Council (Adelaide) Regulation Concerning Elections

9. Election to multiple positions
 - a. In the event a candidate is elected to more than one position on the SRC, the candidate shall, within 30 business days following the Declaration of the Poll, inform the newly elected SRC General Secretary in writing of their decision to retain only one of the elected positions.
 - b. The candidate's notification must explicitly state the position they choose to retain.
 - c. The non-preferred position(s) will be vacant as of the start of the SRC's term on 1 December.
 - d. Failure to notify within the stipulated period will result in automatic forfeiture of all elected positions, and such positions shall be deemed vacant.
 - e. The vacant position(s) shall be automatically filled by the next highest polling candidate(s) on 1 December, from the most recent election at the time the vacancy arises and who shall hold office until the expiry of the term of the Student Elected Officer(s) / Councillor(s) who is replaced.

10. Presidential and General Secretary Vacancies
 - a. In the event where the position of SRC President is not contested, vacant due to disqualification, or otherwise unoccupied, the General Secretary shall assume the role of Acting President.
 - b. If both the SRC President and General Secretary are not contested, or otherwise unoccupied, the council shall appoint an Acting President from the members of the Executive.
 - c. The Acting President shall exercise the powers and duties of the President, subject to limitations defined in the SRC Constitution or as determined by the council.
 - d. This arrangement shall remain in effect until the incoming council appoints a new President, in accordance with the SRC Casual Vacancy Policy.
 - e. After the appointment of the SRC President, the Acting President must facilitate a transition period not exceeding 7 days.
 - f. The role of Acting President ceases after the transition period and the General Secretary will continue to act within their prescribed duties according to the constitution.