

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**



**Thursday , 28March 2024, 6:00 PM**

**University of Adelaide North Terrace Campus, Location TBD**

**SCM AGENDA AND MEETING PAPERS**

## AGENDA

### 1. Procedural Matters

#### 1.1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

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

#### 1.2. Attendance

Provisional for reference only:

Aiden Zeyang Wang, Briana Symonds-Manne, Xenon Lane, Valeria Caceres Galvez, Sage Jupe, Alex Bastiras, Ashraf Bin Abdul Halim, Nix Herriot, Lashhanth Dhevaraju, Jake Ford, 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

#### 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. Motions on Notice

**2.1. Motion that The SRC:** Accepts the recommendations from the executive to appoint the casual Vacancies.

**Moved:** Binu Arundi Rajasuriya

**Seconded:**

**Motion Passed/Failed**

## Item 2 : Motions on Notice

### 2.1. Casual Vacancies

**Preamble:**

The SRC Executive presents the Casual Vacancies to the Council for approval. Interviews were chaired by Binu Arundi Rajasuriya and conducted along with other executive members who have attended.

**The Report:**

General Councillor

Owen Ong-

This candidate presents a compelling case for their candidacy as a General Councillor. Their background as a student ambassador underscores their adeptness in interpersonal communication, an invaluable asset for engaging with diverse constituents within the Student Representative Council (SRC). Additionally, their experience with YouX signifies a nuanced understanding of digital engagement and community-building, which are increasingly vital aspects of modern governance.

A notable strength lies in the candidate's neutrality towards social justice issues. This impartiality fosters an environment conducive to reasoned discourse and ensures fair consideration of student matters within the council. Furthermore, the candidate's extroverted nature and strong interpersonal skills equip them well for the demands of council membership, facilitating effective representation and advocacy on behalf of their constituents.

In summary, the candidate's blend of experience as a student ambassador, proficiency in digital engagement through YouX, and impartial stance on social justice matters make them a compelling candidate for General Councillor. They demonstrate readiness to serve the student body with integrity, diligence, and a commitment to fostering inclusivity and equitable representation within the council.

Edward Archer-

This candidate's candidacy for General Councillor appears less fortified in professional experience compared to other contenders. Their leadership background primarily stems from cadets, which may not directly correlate with the intricacies of SRC responsibilities. Additionally, their expressed belief that the SRC should represent a biased singular view contradicts the ethos of impartiality necessary for effective council representation.

On a personal level, the candidate describes themselves as driven, passionate, and hard-working, with a propensity for analytical thinking and data-based decision-making.

Their leadership experience, coupled with a Bachelor of Economics and public policy background, provides a foundation for understanding complex socio-economic issues pertinent to student welfare and governance.

However, their view on advocacy as a secondary role within the SRC may raise questions about their alignment with the council's core objectives. While they emphasize neutrality

and inclusivity, their ideological predispositions warrant careful consideration regarding their ability to represent diverse student interests effectively.

**My recommendation for the general councillor is Owen Ong.**

Disability Officer

Jayden Squire-

This candidate brings invaluable lived experience to the role of Disability Officer, particularly as someone on the autism spectrum. Their fervent desire to advocate for neurodivergent individuals and their tangible ideas for enhancing campus accessibility highlight crucial skills essential for this position.

With a strong commitment to amplifying the voices of disabled students, the candidate aims to address structural issues within the university to foster a more inclusive environment. Drawing from their personal experiences and real-life examples, they aspire to effect meaningful change by listening to and representing the concerns of their peers.

Their background in student representation, including past involvement with the SRC in high school and as a student observer, underscores their dedication to activism and advocacy.

In summary, the candidate's unique perspective as a neurodivergent individual, coupled with their advocacy experience and determination to enact positive change, positions them as a compelling choice for Disability Officer. Their ability to navigate structural challenges and prioritize student voices makes them a formidable advocate for disability support and inclusivity within the university community.

Madhav Aiyappa-

While Madhav's extensive experience in the disability sector may seem advantageous at first glance, his strong advocacy for socialism and activism may present challenges in effectively fulfilling the role of Disability Officer within the SRC. His inclination towards taking a partisan stance within the council contradicts the principle of impartial representation, potentially alienating students with differing viewpoints.

Furthermore, while Madhav's internship experience and leadership roles in the disability sector indicate some level of proficiency, his commitment to socialist ideologies may overshadow his ability to address the diverse needs of disabled students in a balanced and inclusive manner. This could undermine the credibility of the Disability Officer's role as a neutral advocate for all students.

Additionally, Madhav's strong beliefs and activist approach may hinder his ability to engage in constructive dialogue and compromise, essential qualities for effective governance within the SRC. While his dedication to effecting positive change is

commendable, his rigid adherence to socialist principles may limit his capacity to navigate complex issues and collaborate with stakeholders across diverse backgrounds.

In summary, while Madhav's passion and commitment are apparent, his strong advocacy for socialism and activist tendencies may undermine his suitability for the role of Disability Officer within the SRC. A more balanced and inclusive approach would be necessary to effectively represent the diverse needs and perspectives of disabled students within the university community.

**My recommendation is Jayden Squire.**

Environmental Officer

Saahib Panesar-

Saahib's candidacy for Environmental Officer is distinguished by his extensive experience in student representation and activism, making him a highly qualified candidate for the role. Serving as the student representative for the ABLE faculty, Saahib has honed his ability to amplify student voices and advocate for their needs effectively. This role has provided him with invaluable insights into the nuances of student representation and the importance of being a vocal advocate for campus improvements.

Moreover, Saahib's tenure as an environmental officer has equipped him with specific examples of implementing positive changes within the university environment. His focus on enacting small yet impactful changes demonstrates a pragmatic approach to fostering environmental sustainability on campus.

Saahib's leadership skills, combined with his proactive personality, further enhance his suitability for the position. His ability to lead and inspire others, coupled with his penchant for collaboration, ensures that he can effectively mobilize resources and drive environmental initiatives forward.

Furthermore, Saahib's belief in the importance of student activism and the necessity for student opinions to be heard aligns closely with the ethos of the Environmental Officer role. While advocating for environmental sustainability, he also recognizes the importance of maintaining neutrality within the SRC to ensure fair representation for all students.

In summary, Saahib's blend of experience in student representation, activism, and leadership, coupled with his pragmatic approach to campus environmental improvement, make him an exemplary candidate for the role of Environmental Officer. His dedication to advocating for sustainable practices and driving positive change aligns closely with the objectives of the position.

Rural Officer

Oscar Harding-

Oscar's candidacy for the Student Representative Council (SRC) is distinguished by his unique background as a student from rural Australia. This connection to rural communities positions him as a valuable advocate for students from similar backgrounds, ensuring their voices are heard within the university environment. His ability to understand and empathize with the challenges faced by rural students can facilitate more inclusive policies and initiatives within the SRC.

Additionally, Oscar's proficiency in public speaking is a significant asset for effective communication and representation within the council. His skill in articulating ideas and advocating for student interests can greatly enhance the SRC's ability to engage with the broader student body and enact positive change.

Furthermore, Oscar's background in residential colleges provides him with valuable insights into the experiences and concerns of students living in university accommodation. This firsthand knowledge can inform discussions and decisions within the SRC regarding housing, campus life, and student welfare.

In essence, Oscar's combination of rural background, public speaking skills, and residential college experience make him a compelling candidate for the SRC. His ability to represent the interests of rural students and effectively communicate with diverse stakeholders positions him as a valuable asset to the council.

### **Other Candidates:**

ATSI Officer candidate was overseas and was unable to attend the interview. She has provided the following previously for the council's consideration:

#### ATSI Application

As a proud Ngarrindjeri woman who has grown up with my culture and the Aboriginal community on Kurna land I'd love to be able to represent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander university students at the University of Adelaide.

Aside from studying a bachelor of medical studies and a doctor of medicine, I'm heavily involved in Indigenous education and have been part of many initiatives such as:

- The civics and citizenship education release in 2019 at Parliament House as a speaker
- The World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCE) in 2022 as a youth and socials officer
- The National stem congress as a guest speaker since 2023
- Tutor for Tauondi Aboriginal College in Port Adelaide
- Wirltu Yarlul Student Ambassador

I recently was also invited to attend 2024 WIPCE Coolangatta Symposium on Hawai'i Island which I look forward to attending and learning from.

I have been able to learn from so many Indigenous educators from across the globe about education and specifically Indigenous education which is a passion of mine.

I value Indigenous representation in education and value our voice, culture and knowledge that can greatly improve education not only for Indigenous people but everyone.

**Motion that The SRC:** Accepts the recommendations from the executive to appoint the casual Vacancies.

**Moved:** Binu Arundi Rajasuriya      **Seconded:**                      **Motion Passed/Failed**

## Item 11. Date of Next Meeting

**The date and time of the next meeting will occur referring to the below agreed timetable:**

Below, I have listed all the meeting dates for the year, taking into consideration SWOT week, exams, university holidays and public holidays (the **bold dates are meeting dates**; the others are not):

- **18th March**
- 1 April (Easter Monday)
- 15 April (Mid- Semester Break)
- **29 April**
- **13 May**
- **27 May**
- 10th June (SWOT Week)
- 24 June (Exam)
- 8th July (Mid-Year Break )
- **22 July**
- **5 August**
- **19 August**
- **2 September**
- 16 September (Mid-Semester Break)
- **30th September**
- **14 October**
- 28 October (SWOT Week)
- 11 November (Exam)
- 25 November (End of year break)

All Meetings are going to be scheduled **at 6pm**, venue will be announced.