

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



Wednesday, 29 March 2023, 6:30pm

University of Adelaide North Terrace Campus, Hughes 323

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

1.3. Apologies

1.4. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: that the agenda as circulated be adopted.

1.5. Welcome

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Recommendation: That the SRC accept the minutes of the meeting of 15 March 2023 as a true and accurate record (Appendix 1).

Moved: Billy Zimmermann **Seconded:**

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

ACTION	PERSON	STATUS
Bank handover	Georgia, Gen Sec, & Kim	Ongoing
Post photo for Harmony Day	Georgia	COMPLETE
Planning & Budgeting for Roseworthy Consultation	Georgia	
The Education Officer and President will write to Vice Chancellor and DVCA petitioning the Uni to publicly support the Voice to Parliament.	Grace & Georgia	
Advertising the vacancy of ATSI Officer on social media and in publications.	Georgia	COMPLETE
Send updated Standing Orders to Kim & YouX	Georgia & Gen Sec	
The SRC make a statement of condolences to the students affected by the devastating earthquakes in turkiye and Syria	Yeganeh draft, Georgia post	
The SRC share a link to an authorised and recognised fundraiser for anyone choosing to want to donate & additional statements to clarify that students have full choice on whether or not they want to donate being up to them can be	Yeganeh draft, Georgia post	

added, as we don't want anyone to feel pressured.		
Organise vigil for victims of earthquake	Yeganeh	

4. Correspondence

5. New Members

6. Motions on Notice

7. Office Bearer Reports

7.1. President

7.2. General Secretary

7.3. Education Officer

7.4. Queer Officer

7.5. Postgraduate Officer (Research)

7.6. Postgraduate Officer (Coursework)

Motion:

The SRC:

- Believes that is important for international students to have the same study plan as local students for several reasons
- Call the university to make all courses that are required courses for all international students, and not for local students (unless exempted by the faculty) to be optional, with no exception, immediately.
- -Call the university to evaluate if the English proficiency level required to enter a program is high enough to take the program, and therefore, any 'communication course' for international students only would be necessary.
- Call the university to apologize for discriminating non-Australian students, not based on their skills but on the passport they hold.

Action Points:

- The SRC will endorse and publicly share on its social media accounts the petition to end mandatory courses for international students only and apologize to all the students affected by this micro-discrimination.
- The SRC will write The National Union of Students (NUS) and The Council of International Students Australia (CISA) to extend this petition to all universities in Australia.

Moved: Daniel Garcia Zapata

7.7. Social Justice Officer

7.8. Disability Officer

Motion:

1. The SRC will share this poster on SRC's Facebook page by mid breaks starts (by 7 April 2023) since the deadline to apply for AEA is the last day of mid break.

Moved:

7.9. International Officer

7.10. Environment Officer

8. General Business

8.1. No To War, No to AUKUS

The SRC:

- The SRC opposes the imperialistic AUKUS pact, and calls for Australia to cease rising tensions with China.
- The SRC acknowledges that Australia and the US are acting as aggressors by ramping up military spending.
- The SRC supports the \$368 billion being spent on stopping the ramping crisis, building public housing, raising the rate of welfare, and giving nurses a pay rise, rather than on building weapons for the Australian war machine.
- The SRC accepts the need to fight against militarism, nuclear waste and the drive to war.

Action Points:

- The SRC will share a statement outlining the preamble and demands above on social media.
- The SRC supports future protests and campaign actions against AUKUS.

Moved: Leila Clendon

8.2. Reject Labor's Greenwashing Safeguard Mechanism

The SRC:

1. Opposes the safeguard mechanism as greenwashing effort and a gift to the fossil fuel industry.
2. Opposes all new fossil fuel projects.

3. Supports taxing the rich to fund a just transition to renewables and reparations for victims of climate disasters.
4. Supports the building of a mass movement to fight for climate action.

Action Points:

1. The SRC will upload a public statement condemning Labor's safeguard mechanism bill as a political windfall for big polluters that obscures Labor's real expansion of carbon pollution
2. The SRC commits to seriously challenging the federal Labor government's climate inaction through supporting future protests and actions

Moved: James Wood

9. Emergent Business

Item 7.1: President's Report – Georgia Thomas

1. Committee Updates

I have been appointed as the student representative on the Student Experience of Learning and Teaching (SELT) policy review group.

The Student Engagement Committee met last Tuesday afternoon, though this meeting was limited due to low attendance.

2. Casual Vacancy Updates

Agastya has provided me with his resignation as General Secretary. As a result, the SRC Executive passed a circular resolution to open a casual vacancy for this position to allow us to advertise all of them at once.

All currently available casual vacancies have now been advertised on the SRC Facebook page. These vacancies will remain open for a period of two weeks and then the executive will conduct interviews. This means that we should have new members joining at our first meeting after mid-semester break.

Thanks for bearing with me as I now balance Gen Sec duties until this position is filled. I'm really grateful for the patience in getting papers together etc.

3. Breakfast Club Expansion Update

The Welfare Officer and I submitted the motion passed unanimously by the SRC to the YouX Board. I attended the Board meeting where this was discussed and was disappointed to not have the motion passed by the Board in its original form at this time. Citing financial concerns the Board has tasked their Executive Officer, Gary Sutherland, with reporting back to the next Board meeting on the costings of expanding Breakfast Club to five days a week and trimesters, and report back on what is going on with the mobile Breakfast Club that should be occurring at the Roseworthy and Waite campuses. There was concerning discourse at this meeting - in particular the YouX President wanted to table the motion and discuss its substance with the Executive Officer, I had to insist that a motion be passed in some form for accountability and following this the YouX President refused to rule out an in-camera discussion when information is reported back at next meeting. Alongside this, the YouX Executive Officer wanted to create a student working group to tell the Board what students wanted from Breakfast Club rather than taking on the responsibility of investigating - the SRC is literally a group representing all students, and we did the investigating into what student need from this service. I am glad the Board rejected this suggestion emphatically. The YouX Board meets monthly, with the next meeting scheduled for the 26th of April. At this meeting, we will be resubmitting our original motion to the Board. In my presentation of motion to the Board I emphasised that as per the Constitution of YouX, their funds must be used for the benefit of students and that there must be reshuffling and reconsideration of the YouX budget to accommodate this proposal that meets four out of five of the organisations objectives. We pay our SSAF and membership fees to this organisation and we deserve to receive services and events dedicated to students in return, not outcomes in the interest of a corporate organisation.

4. Union House Reference Group

On Thursday the 16th March the reference group was taken on a site tour of the new Union House project. Following feedback from this tour and the previous meeting, a survey is being conducted over this week to hear from students what spaces are necessary for inclusion in this project. I would encourage all Council members to complete the survey and share it within their networks. The biggest thing I have noted of this working group from the other students within it so far is that there doesn't feel like there is much room to move on the design created by uni admin. The more students fill out this survey, the more we can go in to bat for important student spaces that will be utilised, rather than function spaces which primarily serve the university administration. The next meeting of this group is this coming Thursday, 30th March.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UHspaces>

5. Climate NDA

I attended the NUS National Day of Climate Action on the 17th of March. I have written to the NUS Education Officer who was responsible for the NDA's about the organisation of the event. It did not feel like any of the student unions across SA were properly engaged in assisting with the planning and execution of the event. I have reached out in hopes that we can work together to host more successful protests or days of action in the future by working together in a better way.

6. Clubs

The Mature Age Officer and I attended the Mature Students Association Welcome Drinks last Friday. There was some issues raised with us about their relations with the university infrastructure team and the lack of a proper space for mature students that Tony and I will be working to follow up for them.

I discovered through a friend that some students clubs are being charged up to \$1500 per year to use Elder Conservatorium spaces for club meetings. This is a huge amount of money for a club to be paying to simply host meetings, practices or events. Given the EC is a part of the university it feels ridiculous that student clubs are paying for these spaces. I've chased this up with YouX Clubs and University Infrastructure who have advised that this issue lies with EC specifically, but they are happy to assist clubs in finding appropriate spaces they can use for free. It's been over a week without a response from EC and I am continuing to chase this issue up.

7. Senate submission request

The SRC have been invited by the Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee to make a submission to it's enquiry into the Education Legislation Amendment (Startup Year and Other Measures) Bill 2023.



Item 7.2: General Secretary's Report – VACANT

Item 7.3: Education Officer's Report – Grace Franco

NUS contact

- I have been in contact with the NUS President and General Secretary.
- Their main campaigns in the education portfolio are HECS Indexation and legislated 50% minimum SSAF funding for all student unions.
- They spent last week in Canberra speaking with federal MPs about these two issues
- HECS indexation.
 - o HECS debts are set to rise by between 6.5%-7% in the next financial year as HECS is indexed by Consumer Price Index (CPI).
 - o NUS is asking for HECS indexation to be frozen.
- Legislated 50% minimum SSAF
 - o At present it is up to each student union to negotiate SSAF funding with their respective university. This model is not beneficial for student unions who must renegotiate SSAF funding each year/on a regular basis.
 - o There are discrepancies between how much SSAF each student union receives from their university (e.g QUT Guild gets about 17% and Deakin University Student Association gets about 70%)
 - o In 2022, YouX (Adelaide University Union) received 36% SSAF from the University of Adelaide. The SSAF funding for 2023 has not been made public.
 - o 50% legislated SSAF would significantly benefit student unions across the country (including YouX and subsequently us, the YouX SRC).

Roseworthy O-Night

- I went with the President and the Education Officer to the Roseworthy O-Night, where we met Lani, our Roseworthy based General Councillor.
- It was great to see and meet students from Roseworthy and talk to them about educational related matters.

Student Care

- I am meeting with Ann Madigan (Manager & Senior Education and Welfare Officer) on Monday (so will have more details by the time of the SRC meeting Wednesday).
- I have had contact with Sana (Ethno-Cultural Officer) about advocating for multi-lingual employees.

Protests

- I attended the “*NUS National Day of Climate Action*” event on the 17th of March. I was disappointed I had no communication from the NUS Education Officer about the event. The lack of communication from the organisers was disappointing. As far as I am aware, no member of the South Australian branch of the NUS or any member of an activist body of any student union in Adelaide was invited to speak.
- I attended the “*Oppose anti-trans right wing bigot Kellie-Jay Keen*” in Adelaide and Canberra. It was incredible to see so much support for trans people and trans rights. I also note that it was great that I couldn't hear anything KJK was saying because the pro-trans protestors were drowning her out. It is vital that we ensure trans students feel safe and respected on our campus and in our community.

Contact with students

- I had a Census Date reminder posted to the SRC Facebook page, which I shared to *Overheard* to reach the largest number of students.

Contact with faculty clubs

- I am in the process of contacting all major faculty clubs to introduce myself, offer my support and ask how and where I can support them. I look forward to collaborating with them to assist students in their faculties.

University wage theft across Australia – NTEU

- Awaiting meeting with NTEU

Voice to Parliament

- I am proud to witness and be a part of change that will have long-lasting effects on First Nations students on our campus, First Nations people in our country, and future generations. This is one step forward, of many steps to come. Voice, Treaty, Truth.
- I attended the AULSS run event, “Incorporating a First Nation Voice to Parliament” with Kyam Maher MLC. During this event we heard about the (now passed) First Nations Voice Bill and questions surrounding the “Yes” campaign.
- **Action** (*ongoing from the motion passed in my last report*): Writing to Vice Chancellor and DVCA petitioning the Uni to publicly support the Voice to Parliament.

State - update

- I congratulate the South Australian Government on being the first to pass a State Voice to Parliament (First Nations Voice Bill SA), for which there will be a Special Parliamentary Sitting Day on Sunday 26 March 2023.

Federal - update

- I congratulate the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, who announced the constitutional amendment and question that will be put to the Australian people on the 23rd of March 2023. The question will be:

“A Proposed Law: to alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

Do you approve this proposed alteration?”

- For more information on the referendum, visit: <https://voice.niaa.gov.au/about> and <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/press-conference-parliament-house>

Note: Support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can be accessed through

- Wirltu Yarlul (Tel: 8313 3623, wirltu.yarlul@adelaide.edu.au)
- Student Life Counselling Support (Tel: 8313 5663, counselling.centre@adelaide.edu.au)

Student Care (Tel: 8313 5430, studentcare@adelaide.edu.au)

Item 7.4: Queer Officer's Report – Billy Zimmermann

Meeting with Kansas (Pride Club President)

I met with Kansas from the Pride club and discussed various issues with them. Principally for the Queer Community on campus and the Pride club is the circling question marks around what will happen to the Rainbow Room during the Union House redevelopment project.

The current space is not adequate in multiple ways. Beyond being barely big enough to hold more than 3 people, the electrics do not work and to use the microwave, members have to unplug the fan so that the power is not shorted. Additionally, during the Fringe, workers have been known to use the facilities in the Rainbow Room to plug in their equipment through the window overlooking the Union Cinema.

Right now, the room is not entirely adequate, and it is unsure if after the Union House redevelopment, what (if any) their space will look like. The Pride Club is currently running a member's census to determine how members interact with the rainbow room and what they want to see. The SRC sits on the Union House redevelopment committee, and I committed to forward any concerns onto the committee and assisting in putting together a submission for it.

Protest against Posie Parker.

I attended the demonstration against Posie Parker. It was a great event with very high energy and excellent turn out. I am glad that the Posie has ended her tour of Australia and New Zealand early. Adelaide as well as other cities showed clearly that transphobes are not welcome, massively outnumbering the TERFS and other transphobes who attended.

Climate NDA

I also attended the SRC endorsed, NUS National Day of Action demonstration. Contrasting to the demonstration against Posie Parker, this was an incredibly disappointing protest. The NUS who was the organiser, did not get named once by any of the speakers. It is a shame the organisers do not appreciate the NUS enough to give them a shout out on the day of action.

Additionally, I was disappointed at the fact that no Presidents or Environment Officers of student unions in the state were invited to speak. The SRC endorsed this protest yet there was no mention of us or invitation to speak.

The organising of the event also seems quite opaque. For an NUS event, it is not clear if the local organisers reached out to the State Branch President, Isaac Solomon to help in organising or choosing speakers. Additionally, NUS Executive member, and SRC President Georgia Thomas was not approached to speak, nor NUS Welfare Officer Grace Franco. This is incredibly disappointing from Uni Students for Climate Justice. It is not fair for Uni Students for Climate Justice to hijack an NUS event. It is ok for them to be involved obviously but not reaching out to any of the NUS officeholders in South Australia is beyond disappointing.

Ending Deadnaming

Georgia and I both were CC'd into an email from Kansas to University management concerning the disappointment felt by many in the Queer community regarding the Universities email system when it comes to preferred names.



Item 7.5: Postgraduate Officer (Research) Report – VACANT

Item 7.6: Postgraduate Officer (Coursework) Report – Daniel Garcia Zapata

Dear fellow SRC members,

As I mentioned in my last report, I have been working to abolish the mandatory courses for postgraduate international students based on the prejudice that we must improve 'communication skills', or even worse, 'critical thinking skills'. It's hard to believe someone thought that students without an Australian passport must work on their critical thinking harder than the ones with an Australian passport.

I'm still waiting for an answer from the university, which seems open to discussing my concern and told me they will first check which courses have a different study plan for international students only. Nevertheless, I think this is not an issue that only affects postgraduate students but all students, so I want to make this motion general:

Motion:

The SRC:

- Believes that is important for international students to have the same study plan as local students for several reasons:
 - **Equitable Education:** Having the same study plan ensures that all students, regardless of their nationality or background, receive the same quality of education. This promotes equity and fairness in the education system.
 - **Integration and Cohesion:** When international students study the same courses as local students, they are integrated into the local community and can form strong bonds with their classmates. This helps to foster a sense of cohesion and understanding between different cultures, which is essential in our increasingly interconnected world.
 - **Career Opportunities:** International students could miss important subjects in their study plan to take courses related to communication and critical thinking. Having the same study plan as local students can also provide international students with greater career opportunities, as they will be better prepared to enter the local job market and compete with local graduates.
 - **Micro-Discrimination:** Proof of English proficiency is required to enter all undergraduate and postgraduate courses. The prejudice that international students have lower communication skills is unfounded and unfair.

- Call the university to make all courses that are required courses for all international students, and not for local students (unless exempted by the faculty) to be optional, with no exception, immediately.
- Call the university to evaluate if the English proficiency level required to enter a program is high enough to take the program, and therefore, any 'communication course' for international students only would be necessary.
- Call the university to apologize for discriminating non-Australian students, not based on their skills but on the passport they hold.

Action Points:

- The SRC will endorse and publicly share on its social media accounts the petition to end mandatory courses for international students only and apologize to all the students affected by this micro-discrimination.
- The SRC will write The National Union of Students (NUS) and The Council of International Students Australia (CISA) to extend this petition to all universities in Australia.

On other business, some students have reached me to discuss the necessity of including stronger policies for the use of Artificial Intelligence in research projects. There are two main concerns:

- The use of unethically obtained data in research: At this point, all research should not cite any unethically obtained data (such as the Nazi papers). Nevertheless, AI models use a lot of data to be trained, including unethically obtained data, but the data used to train a model is usually not mentioned (such as the data sets used to train Chat GPT). With the rise of AI tools, The University should work on new ethical standards for research.
- The rise of AI also rises the necessity to work on Explainable AI. Explainable AI is defined by Google as: "a set of tools and frameworks to help you understand and interpret predictions made by your machine learning models...". It is the only way to make AI transparent, trustable, and socially accepted. Nevertheless, the students of Master of AI, Master of CS, and Master of Data Science, among others, don't have any course available to learn about Explainable AI, and therefore, to help in the ethical boundaries of AI.

I have reached The University for the first concern and the SET Faculty for the second one, as I consider The University should have an active role in the construction of ethical standards for AI.

I look forward to working together with other fellow SRC members to make the university experience for postgraduate students and all students the best one possible.

Daniel Garcia Zapata



Item 7.7: Social Justice Officer's Report – VACANT

Item 7.7: Disability Officer's Report – Yuka Maruyama

Disability Officer's Report 29th March

Hi there, I am away from Adelaide for some reasons, I apologize I cannot make this meeting. Here are some updates since my last report on 1st March.

1. Alternative Exam Arrangements (AEA)

For students with disability and medical condition, they are allowed to take AEA exam, and the application deadline is Friday 21st April 2023. To notice students who may be eligible for AEA exams, I would like to post that on SRC Facebook page and remind students about that.

Motion:

1. The SRC will share this poster on SRC's Facebook page by mid breaks starts (by 7 April 2023) since the deadline to apply for AEA is the last day of mid break.



2. Reasonable Adjustments to Learning, Teaching and Assessment for Students with a Disability policy working group

I gave the feedback for the final draft for this working group to Welfare Officer's – Rafael Aquin. Mainly, I stated "frail age person" can be one of primary carer, and I suggested we may need to change the name – "disability support" since not only disabled students use this support, but also students with medical condition, and frail age students might be added in the future.

3. The support form for students with disability and medical condition

As I talked in last report, I am processing this support form for students with disability and medical condition with disability support team. I will try to be able to use this support form by next report.

Yuka Maruyama

SRC Disability Officer

Item 7.8: International Officer's Report – Yegenah Soltanpour

It is currently the holy month of Ramadan, and many international students on campus, including clubs, have been hosting Iftar dinners. However, the Islamic Students Society's original Iftar for EID was cancelled. As a result, I have partnered with sponsors from various external bodies to help fund a large Iftar dinner for students. We are excited to be able to draw together funds to host one.

After speaking to multiple students, we thought we could combine the vigil and dinner to mark the end of the holy month, the vigil has already been agreed upon by the SRC. Given how EID is a day of prayer, and donations (zakaat). Having the opportunity to do so at the event is something we're considering. At the moment, I won't be requesting any funding from the SRC, we assume other than the tentative \$30 for candles and posters, we should be okay. However, I invite everyone to attend the dinner and bring anyone they'd like along. The event will be on or around April 21st.

Finally, on March 21st, it was the Persian New Year, known as Nowruz. I wanted to thank the SRC president for agreeing to put up a post for this without any delay. Multiple members of the Iranian community at Adelaide Uni saw the post and expressed how incredibly happy it made them, especially given the horrifying deaths of Iranian people and protesters over the past weeks and the continued oppression of the Iranian people, this gesture was something the community appreciated.

Item 8.1 No to War: No to AUKUS! – Leila Clendon

Preamble:

AUKUS, a trilateral security pact between Australia, the UK and the USA has been formed to aid Australia in acquiring up to eight highly destructive nuclear-powered submarines. These submarines are built for long distance attacks and surveillance. This is part of Australia's rising militarism and escalation of tensions with China. This is an aggressive escalation by Australia that increases the likelihood of a catastrophic war between major powers, and only deepens Australia's military alliance with the US. Despite what the media and the ruling class have been arguing, AUKUS is not about warding off a military threat from China. As even Paul Keating has shown, without the US alliance, China is no threat to Australia. Without the US and Australia's aggressive war mongering there is almost no chance of a Chinese invasion of Australia. The US has military bases spread throughout the Asia-Pacific region, and conducts frequent naval exercises off the coast. If China did any of these things it would be seen as a cause for invasion. However, by signing this pact, the likelihood of a hot war with China is increasingly likely.

Students unions have a proud history of fighting back against imperialism and militarism. During the Vietnam War, students at Flinders University housed draft dodgers in their Union House. Students were the heart of the protest movement against the war and against conscription. Adelaide Uni was the base of large vibrant protests and the moratorium movement that saw thousands protesting in Adelaide. Internationally, the anti-war movement, built by students culminated in US and Australian soldiers mutinying, and making the war unfightable. The student anti-war movement was a crucial part of ending the war.

These lessons matter today, when our university is a key site for the war industry. We provide research into building fighter jets and guided missile systems for Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and BAE Systems, just to name a few. Graduates get funneled into careers in war industries, and the university directly invests in weapons manufacturers. We know that AUKUS necessitates the ramping up of research and skilled graduates for the war industry. The government has long been attempting to make South Australia the "defence state" of the country. This gives us a special responsibility to fight back to stem the tide of militarism.

AUKUS will cost Australia at least \$368 billion. This is at a time when workers and students are being told to tighten our belts. The cost of living crisis is spiraling out of control, while wages have declined sharply and welfare payments stagnate. The government is arguing that we must accept diminishing living standards to stop inflation and "reckless spending." The government is enforcing a wage cap on public sector workers, and refusing to raise welfare payments while giving \$254 billion in tax cuts to the rich, but somehow can afford billions of dollars worth of death machines. What we do with wealth is political. Every cent of this should be put back into rebuilding the public services and social safety net workers won in the past. This should be spent on stopping the ramping crisis, building public housing, raising the rate of welfare, and giving nurses a pay rise.

The nuclear submarines will also produce nuclear waste. Australia has a rotten history of killing Aboriginal people and destroying Aboriginal land with nuclear weapons. During the Cold War the Australian and British military tested nuclear bombs at Maralinga in Woomera, killing people living there and causing illness and decreased life expectancy of people in the region for generations. One proposal for the AUKUS nuclear waste is to further attack the Aboriginal community of Woomera by poisoning their land with radioactive waste again. In South Australia, activists have a proud history of fighting against nuclear waste dumps. The

Weatherill Labor government tried to open a high level nuclear waste dump on Aboriginal land. We organised a large campaign where thousands came out to fight the proposal, and won. We need to continue this proud history of standing against the nuclear industry in South Australia.

The SRC:

- The SRC opposes the imperialistic AUKUS pact, and calls for Australia to cease rising tensions with China.
- The SRC acknowledges that Australia and the US are acting as aggressors by ramping up military spending.
- The SRC supports the \$368 billion being spent on stopping the ramping crisis, building public housing, raising the rate of welfare, and giving nurses a pay rise, rather than on building weapons for the Australian war machine.
- The SRC accepts the need to fight against militarism, nuclear waste and the drive to war.

Action Points:

- The SRC will share a statement outlining the preamble and demands above on social media.
- The SRC supports future protests and campaign actions against AUKUS.

Item 8.2 Reject Labor's Greenwashing Safeguard Mechanism – James Wood

Preamble:

The federal Labor government has released details on its reforms to the 'safeguard mechanism', essentially a rehashing of an instrument developed by the Abbott Liberal Government. The proposed changes will supposedly contribute towards the target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 43% by 2030. A closer look at the safeguard mechanism reveals that it is a shameful greenwashing scam.

This safeguard mechanism only applies to Australia's top 215 polluters that emit more than 100,000 tonnes of carbon each year. They are required to restrict emissions to a facility-specific baseline. This baseline will decline by 4.9% each year, which will theoretically compel emissions reductions at the same rate. Yet, Labor's reforms retain all the features that allowed emissions at facilities covered by the safeguard mechanism to increase by 7% each year.

Fossil fuel companies are allowed an **unlimited** use of the carbon credit scheme that essentially allows them to operate as usual by buying off their obligations and strike off tonnes of carbon that they never actually cut. Moreover, the entire scheme of carbon offsets is 'largely a sham' as the whistle-blower, Andrew Macintosh, who headed the committee for emissions reductions under the Coalition, revealed last year. Furthermore, the safeguard mechanism is not enforceable on the total amount of emissions produced by a fossil fuel company. The mechanism only counts emissions that facilities produce during extraction/production. Left out of this is where the bulk of the emissions lie: the export of Australian fossil fuels abroad. This is clear greenwashing as Australia exports 74% of its gas and 85% of its coal.

Therefore, it is no surprise that these reforms have been backed with enthusiasm by giant polluters like Rio Tinto, BHP and Woodside. The Albanese government is fully committed to supporting the climate criminals who are profiting off of the destruction of our planet. It's clear that the safeguard mechanism is more greenwashing to cover up Labor's actual massive expansion of fossil fuels through approving over 100 new coal, oil, and gas projects.

The Greens also deserve criticism for so far not opposing this sham of a policy in its entirety and so far offering nothing but compromise on the climate in parliament. Adam Bandt has stated that the Greens' opposition to new fossil fuel projects "was an offer, not an ultimatum." Now is not the time for compromising with the climate criminals and their political servants. The Greens need to block the bill in parliament and expose Labor's climate policy for what it is. The resources and platform at their disposal should be used to build a mass movement for climate action that can fight against the fossil fuel bosses. Workers and students have nothing to gain from the destruction of the environment. It is the rich who have benefited from causing this climate catastrophe. In order to fund a just transition to a renewables based economy, we must tax the rich. More importantly, we have to embark on a new strategy for change. One that involves applying real pressure to the fossil fuel bosses from below, not handing them gifts like the safeguard mechanism.

The SRC:

5. Opposes the safeguard mechanism as greenwashing effort and a gift to the fossil fuel industry.
6. Opposes all new fossil fuel projects.
7. Supports taxing the rich to fund a just transition to renewables and reparations for victims of climate disasters.
8. Supports the building of a mass movement to fight for climate action.

Action Points:

3. The SRC will upload a public statement condemning Labor's safeguard mechanism bill as a political windfall for big polluters that obscures Labor's real expansion of carbon pollution
4. The SRC commits to seriously challenging the federal Labor government's climate inaction through supporting future protests and actions

Appendix 1: Minutes of the Previous Meeting (15 March 2023)

1. Procedural Matters

Georgia Thomas opened the meeting at 6:38pm.

1.1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

Georgia Thomas acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.

1.2. Attendance

Georgia Thomas, Grace Franco, Rafael Aquino, Anjali Malhotra, Daniel Garcia Zapata, Yuka Maruyama, Yeganeh Soltanpour, Hamish McNamara (late), Sebastian Thompson, Mutaher Ishaque, Billy Zimmermann, Simranjeet Singh Dahia, Merlin Wang, Lani Bushnell, Leila Clendon, James Wood, Tom Zhai, Ruby Stewart, Veronica Yang (late), Jia Ming Lai

1.3. Apologies

Tony Tu, Sana Vohra, Jack Butcher

1.4. Absent:

Agastya Mudgal

1.5. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: that the agenda as circulated be adopted.

Moved: Merlin Wang

Second: Tom Zhai

Motion carried

1.6. Welcome

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Recommendation: That the SRC accept the minutes of the meeting on the 1st February 2023 as a true and accurate record (Appendix 1).

Moved: Anjali Malhotra

Second: Merlin Wang

Motion carried

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

None submitted from previous minutes

4. Correspondence

None submitted

5. New Members

None submitted

6. Motions on Notice

None submitted

7. Office Bearer Reports

Georgia handed the chair to Grace at 6:40pm

7.1. President – Georgia Thomas

Georgia delivered her report.

Motion:

1. The SRC commits to hosting a student consultation for Roseworthy Campus students
2. The SRC will budget funds for some food and beverages for students in attendance
3. All SRC members will need to provide either confirmation or apology of their attendance at the event.

Moved: Georgia Thomas **Second:** Merlin Wang **Motion carried**

Georgia outlined that the specific executive will have discretion as to the exact amount of money spent on this event, and that it will not go over \$500.

Veronica entered the room at 6:46pm

Further to her report, Georgia highlighted that reports should not be verbal outlining the need for transparency and accountability. She wants to make it to needing to ask for a verbal report.

Lani suggested papers should be sent out before 24 hours before meeting. She outlined constitution says 2 days. Yeganeh agreed, saying the night before is too late to properly consider the papers. Georgia stated she has reached out to General Secretary to discuss the need for papers to be sent out on time.

Georgia also mentioned she had received two resignations, from Jack Butcher (postgrad) and Mutaher (Social Justice).

Grace handed the chair back to Georgia at 6:52pm

7.2. Welfare Officer – Rafael Aquino

Rafael delivered his report

Motion:

The SRC empowers the Welfare Officer to co-sign the ACOSS Open Letter calling on the Government to Raise the Rate on behalf of the SRC.

Leila agreed with the motion, stating that the low rate of welfare payments are disgusting, even before cost of living crisis.

Moved: Rafael Aquino **Second:** Grace Franco **Motion carried**
unanimously

7.3. Women's Officer – Anjali Malhotra

Anjali delivered report.

7.4. Environment Officer – Sebastian Thomas

Sebastian delivered report

James, Leila, Grace and Hamish ask questions.

In response to the questions, Sebastian expanded on his consultation with EcoVersity and outlined that further to his report he has been in contact with the University about the Sustainability Strategy. Georgia noted that communications with the University should be outlined in reports.

Hamish entered room at 7:10pm

Passed chair to Grace at 7:12pm

Georgia said that as there is no information on Veteran Affairs from the University, Sebastian could work towards making this an educational campaign rather than one post. Georgia moved to table this motion. Sebastian is not amenable. Motion to table the meeting goes to a vote.

Motion:

To table the motion in Sebastians report (below).

Moved: Georgia Thomas **Seconded:** Rafael Aquinio **Motion carried**

Motion:

SRC to support veteran students' awareness of their legal rights.

Action:

Sharing the Defence Reserve Service protection act in referral to part 7 which outlines educational rights and conditions.

Motion tabled.

Grace handed the chair back to Georgia at 7:20

7.5. Ethno-Cultural Officer – Sana Vohra

Taken as read – apology

7.6. Rural Officer – Hamish McNamara

Hamish delivered his report.

Questions from Merlin and Lani.

7.7. Mature Age Officer – Tony Tu

Taken as read – apology

7.8. Waite Officer – Merlin Wang

Merlin delivered his verbal report (a copy of his report was projected to the screen).

Merlin had two motions in his report which were not accepted by the Chair as there was not sufficient time to consider these motions.

Grace said that it was inappropriate for Merlin to put photos of fellow council members in his report, particularly attached to a motion of condemnation. This sentiment was supported by Leila, James and Yeganeh. Hamish highlighted that if Merlin is aiming to be “more productive than over political” then he should not talk about specific political factions in his report.

Sebastian left the meeting at 7:37pm

Simran left the meeting at 7:45pm

8. General Business

8.1. Support French workers on strike.

Leila spoke in support of the motion.

Daniel and James also spoke to the motion.

Georgia passed the chair to Grace at 7:50pm

Georgia spoke on the motion outlining the post should relate back to the Australian retirement system. Merlin and James questioned if Georgia was moving amendment. She was not.

Grace passed the chair to Georgia at 7:52pm

The SRC:

1. Condemns the Macron government’s plans to increase the retirement age from 62 to 64.
2. Fully supports French workers striking and protesting to protect their living standards.

Action Points:

1. The SRC will take a photo of solidarity with French workers at the end of the meeting and will post it to the SRC facebook page along with a solidarity statement condemning the plans of the Macron government.

Moved: Leila Clendon

Second: Hamish McNamara

Motion carried

9. Emergent Business

9.1 Casual Vacancy

Motion:

1. The SRC open casual vacancies.

Moved: Rafael Aquino

Second: Anjali Malhotra

Motion carried

9.2 Harmony Day

It was noted that Sana proposed this motion after submissions were closed.

Motion:

1. The SRC will take a phot in support of Harmony Day.

Moved: Hamish McNamara

Second: Rafael Aquino

Motion carried unanimously

James noted dissent in the Chairs decision to reject the emergent business in relation to AUKUS as is it a current topic. He highlighted that urgent business shouldn't be able to be rejected, as the point of emergent business is that it's urgent. Leila also noted her dissent.

Meeting closed 8:02pm