

Student Council Meeting Agenda Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015

# Flinders University Student Council Meeting Agenda of the Meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

Meeting Room, Flinders University Student Association. 6:00pm

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- 1. Welcome and meeting open
- 2. Apologies:
- 3. Welcome guests
- 4. Accept Minutes from previous meeting

I move that Student Council accept the minutes from September. – General Secretary

## 5. Reports

# 5.1. President's Report

September has continued to be a busy month with numerous meetings. As the completion of the Student Hub development gets closer the University is in full swing getting ready for the big move back into the redeveloped space. Of course this has huge implications for FUSA and student services in general.

Unfortunately discussions about the news space between the University and myself have been somewhat disrupted by a number of changes currently occurring in the senior university executive. Hopefully these transitions will not result in misunderstandings or conflicts next year in regards to how the spaces are allocated and used. Student access to services continues to be an issue, particular after-hours access- we need to ensure the new space is student-friendly, which means including 24 hour access to study areas.

## **Exploitation of Students (placements and causal work)**

Getting a job as a young person in Adelaide today is bloody hard. Unemployment is high - and increasing – and youth unemployment much worse. When jobs are found they are frequently under-paid, tenuous, and inconvenient for students.

For some international students the reality is even worse again – with employers paying a cash pittance in exchange for silence on breeching visa conditions. The student employment market is a free-for-all for many employers and this is a state of affairs that student associations should oppose and take seriously.

We are all familiar with students taking those dodgy cash-in-hand-jobs, minus our lawful entitlements, as we desperately try to earn whilst we learn.

## Placements, internships and practicums

Students in many courses the added responsibility of being compelled to take unpaid student 'placements', 'practicums' or 'internships' which can add up to many hundreds of unpaid

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labour. It's increasingly obvious that many industries actually rely on this unpaid work to maintain their bottom lines, or bolster profits.

As a Social Work student myself I thought it was bad enough in the social work area (where students must do hundreds of hours of free work for the sector), however recent media reports suggest law firms have taken this rip off a step further. Some firms have started a practice of students actually having to pay for post-graduation intern places with the winner being the highest bid. What the hell is going on? This free-for-all, this flagrant exploitation should stop immediately.

# Recent action by students to protest exploitation

I salute young Melbourne retail worker – and Monash University student - Kahlani Pyrah and her fellow workers at the burger franchise *Grill'd* who recently decided to take a stand against the free-for-all attitude of their board members and shareholders. At *Grill'd* the company presided over workers with low pay, zero overtime pay and an overzealous work regime of unfair hard work.

It all started when one of Kahlani's workmate's was fired for drinking a Gatorade. The young *Grill'd* workers, all of whom are students, investigated their enterprise agreement (workplace 'contract') and found that not only did the sacking constitute an unfair dismissal, but they were *all* being payed well below the minimum wage.

Angered by their situation Kahlani organized a meeting of her co-workers, where they soon organised some union resistance, but as a consequence of their collective organising for basic wages and conditions, Kahlani was singled-out and sacked. Instead of being intimidated, the young workers rallied around Kahlani and with the support of their union, United Voice, launched legal action and a public campaign to shame *Grill'd*.

The campaign by the young workers at *Grill'd* created a media storm because what they were standing up against was happening to everyone in the hospitality industry. *Grill'd* have now been forced to sign a new agreement with improved wages and conditions. In the words of Kahlani she hopes their win will "lead to more young workers being empowered to stand up for their rights as well."

In recent days another student, Priya De from the Australian National University, has taken on her employer Crust Pizza- and won back-pay for fellow employees for unfair work practices. Priya was supported by her union, United Voice-ACT.

## **Exploiting international student labor**

The free-for-all exploitation of desperate students extends to our fellow students who have come from overseas on study visas. Faced with outrageous upfront fees and highly inflated

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accommodation costs, many international students are forced to look for available work whilst studying in Australia. Add visa restrictions to that mix and you have the perfect situation for another employer free-for-all. Low-paid work, dangerous work, late nights, or employers refusing to pay wages at all are more common than we would like to think.

Recently a joint ABC Four Corners and Fairfax media investigation concluded that Australia's 7-Eleven franchise network made its profits purely by exploiting international students and in many cases paying them half the minimum wage. Journalists quoted a 7-eleven insider who insisted that the convenience store empire was built on conditions not terribly different to slavery.

Student unions should support all students' efforts to improve our wages and conditions, and break the restrictive prescriptions of study visas, which only allow employers an opportunity to bribe, blackmail or intimidate international student workers. The Grill'd and Crust Pizza workers' efforts to stand up for themselves are an arrow pointing in a more hopeful direction.

## 5.2. General Secretary Report

# **Bank Account Position: 31 August 2015**

Flinders University Student Association	Opening Balance	18,636.09
National Australia Bank, Bank Account	Total Debits	278.24
As at 30/08/2015	Total Credits	15,000.00
	Closing Balance	3,914.33

## Inflow/Outflow transactions

\*Note: This statement includes outstanding transactions

Transaction Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
1/08/2015	Balance (c/d)			18,636.09
	Transfer to NUS - 2015 Affiliation			
	Fees*		15,000.00	3,636.09
31/08/2015	Deposit (Construction Party Ticket			
	Sales)*	175.00		
31/08/2015	Paypal Balance (Job Listings)*	103.24		3,914.33
31/08/2015	Closing Balance			3,914.33

## Clubs and Societies

Much of my month was spent on planning and executing the clubs and societies subcommittee meeting, which discussed primarily the relationship between FUSA and clubs, and club funding. Adam Rau and myself will be continuing to follow up these issues and liaise with the clubs.

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I have also spent time reviewing the FUSA constitution and club constitutions as part of resolving an issue with a breach of constitution by a club. This issue has been resolved by Adam, myself, and the club involved, and I will not include the details of the issue in this report. SC members may converse with me at their leisure if they find their curiosity overwhelms them

# Higher Education – and fighting the new Turnbull government

The new government has announced that they have temporarily dropped plans for fee deregulation – a victory for the student campaign. However, it's clear that Turnbull doesn't have any genuine concern for students. The Liberals made fee deregulation their line in the sand, and they didn't expect the kind of resistance they encountered. The policy effectively became a barrier to their ability to introduce other anti-worker, anti-student policies, but the Liberals couldn't ditch it without it being very obvious that they'd suffered a big loss. The change in Liberal leadership unfortunately provided them with the best possible opportunity to ditch the legislation without it seeming like a defeat. It's great that fee dereg has been dropped, but it's important to see that it's only temporary, and that the Liberals have been able to drop it on the best possible terms for themselves.

Alongside the Environment Officer, Student President, and NUS State Education Officer, I organized a media stunt outside the new education minister Simon Birmingham's office. The stunt was intended to highlight ongoing opposition to fee deregulation, and continuity between the Abbott and Turnbull governments. It was successful, we had coverage in the Australian and channel 7.

# Racism

Still the same deal as my last report – racism is still a student issue, despite the opinions of others on Student Council. For the past two months I've been running a campus campaign to have scholarships introduced for refugee students. This has been met with much support, and also lots of racist abuse, which clearly illustrates the need for the university to take a public stand against racist anti-refugee sentiment by offering scholarships. I have prepared a motion to endorse my campaign which is included in the agenda.

## **5.3.** Education Officer Report

## **School Association Project**

Over the past month, I have continued the arduous task of setting up and solidifying representative structures across the University. I have met up with the President of ASIS (International Studies) surrounding some controversy over a recent pub crawl. We also talked

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about the formal process surrounding the project and how discussions between the association and the Dean were going.

I followed up with the Thinking CaPS (Chemical and Physical Sciences) to clarify the project and have a meaningful discussion around the association's progress. A few key themes emerged, such as the need for more club support and training.

I was able to finally secure a meeting with the President of Flinders Medical Student Society – who do fantastic work in the School of Medicine. Unfortunately they do not represent the entire cohort of students in the school and thus, cannot classify as a School Association (this is the same case with the Law School). The President of FMSS was open to the idea of moving forward to create a School of Medicine Association – however this will need to be comprehensively discussed in the future.

# #StopLomborg

The Stop Lomborg campaign at Flinders has continued to develop over the last month. I have continued extensive work in having conversations with key personnel involved in the situation. I have been pushing various networks to help support the Flinders campaign, trying to save the University's reputation. We have been inundated with support from new Green's Senator, Rob Simms. Senator Sims has already pledged support through social media and I have met up with him and his staff to discuss this discussion. I thank the Senator for his support.

I rallied half a dozen students and attending the University Council meeting in opposition to Lomborg coming to Flinders. I participated in a discussion on ABC 891 surrounding this conversation, giving an alternative argument to the one presented by Flinders VC, Colin Stirling. We have also received a number of articles covering the campaign thanks to support from 'external lobbying'.

Simon Birmingham has come out in support of the 4million dollars pledged to the University who is willing to collaborate with this figure. This would suggest the fight is far from over and that the campaign needs to continue in order to stop this outrageous proposal. I would urge Student Council to become more actively involved in the campaign.

## **Buildings and Properties**

Following last Student Council meeting, I met up with David Banks and Shane Jennings from the department of Buildings and Properties. The discussion was centred on the appalling car parking situation currently experienced at Flinders. There are many avenues of improvement available to the University if only they embrace as open mind as they did with Lomborg. I was mildly satisfied to hear an 'app' was being developed to help students locate available parks.

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The other major discussion point was around the Student Bar. I am still of the opinion that the bar should be student run, for students. Who knows what students want more than students do? Unfortunately this is not how the department perceives this. They have insisted on pursuing an external, commercial vendor to run the bar. I would like it on the record **right now** that the student voice has been ignored. Buildings and Properties have been warned over the risk of the investment in the student bar failing, due to not listening to what the student body wants. The student body want a bar that suits the culture of the campus. A bar that can adapt to the culture of the campus. The only way to succinctly fulfil this wish is to give the control of the bar over to the Student Union. It is on the record that Buildings and Properties are held accountable should the bar flop next year, due to this massive oversight.

## **National Student Leadership Forum**

I was fortunate enough to attend the NSLF with Social-Activies Officer, Simone Jowett. It was an incredibly enriching and worthwhile experience.

We were treated exceptionally well (compared to usually University life), dining in Parliament house, visiting the War Memorial and having the opportunity to give back to the community through a 'backyard blitz'. A range of keynote speakers gave speeches of various topics and meaning. It was interesting to hear from people with such rich history and experience ranging from the Prime Minister, local members of Parliament and the Governor General through to each other's personal tales and experiences.

The NSLF is a very personal and deep 4 day event. It is hard to sum up the exact forum in a small section of report. It is very dependent of the type of person who attends and what they are willing to embrace and consciously choose to get out of the experience.

## 5.4. Environment Officer Report – none received

Spent hours helping out on the BBQ for the parking survey and talking with students about environment and campus issues. I've also been having a series of meetings with students throughout the mid-semester break around various issues. While many students are still aware of the Lomborg issue, it seems that the majority of the energy against it is gone. The combination of delaying by the university and misleading statements and information sessions has basically been successful, though the same cannot be said for the staff involved, who still appear to be quite vocally against the deal. Another issue is that there was a recent freedom of information claim which revealed that the Abbott govt. prepared an investigation into the bureau of meterorology, due to its reporting of temperature changes. A government advisor in an article in The Australian deemed this temperature reporting to be "willfully ignoring evidence that contradicts its own propaganda". This fits rather neatly into the same tactic as lomborg being brought to flinders: since the science doesn't fit with what business and the government want, we can remove that pesky obstacle by installing a pro-coal

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ideologue in a university, or making absurd claims of data fudging to try and prompt an audit (read: cuts) to a department. More recently there has also been more talk of Volkswagen cheating emissions tests. It would be a significant victory if the company is actually fined any substantial sum. But the more worrisome thing is that the offending cars wouldn't even fail the emissions test in Australia. The regulations on emissions are significantly more lax here than both Europe's and the United States', apparently leaving us exposed to rather dangerous levels of nitrous oxides. The other big issues to come up were penalty rates, which obviously a great many students rely on for income, and the hub next year. I have spent hours discussing these issues with students to gauge student opinion on campus. I also played a role in helping the General Secretary organise a PR stunt around fee deregulation at the new Education Minister's Office, which was a success.

## 5.5. Queer Officer Report – none received

# 5.6. Womens Officer Report

- General administration
  - Updated Women's Collective Facebook page
  - o Responded to student email queries
  - o Spoke with students on campus about the women's collective
- Promoted the NUS Talk About It Survey South Australia
- Promoted the Car Parking Survey
- Contacted speakers for upcoming Anti-Poverty: Women in Poverty seminar
- Contacted Yarrow Place to organise another training session on October 30, following the success of the last session
- Assisted student with advocacy and discrimination issue on campus
- Meeting with concerned students regarding sexual harassment at pub crawls and possible strategies to overcome

## 5.7. International Officer Report – none received

Met the president of FUMA (Flinders Uni Muslim Association) and discussed about their request for spacious prayer room at Flinders University Main Campus (2 hours);

Attended Super Tuesday at Biological school (2.5 hours);

Contacted and met separately with subcommittee member to discuss some activities for the rest of the year (2 hours);

Email correspondence and online chat with some of the presidents of student associations to catch up; and organized a meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss and follow various issues regarding international students (3 hours);

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Met with one of international student who struggling with her placement (nursing student) and financial crisis; and assisted her to FUSA's services (student assist) (2 hours).

# 5.8. Welfare Officer Report

**RU OK Day:** This event went really well and had a good turn out. Students got through mountains of pizza, engaged with the positive mental health activity, and enjoyed the live music. Many students also took Health and Counseling resources and some sought help.

**Welfare Collective:** This month I have given the welfare collective another push. I have recruited more students and set up a meeting.

Mental Health Week: Much of my month has been collaborating with Health and Counseling to plan Mental Health Week. This year in Australia, WMHD has three objectives: 1. Encourage help seeking behavior; 2. Reduce the stigma associated with mental illness; 3. Foster connectivity throughout communities. The 2015 WMHD campaign aims to achieve these goals by encouraging people to take personal ownership of their own mental health and wellbeing. At Flinders Mental Health Week will run 11-1 Wednesday (Sturt), Thursday (Oasis), Friday (Humanities Courtyard). Activities will include: Post your personal mental health promise – online or on our wall; Free Succulents; Decorate and take a gingerbread man; Bicycle smoothies; Colouring mandala pages and a big surprise on the Wednesday and Friday!

**Planning the resource boxes:** I have been researching and speaking to processionals about what to include in these. I have also spoken to Steph about branding them so that students know that FUSA has provided them.

#### Hours:

1/9/15: Working to establish subcommittee; mandalas for Mental Health Day; contacting social work, med, health, nursing, psych, and gym; and responding to emails.

2/9/15: Getting flyers done up for Welfare Collective; doing up boxes for conversation corners in libraries for RU OK Day; making up box of FUSA resources for Vic Square's RU OK Day; organizing for pizza and cupcakes for RU OK Day.

3/9/15: Organizing food and people to help out for RU OK Day;

Responding to student emails; and Working on the Welfare Collective.

4/9/15: Meeting w Ben (counselor) re Mental Health Week, speaking to Rosalie re ginger bread men for Mental Health Week, and replying to student emails.

7/9/15: Emails re RU OK Day, emails re Welfare Collective, replying to student emails,

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emails re FUSA's free yoga.

8/9/15: Stacey re RU OK Day orders, replying to student emails, Wendy and Maureen re FUSA's free yoga after the mid semester break.

10/9/15: RU OK Day; Welfare Collective recruiting; Steph re resource boxes; and scheduling Welfare Collective meeting.

16/9/15: replying to student emails; RU OK Day debrief; and contacting the Therapy Dog people re Mental Health Week.

22/9/15: Emails re therapy dogs and Mental Health Week.

24/9/15: phone meeting with Ben re Mental Health Week planning and replying to student emails.

25/9/15: Ben re Mental Health Week; Steph re poster, flyers, and Facebook event for Mental Health Week; Wendy re fun run.

28/9/15: Organising Welfare Collective meeting; booking rooms; replying to student emails; organising to poster; and Ben re Mental Health Week.

29/9/15: phone meeting with Ben re Mental Health Week; emails re Mental Health Week; organising gingerbread men and therapy dogs; and putting up posters.

30/9/15: Phone call with therapy dogs manager; and phone call Ben re Mental Health Week.

## 5.9. Social Activities Officer Report – none received

# 5.10. Accessibility Officer Report – none received

## 5.11. Post-Grad Officer Report

Post Grad Speaking Event and Dinner with Dr. Joshua Newman Wed Sept 19<sup>th</sup>

Set up (power point, room set up) 2 hours

Event (speaking plus q and a with professor) 3 hours

Clean up 2 hours

Subcommittee Meeting to Discuss Flinders Post Graduate Alumni Group/Facebook Page, Post Graduate Association Elections, and Upcoming Event **2 hours** 

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Began working on the Flinders Post Graduate Alumni Group/Facebook Page (emails, sign ups, page design etc.) This has included correspondence with my subcommittee members to gather members and address issues. **3 hours** 

I also have been continuing with email updates for my post graduate mailing list and answering students' questions about events, FUSA elections, and post graduate affairs. I am also still in the process of planning the dance event with James Kilpatrick although I may change the theme due to some issues that have come up.

## 5.12. Indigenous Officer Report

 $\underline{8^{th}\ Sept}$  – Wrote for Black Nations Rising – an independent First Nations international magazine

<u>15<sup>th</sup> Sept</u> – Discussion with FISA president about using club funds for a pre-exam social event and was decided that we can fund 13 Indigenous students to attend the FUSA Ball this year (have already paid our tickets). <sup>☉</sup>

23<sup>rd</sup> Sept – Spoke at the Yunggorendi open day for South Australian high school students

 $\underline{24^{th}-25^{th}~Sept}$  – Acknowledgement of country and attendance at the Gender Transgressions post-graduate conference

 $\underline{29^{th}-30^{th}~Sept}$  – Attendance at the NIRAKN & NATSIHEC National Indigenous Research Conference

Over the past month I have also met with Yunggorendi about FUSA elections and we are happy to have supported Alfred Lowe who has been elected unopposed for Indigenous Students Officer in 2016.

## **5.13. General Member Reports**

I believe I have done the necessary hours for my honorarium to be paid up to and including October.

While I have not kept accurate timesheets to the hour of my time spent doing my duties I think I have met the hourly requirements when you consider:

- Hours from previous months that carry over
- My work recently with the rebranding committee
- Helping on Super Tuesday
- Participating in the #StopLomborg campaign

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- Attended the first meeting regarding the car park survey
- Participation and organisation surrounding the NDA and the America Themed event we had here at Flinders.

## 5.14. MSE Report

# Manager Student Engagement - Update - OCTOBER 2015

## **FUSA Staff**

Administrative Assistant

Paul Harrison resigned from this role and Emily Campbell has stepped in whilst we wait to advertise the role.

## **Student Radio**

I have been working towards the appointment of a Student Radio Coordinator. I have completed a draft Position Description. Human Resources have further questions about the role and in particular, the role of the students in the project i.e. the Student Directors and other student volunteers who will be involved in the broadcasting and administration of the station. This has slowed progress. As usual, I will keep Student Council informed of progress.

## **FUSA Rebrand and Website**

Now that the Rebrand is now complete, the Media Officer and media staff have begun auditing the FUSA website with the view of making changes to the menu structure and look and feel. It is most likely that we will contract a website designer to assist us in this process to ensure that we have a new, effective and intuitive website by the beginning of 2016.

## 2015 SSAF Survey & Budget Process

In partnership with Planning Services, I provided the oversight and analysis of the 2015 SSAF Survey. The Survey was open for one week from Monday August 24 to Monday the August 31.

Every student who is required to pay the SSAF (21,485 students) received an email inviting them to complete the survey. As an incentive, students were informed that if they completed the survey, they would go into a draw to win one of five \$50 Unibook vouchers. 1,289 students participated in the survey, which is approximately a 6% response rate.

The survey report will be tabled at the first meeting of the SSAF Budget Advisory Committee on the 7th of October to assist in the deliberation regarding the allocation of SSAF funding. I will forward the report to Student Council.

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## **Student Representation Review**

Myself, the Student Representation and Development Officer and Education Officer are travelling to Sydney in late October for a workshop outlining a project being led by Professor Sally Varnham, Faculty of Law, University of Technology Sydney. This is an Office of Learning and Teaching Strategic Priority Commissioned Project called 'Student engagement in university decision making and governance - towards a more systemically inclusive student voice'.

Kate and I have made contact with Professor Varnham and have discussed the prospect of collaborating with her and her team to assist us in our review of student representation mechanisms here at Flinders and the adoption of best practice to ensure that the student voice is present, effective and meaningful at all levels of the University. I will keep Student Council updated with how this progresses.

**Student Assist Activity Report for September** – Prepared by the Team Leader, Student Assist

# Casework

The number of students requesting assistance from Student Assist (SA) has decreased from 93 to 40 new cases that were opened in August due to semester break falling within the reporting period.

The SAO's and SFAO have assisted with a total of 54 issues comprising Emergency Financial Assistance (18%), Second Semester Grants (14%), Review of Student Progress (10%) and Financial Counselling (10%).

The Second Semester Grant (SSG) process was finalised with total grant valued at \$59,000. Students who applied for General SSG received grants to the value of \$500.00 each. A total of 59 students were successful recipients.

Students who applied for the Nepalese Students SSG scheme received grants to the value of \$1578 each. A total of 19 students secured a grant.

Student Assist continues to see a large number of Nepalese students applying for Emergency Financial Assistance as grants were mostly geared to assist this cohort of students meet their next Tuition Fee Instalment. Many students still do not have funds for general living expenses and are seeking FUSA assistance.

Ongoing trends include an unusually high number of students utilising the final internal appeal mechanism i.e. Student Appeals Committee through the Student Policy and Projects office. Appeals include academic integrity in Law and from a large cohort of Nursing



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students. This has led to scheduled meeting next month with Manager, Student Policy and Projects addressing concerns from his office re the number and nature of appeals.

In addition, 10 students have contacted the Student Assist general email address for assistance. Both Academic enquiries and queries re Second Semester Grants comprised 30% of the email correspondence maintained via the Student Assist general email address. Only 20% of the enquiries resulted in an either an appointment or advice to make an appointment with a Student Assist staff, reflecting the triage nature of this service.

Students using this medium of communication with Student Assist were chiefly domestic (80%) and female (60%).

# Meetings/Communications

- 10<sup>th</sup> September: participation at RUOK day

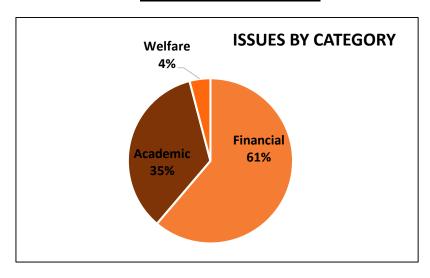
## **Policy**

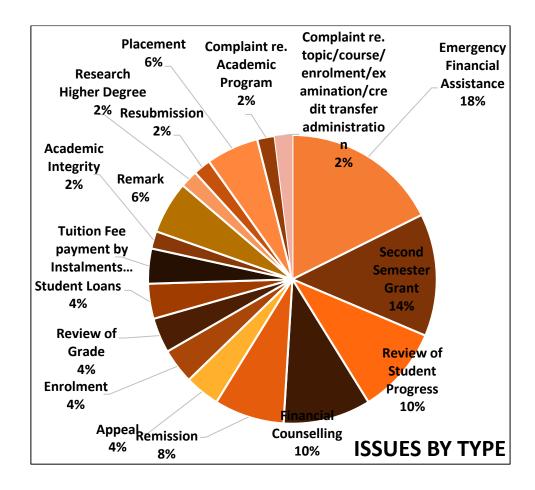
- Position statement on Assessment policy review submitted
- Doctor of Medicine review to be submitted in October

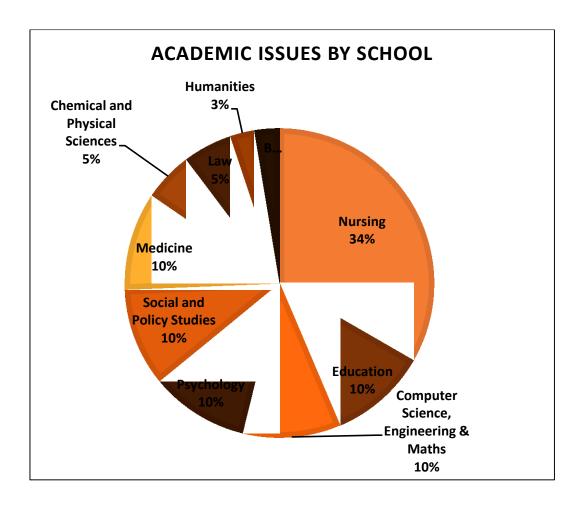
# **Professional Development**

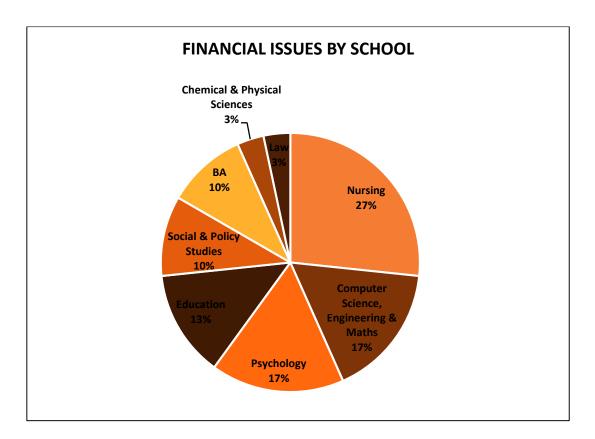
- ISANA professional development day
- Credit law training (online): SFAO

## **CASEWORK ANALYSIS**









## 6. Matters for Decision

## 6.1. Women's Officer Budget Proposal – Riana Cermak

Motion: That Student Council approve \$200 for catering for Yarrow Place Training session.

## 6.2. Asylum seeker scholarship – Grace Hill

Sickening and outrageous reports continue to emerge from Australia's concentration camps on Nauru and Manus Island. Refugees have reported continual sexual harassment, with women forced to show the guards their bodies for the right to bathe. Two women in the camps have recently been raped, and one is now pregnant. Visiting doctors have reported that women refugees are not allowed more than one pad or tampon at a time, and no refugee is allowed more than 6 squares of toilet paper at a time. These conditions are sick and deliberately dehumanizing. Unfortunately both Liberal and Labor continue to justify this treatment by painting refugees as a security risk. Flinders should be standing up against this sickness.

Motion: That Student Council's position be that Flinders should be taking a public stand against racism by offering a minimum of two scholarships per year to students of refugee backgrounds. These scholarships should cover the cost of a degree, and any

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additional English language or similar supplementary programs which the students may require in order to complete the degree. These scholarships should be announced publicly.

## 6.3. Turnbull – Grace Hill

The demise of Tony Abbott at the hands of Malcolm Turnbull has opened a new phase in Australian politics.

It is too early to tell what the full set of consequences of Turnbull's party room victory will be, but we can see that there is considerably more at stake politically in the removal of Abbott as PM than there was in the Rudd and Gillard merry-go-round in the ALP.

Hopes have been raised among the business establishment, large sections of the media and the voting public more generally, that Malcolm Turnbull can transform and modernise Australian politics. Turnbull is a snake in the grass.

He's got the backing of pretty much all sections of big business and of the economic commentators who had given up on Abbott. They have rushed forward with their usual long wish list, demanding handouts to business and the rich, attacks on workers' rights, cuts to social spending and an increase in the GST. His agenda is the same as Abbott's, but he's less ham-fisted, and he has the advantage of not being Tony Abbott. This means that it's no longer a feasible strategy for Shorten to rely on not being Tony Abbott. The ALP will now be under more pressure to articulate a clear policy alternative, however the party's commitment to neoliberalism severely constrains its ability to set a program that could enthuse its working class voter base.

It looks like, at this stage, Turnbull is proving effective at neutralising his political opposition. Students and student unions need to attack the Turnbull government on a serious political basis, even though deregulation has been (temporarily) dropped.

Motion: I move that the Student Council take the position that Turnbull is bad for students, and bad for the working class. His agenda is fundamentally the same as Abbott's was – to increase the share of wealth going to corporate profits, to decrease the share going to workers, and to sabotage working and living conditions for ordinary people. FUSA is committed to fighting against the Turnbull government, and rejects all of Turnbull's pretensions of being socially progressive.

## 6.4. Motion to change election regulations – Jack Harrison

Move to amend 11.8(g) so it now reads:

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# When there is a tie,

- i. regard shall be had to the total number of votes credited to those candidates at the end of the most recently preceding stage of the count at which they had an unequal number of votes and the candidate with the lowest number of votes at that stage shall be excluded; and
- ii. where the number of votes credited to those candidates was equal at all stages, the returning officer shall decide, by lot, which of those candidates is to be excluded.

## 6.5. FUSA supports all efforts by students to improve wages – James Vigus

Motion: FUSA supports all efforts by students to improve wages and conditions in the workplace.

FUSA supports dropping all restrictive study visa conditions that allow employers an opportunity to bride, blackmail and intimidate international students.

FUSA invites SA Unions to participate at O week 2016. This will mean providing a table free of charge for SA unions to promote to students why joining a Trade union is important protection against employer exploitation.

# 6.6. FUSA Opposes unpaid student placement/internships/practicums – James Vigus

Too often for a professional organisation we have cancelled or changed events at the last minute over the last year. Often this comes down to lack of communication between the directors of FUSA, the Student Council, and the FUSA staff. In order to move forward and develop a more open and positive relationship between the two I propose creating some requirements around the running of Student Council driven events. I understand the underlying concerns that some Student Council members are rarely in the FUSA office and as such cannot be communicated with. However in the globalised world we currently live in, it is incredibly easy to make a phone call or send an email. The power of a conversation should never be underestimated.

The motion aims to alleviate the alienation some council members face when decisions are made without consultation. While the motion instructs FUSA staff to contact the councillor, it should also be noted that FUSA staff who can clearly show contact has been attempted yet the councillor has not been available who an extended period should not be held accountable.

Motion: When there is an event endorsed or created by Student Council, the councillor who motions the event becomes the director of the event. If any changes are required to the event, the director (the councillor member who initiated the motion) must be

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contacted to discuss the change. At any stage the councillor may delegate partial or full responsibility to the FUSA staff.

### 6.7. Clubs and Societies

## 6.7.1. Speakeasy Club

Club Description: Speakeasy is a community which aims to bring together, promote and celebrate undergraduate and postgraduate Flinders creative writers, as well as Flinders students with interests in creative writing.

Type of affiliation: Financial

# 6.7.2. Flinders University Nursing and Midwifery Student Association

Club Description: Student association for nursing and midwifery students.

Type of affiliation: Financial

## 6.7.3. Flinders University Vegetarian and Vegan Club

Club Description: Flinders university vegetarian and vegan club is a place where like minded people can share their views and interests in this lifestyle. It is open to any one willing to join and can provide support and education to people who are interested.

Type of affiliation: Non-Financial

## 6.7.4. Flinders University Rural Health Society

Club Description: The purpose of the Flinders Criminal Justice Student Association (FCJSA) is to create a representative student body within the law school to provide greater support for students enrolled in criminal justice topics at Flinders University.

Type of affiliation: Financial

Motion: That Student Council approve the affiliation for the clubs listed.

- 6.8. In Camera Item
- 7. Matters for discussion
- 8. Matters for noting
- 9. Meeting Closed