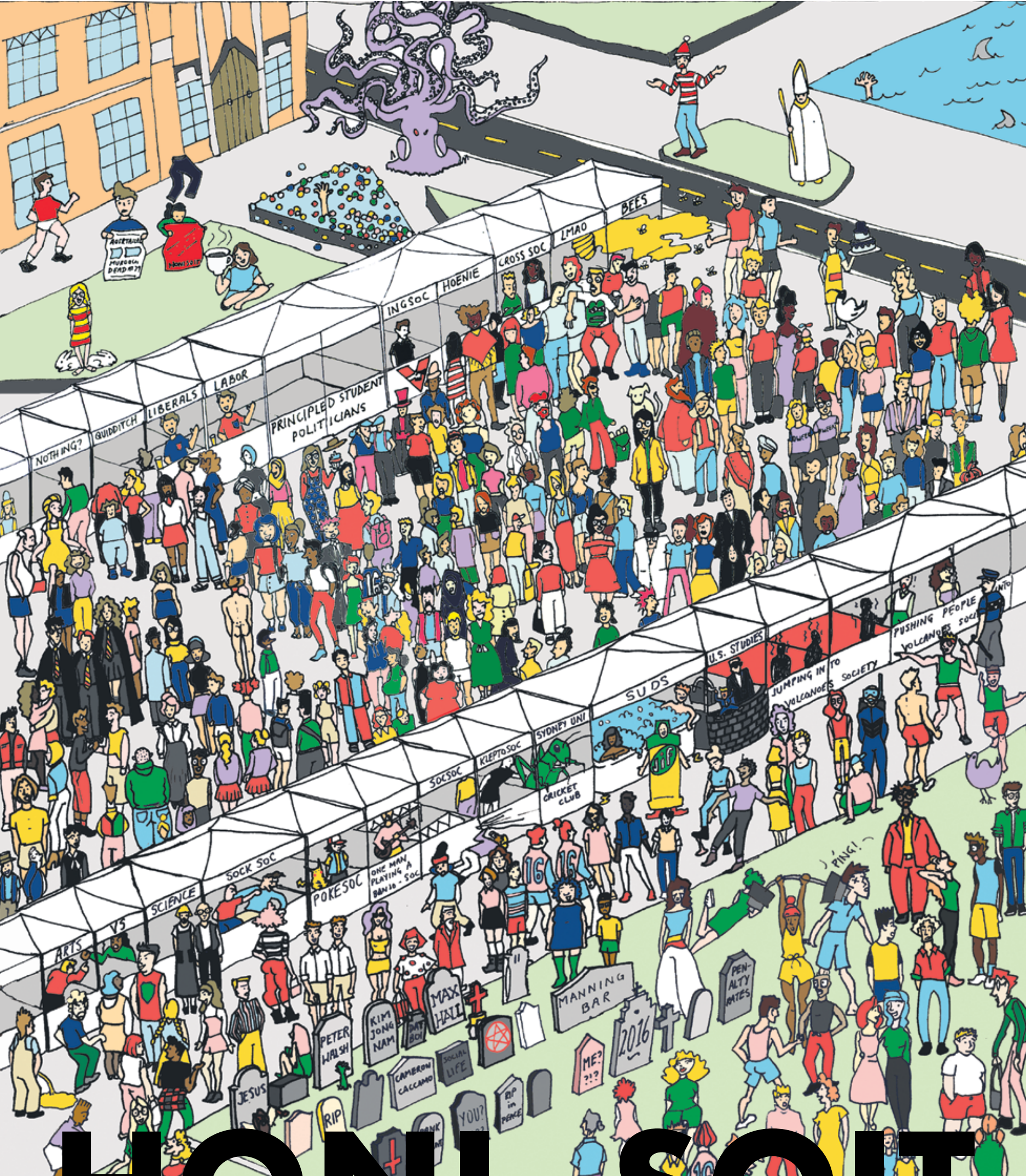


University rejects mandatory online sexual consent module for students / p. 4

A beginner’s guide to university: double page full-colour pull-out poster / p. 14

The economy of dying: why today’s funeral business must change / p. 11



HONI SOT

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. The University of Sydney – where we write, publish and distribute *Honi Soit* – is on the sovereign land of these people. As students and journalists, we recognise our complicity in the ongoing colonisation of Indigenous land. In recognition of our privilege, we vow to not only include, but to prioritise and centre the experiences of Indigenous people, and to be reflective when we fail to. We recognise our duty to be a counterpoint to the racism that plagues the mainstream media, and to adequately represent the perspectives of Indigenous students at our University. We also wholeheartedly thank our Indigenous reporters for the continuing contribution of their labour to our learning.

Editorial

In a year of intense polarisation, *Honi Soit* exists as a bridge. It's for you, sure — but it's also for everyone else at this University. That mass of 50,000 people is so complex that we can't hope to capture even a fraction of their experiences, contradictory as they are, but we'll try – that we promise. If you love that mission, write for us. If you hate it, write for us. This paper is the only one in the country that exists for you.

Find yourself in *Honi Soit*. Find yourself on the cover—and find these too:

Trash ibis, trash dove, some fresh young high school grads, penalty rates, Vincent Adultman, Ash Ketchum, sporty insects, a scuba diver, a magical trio, post-coital Heath Ledger, Colonel Sanders, angry cruciverbalists, Donald Trump, a pumpkin, deadly lifting, one guy wearing headphones, pupper, someone stepping in gum, drama? More like soap opera, a man taking a leak, Rick Sanchez, O Week Directors Natalie Buckett and Tessa Pang, an *Honi Soit*, an Oz, an octopus in disguise, your favourite festival band, Hax Mall, the best campus bar of 1989, bees, a high quality cleaning product, Arkady Cakeboy, Wally, a pantsless fellow. **HS**

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Honi Soit, O-Week Edition, Semester 1 2017.

Preatching to the choir

What's missing from the USU's band night? / By Latifa Tasipale

If you searched for a popular band to see at O-Week on Facebook, you'd retrieve just one result: the band night, which sees one or two popular acts perform each year. One year ago, University of Sydney students were singing their hearts out to Shannon Noll. The Preatures, with opening act Ngaiire, will take the stage this year. These acts are successful performers. They've charted on Triple J's Hottest 100 and have a combined fanbase of approximately 100,000 people on Facebook. The rock band-meets-future-soul fusion should be a hit, at least for the 950 people that get to see both acts perform. So why is there only one pop gig at this year's O-Week, and is it really the best it could be?

Let's not forget that O-Week does showcase our wonderful student talent, like SoulXpress, SUDS and SURG on the Grass. Yet it is strange that the USU has not chosen to present more student acts in popular music genres. USyd is home to the Conservatorium of Music and a huge depth of student talent in the performing arts, after all.

There is also a comparison to be drawn between our O-Week line-up and other universities this year, who've booked multiple big names as well as student artists.

The first thing to consider when organising an event like The Preatures' performance is the budget. University of Sydney Union (USU) President Michael Rees, whose organisation runs O-Week, said that he could not "discuss [the budget] due to the constraints of commercial contracts", but that the "event does not make money for the USU".

If this is the most expensive ticketed event of the week, why won't it generate profit? The question is important, particularly because all profits generated by the USU are reinvested into students' activities. In simple terms, higher USU profit equates to more drinks at your society of choice, for example.

Other universities, like the Australian National University (ANU), booked multiple big name acts this

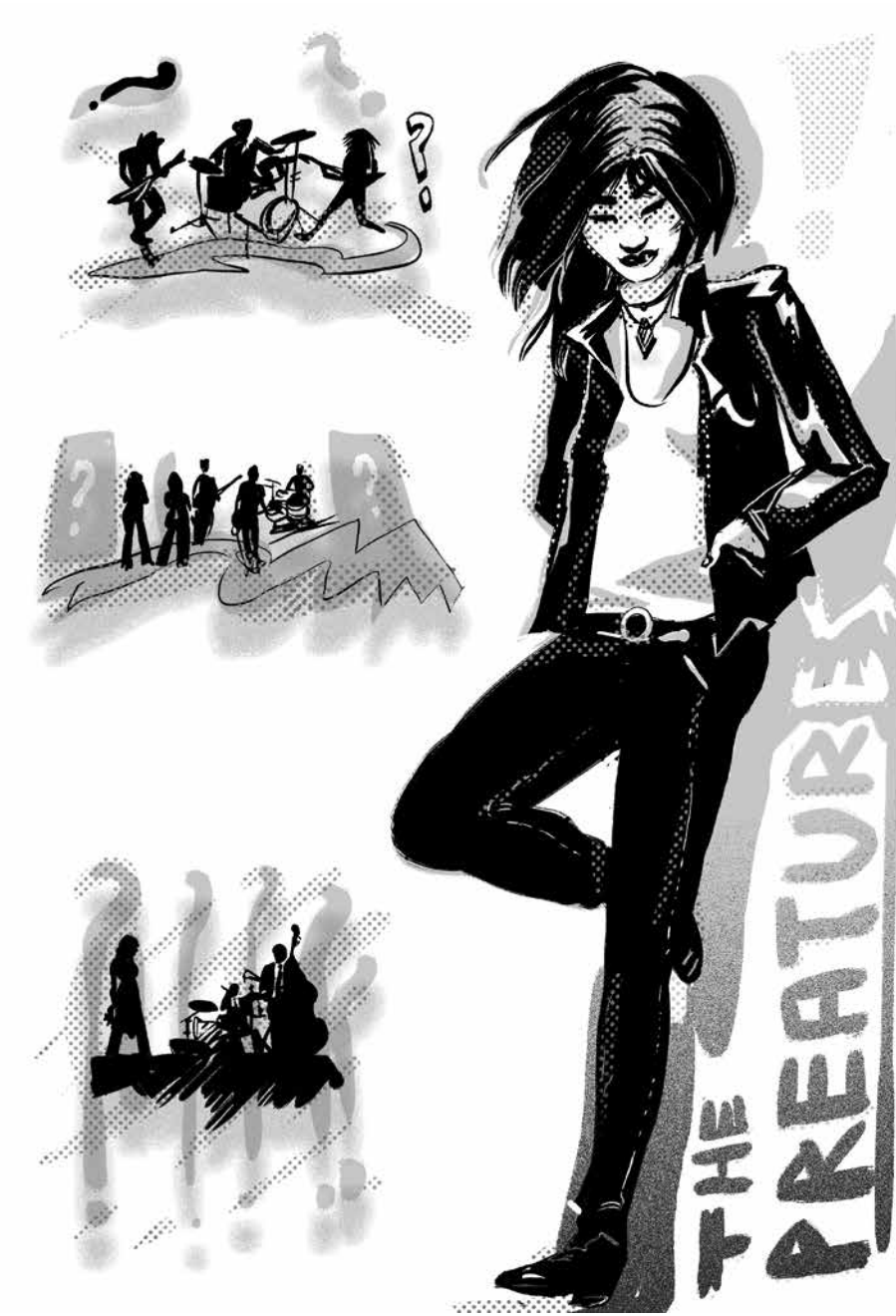
year. ANU's O-Week music festival, Cloud Nine — with a Field Day-esque line-up — was held on a large grassy field with no apparent ticketing limitation. When you work out the maths of over 2,500 attendees at \$35-\$65 a ticket, that's a lot of money — amply enough to turn a profit. It's impossible to know exactly how much the ANU made, given the costs of staging, security, and performers' transport — but like the USU, any money made by the ANU Students' Association (ANUSA) is reinvested into student life.

So how does ANUSA turn a profit while the USU does not? Part of the story is that tickets are cheaper at Sydney. Entry to The Preatures is \$25 for union members and \$45.40 for non-members, a feat the USU should be lauded for.

However, Rees also said that "O-Week Festival band night has historically been hosted at Manning Bar ... [it's a] tradition we are very happy to keep." Sure, Manning Bar has seen its fair share of music run through the joint. And yes, we're happy to have a great (if fading) venue on campus.

But year after year, lines run around the block to squeeze into the bar. Some students end up missing the main act for all the waiting they are made to do. Why do we honour this tradition if it is hampering the experience we could be offering students? Live performance is shifting towards large, open space venues. Profit and accessibility — in terms of the number of students who get to see an act — are maximised when a venue accommodates for more students as per ANUSA's model.

Perhaps it was artist availability that affected the USU's line-up pick. Let's explore the line-ups of other university orientation weeks. The Preatures, Ball Park Music, The Potbelleez and Tkay Maidza all played at the ANU. At the University of Technology Sydney, SummerFest promises five popular student acts plus The Potbelleez, Uberjak'd, Dylan Joel and Thandi Phoenix. At the University of New South Wales, well,



they had a comedy night.

Nonetheless, if other universities can book bigger names and more student acts than the USU, there is room for improvement. The USU could do much more with the talent it has booked, for a start. Ngaiire, a woman of colour with a rapidly rising profile in Australian music, has her name in small font on promotional material and is missing entirely from the event name on Facebook.

Free watermelon slices for Access

card holders are a cute perk, but during O-Week what many students are truly looking forward to are the gigs and the unique things they offer: the atmosphere of live music, meeting new students, and good vibes. It's a time to meet fresh faces without the pressures of a clipboard and a sign-up sheet, or the piercing stare of a [insert political faction here] member on the prowl. The USU runs a good O-Week, but there's no room for complacency.

Got mail?

The print media ain't dead and neither is our letters section, returning in Week 1. Send your irreverent takes and reverent rants to editors@honisoit.com by 12pm each Friday for publication. Keep it under 300 words and remember to include your name, degree, year and when you intend to run for Union board.



O Week Debate: Labor v Liberal
Wednesday March 1, 12 PM - 1PM
O Week Main Stage

Hey, babe. We should go to this. It looks wild. Apparently all these student politicians are gonna debate on stage and really duke it out. I mean, it probably won't get too intense though. I promise if we go I won't babble to you about my politics after. If you totally agree with the Labor folks, I'll be like "yeah, you're right. Major change has to come from the major parties. Labor has been the main force for progressive change in this country over the past century" Or if you think the Liberal people make some good points, I'll be like, "I agree with you" too. Doesn't that sound cool? I'll give you some candy from my showbag.

Small Trumpet Launch
Thursday March 2, 7PM
Hermann's Bar

Woah! I'm so excited for this! It's like, this big comedy show featuring huge comics from around Sydney and also within the university. Susie Youssef, a super funny stand up comedian and improviser currently on the Australian version of Whose Line is it Anyway. She's so great, babe. If there's any jokes you find really funny, I'll like, laugh extra hard, to make you feel comfortable. And I'll like look at you like "this is so fun!" and we'll totally have a moment. Or if there's a comedian that you're not laughing at I'll also be silent, in solidarity with you. And I'll squeeze your hand slightly harder to be like "hey. I'm here with you babe."

O Week Openair Cinema - Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory
Thursday March 2, 5 PM - 10PM
Courtyard Bar

I can't wait to go to this with you! Lets get there early and listen to the folks from SURG FM spin some tunes. It's free for access card holders and \$5 for non access card holders, but dont worry. I'll buy your ticket. And I'll get you some popcorn too. As long as you don't go on your phone the whole time! Haha. Just kidding. But really though. Sometimes when we're out together and you message that guy Stefan from your work I'm like, "Why can't I be more like Stefan??" Haha. Just kidding.

The Preatures
Thursday March 2, 6 PM - 12 AM
Manning Bar

OMG I love this band! Wanna come? They had that song that was like, #9 on the Hottest 100. Their gigs always go off. So good! And everyone tells me Manning Bar is such a great venue for gigs like this these days. Anyway I promise I won't drag you outside so we can argue for an hour about why you didn't introduce me to all your new friends. I really won't this time.

Combat Classes with SUSCA
Friday March 3, 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM
O-Week Main Stage

Seriously babe, you can't miss this one. These guys are the best. Basically it's like, they dress up in cool medieval suits of armour and stuff and do fake fights. Well it's not just medieval. Anachronism means like, dressing up like the past, so there's also ancient history stuff they do as well. It's gonna be so cool. You should come and see me do it! If we were on a medieval battlefield, I would totally defend you with my life. Like, I'd definitely fucking die for you. Just saying.

University dismisses mandatory consent module

JUSTINE LANDIS-HANLEY

In their first collective meeting of the year, the Students’ Representative Council’s Wom*n’s Officers have committed to lobbying against the University’s rejection of a mandatory consent module for all students.

Wom*n’s Officers past and present penned a letter to Vice Chancellor Michael Spence last year outlining their demands for a safer University, which included setting up an online module about sexual assault and harassment that must be completed by all students once per semester.

In his response, Spence rejected the idea due to a lack of pedagogical evidence that it would help combat sexual assault on campus.

A University spokesperson told *Honi*, “In reviewing the expert evidence and seeking advice from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) ... it has become clear that this is not the most appropriate mechanism for achieving a well-informed student body on these issues.”

“We are considering a range of options for equipping our students to reflect on and embody norms of conduct conducive to a respectful, safe student experience.”

SRC Co-Wom*n’s Officer Imogen Grant argues sexual assault education is necessary for creating equality in education.

“Education equity for women is inextricably linked to combatting sexual assault on campus, and this requires prevention through education, support for survivors and their communities, and policy reform at the campus, local, state, and federal levels”, she said.

“We need to break past this impasse about sexual assault at University and demand

not only adequate support for survivors, but also a transformation of campus culture.”

Mandatory sexual assault education is nothing novel within University settings: a number of universities, including the likes of Oxford and Harvard, have implemented mandatory sexual assault prevention training for their staff and students.

In 2014, the Governor of California passed a bill that requires colleges to implement “comprehensive prevention and outreach programs” including “empowerment programming for victim prevention ... primary intervention, bystander intervention, and risk reduction”.

All staff must receive such training within 90 days of hire.

At the University of California (UC), all incoming students have been required to take the education and training program at their campus within the first six weeks of class, and ongoing training annually, since 2015.

When *Honi* asked about the impact of their mandatory training, UC’s Office of the President responded, “of course, we know prevention is key”.

At their Berkeley campus, all freshmen had to complete an online module and attend a presentation before they could register for classes last year.

In explaining their compulsory two-step module, Berkeley’s website says, “preventing sexual violence is not the responsibility of the survivor of the violence,” and while “risk reduction is not prevention ... all of us can take a stand to prevent violence by confronting violent beliefs and attitudes before the violent action could occur.”

Reforms recommended for SRC elections

SIOBHAN RYAN with additional research by Ann Ding

A raft of recommendations for changes to the Students’ Representative Council (SRC) electoral regulations are set to be discussed at the next council meeting on Wednesday, March 8.

These recommendations, drafted by co-General Secretaries Isabella Pytko and Daniel Ergas, and general executive member Samuel Chu, seek “to make the SRC elections less stressful and fairer for all involved,” according to Pytko. But what would they really mean for students?

MAKING ELECTIONS MORE ACCESSIBLE

Perhaps the biggest change recommended by Pytko, Ergas and Chu is reducing the current 12-day campaigning period. Instead, they propose online campaigning for eight days and in-person campaigning for five days before voting, which Ergas argues would “[ensure] students don’t need ... an Arts student’s timetable to compete”.

The current duration of the campaigning period means many candidates take significant time off work and study to run. Similarly, Chu argues “the campaigning period is too long and arduous,” which threatens students’ and campaigners’ welfare. The University of Sydney Union (USU) recently decided to reduce the campaign period for its Board elections for similar reasons.

The recommendations also suggest a reduced cap on campaign expenditure for SRC and presidential elections. Currently, campaigns can spend \$1000 on a presidential candidate and \$100 per SRC candidate to a maximum of \$600 per ticket. This would be reduced to \$500 per presidential candidate, \$50 per SRC candidate and \$400 per ticket.

Ergas believes this will improve accessibility by “ensuring students don’t

need to fork out thousands of dollars” to run. In comparison, the USU covers up to \$500 of Board candidates’ election costs.

Polling booth hours at satellite campuses — currently as short as two hours on one day — would be extended too, with the \$33.64 per hour cost of extra polling booth attendants borne by the SRC.

Reducing harassment of voters

The harassment of potential voters by campaigners — and of campaigners by each other — is discussed after nearly every election.

The current regulations forbid “physical or verbal intimidation ... or non-consensual physical contact” of potential voters, candidates, campaigners and electoral staff. Yet, as *Honi* examined last year in ‘Student politics is the worst. Can we fix it?’, this regulation is

WILL THEY GET PASSED?

When a host of similar reforms drafted by Cameron Caccamo, Georgia Kriz and Riki Scanlan were proposed in 2015, two consecutive council meet-

ings were rendered inquorate by Labor factions’ non-attendance. Caccamo, Kriz and Scanlan ultimately withdrew their motion because it was too late for the changes to be implemented for that year’s election.

The key difference between then and now is that these changes are being put forward as recommendations rather than a motion — they will be discussed but not voted on in March. Hopefully, some factions are more willing to consider the issue as a result.

In their current form, however, NLS (Labor left) and Unity (Labor right) would vote them down.

According to USyd NLS Convenor Adam Torres, the faction supports “a

Scholarships under the scalpel

LIAM DONOHOE

You are probably going to see a lot of activism while at university, but the great majority of activism actually happens behind closed doors.

Whether in the unacknowledged work of the banner painter or in the subversion of unexpected agitators working on the inside, there’s more to activism than public stunts.

Throughout 2016, a small but elite society of undergraduate medicine students engaged in a quiet campaign to have the length of their scholarship extended. The scholarship in question is the University’s coveted ‘Sydney Scholar’ award. Though it can be awarded under alternate circumstances, a \$10,000 per annum scholarship is automatically conferred on students who achieve an ATAR above 99.90. In order to secure undergraduate entry into the university’s combined medicine course, domestic students must achieve an ATAR of 99.95. This means that each domestic student in the undergraduate medical stream receives \$10,000 every year.

In 2015, the university quietly reduced the duration of the scholarship so that instead of covering the full seven or eight years of medical school, students who began in 2015 and 2016 would only receive a scholarship for the undergraduate portion of their degree.

By mid-2016, the Combined Medicine Association (COMA), which represents undergraduate medicine students, began lobbying the University. Being relatively inexperienced as lobbyists, the group’s first move was to embrace an ‘insider’ strategy, one often dismissed in activist circles.

They began with a letter to the University, arguing that incoming stu-

USYD organisations bid for a share of your dough

JUSTINE LANDIS-HANLEY

For the first time, the student bodies and university services negotiating the allocation of the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) have deferred their decision to the University Executive after just one meeting.

This is a change from the drawn out, bloody battle that usually takes place over SSAF each year. Compromise wasn’t reached until May in 2015, and the decision was taken up by the University Executive after months of failed talks last year.

This time, the six stakeholders have agreed in their first meeting to hand over their budget proposals to the University Executive’s SSAF Funding Committee (yep, they have one of those) and hope the money is divvied up in their favour.

Jordi Austin, who represents Student Support Services (SSS) in negotiations, said the change shows a “greater level of trust that the University understands the importance of the funding for these projects.”

“The fact that we have gotten to this point and just put our bids in for con-

SSAF Explained

Every year, the SRC, USU, SUPRA, CSG, SSS and SUSF negotiate for a percentage of the SSAF pool. SSAF is paid annually by all students; this year, the fee is \$147 per semester for full-time students, and \$110.25 for part-time students. The total money at play is almost \$14.5 million.

sideration ensures we have continuity of funding as best as possible — it’s a really great moment for the University.”

Each organisation is guaranteed 90 per cent of the funding it received in the previous year, leaving a pool of \$1.5 million that stakeholders are applying for to fund new projects and expansions this year. So, what are the proposals up for consideration?

Students’ Representative Council (SRC) President Isabella Brook says the SRC wants to rebrand all banners and materials, create

attempt a less adversarial campaign. It was probably not the way that COMA presented their case that allowed them to achieve their demands. It was, most likely, their identity.

Based on their ATARs, domestic undergraduate medical students are likely to come from affluent backgrounds. Undergraduate medicine students are, according to one source, regularly reminded that they are the ‘cream of the crop’. It is a rhetorical flourish supported by generous funding and lavish facilities like the \$385 million Charles Perkins Centre, which houses many of the University’s medical training facilities.

Though medical students’ education and resourcing is hardly perfect, it is a far cry from the average experience of students in other courses. Students studying arts, education or social work face the broad threat of a restructure, as well as course cutbacks, dated facilities, and overcrowding. This is to say nothing of the hardships faced by students at the SCA attempting to save their campus.

The outcomes of the Let the SCA Stay campaign support this. The University, concerned about a \$5.5 million deficit, decided to merge the SCA with a number of other art schools, while “reimagining” the bachelor of visual arts program. In response, activists exhausted their playbook; they occupied the administrative building of the SCA for 65 days, organised numerous rallies, performed stunts — all in addition to the ‘insider’ strategies employed by COMA. Though SCA students have been met with some success — the merger was scrapped and the move from Callan Park has been postponed — the process

has been long and arduous. After all that, the University has not confirmed whether it will keep the SCAs Callan Park campus open anyway.

In contrast, COMA lobbyists employing typically ineffective tactics achieved their demands within six months. One of the key arguments used by the COMA students — that it was unfair to change the terms of their education once they had enrolled — is still being used by SCA students, but to far less impact. In a context where the University cuts regional pathways into medicine while honouring guaranteed placements that bypass the HSC for private school students, this is not that surprising.

Comparing the SCA campaign with COMA’s lobbying efforts points toward a concerning yet probable reality, one in which the University administration is more sensitive to the ambitions of elite students than they are to the grievances of the average class.

That is not to say that activism is redundant. It is precisely the University’s treatment of the average student that makes activism so necessary. Until the University responds to the average student’s needs with the same sympathy and speed as they did to COMA students, there is a need for well-organised campaigns.

Perhaps the most devastating insight for activists is this: for the most part, the quality and effort you put into your campaign is almost irrelevant. You can occupy buildings, organise big rallies and perform stunts as much as you want, but unless the University cares about you and your cause, they are unlikely to budge.

promotional videos, and ideally employ a full-time multi-lingual caseworker. The SRC is also working with the Sydney University Postgraduate Association (SUPRA) to apply for a full-time sexual assault lawyer for both undergraduates and postgraduates.

With a 250 per cent increase in casework over the past few years and a booming postgraduate population, SUPRA wants to bring on another part-time caseworker and an outreach administrative officer to boost engagement with satellite campuses.

SUPRA Co-President Ahmed Bin Suhaib says SUPRA has also asked for increased funding for events, including a “monthly meeting for postgraduate students from each faculty sitting down with faculty advisors to discuss proposals and issues for academic board.”

The University of Sydney Union (USU) has similar proposals: they want to expand the Welcome to Sydney program both in size and experience, and create day trips to Redfern

and the Block so students can engage with Aboriginal culture.

Honorary Treasurer Tiffany Alexander hopes for “more money to fund bright ideas like last year’s Wom*n’s Comedy Program ... and provide more avenues for INCUBATE teams through casual workshops or one-time networking events”.

A season pass for the USU’s Revue shows is also on the table.

Both the Cumberland Student Guild (CSG) and SSS want more money to improve their current offerings. The CSG would like to increase funded places at Uni Games, and make the Cumberland Campus’ O-Day and O-Camps “more exciting” with diverse activities.

SSS is hoping to receive more funding than last year for their international student careers program, and double their careers advisors from two to four this year.

Honi reached out to Sydney University Sport and Fitness (SUSF), but they didn’t provide a response before the article went to print.

HDs and hard dosh

JAMES STRATTON

How do students' marks affect their graduate prospects? It's a natural concern among those looking to recoup the high costs of tertiary education. But the question is surprisingly difficult to answer.

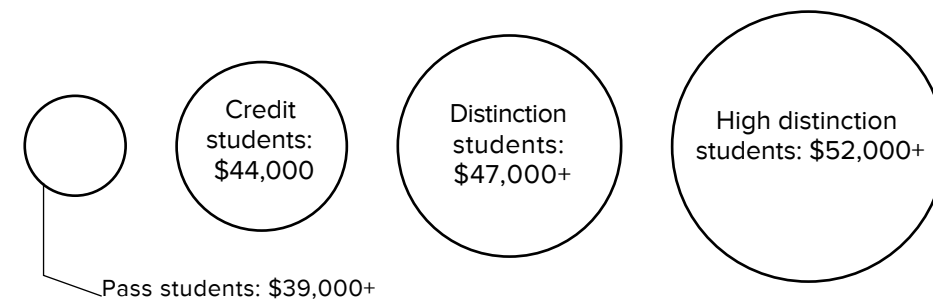
Central to the University of Sydney's pitch to students is the promise of impressive graduate outcomes. In the University's promotional material for parents, "Better employment prospects" is the first reason listed to justify a university education's importance. Just last November, the University lauded its graduates being ranked as Australia's most employable in the 2017 QS Graduate Employability Rankings.

Despite this, USyd releases no data on how students' graduate outcomes differ depending on their academic performance. This is strange. USyd often likens itself to a business, but a business whose products' effects depend hugely on whether they're consumed 'as recommended' should take some steps to collect and release information about those effects.

When asked about the effect of marks on graduate outcomes, a University spokesperson said that the relevant data was collected, but not publicised, because employment outcomes result from "the complex interaction

alia graduates found that a one point increase in WAM was associated with an average increase in graduate salary of 0.68 per cent. This implies that a high distinction-average student receives almost twice the salary benefit from a three-year bachelor's degree than a pass-average student. Giving students information about how tertiary education will affect their career, rather than a generic student's career, is key to university accountability. More practically, the information is relevant for students making decisions about whether to return to university after struggling with several subjects, or how to balance time working with time studying.

Publishing this information is especially important because the limited academic research on the topic highlights other areas of employment discrimination. The same Western Australian study found that graduate outcomes for students from non-English speaking backgrounds were much more sensitive to their marks: a one-point decrease in WAM was associated with a 1.7 per cent decrease in graduate salary for students from non-English speaking backgrounds, compared to a 0.5 per cent decrease for their English-background counterparts.



Low average graduate salaries. Data from a survey of 2008 UWA graduates.

of a large number of factors" aside from marks, including the student's degree and their geographic location.

It is true that other factors affect employment outcomes, but this observation does little to justify hiding information about the effect of marks. First, the interaction between marks and other characteristics of a student, such as their degree, is a reason for provid-

A female student would need to earn 14 marks more than her male counterpart to reach the same expected graduate salary.

ing statistics that break down the role of marks among various groups of students. Without accurate, official information, students must rely on word-of-mouth speculation about graduate prospects, which is far less likely to consider those other variables.

Second, while other factors are certainly significant, marks do play an important role. A 2008 study based on a survey of University of Western Aus-

Room robberies

AJAY SIVANATHAN

The University of Sydney markets its student life with fervour, proclaiming that "joining a university club is a great way to exercise your brain and body, learn new things, practise your leadership skills, and make friends who share your interests".

However, looking beneath the slick veneer of the University's public relations reveals countless clubs and societies under stifling financial pressure

Looking beneath the slick veneer of the University's public relations reveals countless clubs and societies under stifling financial pressure from the immense cost of running an event.

from the immense cost of running an event. For example, throughout 2016, the single biggest cost incurred by the Sydney University United Nations Society (a society with over 400 members) was venue hire and room bookings.

It would surprise a lot of people to hear that booking a tutorial room in Carlsaw to host a (not-for-profit) society event costs \$119 for five hours — even on the weekend. The larger the event, the more the society has to pay in room booking fees, and not just because more rooms are required — the University factors attendance into its fees too. For the Sydney University Model United Nations conference, which spans four days and has a 300-strong attendance from universities around Australia, quotes for the hire of ten tutorial rooms for the duration of the conference came to upwards of \$9,000. Despite occurring during University holidays, there were — and are — no discounts available beyond a standard 40 per cent discount for student societies.

Tiffany Alexander, honorary treasurer of the University of Sydney Union (USU), said that she'd "guess that the University charges [for rooms] because they don't discriminate between students and external users of rooms".

The costs don't stop at room hire itself. Those who book a room for extended periods are expected to pay overhead costs — from cleaning at \$132 to security fees that can total over \$1500 for four days. Charging societies such exorbitant amounts seems contrary to the University's goals of encouraging extracurricular activities. To combat this, societies are often forced to negotiate heavily with University faculties or external organisations to have some kind of sponsorship or funding, simply to cover the cost of the rooms.

These issues aren't just limited to the University of Sydney. Ali Matthews, a co-convenor of the 2016 Australasian Intersociety Debating Championships said that the cost of an average tutorial room was \$200 per day at the University of Western Australia (UWA), which amounted to a huge \$100,000 figure for a 400 person tournament across five days. The tournament's difficulties were compounded by the in-

flexibility of university management, with negotiations between the two parties having lasted for ten months prior to the tournament.

On occasion, this leads students to consider taking their event off campus to more cost-effective locations. It would be hugely detrimental to the student population if they lost the exposure and ease of access that comes by virtue of a major intersociety event

being held on campus.

Particularly during weekends and outside semester time, one might expect there would be more flexibility for venue hire, given there are no classes running. At some other universities, that is the case. Bodie D'Orazio, President of the Australian National University's UN Society and Co-Secretary General of the National Capital Model United Nations Conference, informed *Honi* that the ANU does not charge at all for room hire, and gave students "free reign of pretty much any room they wanted at no cost" on the weekend.

In line with the ANU, the University of Technology Sydney, the University of New South Wales and Macquarie University all provide internal room bookings completely free of charge to students. Taylah Schrader, Vice-President at the UTS United Nations Society told *Honi* that students "simply need to organise [through a free booking process] a physically free university space". *Honi* understands that the UTS Clubs organisation communicates with the University on behalf of individual societies to obtain venues at no cost as it "is seen as helping to promote an interactive community amongst UTS students".

It should be the University's responsibility to ensure their claim that "your membership helps [to] cover the cost of events throughout the year" actually holds true. In reality, it is almost impossible for clubs and societies to hold consistent events when the most expensive society sign-ups are a mere \$5. Even UWA's otherwise difficult system affords societies a weekly two-hour free room booking, which would fulfil the needs of most societies.

The USU does offer a small number of free spaces on campus, but these simply do not have the capacity to allow over 200 clubs and societies the space they need.

It is abundantly clear that there are countless rooms unoccupied — during the holidays, during the weekend, and even during the semester. Having student-run, not-for-profit societies bear the brunt of these fees undermines the University's claim that it supports those same societies.

— NO MORE — ATTACKS ON EDUCATION

NO CENTRELINK CUTS

NO CAMPUS CUTS

MAKE
EDUCATION
FREE
AGAIN

NATIONAL STUDENT PROTESTS
WED 22 MARCH

TIME & LOCATION

1PM SYDNEY UNI
NEW LAW LAWNS (EASTERN AVE)

NATIONAL
UNION OF
STUDENTS
NUS

ORGANISED BY THE
NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS
AUTHORISED BY
ANNEKE DEMANUELE
NATIONAL EDUCATION OFFICER

f MAKE
EDUCATION
FREE AGAIN

The purple dogs

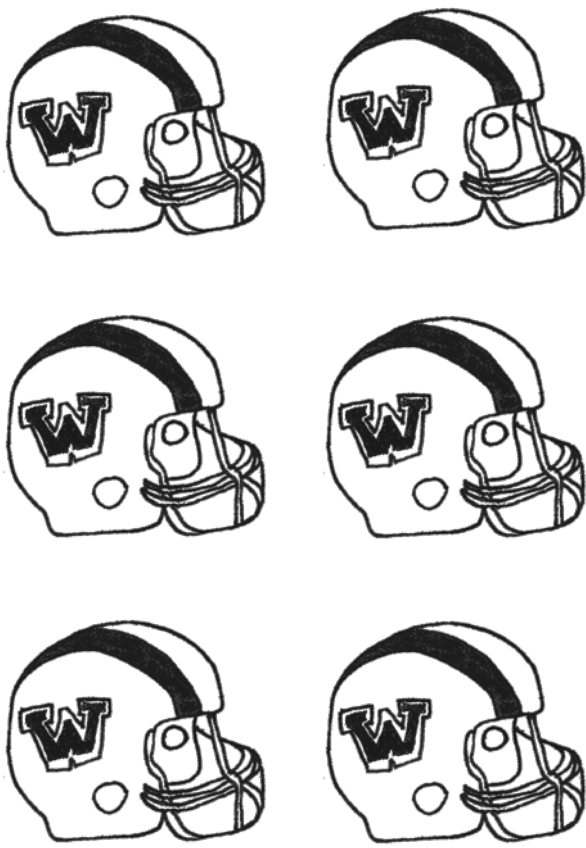
MAX CULLEN / A journey into US college sports.

Purple has never been my favourite colour. Something about it confronts me, potentially seeded in a lifelong distaste for royalty and Catholicism. Or does it lie in an internalised view on gender that is entrenched in our collective subconscious? Do I feel this way about purple because I am a man and men are tough and purple isn't tough like blue? Whatever the case, here I am at the University of Washington in Seattle, draped in plumes of gold and purple. The Husky is the mascot for the college teams that are the antiquated sled of collegiate America. I believe sport gives us an insight into the undercurrents that drive American society. In Australia, sport is a social lubricant. In America, sport dominates the zeitgeist on levels I still don't understand. More than having a cultural hegemonic control, sports operate to propagate the patriarchy. Even more so than in my home country of green and gold, sports are genuinely used as a 'justification' for male hierarchy insofar as 'female sports are boring'. I will follow this sled deep into the core of the Pacific Northwest and see what it reveals about the inner workings of the American male.

I had arrived in America three days before my first exposure to the Dawg Pack. Bags delayed, my first American bar experience coincided with the Chick-fil-A peach bowl in Atlanta. This duel was between the 'football' teams of the Huskies and the Crimson Tide from the University of Alabama, which seems like the least communist school in the least communist city in America. The Crimson Tide were reigning champions unaware of their name's reference to the menstrual cycle. The Tide went on to nationalise UW's defense and make the offence look like the bourgeoisie hiding away in their gilded palaces unable to stop the rolling force of the Red Army. The loss was palpable. Football at its essence is just a bunch of dudes running a ball up and down a field, but seeing the devastation that swept across the bar was genuine. This loss left a bar full of jocks in shock, unable to process the idea that the force that justified their flimsy relationships had just seized. It was as if the whole situation was the victory of the vaginal flow over the chauvinistic forces of collegiate sports.

The following day provided the Doggos with a chance to increase collective morale. The game was against rival team Washington State, draped in maroon; the cousin of Crimson. The Men's basketball team has guard Markelle Fultz, tipped to be in the first round draft pick of the Heat this

Art: Jenna Schroder



year. The team lacked hustle. No spirit. The team didn't even dip their hands into the endless pot of rebounds. This team failed to restore masculinity to the fragile frat boys. Many left early, unable to bear the pain of supporting a team that let them down.

Redemption was yet to come. The UW female basketball team was good. These players have a very good chance of winning the whole thing. This was one of the most intense games of basketball I have ever witnessed in my life. Comparing crowd sizes between the female and male teams illuminates the extent to which American sports blindly propagate the patriarchy, much the same as Australia. The crowd for the women's game was roughly half full. Students get free tickets, unlike the male game in which you pay \$12 for sub-par hooping. The real fool here is society itself because I witnessed a wild game between UW and UCLA. For free. The umpires made both teams talk about their behavior because the fouls had gotten out of hand. In the end, the Dogs absolutely dominated. Weed is legal in Seattle, so before walking in I smoked a little joint. Mind opened, I saw that there were free seats at the court side. Sitting beside an old hippie couple who graduated from UW in 1969, we witnessed a purple pack of Huskies put the UCLA Bruins in ruins. Courtside. For free. The male teams of UW were unable to make me feel the energy to stand and dish out three fingers with each shot from behind the line. For the first time, I felt proud to wear purple. This is the story that is left out of sports journalism: unlike the men that fell short, the women's team fought tooth and nail for the victory that they then achieved. If anything, the women embodied the coldblooded mentality that is projected onto the male teams, which is more fitting for collegiate America than anything else. Yet you still get into the games for free.

Will the Huskies maintain a pack-like mentality to drive UW's sled through to March madness? Will the insanity of the first month of spring get to the girls, or will their dedication and strength be the perpetual bone to their muzzle? Only time will tell. But time makes fools of us all. So if society wants to be straight foolish, jboi will cry for the Dogs until his larynx is purple.

Why you should do your readings

DECLAN NOBLE / This article was originally written in Latin.



This is a book. Sources tell *Honi* that they were once to be found in plentiful supply in Fisher Library.

Readings are a much bemoaned part of university life. For those beginning university this week it is likely that after a few diligent weeks of adhering to reading schedules, you will soon neglect them. For those returning this week, it is unlikely this semester will involve more readings than did your pleasant summer break. I would say, however, that more of us should do more of our readings, and by readings, I specifically mean scholarly publications.

I borrow my reason for this stance from an article that appeared in Week 6, Semester 1 of last year's *Honi*, an article against doing our readings (no one said that the print media was timely). In that article, which I probably read while I should have been doing my readings, the author decried them as "excessive intellectualism". I think the very point of university should be excessive intellectualism. There are very few other places where we still have the privilege to think about things as long and as hard as we can at university, removed to some extent from the pressures of the marketplace. It is important that we recognise this chance at excessive intellectualism as a privilege. That does not make it elitist — though it might make you a wanker.

As I hope many of you are learning this O-Week, university is a time of excess. After university, it is likely we will never enjoy excess to the same degree, whether we sell our souls to the corporate world, manage to get tenure or remain unemployed with run-of-the-mill commerce degrees. Just as we are less able devote time to the excesses of the bottle, so too do we lose time to devote to excesses of the intellect.

But why should we spend this time while still at university reading scholarly work? Reading the considered writings of others is obviously a good way of coming to a greater understanding of things. For students who have had little to no exposure to academic voices, course readings are a means to accessing important discourses previously inaccessible to them. Reading scholarly works is also the first step in critiquing them. When universities foster articulate and well-read students, students with a critical eye, it makes for a better public discourse. This is especially important in a time when attacks on experts and the academic left are a favourite political weapon of burgeoning populist forces, and when experience alone is often privileged above careful thought.

I do not mean to sound a bore, and the delights of university are much more than merely doing one's readings, but the excessive intellectualism, its attendant wankery, and the fervid debate that readings foster, are the raisons d'être of the university as an institution.

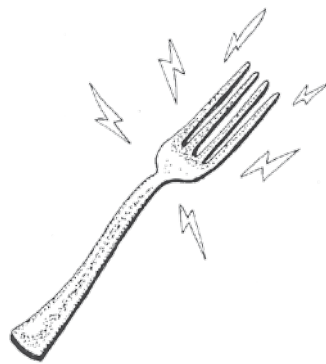
Fork your way up to the top

FLOYD ALEXANDER-HUNT / Five gadgets you need! Call now and receive a free tampon USB drive!

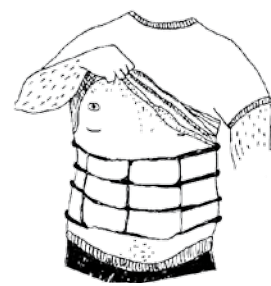
I look and feel amazing! So much better than you, in fact! "But how do you do it?!" I hear you cry.

Well, I'll let you in on a few of my secrets...

Are you constantly hungry for food and attention? Do you find yourself falling asleep whilst standing up? Are you tired of noodles splashing in your face? Fear not, because you no longer have to do things the hard way. If you invest in these gadgets right now, you can literally change your life in seconds. One... two... hear that? The sound of change!



The Freaky Fork: I don't use normal utensils. Instead, I use the Freaky Fork™ as it keeps me in shape. It vibrates when I'm eating too fast, and electrocutes me when I've had enough to eat! Amazing, right? Forget 'intuitive eating' — this fork does it all for me, and the weight just melts off because I'm terrified of losing my tongue! #tonguediet



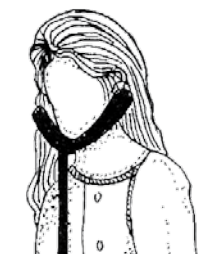
The Ab Hancer: The Freaky Fork is fab, but I want abs. So instead of spending tedious hours in the gym, I put the Abhancer™ over my stomach! This grate gives the appearance of a 6-pack in seconds. This device does restrict my breathing... But at least I have abs! #doyouevenlift? #noteven



The Hug Me Pillow: Feeling lonely? I often do. But rather than taking a real person to bed (ew), I take my Hug Me Pillow™! Not only does it give me comfort, validation and a "body" to rest on, but I don't have to put up with any bedtime farts, fights or feelings! #pillowtalk



The Noodle Hair Holder: Is your hair getting in the way of gulping down noodles? Well, don't be a simpleton and use a hair tie! Use this fashionable hair holder instead! I always take mine on dates to avoid embarrassment. #noodlestopastatime



Metro Chin Stick: Ugh, don't you hate it when you fall asleep on the train standing up and you have no where to put your head? It's the worst! Luckily, the chin stick will solve all your problems. #takeitonthechin

PS. If you buy these gadgets in the next 30 seconds, we'll throw in a free **Tampon Flash Drive**. No one will dare look what's on it!

5 societies to join during O Week

JAYCE CARRANO / Getamungstii

The Indian philosopher Krishnamurti once said, "It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society." With that in mind, why not get adjusted to these moderately sick societies instead?

Your faculty society: You chose your degree, now it's time to develop an obnoxious and unhealthy patriotism for your faculty. Faculty societies have the most members and put a lot of emphasis on social events (read: spend a lot on bar tabs) where their members can form cliquy friendship circles. If you're after a liver transplant, go beyond your own faculty and hit up the events put on by the Engineering (SUEUA) and Arts (SASS) societies.

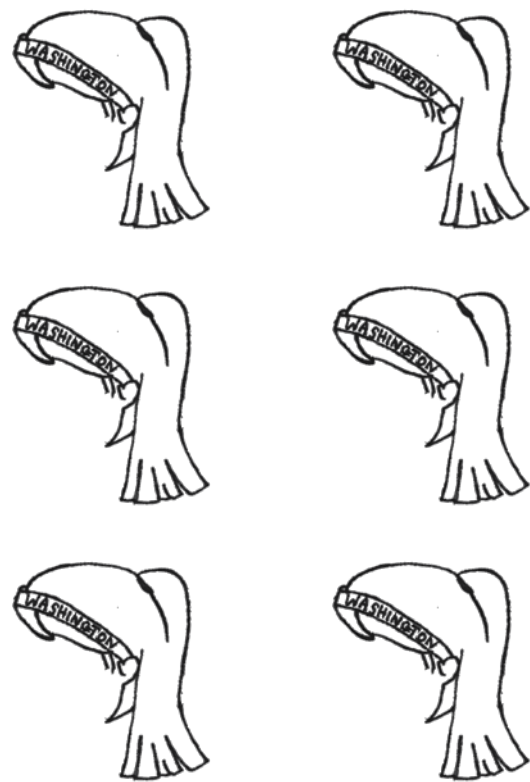
Boarders' and Skiers' Club (SUBSKI): If faculty and Manning parties aren't doing enough damage to your young body, Subski will ensure your medicare card is put to good use. It's supposedly a society for snowsports so the club has been campaigning strongly for the Captain Morgan rum scull to be included in the 2018 Winter Olympic games.

Dramatic Society (SUDS): With fortnightly performances of classics, original works and comedy, SUDS can be enjoyed by wanky STC-subscribers and lime-light lovers as well as wet-behind-the-ears rookies and professional audience members. In the past, this society has been about as insular (and incestu-

ous) as an Amish paradise but the consensus is that it's recently improved and has now introduced a high-school-style mentoring system that will pair new and current members.

United Nations Society (SUUNS): Rumoured to offer fortnightly free pizza and bar tabs at all their conferences, SUUNS is the quintessential social networker's society. If you want to put New York socialite on your resume one day, this is the place to be. Who knows, maybe the flap of a social butterfly's wings could cause a tornado of humanitarian change. Be warned: attending the conferences can be prohibitively expensive for a student budget, but what's the point of spending your money on groceries if you don't have any new friends to complain to about spending all your money on groceries?

Chocsoc or Vegesoc: Take some advice from Old El Paso and have both. Vegesoc have a long tradition of slaughtering the competition with biweekly \$5 all-you-can-eat lunches. After signing up for that, reward your new body-temple by opting for a Chocsoc membership. The membership comes with an O-Week goodies bag that would put the Easter Show to shame if anyone thought those showbags were worth buying anymore.



Phishing for self-fulfilment

JESSICA SYED / How the oldest form of digital scam has developed a human face to stay alive

Our perception of spam is too often restricted to the urgent, overly punctuated emails that lurk in our Hot-mail inboxes. Last weekend, though, I received a spam email that made me wish it wasn't a spam email.

It wasn't about how I can improve my sex life in ten easy steps, nor about how I am the lucky winner of a brand new iPad. It wasn't even from the Crown Prince of Nigeria (although I, as much as anyone, would have loved to live out my own Princess Diaries saga). It read:

Hi there

My name is Jean Rafon, I'm from France.

Last week i bought an old book from street here in Paris and i found your email inside of it, i'm curious to know if this is a real person, and what relate you with this book...

Whilst an exponentially improved sex life, a new iPad and inheriting all the wealth of the Nigerian royal family are things that I would happily oblige to, Monsieur Jean Rafon offered something different. Something less superficial. Something... real. A connection of sorts.

Reflecting on the vast multitudes of spam that I have consumed in the past ten-or-so years as an active internet user, I wondered what had led me to Jean. Or, indeed, what had led Jean to me.

In its nascence, spam and general internet scam-

desires – whether materialistic or carnal – in progressively credible ways to keep their scam economy running. Perhaps Jean is the brainchild of their introspective, Woody Allen-loving intern.

In fact, similar appeals to the modern day human condition have probably appeared on your own sidebar.

You lock eyes with a thirty-something man in a business shirt. More specifically, you lock eyes with the low resolution image of a thirty-something man in a business shirt in the corner of your web browser. He's smiling. You read the text below his picture: Do You Want To Earn \$25 An Hour From Home? I Can Teach You How. Now you're smiling, too.

Such monetary scams as this, promising nothing but a stable income earned in complete comfort, tap into everyday emotional tensions – such as supporting the family, or finally paying off that debt – rather than the instant gratification that comes with winning a brand new iPhone. Long gone are the days where you'd wish to be the lucky millionth visitor on a webpage to score an easy million dollars. As full-time graduate employment prospects continue to decline and as owning your own home becomes less and less feasible, the notion of earning a little bit more than the minimum wage appears more exciting (and more realistic) than coming across a ridiculous amount of cash by chance.



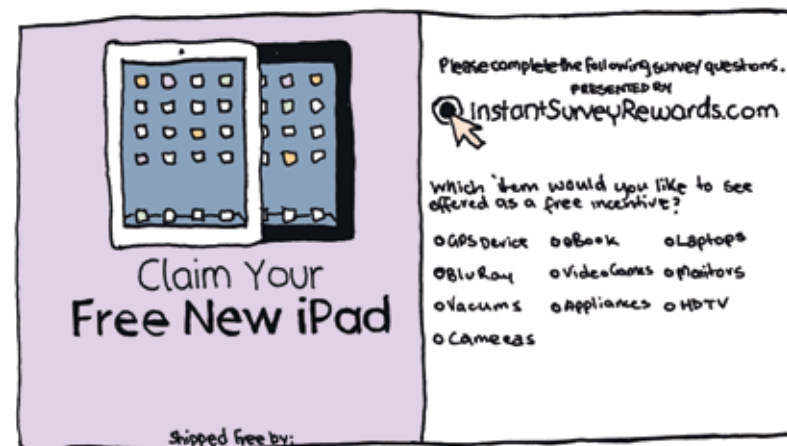
Eventually, flash games like this were enough to make you think your pointing and clicking skills were developed enough to deserve an iPod classic.

I tell him, “Yes, it's me! We passed each other at the Gare du Nord station in the spring of 2013. Do you remember? I was in a green dress. Amongst the crowd, you were holding a tattered copy of Pablo Neruda's love poems. I took a chance and slipped my Hotmail address in there... I knew you would find me one day, Jean.”

Jean didn't respond, unfortunately. Maybe his ghostwriter freaked out at how seriously I wanted the real Jean in my life. Whoever is actually behind Jean's mysterious persona is likely to have one of three strategies up their sleeve to reel in the electronic dough.

Ideally, I would have exchanged a number of emails with 'Jean' before he sent me a link designed to steal my login information, and from there, more of my personal details. Or, the same link would direct me to a malware-infested website. But the most dangerous possibility is that Jean Rafon is the pawn in a romance scam. He'd strike up a relationship with me, establish a sense of trust, then maybe urge me to provide my Western Union details so that he could buy a plane ticket to meet me in person, all the way from Paris. Then, 'Jean' would disappear — or yet, he would ask for even more money. Evidently, the risk here is not only financial — this scam is one of many that shrewdly and successfully baits our emotional vulnerabilities.

Sure, most online scams look like they might've been made with a mixture of stock images and Microsoft Paint. At any rate, though, they're still expertly aimed at our deepest, innermost cravings. It wouldn't be surprising to soon see a pop-up ad in the near future proclaiming: 'I Clicked Here And I Got A University Degree For Under 100k', or 'Congratulations! Your BA qualifies you for a regular, entry level job! Click here to apply!' Scams are — quite literally — a criminal attack on the desires of the human psyche. Desires which, at the end of the day, we can't 'ad-block'. **HS**



Survey rewards websites operated on two falsities: that data about whether you like vacuum cleaners is valuable enough to pay for a pop-up ad, and that giving simple information like this merited a free iPad.

“How about we launch with John 14:1-3?” says the man across the table. His fingers skim the wafer thin pages of the leather bound book in his hands. He pauses, and begins the recital in a booming voice. The same one he would use three days later, as he officiated the funeral.

As a non-religious person I find this situation uncomfortable. I don't understand much of this Jesus business, but more than that, I am still digesting the news of my mother's death two days ago.

He finishes up and locks his eyes with mine, slowly beginning “Aaaa...”, lifting his chin willing me to join. “...men,” I contribute.

“So, what do you think?” he prods.

“Any chance you could leave out the part about Jesus? And maybe God too, you know, if that's possible?” I ask a minister, in his full Catholic garb.

My mother wasn't religious. As one of the kids who got to go to the computer room during scripture in primary school, I know she would have hated this. And yet here I am sitting here trying to decide on the least Jesus-heavy bible verses to be read at her funeral.

What the priest lacked in relevant subject matter he made up for by offering to do the gig for free thanks to a family favour somewhere down the bloodline. And free was what I needed more than anything. Funerals are big business. You have to cut costs where you can.

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The average cost of a funeral in Australia is \$7000. This figure can change dramatically depending on the services required: for example, burial is often over three times the cost of cremation. Even the most basic form of corpse disposal, known as a “direct cremation”, will set you back approximately two grand for the honour of receiving your loved one in a plastic box.

Funerals, unlike the disposal of corpses, are not essential. They have become so ubiquitous in Australia, however, that they may as well be. The culture is such that following a death, the question is not ‘should we have a funeral?’ but ‘when’. In many cases, the alternatives are not considered and the first funeral director consulted will be the one contracted for the job. A funeral will often be one of the most expensive events we organise in a lifetime and yet we are happy to hand over our cash without so much as a price comparison.

But can you blame us?

Periods of extreme grief are never a good time to make large financial decisions. Couple this with a largely opaque industry, complicated pricing structures and the fact that for many this will be their first experience of death and we end up with a \$1 billion industry, which is based on a sure bet: people die.

The economy of dying

MAANI TRUU / WORDS
JESS ZLOTNICK / ART

There is nothing more certain in life than death and taxes. Increasingly, these two things are one in the same. *Honi* investigates how unnecessary funeral rituals are leaving many people short-changed.

‘It says a lot about our attitudes to death that even in cases of closed caskets the corpse will be wearing their Sunday best and a face full of makeup’

In Sydney, most people who die will spend their final days above ground in a nondescript building in the outer suburbs, like the one I am standing in front of now.

Neil and Giovanni are a defacto couple and the joint owners of Men in Black Funerals. It is evident that they take great pride in their operation.

“From the first call to the last shovel of dirt into the ground, everything is done by us,” says Neil.

To do everything in-house is a rarity in the Australian funeral industry. According to Neil they are one of the last remaining fully incorporated funeral homes in Sydney — possibly the last.

In the mortuary, the smell of disinfectant is suffocating. The space is a hybrid between a hospital room and my ex-boyfriend’s bathroom. A shelf holds David Beckham cologne, Lynx deodorant, Dove moisturizer and Tresemmé shampoo — the same brand I washed my hair with this morning. To my right there is a plastic bag with a zipper, roughly the size of a man, laying atop a gurney.

I am suddenly very aware of my self-diagnosed ‘death phobia’. “You see dead bodies day in and day out except they are vertical and they breathe,” Neil says, quickly unzipping the body bag.

“I’m sorry, I’ve never seen a dead body before.”

Neil scoffs. “He’s just sleeping.”

When I move closer, that is exactly what I tell myself. I am surprised at the peaceful expression on the man’s face, his grey hair long and weathered by his time spent confined to a hospital bed, waiting to be cured by Giovanni, the mortuary’s resident hair-dresser and cosmetics expert. It was actually Giovanni’s career in the beauty industry that made them start the business. Neil says the presentation of deceased people and the living is remarkably similar. The cadavers have their hair cut, faces shaved and ears cleaned. They are washed and spritzed with cologne. Make-up is specially mixed to work on cold skin and the application is mostly a lot heavier than usual. Turns out you can go harder on the blush when you are no longer pumping blood. The comparisons end when I discover Giovanni is also responsible for reconstructing the missing parts of accident victims’ faces using latex and wax.

“It’s pretty close too,” says Neil. “It’s a science and an art.”

It seems like a lot of effort considering that within a few days this ‘art’ will be either melted into oblivion or buried six feet under. It says a lot about our attitudes to death that even in cases of closed caskets the corpse will be wearing their Sunday best and a face full of makeup.

Six bodies lie in the mortuary. When Neil opens the fridge the first thing I see are two sock-covered feet. A member of Tongan royalty, already embalmed, lays uncovered. He looks like a wax statue, his moustache stubble a little too well placed and his skin slightly too warm-coloured. But he does not look dead; a tribute to Giovanni’s skill. Sensing my discomfort about taking notes on the corpse of someone’s father, Neil assures me that they have the utmost respect for the privacy of their clients, but that an open door policy is important in an industry screaming out for regulation.

“It’s not smoke and mirrors here. If you go over to InvoCare or something it’s all ‘no you can’t go in there or there’, which immediately gives rise to suspicion.”

InvoCare is the largest funeral company and crematorium operator in the Asia Pacific region, managing over sixty brands in Australia. Guardian Funerals, White Lady Funerals, Simplicity Funerals, Tobin Brothers, WN Bull, Value Funerals — these are all InvoCare.

Neil is right, the chance of getting a look at InvoCare’s operating premises, which are shared between the different brands, is low. They do not respond to my request for an interview.

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Independent companies like Men in Black make up approximately sixty per cent of the funeral industry. The other forty per cent is InvoCare-owned. The market is even narrower when looking at cemeteries and crematoriums, with all major memorial parks in Sydney operated by InvoCare.

Economically, it makes sense for all InvoCare brands to share mortuary facilities. Each brand typically has multiple shop fronts around Sydney where customers are able to meet with directors. Behind the scenes, three sizable processing centers handle the inflow of cadavers from all of these locations. It is here that the storing, cleaning, embalming, dressing and coffining take place. It

is estimated that the Lidcombe centre alone processes over 10,000 services a year.

Operations like this allow InvoCare to continue increasing its share of the market. We believe we have choice in the funeral industry. Looking at the major brands, this is not the case.

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In lieu of a response from the InvoCare head office, I turn to Robert James, a director at Guardian Funerals Bondi Junction and an industry veteran with over forty years’ experience.

“It’s just a waste of money,” he says, referring to having an on-site mortuary.

“No one has come to us and said ‘I don’t like the fact that my father is not with you physically.’ ... The big central mortuary is staffed twenty-four-seven, the bodies are never left alone. They can draw comfort from that.”

Guardian Funerals cater to both the lower and higher ends of the budget, with Robert describing them as “the middle of the road” when it comes to pricing.

In the serene meeting room, a small cardboard display catches my eye. It is the most colorful thing in sight.

“Oh LifeArt, yes let me show you,” says Robert, passing me the board. “The coffins are actually made of the material you are holding.”

The sign feels like corflute plastic, but Robert assures me it is eighty per cent recyclable. It shows a range of coffins covered in images. Everything from flowers to a golf ball to a West Tigers logo. Customers can also have their own photos printed on the ‘cardboard’ coffin. They’re even “suitable to decorate with crayons and paints”.

Despite being made of glorified cardboard, one of the fully customised coffins is priced at over \$4000. I later find out that LifeArt is owned by InvoCare.

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During the interview with Robert I am acutely aware of my bias. Robert is a wonderful conversationalist and I find it hard to doubt his good intentions. He is accommodating and says “sorry if I keep talking I am just really passionate about this” more than once during the hour.

My distrust lies with the system. Two years ago I had been sitting in a room very similar to where I am sitting now and speaking to a director from a company very similar to this, but we were going over prices. As a nineteen-year-old my experience with funerals, like many other things, was limited. So were my funds.

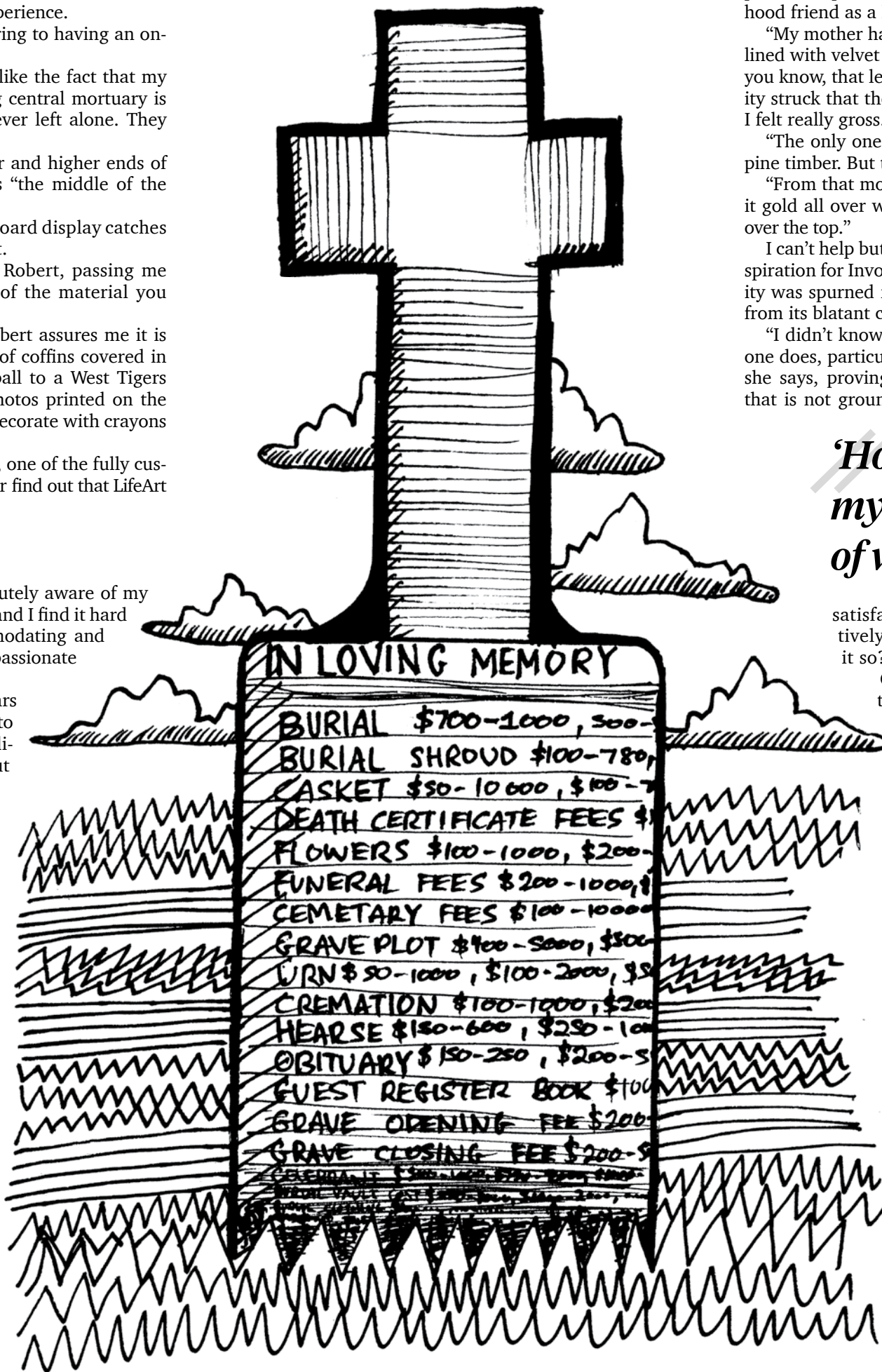
Often throughout her life my mother said things like, “I don’t care what happens to me when I die, just chuck me on the side of the road and have a party.” I believe she meant it, too.

I said as much in my eulogy to her, reading this line from a piece of paper:

“Let’s not kid ourselves, she would have hated this. She is likely laughing at all the ritual and poetry, trying to tell us not to make such a fuss!”

So why were we in a chapel, my thighs numb on a pew, listening to a priest attempt to make tangential connections — “she often wore a cross necklace to symbolise that while she wasn’t always outspoken about her beliefs, she wore it close to her heart” — to justify his presence. In reality she wore the necklace because she was given it by a pastor who she thought was hot.

The desire for ‘closure’ cost me a lot. All the circumstances were aligned for me to make the radical decision to forgo a funeral: she wasn’t religious, she didn’t have a will in place, she had explicitly said she



didn’t want one, and yet I followed protocol and found myself in a meeting room discussing the benefits of lined over unlined caskets. Multiple small loans, a dropped university subject and a lot of unnecessary stress in the days following her death was the price. In hindsight, I realise that honoring my deceased mother through putting myself in a poor financial situation is the antithesis of what she would have wanted as my parent.

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“I think it went as perfect as a funeral can go,” Justine says when asked about the experience of planning her mother’s funeral.

Despite coming from similar circumstances as myself, Justine views the experience in a more positive light. She describes the process of painting her mother’s coffin in the garage of her childhood friend as a life-affirming experience.

“My mother had once told me she wanted to have a gold coffin lined with velvet and decorated with jewels in the biggest church, you know, that level of celebration,” she explains. “When the reality struck that there was no way I could afford what she wanted, I felt really gross.

“The only one I could afford was the most basic model, plain, pine timber. But then I had this idea: what if I decorated it?”

“From that moment on I was dedicated to this coffin. I painted it gold all over with these white painted birds, really big birds, all over the top.”

I can’t help but assume that individuals like Justine were the inspiration for InvoCare’s LifeArt coffins. Ironically, Justine’s creativity was spurned from financial necessity, while InvoCare benefits from its blatant commercialisation.

“I didn’t know what to expect, as you don’t; I don’t think anyone does, particularly at our age, but the funeral was incredible,” she says, proving my experience is not universal. A conclusion that is not groundbreaking given the popularity of the ritual. Is

‘Honouring my deceased mother through putting myself in a poor financial situation is the antithesis of what she would have wanted as my parent’

satisfaction with the end result dependent on actively pursuing a course of action that would make it so? Probably.

Obvious or not it must be questioned whether this is achievable for everyone. Particularly when research commissioned by the Australian Funeral Directors Association in 2014 found cost was the most important factor when deciding on a funeral, with two in three Australians saying it trumped religion and family traditions. Wishes of the deceased and their bank balance are not always in sync.

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Walking off the platform at Port Kembla train station, near Wollongong, two policemen are posted at the single exit to check the Opal cards of people alighting. During the fifteen-minute walk from the station I encounter only one person. After stepping over a rotting bag of bait tossed on the sidewalk and crossing what I believe is a main road but devoid of cars, I arrive at Tender Funerals, one of few not-for-profit funeral homes in Australia.

Housed in a heritage fire station and nestled amongst classic Australian suburbia, you could easily mistake the business for any other house in the street. Inside, the illusion continues with each room of the cottage fitted out just as a house would be.

The atmosphere of funeral homes, or at least their public areas, is predictable across the board. A palate of beige and white. Clean, elegant furniture. Lots of

mahogany. A seascape on the wall. Soft spa music in the background. A bowl of mints next to a box of tissues with a decorative cover. Sometimes there are fish tanks.

This funeral home is not that. White walls provide a backdrop for abstract art and colorful throw pillows. Incense burns on the fireplace and there is a crocheted cactus in a tea cup on the dining table.

According to Amy, this departure from the norm is intentional like most things at Tender Funerals.

“Our principle is we’re not here to tell you how to do your funeral, we’re here to provide you with every option and you can create what you want from that,” says Amy.

“We ask whether they would like to wash and dress them. Would you like them to be in a coffin or on a cooling plate [an electronic metal tray that keeps the corpse cold] on the ground? The cooling plate is also portable, so people can take their loved one home.”

Amy, 24, is young when it comes to funeral directors, having entered the industry at only 16. The importance of having younger generations in the industry is obvious when you look at the progressive work Tender Funerals is doing. They operate under a social enterprise model, meaning each funeral costs the customer only what it cost Tender Funerals in goods and wages — a stark contrast to the over 100 per cent mark-up on coffins elsewhere in the industry.

Their fees are listed item by item on the website, under the caveat: “we truly believe the amount spent on a funeral is not a reflection of the amount a person was loved.” Breaking down the prices into individual items and services allows the customer to make clear decisions about what is essential.

As a not-for-profit, it’s easier to believe Amy when she says she will try to talk the customer out of designing a funeral beyond their means.

“I don’t know if you have been to a funeral before,” she says. “But unless they’re something spectacular you probably don’t remember the flowers atop the coffin which probably cost like \$600.

xxx

About three weeks after my mother’s funeral, an email appeared in my inbox.

“I just had a thought and I think you should follow up on this,” it began.

I grew up in a single-mother home, my father leaving earlier than I can manage to remember and he is only tangentially involved in my life. There was once a time where his presence was heightened: when he suffered a life-threatening brain aneurysm.

“You should check if he has a funeral plan in place. Because you know, if he passes away, you’ll be up for the funeral costs again,” the email reads.

The thought that I could end up financially responsible for someone who was the equivalent of a second-cousin in terms of their impact on my life stopped me in my tracks.

Even if, using my new found knowledge, I made the call to forgo a funeral, I would still be financially implicated in the disposal of his body. And to send my father into the afterlife without so much as a wave or an acknowledgement seems wrong. I mean, I once had a funeral for a goldfish.

While companies like Tender Funerals are attempting to transform the commercial approach to the industry, they are still very much in the minority. And for a lot of Australians, still unaffordable.

And so the prospect of another loan sits waiting in the future. I can only hope to have the last one paid off by then. **HS**

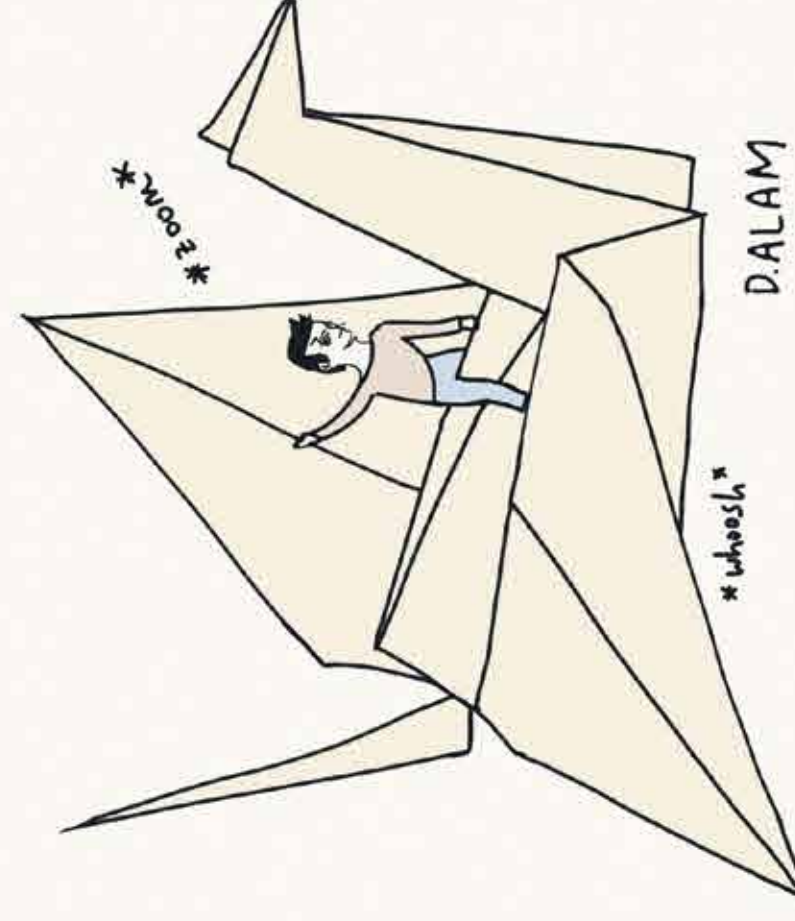
STUDY TIP 1 :

DURING LECTURES,
CATCH UP ON SLEEP
LOST FROM CATCHING
UP ON LECTURES AT
1AM THE NIGHT
BEFORE.



STUDY TIP 2 :

LEAVE ALL YOUR NOTES UNTIL
THE LAST MINUTE AND WATCH
THEM PILE UP AROUND YOU IN A
PAPERY MOUNTAIN. CONSTRUCT PAPER
CAREFULLY INTO AN ORIGAMI CRANE
COLLECTION.



STUDY TIP 3 :

ANGRY-CRY UNTIL
YOUR EYES ARE RED
& SWOLLEN, DUE TO
THE EXCESSIVE
WORKLOAD YOU
IGNORED DURING THE
SEMESTER.



STUDY TIP 4 :

SCHEDULE IN YOUR EXISTENTIAL CRISES
ABOUT WHETHER THE DEGREE YOU
CHOSE AT 17 YEARS TO STUDY WILL
FULFIL YOUR LIFE VISIONS.



Wentworth must fall

ANDY MASON / The Wentworth building needs a new name

William Charles Wentworth is best known around these parts for his foundational role in the University of Sydney's history. Among the many places that bear his name across the country is the Wentworth building, which currently houses the University of Sydney Students' Representative Council and several University of Sydney Union-run facilities. Few are aware, however, of the nature of the legacy Wentworth left behind.

Wentworth was born aboard a convict ship in 1790. Although his mother was a convict, his father was related to a prominent aristocratic family and became a wealthy landowner near Parramatta. As a result, Wentworth was educated privately in England. Upon returning to the colony, he was appointed to a government position and given a land grant on the Yandhai (Nepean River). In 1813, he became an icon of Australian history when he 'discovered' a crossing over the Blue Mountains, perhaps by exploiting a local Aboriginal guide as was common practice for explorers. Wiradjuri, Gundungura and Dharug people had been using the same crossings for tens of thousands of years, and they had even been previously used by other white people.

The route over the Blue Mountains precipitated an explosion of pastoral settlement into central and north-western NSW, which in turn was the catalyst for a series of extraordinarily brutal frontier conflicts that would last more than half a century. People like Wentworth styled themselves as part of a distinctively Australian 'bunyip aristocracy', seeking both financial riches and political power built on huge tracts of stolen Aboriginal land. The drive to acquire pasture for sheep and cattle led soldiers, police and cattlemen to shoot and poison tens of thousands of Aboriginal people across the colony.

While some of the colonial elite preferred to feign ignorance and make excuses about their inability to control settlers on the frontier, Wentworth was more brazen in his disdain for Aboriginal people. In 1838, seven white stockmen were convicted of murdering a large number of Gamilaraay people at Myall Creek in north-western NSW. A further four participants

were identified by an Aboriginal witness, but the law of the time did not allow Aboriginal people to give testimony in court. To rectify this and allow the white men to be tried, a bill was introduced to the Legislative Council. However, it was defeated after Wentworth gave a speech describing Aboriginal people as "wild men" and comparing their testimony to "the chatterings of the orang-utans."

Wentworth later used his substantial wealth and influence to help establish the University of Sydney as the first tertiary institution in the country, providing a large financial endowment and serving on its first senate.

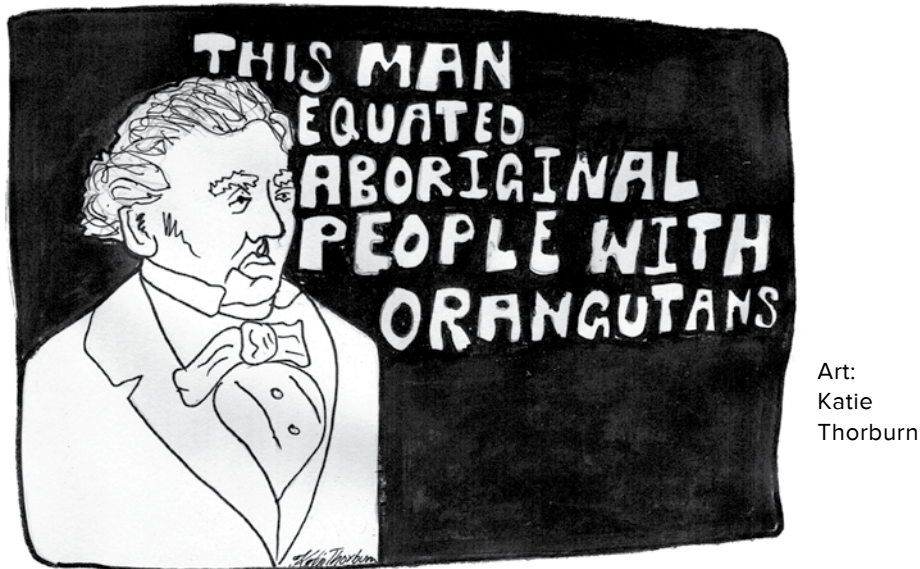
The land on which USyd is built was alienated from its Gadigal traditional owners just 18 months after the invasion in 1788, and gazetted as a Crown reserve for school and church purposes. A couple of years later, parts of it began to be granted to British officers seeking to build their personal estates. Meanwhile, the colony continued to grow around Aboriginal walking tracks leading from Warrane (Sydney Harbour) west to Parramatta, and south to Goolay-yari (Cooks River) and Kamay (Botany Bay),

which have become modern Parramatta Rd, City Rd/King St and Botany Rd.

The Wentworth Building's history is by no means unique – countless other places in Australia bear the names of people who excused or actively participated in the attempted genocide of Aboriginal people. These stories also need to be told. But what does it say about us as a learning community that we are happy to have places on our campus named after somebody who thought Aboriginal people were apes who should be able to be murdered without legal consequences? The Uni's website claims that:

"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation and engagement is a core component of our future and an essential part of our collective history. At the University of Sydney, we believe in the diversity of participation at every level of our study, work and research. It is a core part of our purpose. It's also a big part of what makes us a uniquely Australian university."

If we are to live up to this, surely it is essential that people like Wentworth are no longer celebrated on our campus. It's time to change the name.



Art:
Katie
Thorburn

Biology versus ideology

IMOGEN HARPER / Human biology lectures are no place for one-sided 'discussions' on abortion

Last year, my human biology lecturer told us we would be having a 20-minute, non-assessable discussion on the ethics of abortion to introduce the component of the course on reproduction. I believed then, as I do now, that there is a place for education on how political issues affect doctors' and scientists' work, and I did not initially object. However, what followed was an ideology-filled presentation that used emotion and distorted science to discredit a woman's right to have an abortion.

The first step of the 'discussion' was to agree that, as science students, we knew that everything with DNA was alive — so we had to admit that it was life abortions were ending. We were then subject to a number of anecdotes about how, during his PhD, my lecturer walked past the neonatal cribs of children who were born at 22 weeks and went on to live long and happy lives.

Later, it became time for us to examine the 'reality' of abortion. Our lecturer said that he'd thought about it for a long time and had decided that the pictures of vacuum abortions were too horrifying to present to the class; here he paused to contemplate the lecture theatre full of students with internet-connected laptops. Eventually he pointed to the picture of a foetus that had been on the projector screen for minutes, and revealed that it was dead due to the burns of a salt-abortion (a method illegal in Australia, America and the UK).

Whether it was intentional or not, I believe that

the construction of this discussion framed the debate emotionally, and thus ideologically. To make matters worse however, when scientific data was presented, it was placed in a context that was, at best incomplete, and at worst incorrect.

First, we were told that in an unspecified year in England and Wales, 177,000 abortions took place. 653 of those were between 23 and 24 weeks and 92 at 25 weeks or more. The last line of the slide read, "A baby can be delivered and survive at 22 weeks." To our lecturer this indicates that, whatever we believe, we must "seriously consider" that some abortions involve killing a child who could have lived.

The problem is that this statistic was used with no consideration of the reasons for having an abortion. Since 1967, UK law has required pregnancies exceeding 24 weeks to only be terminated where there is a risk of death or grave personal injury to the mother, or the child being "seriously handicapped [sic]". Abortion statistics also include instances where an abortion is performed for the mother's safety after the foetus has died in utero. So even if some babies can be delivered successfully at 22 weeks, many of those foetuses counted in the statistics could not have lived, or could not have been delivered without serious risk to their mother's life. These are not particularly novel observations, especially for someone who walked through a neonatal ward everyday.

Second, our lecturer told us that some research

suggests a foetus can feel pain, but that some doctors argue against giving anaesthesia to it since that would endanger the mother. He implies that this concern is silly, especially given "the reality of abortion" he has previously described. It seems, though, that he is in a minority here. Most medical professionals believe a foetus only begins to feel pain in the third trimester. When Utah passed a law to require fetal anesthesia in 2016, it was widely condemned, and Utah remains the only US state with this requirement.

At this point, it is actual science that has been misrepresented to us. This is not only educationally disappointing, but also significantly more manipulative than any use of emotion: we, as first year science students, have no grounds to question a professional.

If we are to be taught to consider controversies, then we should be taught to do so as scientists, and not through rhetoric infused with ideology. What this experience shows is that, if the University wishes to keep their students engaged in the morality of their work, there needs to be a consistent effort from the faculty, lecturers and students to ensure that a platform of influence cannot be used for, or tainted by, ideology.

The University was asked about its guidelines on the handling of sensitive political issues in the sciences, but did not respond by the print deadline. The course in question is running again this year.

In defence of our probbo parents

PRANAY JHA / Why do different generations interpret cultural appropriation differently?

I am sitting in the living room with my family, passionately expressing my outrage at a series of culturally appropriative 'Bollywood' themed parties that have recently flooded my newsfeed. As a second-generation migrant immersed in the world of positive social justice discourse, the idea that cultural appropriation is bad is a truism. White people should obviously not be able to profiteer or entertain themselves using the cultural fabric of oppressed societies. Yet surprisingly, the adults in the room don't give me the response I'm expecting, exchanging confused looks with each other instead.

"Isn't this just a celebration of our culture?" they posit.

For many first-generation migrants cultural appropriation is seen as a long awaited acceptance of their culture. My Chinese-Australian friend tells me that for his mother, cultural appropriation is "a blending of culture, not an affront to traditional China". In many instances, she believes it's an example of "Australians loving Chinese culture." Another parent articulates this by suggesting "When I see clothing in Myer influenced by our [Indian] culture, it feels like we're having an impact on this country".

It's an attitude that confronts and frustrates me. Having viewed the practice through filters of racial taunts and shaming, cultural appropriation has always been a sensitive issue for me. How dare those who made fun of my name and taunted my dark skin cherry-pick elements of my culture for social advancement? Yet as I reflect on my attitude, I become more curious about the rationale for our parents' perspective. What has caused such a radical shift in perceptions over a single generation? Perhaps there is a complex explanation for what strikes

me as a facile outlook.

It is all too common for second-generation people of colour to dismiss their parents' thinking as ignorant. One of my best friends, an Indian Australian, accounts for his parents' perceived obliviousness by claiming "my parents ... don't really follow the media at all and that's sort of a basis for learning about [cultural appropriation theory]". In-fact, as I attempted to organize interviews, many of my friends were reluctant to start discussions with their parents, speculatively pre-empting their attitudes towards cultural appropriation. However, as I began to speak to my friends' parents, it became apparent that such a view of our parents was reductive.

Among the first-generation migrants I spoke to, the primary reason for moving to Australia was to find better opportunities for work and lead a better life. Although there is obviously no all-encompassing narrative of immigration, overwhelmingly, those I interviewed described a will for survival and economic success in Australia as central to their experience. In this world, the frontier for battles of race lay not in the distant symbolic harms of cultural appropriation, but the very real experiences of institutionalised discrimination and the racist anti-immigrant stances of Pauline Hanson and her ilk.

Sold on the belief that hard work would allow them to prosper, our parents' generation dedicated themselves to their careers and families — in many instances leading to the internalisation of racist norms. My Chinese friend's mother, for example, suggested that, having learnt English as a second language, it was natural that she would lose out to native English speakers when vying for jobs. Comments like these perhaps reflect a preference to ac-

cept one's lot in life rather than protesting racism — something seen as likely to only cause further ostracism.

After all, it's important to remember that our parents came to an Australia that was vastly different to the one we see today. Despite the existence of many tight-knit migrant communities, Asian immigrants accounted for less than 5 per cent of the total population in 1990. "It was very white," a parent tells me; "they just weren't willing to interact". In such an Anglo-Australian-dominated society, many of the immigrants I talked to suggested that being overly critical of subtle forms of racism simply was not feasible. When the central aspect of the migrant's experience was survival, the best way to 'make it' in this foreign land was to accept the hegemonic influences on one's life and avoid the social exclusion that was concomitant with calling out racist practices.

After having an open discussion with first generation immigrants, I can now begin to understand their perspective on cultural appropriation. It emerges from an experience of a whiter Australia than I have ever witnessed; a painful path to success that I may never need to walk and a struggle for survival I will likely never know. When they see white teenagers in kimonos, it's a symbol not of cultural othering, but of recognition, a final realisation that they exist and that their culture has been put on the map.

Perhaps my mother sums it up better than I can. She says, "I remember when I took my oath, they asked me to integrate into Australian society... seeing my white co-workers in kurtas makes me feel like my people finally exist."

Review: Places to cry on campus

ELIJAH ABRAHAM / For all your breakdown needs

Welcome to University! Heads up: you're going to cry. You might even cry so much that by your seventh time sobbing in the Merewether stairwell after handing another assignment in at 4:58pm two weeks after it was due, you'll stop crying after a while, laugh to yourself, and whisper "same" to no one in particular.

To streamline the process for you, I've taken the time to review some of the many places I've shed tears in this fine institution.

WHAT: Assignments stacking up, no sleep
WHERE: Fisher Library
WHEN: Week 2, when you realise what you've signed up for

Fisher is a huge library, so it would be unfair to declare the whole edifice bad for crying. I've had some great sobs in the isolated book aisles of the higher levels. The media rooms are soundproof, but require booking your sob-session in advance. The silent study zones, however, are a godless place where crying is an alien concept which elicits an immediate USYD Rant about you. **RATING: 5/10 + minimum three unfriendly shushes.**

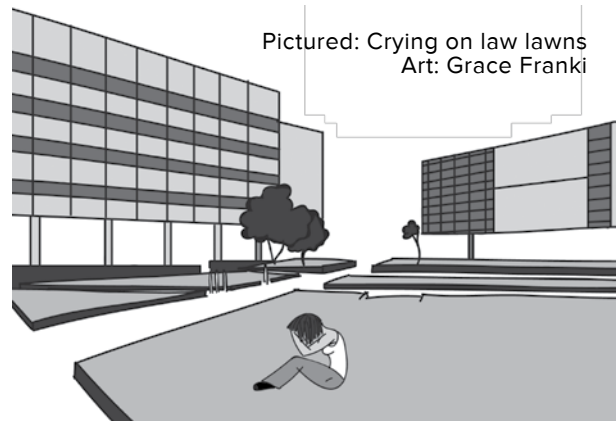
WHAT: General university dread, an hour-long train ride with no seats
WHERE: The Redfern Run
WHEN: Week 4, after the assignment you worked hard on and confidently handed in is destroyed by your tutor

If you live far away from campus, this is an ideal place for crying. Existential dread at 4:00pm and a train to catch at 4:15? Cry along the Redfern Run! I've generally had no trouble crying along this route, but if crying makes you a slow walker, you may at-

tract the ire of fellow students. **RATING: 6/10 + five people knocking your bag as they overtake you**

WHAT: You! Have! No! Friends!
WHERE: The Law Lawns
WHEN: Week 5, after someone from your GOVT1001 tute ignores you on Eastern Avenue

I cried here in first year because I had no friends, and cried further after dropping my phone and cracking the screen on the cold concrete surrounding the grass. Expect unsympathetic, cashed-up law students to throw their Taste baguettes at you while ibises drink your tears. **RATING: 0/10**



WHAT: Bus line longer than the Great Wall
WHERE: Cumberland Campus
WHEN: When the bus finally arrives; before the sole eatery on campus closes

The very few times I've gone to Cumbo have felt like I'm going to high school again and that gives me reason enough to cry. The line for the M92 from Lidcombe Station makes me want to cry. Even despite

its spacious campus and eerie proximity to a cemetery, crying here feels like screaming into the void. **RATING: 4/10**

WHAT: The Jacaranda died
WHERE: The Quadrangle
WHEN: Every waking minute

Once a haven for crying on campus, the loss of The Jacaranda has significantly reduced the quality of crying here. No longer can the beloved tree shield you from the stares of cruel school children. I now wear sunglasses when crying here and I highly rate them. **RATING: 7/10**

WHAT: Exception in thread "main" java.lang.Error: Unresolved compilation problem
WHERE: School of Information Technologies Building
WHEN: Week 9, after you've reconciled the fact that this is your life for the next couple of years

Legitimately one of the nicest places on campus. I've cried over many a runtime error in the lobby and highly recommend. **RATING: 9/10**

WHAT: You need help
WHERE: Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Office
WHEN: Whenever, but office hours are 9am–5pm Monday–Friday

Okay, I haven't actually cried here but there are probably times I should have. University can be very rough and your mental health is important. If you're crying on campus and need professional help, don't be afraid to seek it. Crying is an incredible vehicle for expressing your emotions, but don't feel like you have to go it alone.

Museums moving on

JOHN-PATRICK ASIMAKIS / USyd's relics are being relocated

You probably didn't notice.

Exams had just finished. Maybe you were settling into summer school, heading far away, or just enjoying the beginning of the holidays. But at the end of last year, the University of Sydney's historic Macleay Museum and the USyd Art Gallery closed their doors for the final time. At the end of next year, the Nicholson Museum will join them.

Their collections will be moved to the Chau Chak Wing Museum, a new development endowed by a \$15 million donation from a Chinese-Australian property magnate of the same name. Due to open in late 2018, the Chau Chak Wing Museum will be constructed near Victoria Park on the corner of Parramatta Road and University Avenue at an estimated cost of \$40 million. The University scrapped previous plans to adapt the existing Macleay and Edgeworth David buildings due to escalating costs in keeping them environmentally sound.

Located underneath MacLaurin Hall in the main quadrangle, the Nicholson Museum holds collections of Egyptian, Cypriot, Greek, Italian and Middle Eastern artefacts. The neo-gothic setting of the museum's arches has always been a fitting home for the venerable items it shelters – a rich collection of fine arts and classical antiquities, which Sir Charles Nicholson, an English-born politician, landowner and physician, donated to the University in 1860.

Nicholson also donated many valuable paintings, sculptures and tapestries, which formed the basis of what would later become the University of Sydney art collection. Located above the War Memorial Arch on the northern side of the Quadrangle from 1958 until its closure last year, the University of Sydney Art Gallery displayed a significant collection of Australian and East Asian art. The intimacy of the exhibition space, accessed via a discrete spiral staircase, and its surreal position suspended above one of the University's busy thoroughfares, made it a delightful place to visit.

The museums were unique spaces, each in plain sight, yet somehow hidden at the same time. That inaccessibility was one reason given for the change.

Mere metres from the Art Gallery stood Macleay Museum, a purpose-built fire-proof building off Science Road, constructed in 1886–87. Its aged cedar cabinets housed the extensive zoological collections which William John Macleay donated in 1873.

The museums were unique spaces, each in plain sight, yet somehow hidden at the same time.

That inaccessibility was one reason given for the change. Speaking to *Honi*, Dr Paul Donnelly, Associate Director of Museum Content at the new Chau Chak Wing Museum, expressed concern that “even for hardened museum-goers, the old museums [were] hard to find.” When I voiced my own sadness at the loss of those spaces, Donnelly remained optimistic. “Parts of those buildings are beautiful – and I lament losing that – but having a purpose-built building is more efficient and cost-effective.”

The erection of the new development will permit a greater proportion of the three collections' 850,000 items to be shown, as the proposed increase to 1900m²

of exhibition space will treble the previous display capacity. Such an increase should, of course, be celebrated, and Donnelly was adamant it would be “more efficient to gather [the museums'] infrastructure, hardware and technology” in one single place.

But the concentration of the three collections together might also lose the sense of definition that three separate museums, each with a different focus, formerly provided. Although Donnelly confirmed that distinct galleries within the new museum would perpetuate the legacy of the Nicholson and Macleay donations, this demotion from ‘museum’ to ‘gallery’ seems at variance with his insistence that “any institution relying on philanthropy must demonstrate its indebtedness.”

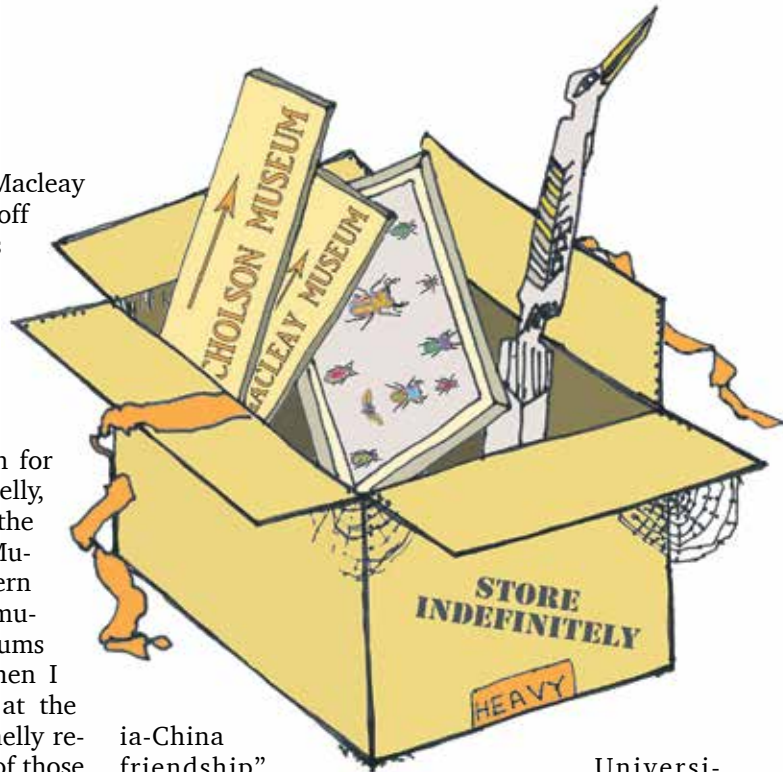
It is difficult to doubt the philanthropic generosity of Dr Chau Chak Wing, who considered his donation a “heartfelt contribution to developing the Austral-

azon, and Microsoft.

These data centres range in size from a single room to a full-scale industrial factory. Some centre hubs can dominate the economies and infrastructure of entire cities, such as the “Cloud Cities” of Wuxi and Langfang in China.

Not so shockingly, running the entire Internet uses vast amounts of electricity – so much so that companies such as Google use more energy per year than the entire country of Turkey. A 2013 study from the Digital Power Group concerning global Informations and Communications Technology (ICT), which in this case refers to the physical infrastructure that supports the Cloud, estimated that 10 per cent of global electricity was used to power ICT ecosystems, of which data centres were the major consumer. At the time, that was more electricity per year than Germany and Japan combined.

Amazon Web Services (AWS) currently controls 45 per cent of the global market share for Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) computing, which is more than their three main competitors, Facebook, Microsoft, and Google, put together. Unlike Google, which will run their data centres on 100 per cent renewable energy by the end of 2017, AWS currently



ia-China friendship”.

Universities depend on donors like him, and such extraordinary benefaction merits recognition. But one has to wonder if the same fate which has befallen the Art Gallery, Nicholson and Macleay Museums might someday befall the Chau Chak Wing Museum too.

Donnelly denied that was likely, calling the development “a really magnanimous decision” which was merely part of a “general worldwide trend” to make better use of university collections by “emphasising material-based learning”. Such a learning style holds a personal significance for Donnelly, who studied archaeology at USyd and recalls “pushing dust [from artefacts in the Nicholson] into the corner of [his] notes because it was ancient.”

Visiting the Macleay Museum and the Art Gallery on their final day was especially poignant. Most of the other visitors were oldies, perhaps entering those spaces for the first time, perhaps coming back to a familiar place for the last. Maybe, as an old man myself, I will be visiting the Chau Chak Wing Museum on its own final day, before it too gives way to a new donation, location and name.

Call me a fossil, but I am sad to say goodbye.

The Nicholson Museum is open (for now) weekdays 10.00am to 4.30pm in the Quadrangle.

USyd women's AFL club to field extra competition team

THEODORA VON ARNIM / It's a year of firsts for women's AFL

The Sydney University Women's AFL Club (SUWALFC) has announced it will be fielding a second Division 1 team in 2017. The SUWALFC was one of the founding clubs of the Sydney Women's AFL competition which began in 2000. Since then USyd's ‘Bombers’ had only ever entered one team in the top division each year.

The expansion comes off the back of two grand-final appearances in the last two years. The club's president, Olivia Warren, says that “with the [AFL women's league] starting up, this is the best time to do it”.

The national league involves eight teams with Sydney represented by the Greater Western Sydney Giants. Over a million people have tuned in

each weekend to watch at least part of a match, and over the first weekend several thousand fans were turned away at gates when stadiums reached capacity.

The influence that the AFLW has had on the sport at a community level is clear. Many of the Bombers' new recruits told Honi that their decision to join was sparked by the AFLW season's free-to-air broadcast. The comprehensive media coverage has pushed women's AFL into the public eye, and the Bombers, as well as other Sydney clubs are looking to capitalise on this growth.

Since the creation of Sydney Women's AFL competition, the sport has changed dramatically. Founding mem-

Short and sweat

SAMUEL CHU / Why are sports getting shorter?

A lime-green sea greeted me as I arrived at Spotless Stadium in Olympic Park. Scores of bucket hats were being passed out to raucous crowd members, who were raring to cheer on the Sydney Thunder in its last game in this summer's Big Bash League (BBL), played against the Adelaide Strikers. Throughout the night, the packed crowd was a far cry from the often bare stadiums that faced the Australian team during their six summer Test matches.

This comparison struck me. Why are sports leagues paying more and more attention to the old adage that ‘a quick game is a good game’?

We can look to BBL and the rise of Twenty20 cricket to get an idea.

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) introduced Twenty20 — the shortest form of the game — in 2003 to combat decreased attendances in their other, more time-consuming ‘offerings’, namely, five-day and one-day matches.

Many major sports are now starting to follow cricket's lead. One sport jumping on this trend is Fast4 Tennis, which requires only four, not six, games to win a set. Games are further sped up by requiring only five, not seven, points to win a tiebreak, removing ‘lets’, and introducing sudden-death ‘PowerPoints’ at deuce.

Fast4 was developed by Tennis Australia for global premiere in 2015 through an exhibition match between Roger Federer and Lleyton Hewitt, which received top-ten national TV ratings. This initial popularity was only the tip of the iceberg - growing enthusiasm developed for the format across Australia's local tennis clubs after trials for some months prior to its TV launch.

Many fans — including some Hopman Cup fans who bemoaned its introduction to the mixed doubles tournament in 2017 — have howled at a format that they perceive as flying in the face of tradition. However, Tennis Australia, like the ECB, has sought to justify Fast4's existence. According to Craig Tilley, Tennis Australia's CEO, in 2015: “time today is precious and [Fast4]... is perfect for any player who wants to fit their tennis matches into a busy lifestyle”.

In 2017, rising tennis star Nick Kyrgios corroborated Tennis Australia's stance on Fast4, stating that “it brings the pressure points or big points earlier which is fun to play but also fun to watch for the crowd”. Tilley and Kyrgios' statements give credence to the idea that Fast4 is designed to be a speedy and high-octane tennis substitute for the time-poor social player or casual consumer.

This move to shorten major sports is not exclusive to Australia. American baseball, football and basketball are all modifying their sports' rules to shrink their ‘products’.

America's Major League Baseball has sought to implement new rules for example, limiting mound visits and introducing pitch clocks — that effectively reduce time-wasting by coaches or players between pitches or for replay challenges. Driven by MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred's awareness that “pace of play is an issue that we need to be focused on”, this effort aims to accommodate the time-poor baseball fan, who, in 2016, has had to watch their team play 10.8 hours of extra baseball compared to the equivalent 2015 season. The National Football League has considered

ber of the Bombers Meredith Gray recalls building goalposts from PVC piping and gaffer tape, and being met with utter confusion when trying to recruit women to play. Despite the challenges the league continued to flourish, with Gray crediting the “passionate, dedicated women who came together to make it happen”.

While many players only begin at university, a growing number of school programs are encouraging younger girls to take up the sport. It remains to be seen whether those programs will result in player retention and on-field performance but if the current sense of excitement continues, fans may be lucky enough to watch Women's AFL expand well into the future.



The environment's black cloud

CAMERON GOOLEY / Silicon Valley's ‘tech solutions of tomorrow’- are less environmentally friendly than you might think

Cloud solutions are often marketed alongside vague taglines such as “the internet of things” and “big data”. Despite being advertised with buzzwords that sound like they're from a 30 Rock sketch, it is undeniable that cloud computing has made our lives a hell of a lot easier. From storing data in applications such as Google Drive and DropBox, to hosting almost every website on the Internet, cloud computing has revolutionised our digital lives.

The fact is, the convenience of your group assignment's shared Google Doc comes at a cost to the environment. Every time you use cloud computing platforms like Google Drive, Dropbox, and Google Photos you're contributing to the fastest growing drain on electricity in the world. Each abandoned or duplicated file left in cloud storage takes up space in a physical data centre.

People tend to see the internet a utility transcendent of physical space or don't think about it long enough to realise that it has a real life location. Or more accurately, locations. Data centres all over the world host everything from Netflix and Facebook to top secret government information. Data centres are essentially gigantic communal hard drives run by a handful of cloud service providers such as IBM, Am-

azon, and Microsoft.

These data centres range in size from a single room to a full-scale industrial factory. Some centre hubs can dominate the economies and infrastructure of entire cities, such as the “Cloud Cities” of Wuxi and Langfang in China.

Not so shockingly, running the entire Internet uses vast amounts of electricity – so much so that companies such as Google use more energy per year than the entire country of Turkey. A 2013 study from the Digital Power Group concerning global Informations and Communications Technology (ICT), which in this case refers to the physical infrastructure that supports the Cloud, estimated that 10 per cent of global electricity was used to power ICT ecosystems, of which data centres were the major consumer. At the time, that was more electricity per year than Germany and Japan combined.

sources only 40 per cent of its energy from renewables. Given that AWS runs 42 ‘availability zones’ (with one or more data centres per zone), this statistic is alarming low.

The energy consumption of data centres has become so big that in 2015 Microsoft invested millions in building one underwater to save on the consumptions associated with physically cooling the centres and to experiment with using tidal energy as a form of renewable power. Although new technology like this is exciting, one could easily imagine it having it having a disastrous impact on its surrounding ecosystems.

Realistically, we can't boycott the cloud services. Even if you were to cut out Netflix or frivolous Google searches, you'd need to use EFTPOS, send a text or read the news. What we can do is be informed; know where these companies are sourcing their energy from and how much they're consuming. Boycott companies that don't have realistic green initiatives. Ensure our government invests in green energy so that local data centres are less likely to churn through coal. And delete all those abandoned Google Docs sitting in your Drive.

A supercharged explosion of action may be all that the modern sports fan will bother with.



President's Report

ISABELLA BROOK

Hey everyone and welcome to a new year at Usyd!

I'm Isabella Brook and I'll be your SRC president for the year! To introduce myself to you in first week tutorial style; I'm in my fourth year (R.I.P) of a Bachelor of Political Economic and Social Sciences majoring in Government and Gender Studies and a fun fact about me is that I cry when I see cute dogs.

Sydney University is an incredible place and your time here will be such an important part of your life but (spoiler alert) things aren't al-

ways sunshine, roses and happy hour at Hermann's. University can end up being an overwhelming experience for many people. At the SRC we know that sometimes shit happens, and when it does the SRC is here to support you to help you get through it.

The SRC is run by students for students. We're here to represent YOU, to advocate for YOUR interests, and to fight for YOUR rights.

There are two important parts to the SRC that you can get involved with during your time at Usyd.

First is our incredible free casework

and legal service that can help you with any issues you might experience while you're at Uni such as: academic issues, Centrelink, tenancy advice, show cause and any legal issues.

Second are the many SRC departments and collectives that are involved in issues that matter to students. These include the Education Action Group, Environmental Collective, Wom*n's Collective, Autonomous Collective Against Racism and many more!

This year your SRC will be organising around some important student

General Secretaries' Report

DANIEL ERGAS and ISABELLA PYTKA

You've reached the deepest, darkest depth of this dusty rag; and for that, I welcome you. Honi has tortured shitty Vice-Chancellors since time immemorial, wholeheartedly embraced deviance, vice, and all things nice, and even shitposted before it was cool – you should write for them?

And if you do, you'd be a part of one of the best known features of your SRC. But before we go any further, we should introduce ourselves. Our names are Daniel and Bella, and we're the General-Secretaries of said SRC this year. We deputise for our Pres-

ident, Izzy, run the SRC's budget for the year, and liaise with Honi and all our collectives. We coordinate events – like the SRC's presence at O-Week – and some big projects – like our recent re-branding (we hope you like it).

We're currently in the midst of tense negotiations for our humble slice of the Student Services and Amenities Fee (otherwise known as SSAF). SSAF is a \$14 million pool of funds, collected from the \$147 you put on HECS. It is supposed to go to student organisations (ie. which you, as areasonable person, would proba-

bly read as: organisations run by and for students), but the truth is a bit more complicated. We rely on this \$\$\$ to fund this inglorious paper, bring to life our delightful collectives (whom you'll be able to read more about on this spread), publish our Orientation Guide, and pay a decent wage to our caseworkers and legal staff. Watch this space.

This may not seem to matter now; and, if you're lucky, it may not seem to matter throughout your whole time here. But if you're ever in a dispute with your landlord or your boss,

Wom*n's Officers' Report

IMOGEN GRANT and KATIE THORBURN

Welcome to semester one 2017 and, moreso, welcome to a year of ending sexist oppression!

First and foremost, join the Wom-en's Collective! The Women's Collective – often called WoCo – is a Collective autonomous to women and non-binary identifying students who organise feminist activism on campus. We have regular meetings, discussion groups, and organise campaigns and protests relating to the experiences of women on campus and to fight misogyny in the broader community.

Join our Facebook group to find out more about meeting times and get involved in the online space (it's a

secret group, so you will need to add Katie Thorburn or Imogen Grant to be added). Also like the WoCo public page on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/usydwooco/>

Growing Strong – the annual Wom*n's Collective publication is hot off the press! We're very proud of this anthology of feminist perspectives showcasing the writings and art of women and non-binary people. Free copies of the journal are available at our O-Week stall – come pick one up and see the incredible talent of the collective!

A huge responsibility for 2017 is to continue agitating to eradicate sexual

assault on campus. Gendered violence is a key way in which women's oppression is maintained in our patriarchal society. WoCo are combating sexual violence on campus by pushing for a variety of measures. These include online education modules, specialist trauma training for all counselling and casework staff employed by CAPS, and Responding With Compassion and Vicarious Trauma training to all staff and relevant student representatives. Currently we are also working hard to ensure that the SRC Legal Service will have a specialist discrimination solicitor to handle sexual assault cases by Semester Two.

Ethno Cultural (ACAR) Officers' Report

SOPHIA CHUNG, MADDY WARD and RADHA WAHYUWIDAYAT

We are your 2017 Office Bearers for the Autonomous Collective Against Racism (ACAR): Sophia (Wholesome) Chung, Maddy (Menace) Ward and Radha (Cool) Wahyuwidayat. ACAR is a collective for students who identify as a Person of Colour or Indigenous. Last year, we exploited the white guilt of the university and got our very own Ethnocultural Space on campus for you to enjoy, away from the eyes of white peers and problematic lecturers, in Manning House. With this space

to call home this year, we hope to increase the presence of the collective on campus. We'll be holding weekly meetings here to chat about campaign details and other things we should be getting behind as a collective.

We've got some pretty big ambitions for the collective this year. Over the holidays we've been planning our major campaign for the year, to decolonise the curriculum – keep an eye out for surveys at our O-Week stall.

An ethnocultural welcome featur-

ing pizza and bevvies will be our first social event for the year, with beach picnics and karaoke nights planned from week 4 onwards. Be sure to watch the group page for any rallies and marches that we'll be attending. We'd also like to work on the collective in regards to its attitudes and inclusion of Indigenous students on campus. Historically, the way the collective interacts with Indigenous students on campus has been poor, and we're going to do our best to change

issues like the massive attacks to education on a federal and campus level, continuing the fight against sexual assault on campus and protecting staff conditions.

If you ever have any questions or want to find out some more ways to get involved with your SRC come say hit to us at our O week tent, give our Facebook page a like, visit our website (srcusyd.net.au) or chuck me an email at president@src.usyd.edu.au

Have fun at uni, enjoy O week and make sure you get involved in your SRC and the issues that matter to you!

Vice-Presidents' Report

JAMES GIBSON and IMAN FARRAR

Over the holiday break it has become apparent that the Government's roll-out for the new Centrelink automated debt recovery system has had detrimental effects on many. The 20,000 letters sent out every week have been married by inaccuracies, stressful and intimidating encounters with debt collectors and the Government has shown a complete lack of acknowledgement.

Furthermore, calls to Centrelink in attempts to address the issues at hand have gone unanswered, with many whose consistent efforts to call daily for a fortnight often aren't able to get through. Even in person, people are experiencing huge delays due to over-stretched staff and an ineffective online system. The stress, financial burdens and pressure that has amounted from this debacle has affected the mental health of many, worsened by the feeling of being unable to act on or gain more information on anything.

With many students relying on Centrelink for support, we encourage you to get into contact with the free caseworkers of the SRC if you or someone you know needs help facing any Centrelink debt, especially if you are feeling stressed or unsure about your situation.

The Vice-Presidents support the call of Labor's Linda Burney to suspend

the program, particularly as it is being investigated by the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

If any student is interested in getting involved with the Centrelink debt issue or broader concerns about income inequality and student welfare, we strongly encourage you to email us (vice.president@usyd.edu.au) or the welfare department (welfare.officers@usyd.edu.au).

We look forward to the projects and year ahead as your Vice Presidents for 2017.

Queer Officers' Report

ANDREA ZEPHYR, WILLIAM EDWARDS and CONNOR PARISSIS

did not submit their reports. Here is a cartoon instead:



Notice of Council Meeting

89th Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney

DATE: 8th March
TIME: 6–8pm
LOCATION: Professorial Board Room (Quadrangle)

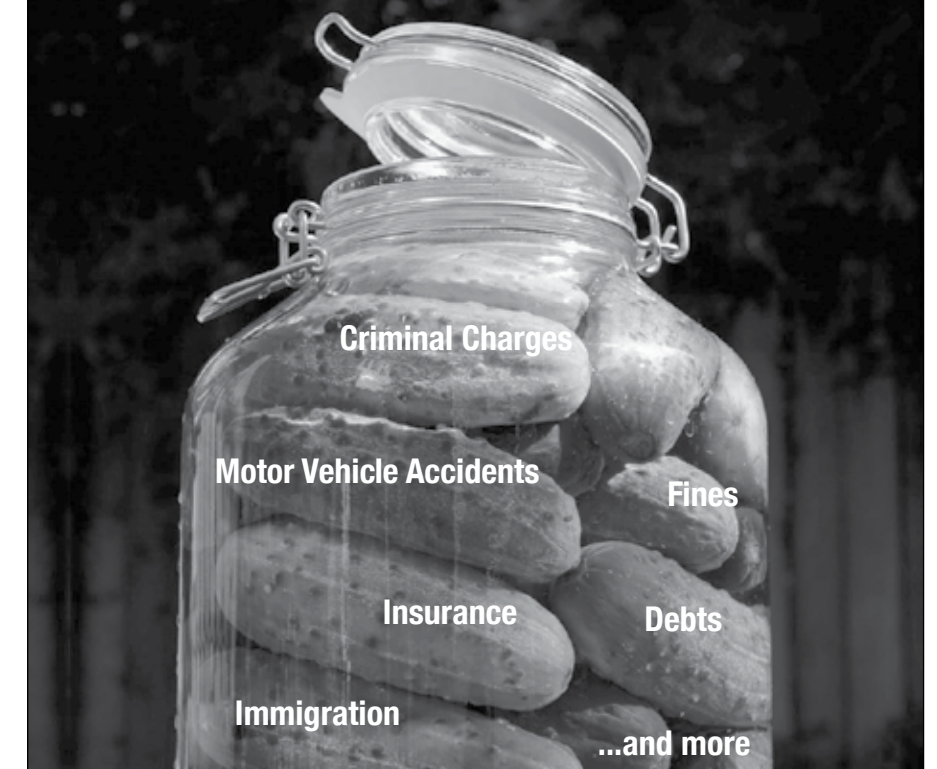


src

activism
advocacy
representation

w: src.usyd.edu.au
p: 02 9660 5222

IN A PICKLE?



If You Have a Legal Problem,
We Can Help for FREE!



SRC Legal Service
Level 1, Wentworth Bldg, University of Sydney
p: 02 9660 5222 | w: src.usyd.edu.au
e: solicitor@src.usyd.edu.au
ACN 146 653 143 | MARN 1276171

法律諮詢
法律アドバイス

Liberty limited by
a scheme approved
under Professional
Standards Legislation.

We have a solicitor
who speaks Cantonese,
Mandarin & Japanese

This service is provided
to you by the Students'
Representative Council,
University of Sydney

Welcome to the Big House...

(well, not in a prison kind of way...)



It doesn't matter how big your school was, it was not as big as this place. Even the satellite campuses are many times bigger than most high schools. So whilst adjusting to this change can be exciting and challenging, it can also be down right horrifying.

It is your responsibility to know how to negotiate the administrative side of your degree. You must check your uni email at least once a week, even during non-semester time. Get to know how to apply for special consideration (sickness or misadventure), just in case you need it in the future.

The workload here is significantly higher than for most high schools. There is less individual direction and larger class sizes. The onus is on you to stay focused, complete all of the compulsory and non-compulsory work, and ask for help when you need it. You are the only person responsible for your success or failure.

Studies have shown that if you don't make some sort of attachment to the uni by about week six you'll find it very difficult to be successful in your degree. Your attachment may be that you've met some people with similar interests, or your interest in the subject material. Either way, it is important to balance each of these aspects in

your life. Talk to the Learning Centre about how to manage your time. Do it now before you get overwhelmed with the workload.

Remember that most people feel just as nervous and out of place as you do – even the students that have come here already equipped with friends from high school. The best thing that you can do is to be yourself, be open to meeting new people and having new experiences, and know that if you ever need to talk to someone, the SRC can refer you to a free counsellor.

You are free to make your own decisions about alcohol and other drugs, and sexual activity. The SRC's O-Week handbook has lots of information that might be helpful. If you need more specific information ask an SRC caseworker to point you in the right direction to up-to-date, non-judgmental information.

Living in Sydney is increasingly difficult for anyone on a limited budget. Where you live needs to be affordable, stable, and safe. Talk to us about any housing or accommodation problems. We might be able to help you.

Always remember that you are not alone here. There are lots of people willing to help you settle in. The trick is to ask.

Ask Abe

SRC caseworker HELP Q&A



The Ask Abe column allows you to ask whatever question you might have that affects you as a student, gaining the best advice that a very worldly mutt can give.*

Abe has been a columnist for Honi Soit since 2000, and the best piece of advice he can give you is this:

Whatever your problem is, whatever your question, ask as soon as you can. It is much more likely that we can help you, if you give yourself enough time. As much as we'd like it, things don't just go away if you ignore them.

*Abe is an undefined breed of terrier, with poodle overtones. He moved in with his forever family at the age of three after spending many cold nights living on the streets of Western Sydney. Since then he has been a truck driver, retail assistant, barrister, and social worker. All of his life experiences allow him to give you excellent advice on a broad range of issues. To ask him your question email help@src.usyd.edu.au

BUY BOOKS CHEAP

Buy for 70% of retail value*

SELL BOOKS FOR CASH

Highest cashback rate on campus!

Get 40% of retail value paid in CASH!*

* Conditions apply, see details in store



Level 4, Wentworth Building,
University of Sydney
(Next to the International Lounge)

p: 02 9660 4756

w: src.usyd.edu.au/src-books

The Postgrad Pages

PRESENTED BY SUPRA

Welcome to SUPRA!

By Joshua Preece

If you're a postgrad (whether coursework or research) at the University of Sydney, SUPRA is here for you!

SUPRA (the Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association) is run by postgrads for postgrads. We advocate for your interests, and also provide a number of services and events. All of our events and services are free, as we are fully funded by the university through a small portion of your Student and Services Amenities Fee.

Our services range from things like providing advice with tenancy issues, helping you navigate through university procedures like academic misconduct appeals, and providing advice (where we can) on any other issues or problems that you feel you need help with.

Our biggest upcoming event is the famous and ever popular SUPRA Wine & Cheese which we put on every month. And it's 100% FREE! So come and meet other postgrads at USyd over some gourmet snacks.

There are a number of ways to get involved in SUPRA, whether by attending our events, approaching us with an idea or event to support, or by running for council, which is the governing body of SUPRA.

We hope you make the most of the frivolities and information that O-Week offers and look forward to playing our part in making you feel welcome during your time here at the University of Sydney.



Come join SUPRA for the USyd Postgrad Social Group Soapbox

First meetup:
Friday 10 March @ 3:30 p.m.*
at the Courtyard Cafe

*Every 2nd week alternating Tuesday at lunchtime and Friday afternoon. Check FB and SUPRA for official schedule.

TALK – take 5 min to tell group about your research/class project

LISTEN – to what other Postgrads are accomplishing

SOCIALISE – expand your Postgrad network with new friends!

Our O-Week Events

Wednesday March 1 st	> 5PM – 7PM	Rural, regional and satellite campus postgrad meet and greet	Courtyard Cafe
Thursday March 2 nd	> 11AM – 12PM	Understanding Disability Support Services At University Of Sydney	New Law Seminar Room S115
Thursday March 2 nd	> 2PM – 4PM	Women's Pizza Party	Manning Lawns
Friday March 3 rd	> 12PM – 2PM	Survivors Network: Launch Event	Quadrangle, Room S421
Friday March 3 rd	> 3PM – 5PM	Know your Rights	Level 1 SUPRA Office
Friday March 3 rd	> 5:30PM – 7:30PM	SUPRA BBQ	Manning BBQ
Monday March 6 th	> 5PM – 6:30PM	Queer Beers	Courtyard Café
Thursday March 9 th	> 6PM – 8 PM	SUPRA Wine and Cheese	Footbridge Foyer

Stop the Staff Cuts: No Spills and Fills: Let SCA Stay!

By Rachel Evans

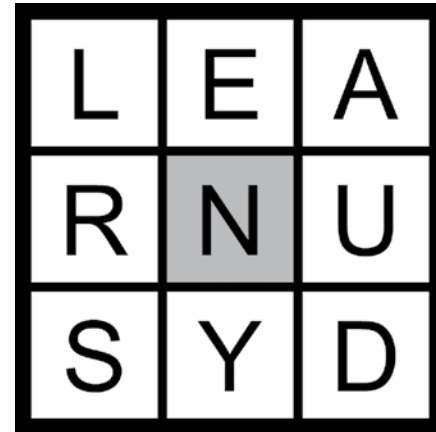
Sydney University Management is beginning to sack 90 administration and technical staff in the Science Faculty and all of the teaching staff at SCA. Disappointingly, they plan to reemploy some science administrative and teaching staff at lower pay rates.

The sackings are part of Spence's 'Strategic Plan' – the plan to amalgamate faculties and departments and reduce departments from 122 to 44. It means job cuts, reduced quality of teaching and the destruction of the Arts College.

SUPRA and 'Let SCA Stay' have organized a rally on Thursday March 2 at 1pm at Fisher Library for you to show your support for staff and students! All are welcome. If you'd like further more information, contact me on 0403 517 266.

This action has also been endorsed by the NTEU (Sydney University Branch), the SRC, and the CPSU (Sydney University Branch).

Target

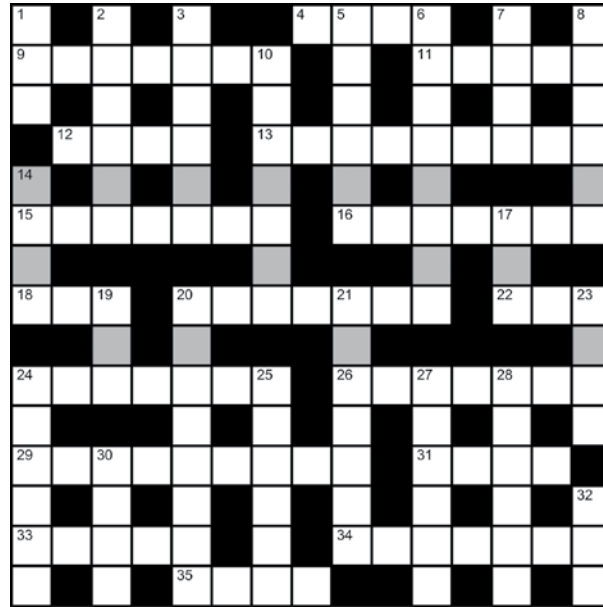


Puzzles by EN.

Drop by the CrossSoc stall during O-Week to complain with the Executive of Cross-Soc about this week's puzzles.

Minimum six letters per word. 10 words: okay, 20 words: good, 25, very good, 30 words: excellent. Solution in next week's *Honi*.

Quick Crossword



Across

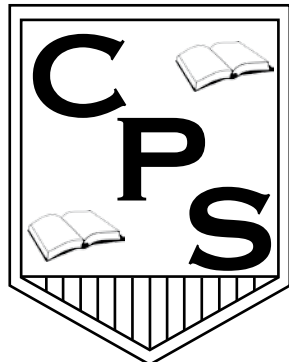
- 4 Freshwater fish (4)
9 Job description of Robin Hood's main villain (7)
11 <3 (5)
12 Opposite of lift for an aeronautical engineer (4)
13 Revolting (9)
15 Iron or oxygen, for example (7)
16 The audience of Honi Soit (7)
18 How one might drink hot coffee (3)
20 In Western culture, the number thirteen is considered this (7)
22 Motif associated with Sauron (3)
24 Honest (7)

- 26 Naught (7)
29 Type of axial loading that produces bending (9)
31 Sydney University is on this of the Gadigal people (4)
33 A territory that a sovereign rules (5)
34 Person once believed to be influenced by the moon's phases (7)
35 Might be with odds (4)

Down

- 1 What one might do to get an answer (3)
2 What a student might hope to attain (6)
3 Not in a couple (6)
5 Rock bolt, for example (6)
6 Faculty located between the Quadrangle and the Post Office (8)
7 Neutralises an acid (4)
8 NSW, Qld, SA, etc. (6)
10 Characterised by self-similarity (7)
14 Spiders spin these (4)
17 Scrimp and save (3)
19 What will be on most Sydney University society shirts (3)
20 Unikey when logging into Sydney Student (8)
21 What one usually becomes during a Higher Degree by Research (7)
23 Current Microsoft browser (4)
24 Current version of Apple operating system (6)
25 What one might ask someone to run (6)
27 Aptitude (6)
28 The Faculty of Engineering & IT's magazine (6)
30 What Scott Morrison took to Parliament on Feb 9th (4)
32 High or low card (3)

The Camperdown Public Chatterbox



LEARNING TO LIVE
LIVING TO LEARN

JACK QUITNEY

University of Sydney Union (USU) Board Director Jack Whitney said farewell to the USU last Friday, resigning from Board months before the end of his term. Voters 'Back[ed] Jack' onto Board in 2015, meaning he would have finished his term in June this year. Whitney is the second board director from the 2015 crop who has quit their role prematurely — Grassroots' Marco Avena left in July last year.

When asked for a statement on his resignation, Whitney told *Honi*, "I have been offered other opportunities abroad which would take my time away from my board responsibilities. Stepping down gives opportunities to other keen student leaders to take up the mantle on the board and provide a fresh outlook — and it's always a good thing to share leadership".

Whitney has been replaced by

Sam Kwon, the second runner-up from 2016's election — first runner-up James Gibson replaced Avena. What comes to the family, stays in the family: both Kwon and Whitney are members of the Labor left faction National Labor Students, even running on the same colour of purple in their respective campaigns.

REGS CHANGES EVERYWHERE

Apparently 2017 is the year we Make Student Elections Great (Again?) — only a few months in and we're already seeing a number of election changes.

The first changes concern elections for the Sydney University Law Society (SULS), which occur in August. Changes to SULS' constitution made at the end of 2016 require any student considering nominating for president to submit an expression of interest form "outlining their policies and vision for SULS" at least 14 days before nominations officially open. Someone cannot run for president without having formally expressed interest. Potential presidential candidates will then be publicised, so other students can approach them and ask to be included on a ticket. Current president Rohan Barmanray told *Honi* that the previous system had problems, "particularly in its tendency to involve shoulder tapping ... the Expression of Interest for potential presidential candidates will ensure that members will know who wants to form a ticket and can ascertain if the presidential candidate's vi-

sion resonates with their own."

Meanwhile, good news for all non-hacks: the USU's electoral committee has decided to shave three days off in-person campaigning for USU Board elections. Elections will now run for a week and a half — from Monday, May 8 to Wednesday, May 17 — rather than two weeks. Social media gets a weekend's head start and will open on Saturday, May 6. The decision took into account the physical and mental exhaustion for campaigners and "electoral weariness amongst prospective voters" caused by a lengthy in-person campaigning period. The committee also noted that a longer campaign period forces candidates to take more time off paid work and study, which is a "significant ... sacrifice" and precludes people who aren't able to take time off to run.

The Students' Representative Council (SRC) appears to be jumping on the bandwagon, and is set to discuss a raft of recommended changes to its electoral regulations — including shortening the campaign period — at the March council meeting. More info in Newsroom.

THROW OUT THE STAT DECS

You may remember (emphasis on the 'may') wild scenes at RepsElect 2.0 when students were required to sign statutory declarations to be elected to office bearer positions with affirmative action. Those who were unable

or unwilling to sign at the meeting were required to provide appropriate documentation to the SRC prior to taking up their position.

Anyway, you might as well forget all that, because a motion passed at February's council meeting has granted any office bearers who haven't yet submitted documentation an extension until December 1, 2017 ... even though their terms end on November 30, 2017.

SRC President Isabella Brook confirmed, "supporting documentation is technically not required during their term. No discussions have taken place as to if there will be any consequences for office bearers who don't provide documentation."

CHEAP EATS

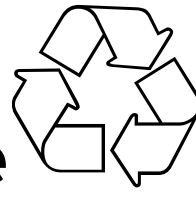
The promises of generations of USU Board candidates have finally come true — Manning Grill has been transformed into a diner-style eatery called Lucky's, which reportedly serves \$5 meals. Is this what democracy in action looks like?

TRYING TO OVERTHROW US?

Apparently *Honi* tickets are already in the works. Pls everyone, calm down. **HS**



Reprint Reuse Recycle



AS SHE IS SPOKE

"Honi Soit"

Derivation.—No one can even think of any reason why this paper should be called "Honi Soit," and everyone knows excellent reasons why it should be called something else. The question is What? Until that question is answered intelligently and unanimously, the paper will continue to be "Honi Soit."

Pronunciation.—The two words "Honi" and "Soit" are both French, and hence present problems of inflexion and intonation new to many of us. Careful attention, therefore, be paid to what follows.

(a) Stance and Breath Control.—A proper attitude of reverence having been assumed, all breath should be discharged from the lungs. They should inhale slowly during the pronunciation of the "Honi", all danger of aspiration being thus avoided. The lungs should be completely re-charged before the "Soit" is embarked upon. The "Soit," when it comes, should emerge at full pressure, but should gradually soften down into the merest whisper, "like winds in summer sighing." **Intonation and inflexion.**—The correct pronunciation :on" as in "on," followed by "ne," as in "knee." The nearest an Australian can get to "soit" is "swah." In view of the above, any person who revolts the aesthetic and religious susceptibilities of our staff by giving our title an interpretation which is either sickening (e.g. honey sweet), laborious (e.g., honey swort or swot), or blasphemous (e.g., honey swore) will be proceeded against with the utmost rigor of the law. One other thing: Our first and third syllables receive equal emphasis. Our second is slightly slurred. The render, "HUNnyswot" is thus wrong in emphasis as well as in other ways. Kindly remember that we are inverted anapaest. Any attempt to reduce us to a dactyl will be stoutly resisted.

Reprint, Reuse, Recycle delves into the basement of Fisher to find eclectic *Honi* articles from years gone by. This article is from issue 4, 1932.

What to listen to when on hold to Centrelink

1. On Hold
The xx
2. Bullshit
Dune Rats
3. Bitch Better Have
My Money
Rihanna
4. Wasted Time
Vance Joy
5. I Need a Dollar
Aloe Blacc

REALLY LONG MANY WORDS

Your thesis, explained using the most common 1000 words in the english language.

My project was about what American political candidate character is like in computer culture. I wish I could talk about this administration more, but my project finish before the election and before computer culture is so much violence.

I talk about last year American election, pretty much only first part of election. A lot of my project is about the current President, the woman, old reality television man, and the Southern "star-sign kill" man. I also talk about how computer culture change and grow over the election — less good, more violence. But star sign kill man section is a high.

I realise that people do not like it when American political candidate talk with computer culture; people like when American political candidate talk with political culture. While current President talk to American people with bad political talk, the woman want to talk to American people with bad computer culture talk. That is why many people vote today President — he "listen" to computer culture and talk in political word (and does not talk in bad computer culture word like she does). Old reality television man also talk in political word and not culture.

People like computer culture, but computer culture is bad for political culture. **EB**

Last year, Emma Balfour did her American Studies honours thesis with the United States Studies Centre about the politics of memes in the 2016 US primary election.



Dongle is absent as he was hit by an eraser and is now recovering in the drawing room. **RW**

Honi Doctor

We are to you as Dolly Doctor is to all the repressed teenagers who just want to know it's okay to want to touch themselves (lol, of course it is). Over the next year, we will endeavor to answer any and all questions you might have concerning sex, relationships and weird itches in ya bits by seeking out the info you might be too scared to ask for from doctors, sex therapists, other experts and our own troves of knowledge.

What's the best place to have sex on campus?

Trick question! It all sucks! But if you're that horny, the Cellar Theatre and Fisher sound booths are your best bet and have already been christened since time immemorial.

Where can I get free condoms and dental dams?

The Students' Representative Council and most sexual health clinics near Darlington campus stock free condoms. You can also order a play pack including condoms, lube, gloves, and some useful info from ACON in Surry Hills or online. The Sex Workers Outreach Project offers sex workers a free pack each week with lubes, dams, condoms and gloves. They also have cheap packs of 50+ condoms for sale.

What are the best places to get a sexual health check-up?

RPA Sexual Health Clinic provides free, confidential testing, treatment and counselling for STIs. The Sydney Sexual Health Centre offers testing, treatment and management of STIs, plus a satellite clinic for young people at Headspace in Bondi Junction.

... and the worst place to have sex on campus?

Any empty tutorial room. Uncomfortable and not worth the anxiety that comes with constantly being afraid that someone will walk in at any moment. Then again, if you consider yourself 2017's answer to Evil Knievel, you probably live for the thrill and in that case, this campus is your fucken' aphrodisiac oyster, m'friend. **CP + JG**

PS. Send your sex queries to honisexualdoctor@gmail.com
RRS *Honi Doctor* is a newspaper column, not a real doctor

BLAND DESIGNS

If you've been lucky enough to see a major European city, you'll have noticed that whenever a historic building is being renovated, photorealistic hoarding is erected around it to give tourists the impression that they're seeing the 'real thing'.

The University of Sydney, home of visionary "leadership for good" has taken a different approach. On the wooden walls that hide construction sites dotted across campus, the University has opted, not for realistic images or beautiful art, but an endlessly repeated stock photo: leaves in the back, copper fencing in front.

It's obviously meant to resemble the perimeter fence that surrounds some edges of the University, like the Victoria Park boundary. "Plain black wood just looks so harsh", some middle management type will have thought. "Can't we make it nice and friendly?" It's telling that in the University's thinking, a fence suffices.

Good design serves a purpose though. It's hardly good for students to be seeing the countless man-hours being poured into the construction of buildings that they will likely never be allowed inside. The construction site abutting the Madsen Building on Eastern Avenue, for example, will house administrative staff. Perhaps that's what got these graphics — which can cost hundreds per metre to design, print and install — approved.

Leadership for good seems to have ended here, for good. **NB**

Doomsday seed vaults closed down
Dave’s new Tesla removes need for environmental consciousness **P6»**



Aspiring conservative struggles to prioritise
Unable to decide whether family, Christianity or Australia is ‘first’ **P8»**



Newtown pubs forced to sell craft cruisers to meet demands of new 18-year-old uni students

Jayce Carrano
Local Correspondent

Newtown’s publicans have had to scrap their more ‘adult’ beverages in favour of extremely sweet alcopops more palatable to fresh-faced first-year partiers.

Owner of Newtown Hotel, Sarah Dunver, sees the changes as the next step in the slow erosion of the cultural cachet that has traditionally made Newtown an interesting place. “It’s been a long time coming but King Street is getting closer to becoming the new King’s Cross and if that’s not exciting I don’t know what is.”

Brady O’Sullivan, the owner of Kelly’s on King, is less impressed by the antics of his new patrons. “This one bloke called our house guinness ‘fucking shite’. It took every fibre of my body not to deck the git right then. These kids want to get the hipster vibe of Newtown without having to taste anything more complex than the Golden Circle juice boxes their mums packed them last year.”

However, O’Sullivan admits that he’s powerless to fight back because securing the uni pub crawl market is so critical for a business’ survival. “The fact is that our old customers don’t want to go out when these



Brewer Atticus De Rossio with his craft cruisers.

teens are getting themselves wanked and booting everywhere. This weekend, we’ll have stopped supplying beer entirely. I mean, except for VB. We’ll still be stocking that for the blokes who know their masculinity isn’t tough enough to withstand drinking something sweet.”

Most students approached by *The Garter* approved of the shift in drinks menus.

“To be honest, I hated never being able to have passionfruit UDLs without my mates calling me a limp-dick,” says Tom Sullivan, an 18-year-old who begins at the University of Sydney this year.

Jordan Burren, another future USyd student, disagrees. “It used to be about clean and malty, complex and heavy, mouthfeel, aromas, aftertastes. My generation just has no appreciation for a good brew.” Burren tried to describe the intricate homebrewing enterprise he operates out of his parents’ garage but bystanders begged him to shut up.

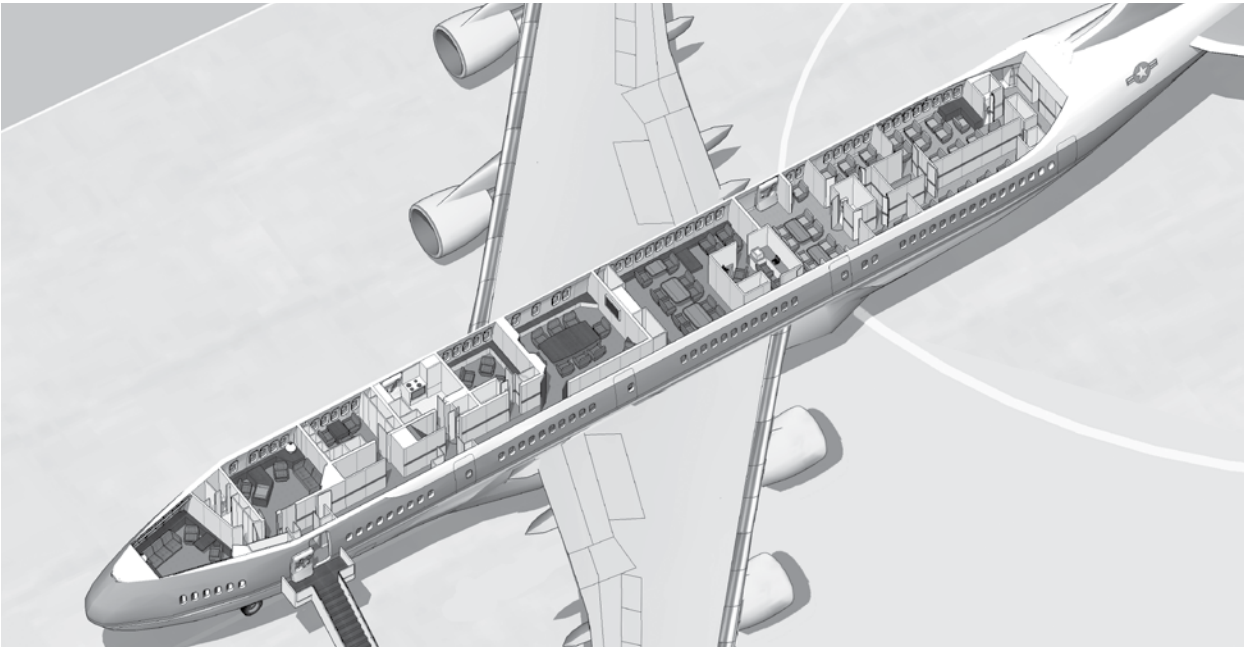
Atticus De Rossio is one of the few microbrewers actually enjoying the opportunity to craft alcopops. He began with avocado-infused fortified cruisers and says he’s never looked back. In fact, De Rossio just signed a contract to be the sole cruiser brewer for the “Aussie Adventures” first year business camp. “The business executive must have been a few deep on my Vegemite-flavoured batch when they came up with the theme.”

“The best bit is being able to experiment, you know, not be beholden to the giants of the industry – the Smirnoffs, the Bacardis, the Midoris. And when I see people just out of highschool getting maggots on my handcrafted cruisers, it’s a joy I can’t explain.”

Opinion: Impoverished favela child wearing ‘Ronaldo’ jersey doesn’t quite have skills for EPL

P12»

Trump replaces left wing of Airforce One with a second right wing



Trump’s new design flies in the face of conventional engineering and is another significant blow to the aeronautical establishment. Continued on page 9 »

Crazy fan theory: What if all the Marvel movies are set in the same universe?

Aidan Molins
Cultural Editor

For a while now, pop culture fans have used the internet to spread theories about their favorite TV shows, books, and musicians.

The /r/FanTheories subreddit has sprouted many of the most intriguing ideas, like “What if Jar Jar Binks was actually originally written as a sith lord?”

The site’s newest thread centers itself around the ever popular series of films from entertainment company ‘Marvel’. These films have traditionally been viewed as independent singular pieces of entertainment. The thread, written by user /u/comicsfan89 suggests that all these ‘Marvel’ films are actually set in the same universe. It seems insane but /u/comicsfan89 presents some interesting evidence.

In exhibit A, shown below, you’ll see popular marvel character ‘Captain America’ in popular box office hit ‘Captain America: Civil War’.

Makes sense so far, right? Well, if you look to the other side of the frame, you’ll see a strange man in a metal suit. The theory suggests this is actually a character called ‘Iron Man’ from the ‘Iron Man’ series.

Of course, this might just be a one off. But look at exhibit B. In that shot, ‘Cap’ is



Exhibit A: Captain America and a familiar figure.

facing off against an offscreen foe. The shot seems straightforward, but there’s a lot more than meets the eye.

In the shot’s negative space you can see figures /u/comicsfan89 argues resemble ‘Black Widow’, ‘Thor’, ‘Iron Man’, ‘The Hulk’, and ‘Hawkeye’.

Are these scenes with multiple Marvel characters more than just whimsical easter eggs and coincidences?

In a 2012 interview, unearthed by /u/comicsfan89, the film’s creator, Josh Whedon, said “It was a dream come true to see all of these huge heroes in one film”. Could “huge heroes” be referencing the characters from various Marvel films?

In another interview, Marvel CEO Isaac Perlmutter offers another suspicious statement: “It’s a challenge making cinematic environments where Stark, Banner, and Thor coexist”. When Perlmutter refers to ‘Stark’ and ‘Banner’, could he actually be referring to popular Marvel characters ‘Tony Stark’ and ‘Bruce Banner’, a.k.a. Iron Man and The Hulk? When he mentions ‘Thor’ could he actually be referring to popular hero ‘Thor Odinson’ a.k.a. Thor? Could this be potentially alluding to a single cinematic universe where all the Marvel characters are actually interacting with one another?

We may never know.



Exhibit B: Who’s that in the background?

USyd O Week goody bag bonanza

Jamie Weiss
Youth Correspondent

University societies are not measured by the debauchery of their balls or the bloodthirstiness of their infighting, but in the contents of their goody bags.

Subski: A voucher for any cocktail at Scubar, where the discount percentage is proportional to the amount of clothing you’ve removed (the cocktail must contain Captain Morgan spiced rum). You also receive a can of Lynx Dark Temptation, and custom-Subski condoms, but no lube.

Evangelical Union: Apple-flavoured lube. No condom.

Michael Spence Appreciation Society: MSAS have upped the ante this year with an oak-framed portrait featuring the vice chancellor polishing his Order of Australia medallion.

Business Society: Two Ernst & Young lap-top stickers and a Tissot Chemin des Tourelles wristwatch – a significant downgrade from last year’s Vacheron Constantin model.

Post-ironic Club: A fake Supreme t-shirt and an Oxford English Dictionary with the definitions of ‘postmodernism’, ‘aesthetic’, ‘woke’, and ‘meta’ bookmarked for new members.

Honi Soit Society: a copy of *Farrago*.



This year’s goody bags put the O in O Week. Photograph: Naaman Zhou

Three people tell us what it’s like to be a 7yo virgin

Wary Mard
Education Reporter

“I thought I’d be the first of my friends to lose it. But Kayla’s mum had to buy her a new hat after she left it on the bus. Mine’s in my tub, ready for recess.”

– Hannah



Hannah T, 7 years old

“I don’t mind waiting. I’d rather use the infants’ bubbler in five minutes’ time than chance it with the one outside the Year 6 classrooms.”

– Vinh



Vinh N, 7 years old

“Sometimes it feels like I’m missing something. Then I remember that there are two ‘t’s in ‘batter’, and my Tuesday night spelling list is complete.”

– Yasmin



Yasmin S, 7 years old

Women’s AFL say they are about equality, so why can’t my son play?

Mary Ward
Mother



As a mother, I’m always looking for new activities for my son to sign up to and attend for three weeks before losing interest.

So, when I heard about a new sport coming out of Australia’s hipster capital, Melbourne, I was really excited. Like parkour and wearing Lorna Jane while doing your grocery shopping, Women’s AFL is taking the fitness world by storm.

The sport has been played in an underground capacity – in back alleys, and all girls’ school PE lessons – for years, but now that it’s hit the mainstream, I feel confident that it’s a fresh way for my son to get some exercise and Vitamin D on a Saturday.

That is, if I can find anywhere that will let him play it. Yes, it seems Women’s AFL, a sport which claims to be fighting for equality, has a gender problem.

It comes from the top: in a gender ratio worse than Afghanistan’s parliament, not one of the sport’s professional teams has a man on side.

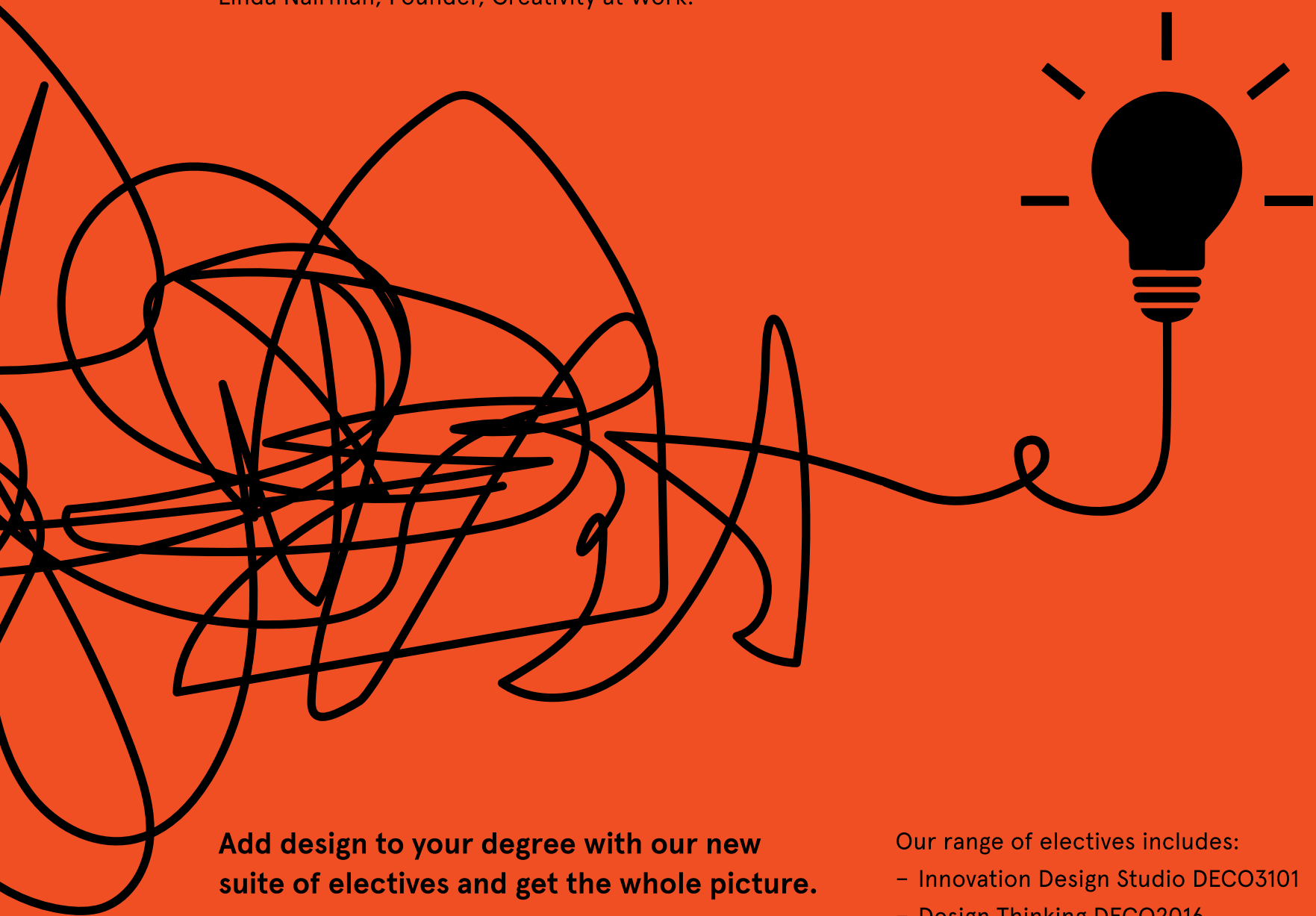
And, without any male role models to look up to, it seems the junior sides are similarly imbalanced. When I went down to my local club, the registrar just stared at me, perplexed, as if she had never even conceived that a boy might want to join the team.

She then suggested I might want to enrol him in the garden variety AFL competition. What year is this? 1974? I wouldn’t be caught dead holding a tub of oranges on the sideline of such an uncool pursuit.

If Women’s AFL wants to become a mainstay of Australian sport, a more progressive attitude is needed.

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