

# Honi Soit

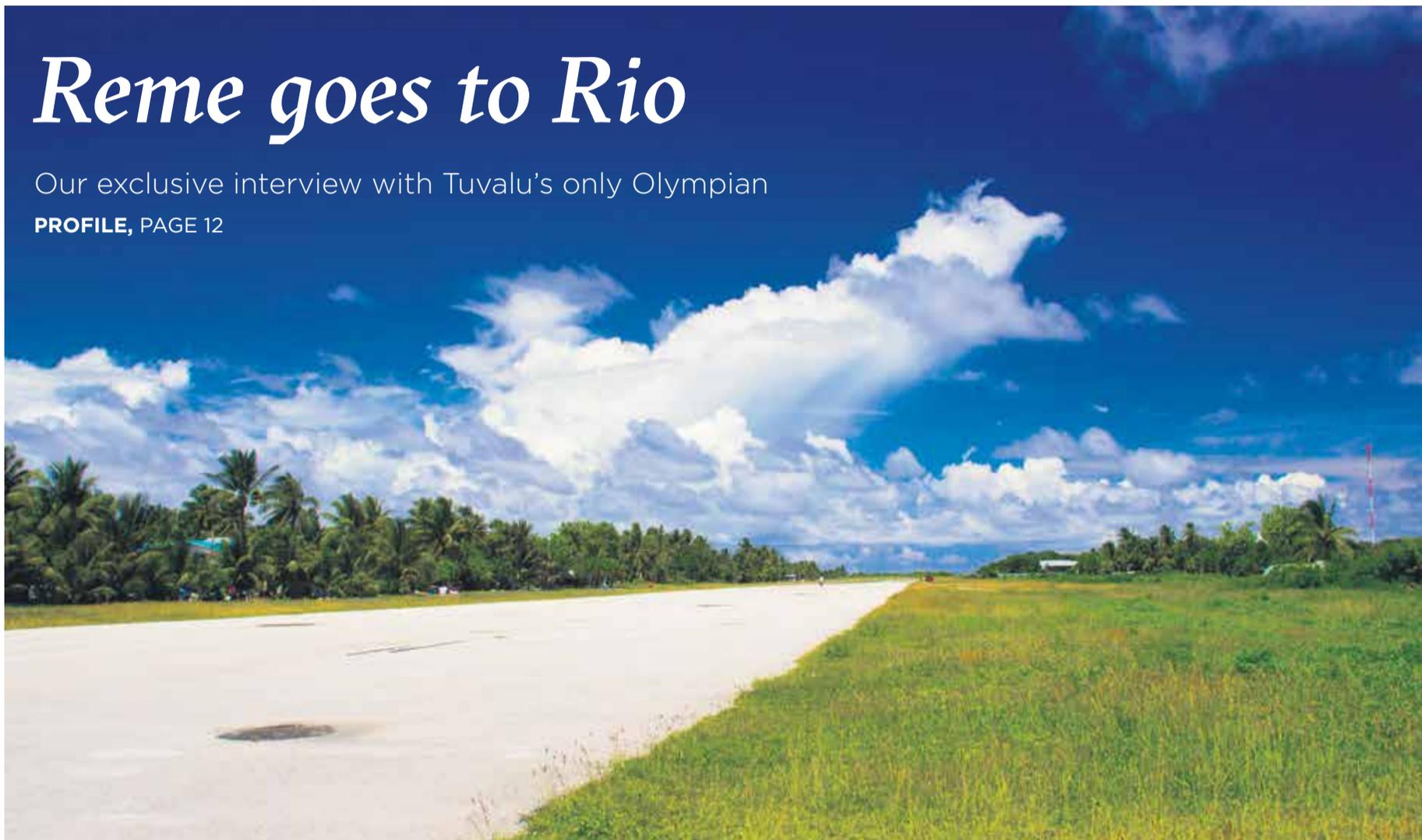
SEMESTER TWO, 2016 • WEEK 2

FIRST PRINTED 1929

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Our exclusive interview with Tuvalu's only Olympian

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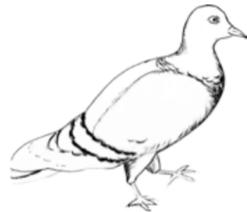
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## 9 / FEATURE

Victoria Zerbst explores the dark side of exchange.

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Max Hall

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## AN APOLOGY

Apologies to SCA student and artist Cecilija Roberts, who we incorrectly identified as "Cecilija Rubenis" not once, or twice, but THREE times in the last edition. We will not rely on Facebook names in future. We're sorry!

## 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

Max Hall

The University's decision to back away from the attempted merger of the Sydney College of the Arts with UNSW's school of Art and Design does not go nearly far enough to protect SCA or the future of fine arts in NSW.

Not since the staff strikes of 2013 has collective action so effectively intervened in Sydney University management's cynical pursuit of neoliberal metrics of 'excellence' at the expense of accessible and quality higher education.

We should view the decision as a first win for Let SCA Stay, and a reminder that organisation and protest by SCA students and staff remains the school's best hope of retaining their unique facilities and curriculum.

The school is now expected to merge with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the beginning of next year. Even if the case for SCA remaining at Callan Park could not be made, we should be concerned that no plan exists for how the merger with FASS and move to the Camperdown campus would go ahead, let alone one

that protects the interests of SCA.

If the University is unable to protect student welfare during a change as simple as reassigning the administration of special consideration (see our week 1 issue), it seems ludicrous to expect that Arts – a faculty currently in the process of subsuming the entirety of Education and Social Work, restructuring its degrees and reworking hundreds of units of study – could ever serve the needs of SCA students better than a standalone school.

As the restructure continues apace, largely behind closed doors, we cannot forget the scale of changes taking place around the University and *Honi's* responsibility to scrutinise each one.

From the nitty-gritty of policy affecting engineers and student editors, to analysis of the University's corporatisation and our take on all 69 pages of the University's Tree Management Procedures, this edition indicates how seriously we take that responsibility.

Should we ever appear to be failing, we welcome your letters.

# Letters

## A spurious rumour

Dear *Honi*,

Many of your readers will no doubt be aware of Henry Root, the nom de plume of an English satirist who frequently wrote to public figures in the UK requesting extreme and outlandish favours. Mr. Root would enclose a fiver with letters to make it 'worth the while' of the recipient: he asked the Duke of Edinburgh for membership of his golf club, and the Daily Mail to ensure continuous positive reviews for his upcoming novel.

Your Faithful Letter Writer recently heard of a similar situation having broken out on the university campus. Before SALS election season had even begun, a rogue masquerading as one unnamed presumptive presidential nominee had started contacting local channels to see that no coverage of the SALS race would appear in notorious *Honi* gossip column, Births,

Deaths & Marriages. Whether the rogue thought that the here unsaid nominee had too much to gain from a free press, or whether they simply hoped YFLW would report the story and create a stir of defamation is yet to be seen, however if the latter is the case, YFLW has not fallen for it by publishing the commandeered name.

Ultimately the hoax fooled no one, or it never even made it to the Eds to turn their discerning eyes to it. But nonetheless I'm sure I wasn't alone in my relief when I picked up last week's *Honi* to find fresh coverage of the SALS elections.

Yours Faithfully,  
[unsigned]

## Spuriously and spuriously

Dear *Honi*,

Despite Ms Ward's otherwise excellent edition of *Honi Soit*,

I was disappointed to see the paper neglect to comment on the state of the Ibis. It has been quite some time since I have seen an article on the Ibis. I maintain my support for a full time Ibis editor to ensure that all students are informed on the behaviour and activities of this important bird.

Yours sincerely,  
PJT Hall  
LLB IV

## Spuriously

Dear,

Thank you for reading my letter.

I am April, from Xi'an Taima Biological Engineering Co.Ltd. We are professional suppliers of USP grade pure nicotine, PG VG based nicotine and all kinds flavors about 400 kinds in China.

Through our continuous research and development, our nicotine content reached 99.95%.

If you are interested in these,

please feel free to contact me.

Warm Regards,  
April  
Xi'an Taima Biological  
Engineering Co.,Ltd

## The punctilious

*Honi*,

I write to draw your attention to the recent resurgence (ah, alliteration) of the hyphen as a replacement for the period in casual messaging, and, indeed, publications such as your own.

Were a more correct en-dash judiciously substituted for the so-called "full stop" (which, I concede, does occasionally cause one's more extemporaneous digressions to grind to an utter halt) then I might hold my counsel. But until that day may come, my message is clear:

We should punctuate with purpose and precision.

Full stop.

– Tony



WHAT TO LISTEN TO

## WHEN...

the party iPhone is hijacked by a trackstar (see page 14) who thinks they have a unique sure thing on their hands and you don't have a choice:

### Wannabe

Spice Girls (1996)

### Save Tonight

Eagle-Eye Cherry (1997)

### Milkshake

Kelis (2003)

### Ignition Remix

R Kelly (2003)

### Everybody

(Backstreet's Back)  
Backstreet Boys (1997)

### Teenage Dirtbag

Wheaton (2000)

### Yeah!

Usher (2004)

Honestly, if you're sitting there thinking that maybe you shouldn't write a letter because we get plenty of letters from people like you and the odds of making an original contribution to the polluted suppositories of public discourse tend towards zero, you're probably right. But we'll be the judge of that. Leave your crippling self-doubt in our trusty hands and put pen to paper. Have that thought.

[editors@honisoit.com](mailto:editors@honisoit.com)

500 words tops. Be in touch.

A lonely shitpost:



99c / 50 WORDS

*Honi Soit*

PLACE YOUR AD NOW

## Lonely Hearts



"Happy-go-lucky administrator looking for a new art school to merge with"

*Step*

Prof. Stephen 'Steve' Garton

Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor,  
University of Sydney

Hi all,

I'm Stephen. I've never had the best luck with educational-corporate mergers, but I'm an optimistic guy looking to heal a bruised heart

- Unafraid of controversy or protest
- Recently jilted (my friend Mike reckons I should steer clear of Kensington for a while) but still looking for new opportunities
- Worth settling out of court for
- Known as "Provost with the most" among friends

Honi will be happy to pass your interest on to Stephen. Send electronic mail to [editors@honisoit.com](mailto:editors@honisoit.com)



Australian Government  
Australian Taxation Office



Get free help with your tax return from a Tax Help volunteer

> Are your tax affairs simple?

> Do you earn around \$50,000 or less?

Available to all USyd students through the Students' Representative Council (SRC) & Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association (SUPRA).

To book an appointment go to: [srcusyd.net.au/src-help/tax-help](http://srcusyd.net.au/src-help/tax-help)

myTax



Create your myGov account and link to the ATO before your Tax Help appointment.

## NEWS

## ACADEMIC BOARD

# New academic honesty procedures to impose strict standards on proof-reading and editing

Siobhan Ryan & Subeta Vimalarajah

Under proposed academic honesty procedures, all proof-reading and editing assistance on assessments will need to be acknowledged, including stating whether the person assisting has current or former academic expertise related to the topic of the assessment.

Unit coordinators will also be given power to determine whether students are permitted to use editors or proof-readers in the preparation of written assignments. If students are not to use proof-readers or editors, this must be included in the unit outline.

A draft proposal put forward to the Senior Executive Group (Education Committee) on July 11 required editors to be given a copy of, and abide by, the Australian Standards for Editing Practice (ASEP) 2013, and students to consult with their unit coordinator prior to using an editor or proof-reader.

SUPRA President Tom

Greenwell raised concerns about this initial draft, resulting in a revision of the relevant section prior to the July 20 meeting of the Academic Standards and Policy Committee (ASPC).

"No amount of guidelines will change the culture of the University and students will still collaborate because for the most part that's why they're here, despite management's attempt to corporatise and homogenise research," Greenwell said.

The revised procedures still require editors to use the ASEP, but no longer mandate they be given a copy. Students no longer need to consult with a unit coordinator prior to using an editor or proof-reader.

SRC caseworker Sharon Maher was concerned the changes would increase the SRC's workload. "Removing the ability of a student to seek assistance is ironically going to force students to be covert in their assessment techniques," she said.

"An alternative possibility is that this guidance facilitates collaboration and the discus-

## 2015 ACADEMIC DISHONESTY - BUSINESS SCHOOL

1024

### TOTAL ALLEGATIONS

sion of ideas by removing ambiguity as to acceptable practice and the acknowledgement of assistance," said Academic Board Chair Anthony Masters. Students will be made aware of the new standards through a compulsory academic honesty module and the "University will also work through other communication channels," a spokesperson confirmed.

The procedures are due to be discussed in the upcoming meeting of the Academic Board on August 17, and are therefore subject to change.

## USU BOARD

# LifeChoice alleged to have held secret meeting in contravention of USU Constitution

Nina Dillon Britton

Controversial pro-life student society LifeChoice held its AGM at a secret location, giving the USU power to order the meeting be re-held and the constitutional changes passed annulled, it was revealed at the USU Board meeting on Friday.

USU President Michael Rees told *Honi* allegations the meeting was secretly held will be subject to "further investigation".

"If LifeChoice did hold their meeting at the time and place which they had advertised, we will approve of their constitutional changes. If not, they may have to hold another AGM, which complies with our notice requirements," he said.

For an AGM to be accepted, it must be held at the time and place advertised on the USU website to hold the club or society accountable to oversight by interested students, the USU Constitution stipulates.

LifeChoice's AGM was advertised to be held on May 17, though when *Honi* attempted to attend the meeting, no one was there. No members had arrived up to half an hour after the meeting

was said to have begun and the room had not been booked for a meeting.

LifeChoice had advertised another AGM that *Honi* also attempted to attend, but which also did not go ahead. The meeting had been advertised on the USU website and no cancellation notice had been posted. When contacted, the LifeChoice Facebook page said the meeting had been called off and provided no further explanation.

LifeChoice has been controversial since its conception, approved to become an official USU club by a margin of only one Board vote in 2012. LifeChoice is less active than it was in 2013, when it's distribution of a debunked educational pamphlet about a newly legalised abortion drug led to student outcry.

Earlier this year, a LifeChoice event entitled "Lifelight for Lifers" proclaimed "#wereback", signing off with "LyfChoyzz out".

The LifeChoice executive did not reply to *Honi's* request for comment in time for publishing.

## #ICYMI

The biggest stories of the week from honisoit.com

The **Sydney College of the Arts will remain a part of the University of Sydney.** Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence revealed he had terminated the University's heads of agreement with UNSW in an email sent to students on Thursday. SCA will instead be absorbed by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

USU Board director **Marco Avena (Grassroots) has resigned, making way for James Gibson** of Sydney Labor Students (SLS), who came in sixth at the last Board election. Gibson attended his first Board meeting as a Director on Friday, July 29.

changes undermining the value of Honours more broadly. Second year Bachelor of Software Engineering/Bachelor of Arts Edwin Ho echoed these concerns. "Not to discredit the merit in completing an engineering degree, [but] it surely detracts from the esteem of honours," he said.

The University has confirmed the proposal will only impact students entering programs from 2017. Students currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) will not be affected.

## ACADEMIC BOARD

# Pass students awarded honours under proposed changes to engineering degrees

Siobhan Ryan & Subeta Vimalarajah

## 2012 BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING GRADUATES

63%

HONOURS

37%

PASS

Proposed changes to engineering degrees at Sydney University would see students able to graduate from a four year Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) with pass marks, with the four year Bachelor of Engineering axed altogether.

Associate Professor Tim Wilkinson from the Faculty of Engineering proposed these changes at a meeting of the Academic Standards and Policy Committee (ASPC) on July 20. The proposal seeks to bring USyd's engineering degrees in line with Engineers Australia's new accreditation standards.

Engineers Australia (EA) wrote to all Australian deans of engineering in late 2015 indicating that only students with four-year Honours degrees would be eligible for accreditation. USyd lobbied Engineers Australia "strenuously" in opposition to these changes, a University

spokesperson confirmed.

Under the current system, all USyd engineering students are admitted into a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) program, but graduate with a Bachelor of Engineering if they do not meet

the required mark of 65 to graduate with Honours.

Under the proposed changes, students would require marks 50-65 per cent for Third Class Honours, 65-75 per cent for Second Class Honours (separated into two divisions) and 75-100 per cent for First Class.

"The University's priority in this matter is to ensure that all students who pass all their exams and units of study, and demonstrate the required competencies demanded by the profession, will go into the workforce with the skills required for a successful career in engineering," a University spokesperson said.

2012 data indicated 37 per cent of students who completed a Bachelor of Engineering graduated with a pass degree. These students would not be considered for accreditation under EA's new standards unless the proposed change is passed.

Concerns were raised in the July 20 ASPC meeting over the

## NEW HONOURS LEVELS

Honours I: 75+  
Honours II (Div 1): 70-75  
Honours II (Div 2): 65-70  
Honours III: 50-65

## NEWS



## BIRTHS, DEATHS & MARRIAGES

All sources overheard at Courtyard

### NOT-SO-STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

*Honi* received a tip off last week from a source within the Sydney University Liberal Club (SULC) of a political power play occurring between Catherine Priestley, secretary on Dom Bondar's ticket for the upcoming SULC executive election, and *Honi* hopeful John Patrick Asimakis, however both parties have denied any formal agreement.

*Honi* was told the pair had engaged in an exchange of support whereby Asimakis had signed up a new SULC members ahead of the election in exchange for support from SULC in the *Honi* race. A number of people friends with Asimakis – notably from the hallways of St Paul's College – were spotted joining SULC at their O Day stall last week, despite not previously being members of the club.

"We have had the secretary of the club [Bondar's opponent for president, Josh Crawford] confirm several notable names on [Asimakis'] ticket have signed up at the club, as well as a number of people who aren't genuine Liberals," David Hogan, a member of SULC who supports the Crawford ticket, told *Honi*.

Although Priestley denied there was any formal agreement between the pair, she did say she and Asimakis were "very good friends".

"I know his situation and he knows mine," she said, adding she expected rumours would come from her opponents in the upcoming SULC elections who she accused of conducting a "stack-a-thon" and said were looking to "discredit [her] in any way possible".

Asimakis also denied there was a formal deal, but said he would be "unsurprised" if SULC members wanted to "see change" at *Honi* and his ticket "would be the vehicle for delivering that change".

It remains to be seen what kind of change the ticket, of which *Honi* Soit reporter and St Paul's College resident Josh Koby Wooller is the sole other confirmed member, will propose in their policy statement when nominations close on August 17.

After he declined to comment last week, *Honi* managed to get this statement from Asimakis: "Our ticket is very diverse, it will represent the interests of everybody on campus, and all the ticket members have great experience in writing, both in *Honi* and

for other publications."

As for the other two known *Honi* tickets (see last weeks' *BD&M*), we have heard that – after last week's SCA-focused edition – both teams are looking to the University's Rozelle campus to fill out their remaining spots. Das, Ergas and Faithfull et al have added artist Jemima Wilson to their team while rumour has it Sun, Ryan, Landis-Handley & Co are also seeking a ~creative~.

### OOPS, WE SCREWED OVER STUDENTS AGAIN

The Business School, infamous for hiring racist tutors and systematically failing international students to facilitate their role as university cash cows, has screwed up yet again. In a publicly available Academic Standards and Policy Committee agenda, the Business School listed the student numbers of those currently undergoing investigation for academic dishonesty. Unsurprisingly enough, every other faculty who submitted an academic dishonesty report managed to do so without making the same mistake.

SRC General Secretary Georgia Mantle identified the error. "I think it was concerning that no one else in the board picked up on the fact that they were there! These are paid professionals whose job it is," Mantle said. The student numbers are no longer listed on the publicly downloadable agenda.

### SENATE RACE KICKS OFF

Nominations have officially opened for election to the Sydney University Senate, the peak governing body of the University. Here's a sneak peak at the faces that are vying for the undergraduate fellow position.

First up is Arts student Finn Keogh. Keogh seems to be taking a minimalist approach to the election, saying "I would prefer not to campaign online, but that is more or less unavoidable these days" and "I'd prefer not to be on Eastern Avenue, although that is still up in the air." Keogh doesn't expect to receive factional backing and intends to increase transparency

of the fellow's policy stance.

"For a lot of previous undergraduate senate fellows, there has been a distinct lack of direction. That is very much the case with the previous fellow. There was no idea what the position was on deregulation," he told *Honi*.

Second is Arts/Law student and ex-*Honi* editor Alexi Polden. Polden has been rumoured to be running for many months now (as has been reported previously in *Honi*) but has been coy with the actual confirmation. We can now finally confirm he's running. He didn't specify whether he expects backing from any particular factions, saying "I think my platform and record will resonate with most students, so I find it hard to see any faction opposing it."

Finally (for now), is Georg Tamm. Tamm has unsuccessfully contested the Union Board elections twice, and has re-engineered the Facebook page (replete with "Curious Georg" branding) from the second campaign for this Senate run.

Tamm said to *Honi*, "As you probably know I'm a student with a disability. Since the implementation of Academic Plans across the board and centralisation of special con I've found the system to be failing students. My main motivation for running is that I know how horrible the entire process can be to receive support from the University."

The ballot is conducted electronically, which means that in-person campaigning doesn't impact the result as much as in the SRC campaigns.

### WHICH PROMINENT ACADEMIC WAS SPOTTED ZIPPING DOWN EASTERN AVENUE ON A RAZOR SCOOTER?

You were correct! It was Nick Enfield, University of Sydney Chair of Linguistics and Fellow of the Australian Academy of Humanities.

### SORRY, NOAH

Last week's *Births, Deaths & Marriages* misidentified Noah Vaz as a Young Lib. Vaz has never campaigned for a Liberal candidate at a local, state or federal level, and we apologise for this error.

# International students denied thousands in tuition refunds

Tom Joyner

A loophole in the way the University of Sydney handles tuition fees has meant international students have been unfairly denied potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars in course refunds despite meeting the criteria set for domestic students.

In a pattern described as "plain, clear, black and white discrimination", international students are being made to front the costs of units of study costing up to \$20,000 per semester, even after withdrawing for genuine reasons, such as family bereavement or personal misadventure.

Policy officers at both SUPRA and the SRC have told

*Honi* Soit the system is heavily stacked against international students, costing them potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

While domestic students are able to apply to have their HECS refunded under certain extenuating circumstances even after the census date has passed, there is no specific policy for international students, meaning they must appeal directly to their faculty dean or University registrar.

"For simplicity's sake, the truth is an international student doesn't have the right to get money back whereas a local student gets it back in a pretty straightforward manner," said SUPRA advocacy coordinator

Adrian Cardinali. "It's plain, clear, black and white discrimination."

SRC caseworker Mel de Silva said many international students were under a lot of pressure from their family to perform academically, which added to the stress of withdrawing from study when something went seriously wrong while studying in a foreign country.

"That works into a spiral and when they can't get their fees back; it's a complete disaster," she said. "It ends up in poor mental health, in self-harming behaviours, in them getting ostracised by their family."

Even if international students withdraw from a unit of

study before the census date, they are typically charged an administration fee of up to several hundred dollars.

"The problem with [the difference in rules] is that it creates a two-tiered system. It does look like [the University] is privileging the dollar and those fees over the treatment of international students," said Cardinali.

According to De Silva, it was extremely rare that the University refunded an international student's fees, even with good justification. In her 16 years working as an SRC caseworker, she could name just one example.

"I think [the University is] so desperate to hang onto money.

It's a very rare occasion when they give the money back, and I think the only thing that motivates the University to do the right thing is the protection of the brand," she said.

"It's a sort of almost racist attitude of, well, if you want to be here, you've got to pay."

Unlike domestic Australian students, international students pay up front fees of up to \$40,000 per academic year for a full-time load and have restrictions on the number of hours they may legally work in Australia. International students are also precluded from NSW travel concessions.

The University did not respond to *Honi's* request for comment.

# The privatisation by stealth of Sydney University

The near closure of SCA is part of a wider trend, writes Alexi Polden

The Emperor's New Clothes is a cautionary tale for monarchs everywhere not to trust your own perception lest you end up baring your own naked vanity to the world. The University looks threatened by a similar fate; we are witnessing it as academic gown for an outfit with a more corporate cut. And, like our unlucky emperor, what that reveals may not be pretty.

The University would likely reject the analogy as hyperbolic.<sup>1</sup> In response to this piece a University spokesperson made clear that there is no privatisation agenda behind the changes being made to how the University is run. The changes are billed as necessary to continue the University as "world class" and sustainable.

But what will tomorrow's "world class" university look like, and how will it function? If recent changes are anything to go by the University 20 years from now might be "world class" in the agility stakes—but, like Usain Bolt, struggle to make it as a heavyweight.

Because, for all the claims that the University is becoming more responsive or more agile, what's left unsaid is: more responsive to what? Time and time again the unspoken answer is bean counting, not academic excellence.

Take, for instance, the University handing over to private hands the reigns of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. According to an internal report circulated in May the hospital – currently a financial drain on the faculty – will be handed over to a company, VetFriends, in exchange for a fee. In return the company will be guaranteed the income stream on the hospital. Among other things, academic staff will become answerable to the company under the new arrangement. "For the avoidance of doubt" the report continues, teaching will remain the sole domain of the University.

It's difficult to see that bearing out in the real world, when teaching vets will have to have one eye on the curriculum and another on their calculator. Expecting teaching to stay world class in an environment like that requires the same kind of intellectual contrition that was at play when the vet school seemed to think having a pet-food rep teach animal nutrition didn't pose a conflict of interest. Indeed the report itself says that "Operating as part of the University, there are time consuming and restrictive requirements on every aspect of the business." This begs the question: what do they expect is going to change? More to the point, should you even expect a teaching hospital to run like a business?

Financial sustainability is also the reason behind the changes to Sydney College of the Arts, which until last week was set to merge with UNSW's School of Art and Design. In the face of extensive criticism the school is instead set to move onto the University's Camperdown campus and will be absorbed into the faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. While this looks like a backflip in response to criticism, a University spokesperson said that wasn't the case, and "It was entirely expected that staff and students would be concerned at proposed changes."

So, despite knowing it would be opposed by the people it would affect, the University resolved to cut the profligate artists down to size. This comes at a time that the University is embarking on an unprecedented construction binge on the Camperdown campus, including a glitzy new building for the Vice Chancellor and administrative staff.



**Because, for all the claims that the University is becoming more responsive or more agile, what's left unsaid is: more responsive to what?**

While the University may have expected backlash to their plan, they don't seem to have expected (or at least less planned for) providing Art facilities at the Camperdown campus. When asked what facilities would be available for Visual Art students at the Camperdown campus the spokesperson responded "They are being investigated now with various options being considered".

Suffice to say, Sydney College of the Arts' future remains uncertain. There will be no enrolments for the Bachelor of Visual Arts next year, with the degree re-released in a "reimagined" form the year after.

Despite this the University spokesperson insisted that the University isn't getting rid of the art school. Instead, it is "working to enhance the sustainability of visual arts in NSW and to that end is now proposing to bring them to main campus." Perhaps the art school isn't being killed off, but it's certainly being forced into an induced coma. Visual arts "reimagined" might be more financially "sustainable" that doesn't mean it will be any good. This approach speaks to a worrying perspective—art (and academia) cannot be supported for their own sake, they must be independently "sustainable", else they face a "reimagining". One wonders what the world's art galleries would look like were they "reimagined" into profit.

Finally, we turn to how the University intends to run itself. In December last year the University quietly announced a restructure of its governing body—the Senate—and sweeping changes to the way courses are structured. In a closed meeting the Senate voted to shrink itself, slashing its members from 22 to 15. Elected alumni positions were scrapped altogether, and academic staff representation was dropped from four positions to two. In the new senate only five members will be elected; the remainder will be ex-officio members or be appointed by the Senate or NSW Education Minister.

As revealed by *Honi Soit* in May, the changes to the Senate were made after a report commis-

sioned by the Senate recommended the University see itself as an "entrepreneurial organisation". The report begins by saying it considers the Senate in the context of a "shift towards more hierarchical models of [university] management" from "the traditional model of university management under which academic institutions were run by their academic communities". In plain English—universities should look more like businesses, and academic communities don't matter in our brave new corporate world. With that starting assumption, it's not difficult to see why the Senate chose new clothes with a corporate cut.

A former fellow of Senate, Dr Michael Copeman told *Honi* in May that "the current Chancellor doesn't like using the word 'corporate', but it really is a corporate board in the sense that it behaves exactly in the way that a corporate board does".

The University spokesperson said it was "completely wrong" to claim that these changes (and many others) show a privatisation agenda at play. That's fair enough, and I don't doubt the changes are well intentioned. Unfortunately, the University is being changed in ways that mean privatisation agenda or not, it's beginning to feel less and less like a place of learning, and more and more like a centre for business excellence.

**A University spokesperson said that wasn't the case, and "It was entirely expected that staff and students would be concerned at proposed changes"**

Image: Let SCA Stay Facebook page

Below: Callan Park hospital, 1883

Far below: Faculty of Veterinary Science, 1929



1. Let's be honest, it probably is. For one thing, Universities don't wear clothes.

# Unfit for our future

Natalie Buckett on how Mike Baird's council amalgamations became a political weapon against progressivism

In September 2014, the NSW Coalition government announced its plan to force local councils to amalgamate under a policy labeled "Fit for the Future". Given that many dismiss councils as a group of locals discussing bins and playgrounds, improvements to the functions of local government appear, ostensibly, a valid proposition.

The catch is, the Baird government is in the business of cultivating problems that demand politically convenient, conservative solutions. The government's proposed council mergers, a closer look reveals, fit this agenda perfectly. Unfortunately though, as an attack on local democracy isn't quite as glamorous as an attack on Sydney's nightlife, council amalgamations haven't captured the interest of many young people.

The suspicious circumstances surrounding the

**Unfortunately though, as an attack on local representative democracy isn't quite as glamorous as an attack on Sydney's nightlife, council amalgamations haven't captured the interest of many young people**

planned council mergers have been well documented, if not well publicised. The policy transitioned from recommended voluntary mergers of unfeasibly small or ineffective councils with larger ones, to forced amalgamations founded on "independent" assessments of sustainability or profitability. Aside from the government's absolute dismissal of the findings of the review it commissioned, their interim replacements for merged councils are also problematic. An independent, unelected administrator is to replace democratically elected councillors. This "independent" administrator will oversee the entire new electorate formed by the amalgamations.

The policy is based on the rationale that fewer necessarily equates to more efficient councils. Given the lack of consultation with actual councils, the government seems to have little explanation of why this is actually true. This lack of engagement with councils highlighted the sheer lack of transparency in this project, whereby councillors lost their jobs, with the government failing to provide them, or their constituents, sufficient justification.

Even if this process didn't blatantly override the mandate and autonomy of elected councils, the government's choices as to which councils merge, and which administrators oversee their electorates, is of particular concern. The councils that escaped forced amalgamations often coincided with marginal electorates in the recent federal election, such as Hawkesbury Council. Here, the threat of political disruption was prioritised over the supposed benefits the government rhetorically asserted when initially encouraging the mergers.

While crucial marginal electorates were spared, there are recognisable similarities between the councils that weren't. In the inner west, the amalgamation of Leichardt, Ashfield and Marrickville into the "Inner West Council" saw the dissolution of one of New South Wales' most



Inner West Council, Westconnex in grey.

councillors have been sacked as well as the handful of rotten apples."

The disruption of local government poses yet another risk to communities that particularly benefit students. "There is a raft of services provided by local councils that are directly relevant to students...we're talking not just libraries, we are talking about access to community venues and halls where events can be held, we are talking about creative arts services that are often subsidised by local councils, community centres that provide sports facilities and indeed most of the local parks and sporting fields."

Administrators, particularly those with political incentives divergent from the interests of their community, pose a genuine risk to the provision of crucial local services. These administrators have been empowered by the state government to wield control over communities that they may have little connection with or understanding of, to make crucial decisions regarding their resources, their infrastructure and their rates for a considerable period of time. Moreover, the nature of

**Administrators, particularly those with political incentives divergent from the interests of their community, pose a genuine risk to the provision of crucial local services**

councils has now fundamentally changed. Even following the incoming council elections in 2016, amalgamations will see representatives that do not know the specifics of an area making crucial decisions about the future of communities. Even the minor differences in composition of inner west areas require councils to engage with each area individually to ensure tailored and accurate representation. Perhaps most importantly, given how reliant many young people are on local government services, it is concerning that the Baird government have pandered the metric of success as profitability. The wellbeing of citizens and their communities should not be a second thought.

The true value of local government lies in the proximity between constituent and representative. Forced amalgamations threaten that proximity, and in doing so, threaten the kind of local democracy that, especially as young people, we cannot afford to lose.

## Fighting on every front

Andrew Bell on an underused forum for social change

When you're fighting against a cruel policy with bipartisan support, you have to make every dollar count.

Last week, the group Doctors for Refugees launched a challenge to the Border Force Act – a gag law that restricts doctors from publicly detailing their perception of the abhorrent treatment, including negligent failure to provide medical assistance, in offshore detention camps.

Court cases aren't a fixture in the fight for social change in Australia. When you disregard the rare landmark legal cases (most of which are American) which recognise novel progressive standards for governments, you're not left with an intuitively appropriate forum to advance social change.

Courts are expensive, require years for each case and carry the enormous risk that a hopeful plaintiff will end up paying for their opponent's legal fees while setting themselves an adverse precedent. In Australia, where we don't have many constitutionally entrenched rights, there

is little opportunity to replicate equal protection decisions.

What we do have, is an implied freedom of political communication. The Constitution's explicit emphasis on representative democracy naturally requires the voting population to assess political structures through freedom of speech. If the government restricts that right to insulate itself from political accountability, the High Court can strike it down.

There are two things the Court will have to look at. The first is whether the Border Force Act restricts political speech. The second is whether the law can be legitimately justified in the context of representative democracy. The law is highly technical, but the emphasis on explaining why the law operates democratically.

Vague deference to "national security" in sound-bites might be sufficient for Australia's political climate, but it won't be good enough for a full bench of the High Court. The crucial advantage of this forum is that there is no way the

government can continue to omit from a comprehensive justification for its policy. This is a statement that has to do more than just appeal to the chunk of voters in Australia that feel we are being swamped with Arab economic migrants fabricating stories of wartime and oppression. It has to explain why the doctors discussing the state of the camps – beyond disclosing specific cases of life-threatening illness – is so antithetical to the government's border policy.

I would struggle to find the words to justify this gag law.

The issue isn't really on the table in mainstream politics; we just had a federal election without either party advocating for change. This means that the lifetime of the High Court case will probably be more expedient than the current electoral cycle.

An order from the High Court has several advantages. It can enforce legislative change without burning any political capital for pro-refugee groups lobbying government. It facilitates the flow of information from some of the most trusted professionals in society – possibly with the consequence that the next federal election will pass with more than a cursory mention of our offshore torture camps. And this is not a benefit that is delayed until the judgment is handed down; an open courtroom is an excellent conduit for reporting.

And it's still a plus if the challenge is unsuccessful, and the exceptions sufficiently preserve political speech. Comprehensive exposure of the flimsy justifications for the crackdown is exactly what this news cycle need.

And perhaps most importantly of all, it draws on a new financial support base (pro bono legal work) which doesn't use up mainstream progressive donations. Even if it did, this kind of discourse would still be well worth the money.

Court action isn't a big part of activism in Australia but right now it's the most promising avenue for progressive change for refugees. It's worth the risk.



## HELP yourself

EJ Sokias on the Law School's trap

To all domestic students who didn't jump straight into undergraduate law at Sydney but hope to pursue a postgraduate Juris Doctor, think carefully before signing up.

The cost of studying at Sydney University for a full-fee paying domestic student exceeds the maximum loan amount provided by the government. If you want to enrol as a full-fee paying student, you'd better be prepared to dip into your pockets before receiving your second degree.

The University and its Law School have capitalised on their reputation, and can maintain this model because students are all too happy to pay to study at the institution. See inset for the payment schedule of a JD student now entering their final semester of study.

The sum total for a student finishing up in 2016 is \$108,470. For fairness' sake, let's assume one pays their SSAF upfront, making the balance \$107,600.

The Federal government's loan scheme for full-fee paying students (FEE-HELP) caps out at \$99,000. The outstanding amount, \$8,600, must be paid before they'll let you graduate.

Once in this position, the Law School is frank about your options:

- i. Swap to a Commonwealth-supported posi-

tion (a minimum distinction average in your JD study so far is required);

- ii. Defer the degree, and come back when you have the money;

- iii. Organise a payment plan, with graduation available after final payment is made;

- iv. Seek support from a generous benefactor to pay the outstanding amount.

The notion that every law graduate has the potential to earn big bucks provided by large commercial firms as justification for such astronomical prices is absurd. So too is the quid pro quo justification, that those with law degrees generally go on to become high income earners and so costly degrees are warranted.

A heads up then: entering the JD program with a Commonwealth-supported position is far more desirable position to find yourself in (desirable to the tune of \$10,000 per year of law school). The University awards these positions on a merit basis; so aim to complete your undergraduate degree with at least a distinction average.

With the rumour mill alive with speculation USyd will do away with its LLB program and replace it with a JD program with double the intake, it's clear the profit motive reigns supreme: somewhat of a trend for our institution.



### A model construction of the payment schedule of a JD student entering their final semester in 2016:

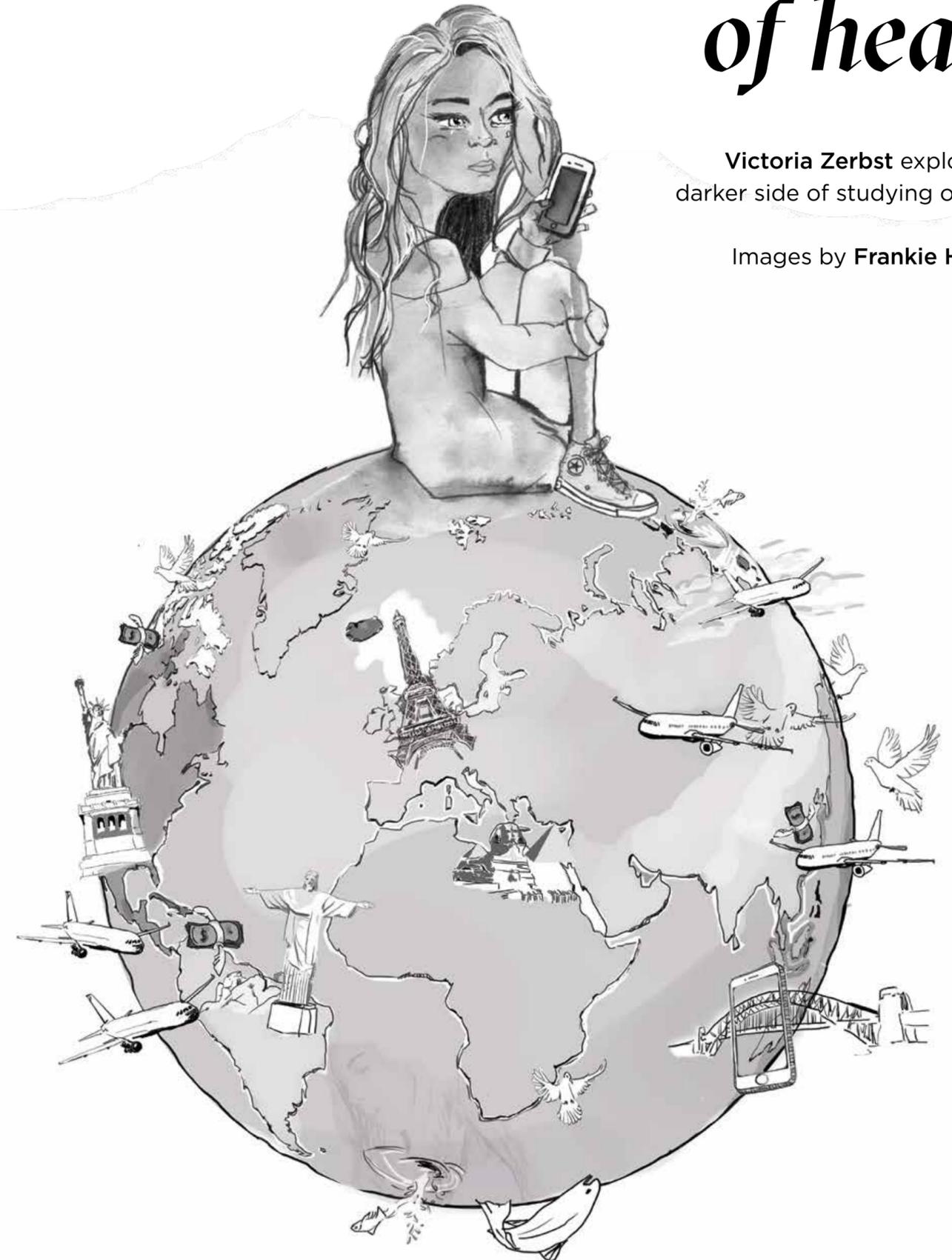
At \$4,325 per subject (2014), on a full-time load, equates to \$34,600 for the first year. An additional \$145 per semester for the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) brings the annual total to \$34,890.  
\$4,500 per subject (2015), on a full-time load, equates to \$36,000 for the second year. SSAF brings the annual total to \$36,290.

\$4,625 per subject (2016), on a full-time load, equates to \$37,000 for the final year. SSAF brings the annual total to \$36,290.

# An exchange of heart

Victoria Zerbst explores the darker side of studying overseas

Images by Frankie Hossack



It begins the moment you share your host university's acceptance letter on Facebook, accruing hundreds of likes and performing your call to adventure for all to see. Leading up to your departure, you naturally set yourself up with expectations. You make plans to write a wanderlust blog, post statuses asking which festivals you should attend in #Europe, and trawl through Study Abroad marketing materials, superimposing yourself in the images selected to set your imagination alight with possibilities.

In a few months time, you'll have your turn posing next to monuments, attending costume parties dressed as an 'Australian', and letting everyone know you're having the time of your life.

Unless, of course, you're having a shit time.

In that case, you probably won't want to post about it at all, or talk about it. You might just remain silent. Wait to come home, and hope that when you do, it can remain your own lonely secret.

Difficult experiences on university exchanges are often muted and hidden. They are also often coupled with a sense of shame, guilt or failure. Since 'study abroad' has become such digital performances, students who don't have the most *instagrammable* times tend to feel alone and disappointed in themselves. In fact, I had no idea how many students felt isolated by their 'negative' experiences until I began listening to their stories.

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Jump to my conversation with Emily earlier this year. She was in London, halfway through her exchange at King's College, her time abroad made all the more difficult by its distance from her partner waiting back home.

"It was going to be our period of freedom apart from each other. We were quite naive about it."

Emily always wanted to go on exchange. It was always "part of her plan", to take the next step towards seeing the world on her own. Even living out of home, and considering herself fairly independent, this was a chance to make new friends and experiences that would last a lifetime.

But making new friends, and throwing herself into a whirlwind of new experiences also meant saying goodbye to her partner at the airport. She cried all the way over on the plane.

The pain of being separated from a partner is understandable, and certainly not exclusive to being on exchange, but what made the experience more challenging for Emily was the total lack of support in her new environment.

Tears stained Emily's arrival, and soon became a frequent visitor. "When I arrived it was 10pm and people were really unfriendly. The room was small and the lights didn't work. It was dark and freezing and I didn't have any bedding. I slept on the bed and I cried and cried, and that was pretty much the pattern for the first month and a half."

Emily went through another difficult time when a friend passed away back in Sydney.

Once again she grieved alone, and quietly. "It was really hard being away when that happened. There weren't any people around to talk to about it and people felt incredibly awkward whenever I brought it up."

She noted that her exchange was physically painful for the first six months. She started missing classes and couldn't leave her room. The time difference made it difficult to communicate with friends and family back home in what was a major time of need. She also felt she couldn't be completely honest about her experience because she didn't want to appear ungrateful.

"It's this horrible feeling of having to suppress your sadness all the time because when you are over here you have to make the most of it. When you talk to friends at home you have to pretend everything is great, and that makes it so much worse."

Emily dreaded the thought of going back and having to massage the truth about her exchange. Before she left, Emily's perception of people having a bad time of exchange was limited to a lack of effort and enthusiasm. She was surprised to find herself, as someone who had long been dreaming about this experience, struggling. "At home I am totally able to overcome a lot of obstacles. Exchange is just a warped environment, it makes everything so much harder and people can't understand until they've experienced it."

**Since 'study abroad' have become such digital performances, students who don't have the most *instagrammable* times tend to feel alone and disappointed in themselves.**

According to Sydney University management, in 2015 more than 800 USyd students participated in the outbound semester exchange program. Another 100 went on short-term exchange programs. It's clear these opportunities provide students with a plethora of benefits, from new friends, to cultural exposure, to new-found independence.

In the 2016-2020 Sydney University Strategic Plan, increased student mobility was outlined as a key performance indicator. The university aims to reach "50 percent student mobility" by 2020. Half the students enrolled will set off on a global adventure, as student exchanges become less of a luxury and more of an expectation.

There is no doubt increased global connectivity and cultural literacy are worthy goals, or that even during the toughest times, the skills students learn from these global opportunities are a net positive.

The Sydney Abroad team run a range of student exchange information sessions throughout semester that "provide an overview of the available destinations" and springboard students into their own research.

Sydney Abroad also run pre-departure sessions on important practical and administrative preparations to "help prepare students for the cultural journey ahead by offering an insight into the cultures, practices and traditions of the region or country". While it is encouraged that students attend these sessions, they are not compulsory. Most of the students I spoke to did not attend because they didn't think they needed to.

\*\*\*

When I asked Julian about his exchange to the University of Edinburgh,<sup>1</sup> he told me his perspective was probably clouded by the anxiety he developed towards the end.

"I think a big part of it was when things got stressful, I didn't have the support structures like I do back home. Even having friends to talk to, or understanding processes like special consideration, or even what to do if I miss an exam."

Coming up to exams, Julian developed a bad case of insomnia. He fell asleep after the sun came up, didn't see the sun for about a month, was grinding his teeth and getting migraines every day, and became stuck in a series of anxious thought spirals. "I had always had some trouble sleeping at home, but nothing near this level of stress before."

Julian lived in a university hall with first years and exchange students. The guy next door to him knew he was suffering from insomnia and that he was pretty stressed out, but they didn't have enough of a rapport that Julian could go to him for help.

"When I was feeling at my worst, like trying to get to sleep late at night, it was usually a really inconvenient time in Australia – everyone was asleep or at work. The time difference made it really hard."

Julian also didn't see any mental health professionals. He felt there wasn't enough time to develop a relationship with a counsellor and didn't know if seeing someone new would help.

He managed to see a doctor who prescribed him sleeping pills, but he said, besides that, there wasn't any support. "Maybe there were more support services I could have taken advantage of when things got bad. It's hard to talk about it because exchange is such a privilege. Being able to go and afford it is extremely fortunate. So there is a lot of guilt associated with that."

Julian also dreaded coming back and talking to people about his exchange. "When people asked me how it was, I told close friends I had a shitty time but I didn't want to say that to everyone. For ages it made me a bit awkward in social situations. I had to be a downer or feel like I was lying."

He soon came to realise he went on exchange for the wrong reasons. It was mostly external pressure that influenced his decision to go. "It felt like a thing that felt worth doing. It wasn't completely wasted, but I wouldn't go again."

Emily also didn't know how or even if she should talk to someone "If I just had a good friend over here that's who I'd talk to. Maybe if it had been more accessible I would have used it." She felt King's College made it seem like getting help was a real exception, and found their website unhelpful.

"I once thought to email the university [King's], but I couldn't think of what to write in the email. 'Help, I'm an exchange student, my friend died and I am really lonely?'" I remember being sad as fuck and on the other side of the world and thinking this is the worst thing I have done in my fucking life."

**The stigma against mental illness seems to amplify under the pressure of going on exchange. Feeling unwell feels like failing.**

The stigma against mental illness seems to amplify under the pressure of going on exchange. Feeling unwell feels like failing, seeking help becomes more challenging in a new environment, and students are often left to suffer in silence.

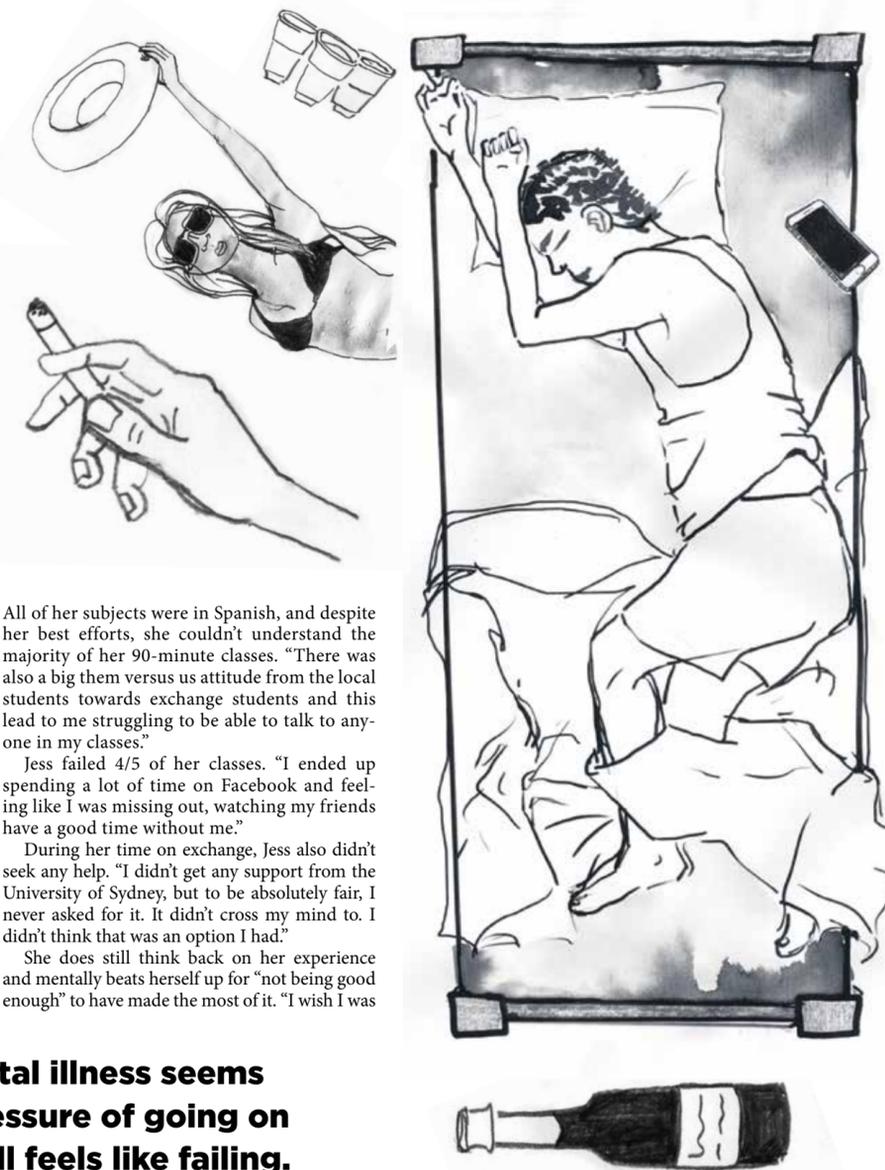
Julian's anxiety came home with him, like a cruel souvenir. Even though he knew he needed help as soon he arrived back, it took him a year to find a psychologist that was right for him, and that was with the support of his family and friends.

He also never submitted feedback to the university about his exchange, and felt too embarrassed to attend any Study Abroad events or post-exchange workshops.

While the University provides a Careers Centre workshop "to help students articulate to future employers how this transformative experience helped developed their personal attributes", there is less emphasis on the emotional or psychological support students might need as well.

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Organising a new life overseas and maintaining a self of well being is hard enough in English, let alone in a foreign language. Jess spent a semester at the Universidad de Carlos III in Madrid and, for her, university was a genuine struggle.<sup>2</sup>



All of her subjects were in Spanish, and despite her best efforts, she couldn't understand the majority of her 90-minute classes. "There was also a big them versus us attitude from the local students towards exchange students and this lead to me struggling to be able to talk to anyone in my classes."

Jess failed 4/5 of her classes. "I ended up spending a lot of time on Facebook and feeling like I was missing out, watching my friends have a good time without me."

During her time on exchange, Jess also didn't seek any help. "I didn't get any support from the University of Sydney, but to be absolutely fair, I never asked for it. It didn't cross my mind to. I didn't think that was an option I had."

She does still think back on her experience and mentally beats herself up for "not being good enough" to have made the most of it. "I wish I was

were both totally isolated by our circumstance and our emotions. Now we accept exchange for what it was, a really difficult and lonely time."

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So many things contribute to this sense of loneliness and isolation on exchange. I don't believe it's a failure of university management, but rather the suffocating expectation of what an exchange should look and feel like. It is an expectation created by a simulated hyperreality of brochures, Facebook posts, and selective sharing. It is an expectation that makes it harder to admit when something is wrong.

These struggles outlined in this article are too common to be swept under the rug. Student exchanges are tough, challenging, and a lot less glamorous than they are made to appear. So don't buy into the fantasy; know the real reasons why you are going, and be prepared for the struggle.

For fucks sake, please take advantage of all the services that Study Abroad offers, and give yourself room to feel and express how you feel. We too often neglect our emotional lives for our public ones.

<sup>1</sup> Name has been changed as requested

<sup>2</sup> Same deal as above

# In the running

Tuvalu's going to the Olympics. Alexandros Tsathas spoke to its only athlete

Exactly halfway between Sydney and Hawaii, nine islands rise from the surface of the Pacific – just – to make Tuvalu. With its highest point 4.6 metres above sea level, it's one of the lowest-lying countries in the world. But it isn't just Tuvalu's elevation that's exceptional. Its population of 11,000 does not have a single freshwater source to draw from. A significant portion of government revenue comes from leasing the country's internet suffix: .tv. (This is how it paid for its admission into the United Nations.) Tuvalu's postage stamps have a cult following among philatelists.

Later this week, over 10,000 athletes from 203 different countries will walk the Maracanã Stadium in Rio for the Opening Ceremony of the Games of the XXXI Olympiad.

One of them will be from Tuvalu.

\*\*\*

Sport is big in Tuvalu. Despite its small population (a fifth that of the University of Sydney), national associations exist for athletics, football, volleyball, basketball, boxing, weightlifting, rugby and table tennis. Sprinting and weightlifting are the local specialties. In the two Olympic Games Tuvalu has been competed in, it's always been in these two disciplines.

Mr. Isala Isala is the Secretary-General of the Tuvalu Association of Sport and National Olympic Committee (TASNOC). Before he held this position, made possible by the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) benevolent fund, he was Tuvalu's public defender. His thoughtful sentences have a calming quality about them.

Isala is closer to the action than most bearing his title. As he explains over the phone, he's responsible for the logistical management of the Tuvalu Games (an annual inter-island sports festival) and Tuvalu's athletes when they compete in regional and international tournaments. He writes TASNOC's press releases (informing the nation's single radio station and fortnightly newspaper) and is also his country's de facto sports minister, overseeing physical education in Tuvalu's schools.

TASNOC runs on a shoestring annual budget of AU\$10,000, so it's unsurprising that when asked of his role's biggest challenge, Isala responds "I think it's finance and facilities,

sporting facilities.

"We only have one sporting field in Tuvalu, and most of the teams train on the runway tarmac. It's either there or on the beach. Or on the road." The tarmac he speaks of is the Funafuti International Airport, a converted American World War II landing strip. Sirens sound when an aircraft is approaching.

Official TASNOC results are posted on a Facebook page, and teams' travelling expenses are variably covered by a government-owned bank or the IOC. I ask about physiotherapists, nutritionists and sports psychologists. "No. We lack all those avenues, all those things. The only support we sometimes use is the church, we use our pastors to come over and give guidance and support to our athletes."

In Tuvalu, talent identification, which also falls under Isala's jurisdiction, involves finding excellent sportspeople at one of two secondary schools in the country, or else those who make an impression at the Tuvalu Games.

The latter was the case for Etimoni (Reme) Timiani. He is Tuvalu's only Rio athlete.

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Reme is a 24 year old father-of-two from Funafuti who works for the Tuvalu National Provident Fund, the national pension scheme. Having played in Tuvalu's top-flight football league since he was 16, he was called into the national football and futsal teams at 19. He's a defender, and a man of few words.

At last year's Tuvalu Games, Reme was the quickest on the football pitch. Isala identified him as having sprinting potential, and Reme made a swift transition into his new, Olympic discipline: the 100m sprint.

He first represented his country at the 2015 Pacific Games in Papua New Guinea. He was disqualified after false starting. "Not good," he said of that experience. Lessons learned, later in 2015 at the World Athletics Championships in Beijing, he ran 11.72 seconds in his preliminary heat. He showed similar form last month, when he ran 11.77 at the Oceania Melanesian Regional Championships in Fiji.

Reme trains two hours every day on the airport tarmac. He concurs with Isala – "It's not a good place to train". Sprinting expertise isn't



Above: Etimoni (Reme) Timiani

Left: Tuvalu's place in the world

Below: Tuvalu's only sports field



# Giant frozen turkey battle

Inedible gift turkeys are for life, not just for Christmas. Shon Ho found out the hard way

In the grand spirit of capitalism, new fridges occasionally come with complimentary frozen birds (and warranty). Last December, my grandparents bought a fridge from Bing Lee and received a giant Stegless turkey.

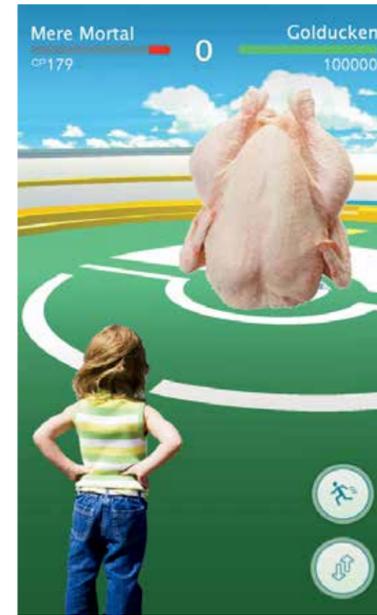
Naturally, they donated the turkey to us and it proceeded to sit in our fridge for many months because no one could be bothered to cook it.

Being Chinese, we get our roast meats straight off hooks hanging in the windows of Asian BBQ shops. Whole roasted ducks, crispy slabs of pork belly and shiny soy chickens dripping with sweet glaze, are deftly butchered in 30 seconds flat and packed with supreme Tetris-like-tightness in plastic takeaway containers. Sure, we could make turkey with all the vegetables, gravy and trimmings, but did we really need to?

However, the turkey just took up too much space in our fridge and was causing all our ice-cream to melt, so we drove 20 minutes unannounced to an elderly family friend's house. We hoped to surprise 72-year-old Yeung Poh-Poh (all-round legendary cook who makes a mean chicken and potato curry) with a turkey shaped gift that could potentially break someone's skull if it was dropped with good aim from a two storey building.

Yeung Poh-Poh opened the door and took a step back as we unveiled the bird from its blue cooler bag. As gracious as she was, she was also slightly aghast. Fear settled across her face as she remembered the last time she made a turkey that no one touched. "No one likes to eat turkey," she whispered as she ushered us into her house. Before we knew what was happening, we found ourselves holding a newly harvested winter melon, some coriander and a plate of satay skewers as we drove home with turkey still in tow.

I fell into a void of questioning more disarming than any existential crisis I had previously



encountered. Is turkey actually an unpopular meat? Is it just a vaguely festive food?

The penny dropped. Why has turkey never been used as "the hero of the dish" on *Masterchef*?

Consulting Google was the next logical step but typing "turkey recipe" into the search bar proved to be less fruitful than I hoped. The results failed to take me much further than your standard whole-stuffed-bird-for-Christmas-or-Thanksgiving-day-lunch.

Art: Ann Ding

Aside from the aforementioned consumption-based holidays, turkeys are not invited to a great deal of parties. Whole legs appear at the Easter Show for novelty purposes and pale, infirm-looking processed turkey meat may occasionally be found sandwiched between some cold butter, tomato and grain bread. Sometimes, turkey is sought out as a healthy, lean, alternative protein for people who buy activewear.

It also dawned on me. Have I ever seen a turkey egg? Do people eat turkey eggs? Do turkeys even lay eggs? Upon further research, it turns out that turkey eggs are uncommon because they are ridiculously expensive, we're talking \$3-4 a pop.

So the bird, in its sheer monstrous semi-defrosted state, sat glistening on our kitchen bench. It was grotesque. It squelched as I pressed it on top of the chopping board. Frost fell out of its cavity when I held down its legs and wings.

Mum hacked at it with a giant meat cleaver and carefully placed the turkey parts into separate sandwich bags and into the freezer in the same way a serial killer might dismember a corpse.

Yesterday, we had turkey, garlic and eggplant stir fry with fish sauce. The turkey carcass was used in a Chinese soup several days ago (Yes Paleo, you did not discover bone broth, my ancestors have been making it for centuries). Last week, we cooked Teriyaki turkey and turkey congee with lettuce and chicken giblets for my grandparents.

And so, I have come to accept that the remnants of this beast may continue to materialise between my chopsticks, gambol in my fried rice and hide in my omelettes forever. Eight months after infiltrating our household, the frozen bird, deemed socially unfit for reality TV and the weekly meal cycle, remains an obnoxious squatter.

There is still turkey in our fridge.

## Honiscopes

Advice and predictions, as presented by cuttings from previous editions of Honi without context



Capricorn

Impart the same shame onto their children



Pisces

They already hate you



Aquarius

The public accolades will dry up



Scorpio

Ponder worthlessness of action, despair momentarily



Sagittarius

Sit-in in Fisher library over Library fines



Leo

You could feed a kid



Gemini

There's something to chew on



Virgo

Surprisingly absorbent



Aries

Capitalise on his vague Italian-ness



Libra

Name the Kardashian-Jenner siblings from oldest to youngest



Cancer

Deny a financial relationship



Taurus

Make them post a funny gif or meme to keep the event pumping

# Track stars

## Alexandros Tsathas on the scourge of house parties

House parties are the best type of party. For party patrons, that is. They've a vibe that's just the right amount of casual, guests that are just the right amount of familiar, and a concern for the responsible service of alcohol that's just the right amount of absent.

For party proprietors though, house parties are a dastardly source of angst. In these heady Facebook times, it's lore that only half of those who clicked 'attending' will actually do so – only those categorically bereft of social intelligence draw attention to their imminent absence by clicking 'interested'. And once you've got the ungrateful bastards there, you've got to worry about them

going through your pantry, upchucking on your sofa and turning your bathroom into a boggy archipelago.

Doubtless though, house parties' greatest scourge are trackstars. At the beginning of the night, sensibilities contained by sobriety, trackstars lie dormant. It's around 10 o'clock that they emerge – by then, their inhibitions have been lubricated sufficiently to escape their snug limbic quarters.

Their arrival is heralded by the clunk, rip, static, and then clunk again of their wrenching the auxiliary jack from the host's laptop to connect their iPhone. What follows is 15 seconds of silence, then, at a grossly miscalculated volume, metham-

phetamine-Mario Kart fusion, Scandinavian mass-murderer Youtube manifesto theme song, or chewy acoustic vibes cooked up by an obscure sibling trio somewhere down Moruya way.

All it takes is one, and once it's happened, there's no going back. Trackstars try and outdo trackstars. It's as if, by virtue of ripping out another's device and replacing it with their own, they suppose they've made a definitive statement about the iPhone owners' relative position in some grand melodic hierarchy.

Then there's the resentment that grows between trackstars, like a self-limiting yeast. It inevitably stems from the premature termination of one

trackstar's track by another trackstar. The usurper will spin their preferred tune, but it in turn will be terminated even more prematurely by the preceding phonic shah. It's then a race to the bottom, each trackstar's tune cut shorter and shorter until the tension erupts in the heated halitotic haze nobody needs.

So how to deal with them? As with any infection, the best cure is prevention. Should the host's playback device be a laptop, it should be folded close; should it be an iPhone, locked with a secure passcode. As an additional precaution, the auxiliary cord should be fastened to the playback device with gaffer tape in a 'x'-shape con-

figuration: an elegant solution for tampering deterrence.

But what if does get to the stage where the 'host' is invaded? As the host, overreact. Act as though you perceive their interference to be an indictment of your good community standing. Drop f-bombs for effect, play up your level of intoxication, and swear on your on children's grave that when you find the individual responsible, you'll crucify them.

And what if you're at a house party and you ain't diggin' the tunes? You wouldn't change the decorations, you wouldn't amend the guest list and you wouldn't alter the menu – so don't change the music.

Art: Jess Zlotnick

# Dorian's Grade: A+

## Andy Zephyr fell in love ...and saw the latest SUDS production

First time director, Jane Hughes, collaborates with writer, Nadia Bracegirdle, in a seamless adaption of Oscar Wilde's infamous book on youth, sexuality and power, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. The result is a smooth and delicious act one followed by a striking and elegant act two. From seconds into the show it screams sophistication and homosexuality, much to my delight. The set and production value set a camp but elegant standard of luxury, and congratulations are to be given to Imogen King and the design team for their eye for detail.

The swift introduction of the shy, inexperienced Dorian Gray helps seduce you into admiring the soon-to-be monster, played by Tom Mendes, who seems to glide (not walk) across the stage. His ability to pace Dorian's messy downfall becomes hypnotising, complimenting his physical talents as the gorgeous lead. The paintings of Dorian made by Grace Sun could be mistaken for the art that decorates our university's Great Hall, adding grandiose and an eventually bitter backdrop to the disaster that is Dorian's downfall.

I will admit. I fell immediately in love with Basil Hallward, played by Max Melzer. His shining eyes, yet downcast attitude completely sell his character's devotion to the art that is Dorian Gray's character. Melzer convincingly devotes his character to Dorian, despite building such trust with the audience as the lone rational agent in this debauched world. It leads to the conscription of all characters and audience to all out war against Dorian as soon as a knife is drawn against Basil.

Bravo for Bracegirdle's lack of commitment to gender norms. The play transforms the male-entitled hedonist, Lord Henry, from Wilde's book, into the gender-bent Queen of Desire, Harriet Wotton. Wotton, played by Chloe Lethlean Higson, becomes the powerhouse of the show. Higson demonstrates an air of powerful sexuality and womanhood, as she becomes a shark of desire that can smell a single drop of temptation from miles away.

Wotton's poetic and philosophical monologues wrap spells around every character with their own temptations (with the exception of Basil),

and become the cocoon in which Dorian develops, only to emerge a monstrous and horrifying narcissist. Dorian and Harriet's showdown scene will give me goosebumps for days.

The supporting cast's commitment to the sexual tension in the play is addictive to watch. With every character's sexuality ambiguously defined, it's hard to sit through any group scenes without crossing your legs. Special mentions to Illeana Prieto for her alluring stage presence, and Alex Smiles for delivering lines that remind me of exchanging hot, bodily fluids.

The play's writer, actors, director, and production team worked to drive my standards of student theatre higher than I would ever anticipate. This production should be remembered, not just as an ode to a popular book, but as a theatrical embodiment of ideas including vanity, lust, desire, taboo, and the potentially deadly grip of narcissism.

Unlike the portrait of Dorian's soul, this show develops into a beautiful masterpiece worthy of your attendance.

# Semester 2: a flop in the making

## Thomas Sydney St John reviews the Uni's latest PR stunt

Last week, *Honi's* film writers and the general public alike were treated to the promo trailer for *Semester 2*, the University's follow-up to its stylistically-ambitious but plotline-devoid *Semester 1*, which achieved cult status as a failed attempt at sociopathic horror. Here's what we know about the upcoming film.

Dr Michael Spence, off the back of ferocious criticism of his directorial debut, has pulled no punches with its sequel. The set seems to be some kind of sick parody of the University

of Sydney's Camperdown campus – bereft of its depressing hordes of soulless students. The result is slightly out of step with reality, but wholly consistent with Spence's twisted arthouse brand. Sceptics have questioned the use of student fees to produce a blockbuster. As a cinebuff, I am compelled to throw shade on such proletarian musings – what would you rather USyd spend the money on? Lecturers' salaries? Funding the arts? Knocking down Carlslaw? Yeah, nice try.

Casting appears likely to be

an ongoing issue, with *Semester 2* recycling the same, budget, ragtag horde of thespians ostensibly mustered from the reject pool of the Education and Social Work Revue. They include: Oakley-wearing, golf buggy-driving men in high-vis vests (a George R.R. Martin cameo?); a barista who was clearly unaware she was being filmed; the stony eyes of Gilgamesh; and the librarian who shushes way, way, too sensually for your correspondent's comfort.

As of yet, it is unclear whether the film's lead roles will be played by actual celebrities,

or whether the majority of the trailer's actors stipulated in their contracts that their faces were at no point to be shown on screen, for the sake of both their career prospects and social wellbeing. A bit of mystery goes a long way these days.

The film is apparently rated "A for Academic", but truth be told, it really straddles the line between that and "L for Lame-ass". The film's iMovie transitions are a cheeky fedora-tilt to amateur filmmakers everywhere.

*Semester 1's* twist, the shock murder of audience favourite

"Sydney College of the Arts", wasn't featured in the trailer for *Semester 2*, but emotional scenes are assured as the film's protagonists deal with the fallout.

Oh, and think you were getting out of the cinema ibis-free? Nope. The trailer included a few close-ups of everyone's least favourite soul-devouring beaky freak, in what appears to be an homage to Hitchcock's *The Birds*. *Semester 2* looks to be the whole package. If the racial diversity of the trailer is any reflection of the actual film, it'll be a shoe-in for an Oscar.

# LEAF US ALONE

## Max Hall and Sam Langford miss the forest and the trees

"As living organisms, trees live, grow and die."

So reads part 2.4 of the Tree Management Procedures, a freely available Sydney University policy that governs, in 69 pages of excruciating detail, the life of trees across campus.

The document cuts, we think, to the bureaucratic root rot that plagues the modern university. University flora is treated similarly to staff and students – its growth guided by quotas (for canopy cover and drought resistance), and described in the language of commercial concern as "valuable assets" and "green infrastructure". Indeed, the document spends a fair amount of time justifying the presence of trees on campus in terms of a cost/benefit analysis, ultimately concluding that trees "intercept incoming ultra-violet/cancer-causing radiation", "engage us" and help us "overcome mental fatigue". These leafy superheroes of our sandstone, concrete and glass habitat even "contribute to a safer and stronger community, with reduced crime, violence and aggression".

If all this cost/benefit sounds too corporate, fear not – the University also demonstrates a rudimentary understanding of the aesthetic benefits of trees, noting that they "have a wide range of intrinsic visual qualities including textures, colours, movement, fragrances, patterns and sounds." This is the level of aesthetic know-how you'd expect from an administration that seems to have absolutely zero qualms about destroying its art school.

But Tree Management Procedures is also a document crafted with love, a reminder of the University of ages past. Indeed, the Procedures' best moments are profoundly concerned with learning and thought; with deep ruminations on the passage of time. We are reminded that "the death of any living thing is inevitable": "A tree that may have survived for 100 years can be irreparably damaged in 5 minutes."

The policy also contains echoes of a University committed to environmentalism – many trees have survived, including some of the Port Jackson figs that line Parramatta Road and the main driveway, which were planted as part of an "unemployment relief scheme" in the 1890s. When terms like "rootball occupancy" are used, it is in the context of tree care, rather than

anti-activist sentiment.

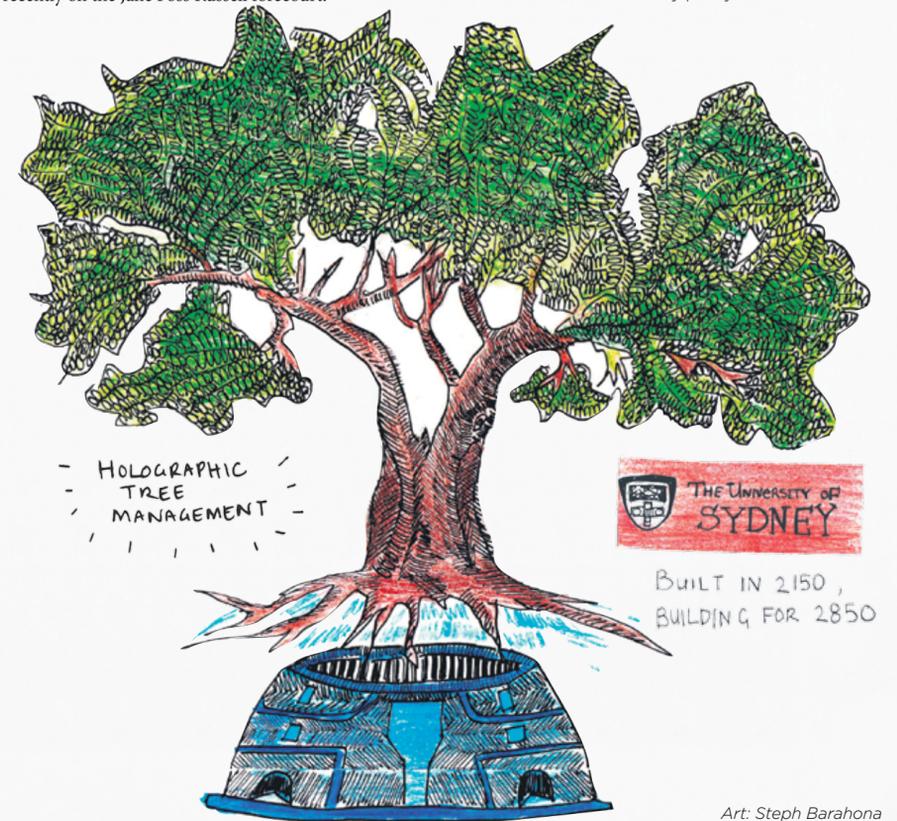
But just as areas of the campus may be overrun with noxious weeds, the oddball delight of Tree Management Procedures is ultimately overrun with the expanding growth of corporatism. This is perhaps best indicated by USyd's newfound preference for potted plants.

Two years ago, the University swore to *Honi* that the colourful array of shrubs that lie in the bed adjacent to City Road were a temporary fixture. Yet they remain, and have been joined by the appearance of large, dark concrete planter boxes around campus, most recently on the Jane Foss Russell forecourt.

The boxes feel oddly permanent, as fixed in place on their four squat blocks as their hastily planted contents are not. In these pots, campus plant life becomes transient; plant turnover matching student turnover, uprooted as easily as the odd satellite campus.

We do not plant Jacarandas anymore, but the Tree Management Procedures remind us all too well why we should.

1. Citations for the latter two benefits aren't provided, in clear breach of the University's academic honesty policy.



Art: Steph Barahona



Unlike some, you've still got time to change your nomination

Whether you're enrolled in Arts, Science, Engineering or Business, you can still enrol in a unit of study at the United States Studies Centre.

Log on to Sydney Student or visit the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences office in the Quad to switch before the 5 August deadline.

Our units of study have some of the highest rates of student satisfaction, have won the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Teaching, and open up a world of professional opportunities in Australia and the United States, from Capitol Hill to Silicon Valley.

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- AMST2606 Stand Up USA: American Comedy and Humour
- AMST3601 American Perspectives
- USSC2603 Americanism and Anti-Americanism
- USSC2604 Sex, Race and Rock in the USA



Come and see what all the hype is about.

# Reinventing the wheel

Zoe Stojanovic-Hill teeters into the world of unicycle sports

Laila McKenzie is an athlete. Twenty-five years old, lean and muscular with her hair in a ponytail, wearing kaleidoscopic active-wear and chic pink Nikes, she looks the part. Like a photoshopped fit person, cut out from a gym pamphlet and sticky-taped onto reality. However, Laila is the least conventional cyclist I have ever met, and not just because she lacks the padded pants, speed dealer sunnies, and irrepressible animosity towards motorists. "Unicycling isn't just a circus skill anymore," she says, giving the rainbow pedals of her unicycle a spin. "It's an actual sport."

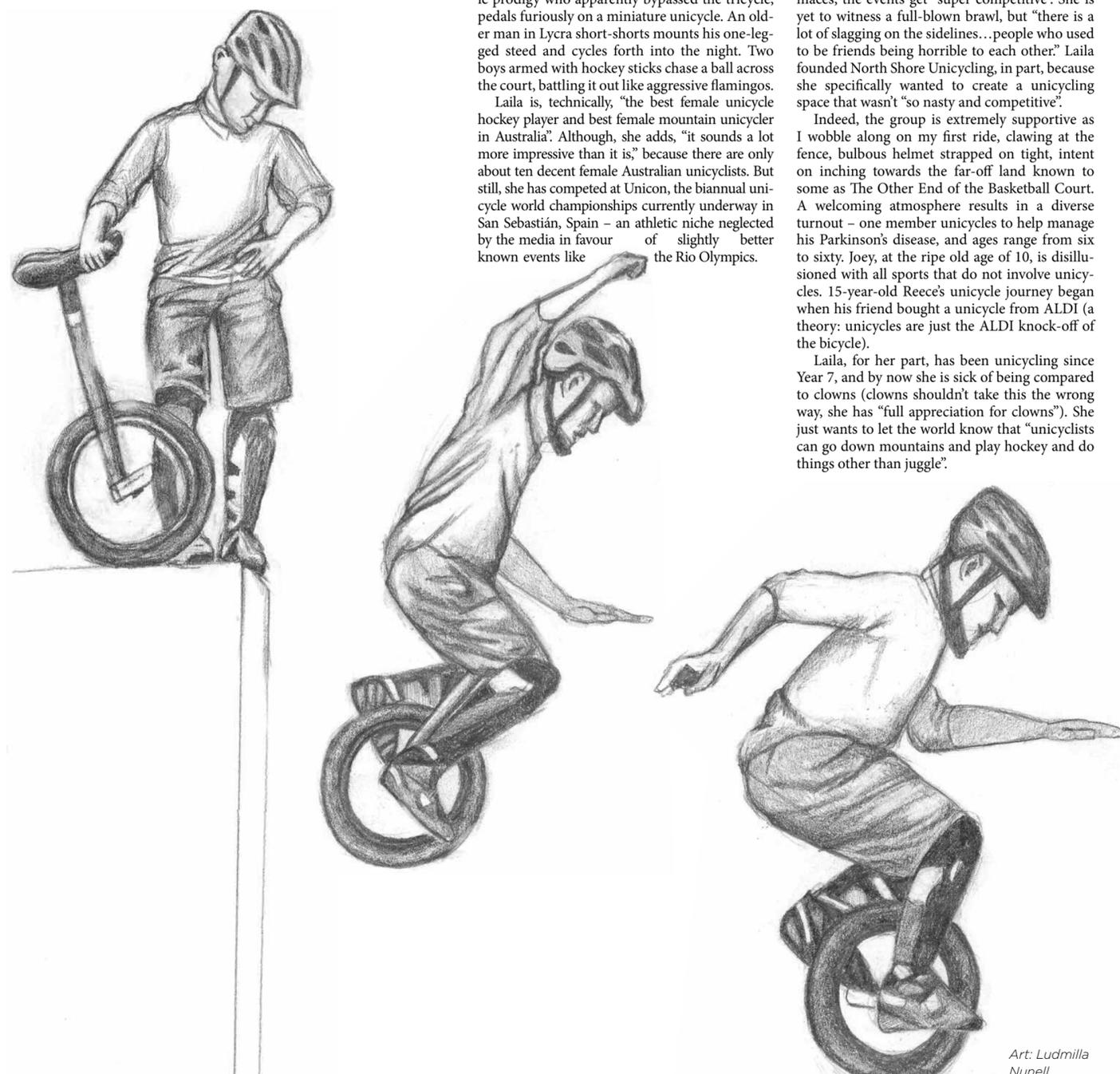
I'm at Montview Park in Hornsby Heights, in Sydney's northern suburbs, where Laila's unicycle club, North Shore Unicycling, meets up every Thursday night. The group is a "development squad" – a level in-between the Australian Unicycle Hockey League, and just collecting bruises in the backyard. Club nights seem to begin with independent riding, cut short by a Tim Tam break, followed by games involving Tim Tams, and ending with unicycle hockey (also featuring Tim Tams). For a gravitationally challenged punter used to cruising along on an even number of wheels, it's a minefield. A little kid, an athletic prodigy who apparently bypassed the tricycle, pedals furiously on a miniature unicycle. An older man in Lycra short-shorts mounts his one-legged steed and cycles forth into the night. Two boys armed with hockey sticks chase a ball across the court, battling it out like aggressive flamingos.

Laila is, technically, "the best female unicycle hockey player and best female mountain unicyclist in Australia". Although, she adds, "it sounds a lot more impressive than it is," because there are only about ten decent female Australian unicyclists. But still, she has competed at Unicon, the biannual unicycle world championships currently underway in San Sebastián, Spain – an athletic niche neglected by the media in favour of slightly better known events like the Rio Olympics.

What Unicon lacks in international media coverage, however, it makes up in its wide range of batshit events. There's unicycle hockey and basketball, unicycle mountain biking, street (unicyclists take to skate parks), flatland (basically unicycle gymnastics), trials (unicycle parkour), long distance unicycling (including a full 42km marathon), track and field (everything from the 200m race to high jump), and my personal favourite: freestyle, or what the International Unicycle Federation's website officially describes as "the artistic presentation of unicycling", sometimes involving dance moves and a soundtrack. And, Laila grimaces, the events get "super competitive". She is yet to witness a full-blown brawl, but "there is a lot of slugging on the sidelines...people who used to be friends being horrible to each other." Laila founded North Shore Unicycling, in part, because she specifically wanted to create a unicycling space that wasn't "so nasty and competitive".

Indeed, the group is extremely supportive as I wobble along on my first ride, clawing at the fence, bulbous helmet strapped on tight, intent on inching towards the far-off land known to some as The Other End of the Basketball Court. A welcoming atmosphere results in a diverse turnout – one member unicycles to help manage his Parkinson's disease, and ages range from six to sixty. Joey, at the ripe old age of 10, is disillusioned with all sports that do not involve unicycles. 15-year-old Reece's unicycle journey began when his friend bought a unicycle from ALDI (a theory: unicycles are just the ALDI knock-off of the bicycle).

Laila, for her part, has been unicycling since Year 7, and by now she is sick of being compared to clowns (clowns shouldn't take this the wrong way, she has "full appreciation for clowns"). She just wants to let the world know that "unicyclists can go down mountains and play hockey and do things other than juggle".



Art: Ludmilla Nunell

# Freeballin'

## Samuel Chu on why sport on TV should be free

One day in the July break, I was woken up at five in the morning by my little brother to watch the final of the European Football Championships. Portugal beat host nation France thanks to a late, long-range strike from Eder, who had ironically been dubbed the "striker who rarely scores" earlier in the match.

Disappointingly, the final was one of only eight matches in the tournament that my brother and I were able to watch live on SBS; the others could only be viewed live through Foxtel. All SBS managed to slap together was a daily sixty-minute highlights reel – pretty slack for the network whose broadcasting priorities have spurred "Sex Before Soccer" as a reimagining of its acronym.

SBS' paltry coverage came as a surprise to my Foxtel-devoid household, which expected a similar broadcast schedule as for the FIFA World Cup, that is, "all matches live and free on SBS".

So why was this case? The answer: Australia's increasingly relaxed anti-siphoning rules.

Australia's anti-siphoning rules, part of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, are clauses that stipulate that sporting events deemed to be in the "public interest" must be first refused by free-to-air (FTA) television networks before they can be taken up by pay TV providers. This essentially allows FTA TV to call first dibs on events including the FIFA World Cup, the Olympics, and the NRL.

But only those events on a 'list' created by the Act are subject to this process, and currently, the European Championships do not appear on it.

So far, the anti-siphoning list has done a reasonable job of keeping access to sport equal, but it is under increasing threat. Foxtel and governing sports bodies have recently lobbied successfully, in the name of "promoting market competition", to shrink the list (see timeline), helped by the vagueness of the term "public interest".

Subscription TV penetration in Australia currently stands at 27.6 per cent. When sporting codes restrict viewing access to this small subset

of the population, they benefit from the increased flow of royalties in the short-term, but expose themselves to two great long-term risks.

The first is that they jeopardise youth participation rates and the future of their sports: kids play the sports they watch on TV. The second, is that they galvanise the link between socioeconomic status (SES) and participation in physical activity, that is, poorer kids play less sport.

Further shrinkage of the anti-siphoning list will deprive low-SES young Australians of sports, and sport stars, to worship. In the context of a populace growing wider and more sedentary, the government cannot afford to continue along its path of capitulation to the interests of greedy pay TV.

The Government then, should maintain a robust anti-siphoning list. Doing so is as much in the country's physical and mental health interests as it is mine and my brother's, who just want to watch the Euros live and free.

	1994	1995	2005	2005	2005	2010	Future
<b>C-changes</b>	Initial list introduced (Olympic Games a notable omission)	Australia-West Indies cricket test series acquired by Pay TV, threatening the laws straight away	Olympic and Commonwealth Games added; NBL, some Formula 1, MotoGP and FIFA World Cup 2010, National Soccer League (A-League), US Open (Golf), Hong Kong Rugby Sevens removed	Ashes broadcasting threatened by FoxSports' circumvention of anti-siphoning laws	Similar threats (from government) to delist FIFA World Cup	The Ashes in the UK, most ICC ODI World Cup matches, most Rugby World Cup matches, British Golf Open, French Open and IndyCar removed; some netball added	Further reductions to the list proposed, including Olympics, the FA Cup final, tennis, golf, most AFL and NRL, cricket and netball

## AN(TI)NOTATIONS



### Information Statement Form 2016 Election of one Undergraduate Fellow of Senate

Nomination form and information statement **due no later than 12 noon, 10 August 2016** to Mark Smith, Executive Officer to Senate, via email [mark.j.smith@sydney.edu.au](mailto:mark.j.smith@sydney.edu.au)

**IMPORTANT**  
The information about each candidate on the Voting website is:  
• the information provided on this form; or  
• provided in a separate statement; and  
• is restricted to not more than 200 words

#### 1. Information on Nominee (All field to be completed in upper case/block letters)

Full Name	JOHN SMITH
Semester Address	BELLEVUE HILL
Telephone	9351 6950
Email Address	JSM16127@UNI.SYDNEY.EDU.AU
Current enrolment Degree/Diploma and Academic Year	BACHELOR OF ARTS/BACHELOR OF LAWS IV
Location of studies	MAIN CAMPUS
Academic Qualifications	HSC, CRANBROOK, 2012
Honours and Distinctions	ONCE BROKE A PICKET LINE
Employment Experience	POCKET MONEY FOR CHORES
Any other information the nominee considers relevant	NOT A WOMAN, THEREFORE A VIABLE CANDIDATE
Signature of Nominee	
Date	27/8/2016

#### Scrutineer Nominated (if desired)

Full Name	
Email contact	



### Statement 200 words

**IMPORTANT**  
This statement will be reproduced as plain text for the voting website; please do not use any formatting such as bold, italics, underline or bullet points. The Secretary to Senate reserves the right to edit any Statement accordingly.

Hi there! My name is John! You probs haven't heard of me before, because the only thing I've done on campus is attend the Women's College formal in 2012

But, I had a gov tute with a person in a faction and now they are running me for the University's upper house.

Apparently I meet all the demographic criteria to run. Did I mention that I go to Anglican church sometimes? Wowba! Vote #1 J. Smith.

Election of one Fellow of Senate by & from the Undergraduate students

3

## REVELRY IN REVIEW

# When is a party not a party? When it's a seminar

## Courtney Thompson was fooled by a Beyonce photoshop and a licensed venue

To be completely honest, I missed the bulk of the discussion at 'Hip Hop at Hermann's: Pop, Power, Protest', hosted by the United States Studies Society, because I arrived towards the end of the event, expecting a party, not a forum.

Going off the Facebook event, I had anticipated more dancing than discussion – which isn't to say the two are mutually exclusive – but perhaps the attendance would have been different had the event been marketed more accurately.

In saying that, attendance was still very good. Hermann's looked comfortably full with an audience engaged in discussing a plethora of topics, such as the Black Lives Matter movement, anti-colonialism, what hip hop meant to them and what issues they thought Australian hip hop should be addressing more. Common themes brought up in relation to the latter included the inhumane treatment of refugees and the pervasive racism that continues to be downplayed and ignored in our society. Many attendees mentioned they thought Australian hip hop needed to start engaging more with issues faced by Indigenous Australians and the colonial past that marks the bulk of our racist institutions today.

At this point, it might be prudent to draw your attention to Indigenous hip hop artists who are actually addressing racism in Australia. Because they don't get the attention they deserve, you have likely never heard of them before. So do yourself a favour today and check out Jimblah and Lady Lash to expand your intake of hip hop from what it currently sits at (probably track 6 of *To Pimp a Butterfly*, or one quarter of *The Life of Pablo*).

I asked members of the audience what they thought of the event. Fahad Ali said, "The speakers were good and it was a brilliant intellectual discussion but it ain't a party".

As the discussion wrapped up – closing on a note about the bar tab still being open for another 20 minutes – people mingled around and pondered the issues that were brought up over the past two hours, and where to go from here.

While no one else saw it fitting to start dancing, props to the group of three people who did take it upon themselves to start their own, albeit small, dance floor in the back corner of the room. They were clearly as confused as I was as to the purpose of the event, but that didn't stop them from dancing as though it was the party we came expecting.



## MEME-ORIALISE



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PET



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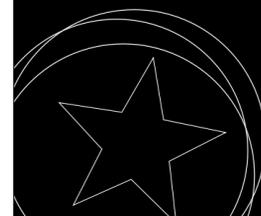
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Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney

## Notice of 2016 Students' Representative Council Annual Election



Nominations for the Students' Representative Council Annual Elections for the year 2016 **close at 4:30pm on Wednesday the 17th of August 2016**. Polling will be held on the 21st and 22nd of September 2016. Pre-polling will also take place outside the SRC offices (Level 1, Wentworth Building) on Tuesday the 20th of September 2016 from 10am–3pm. All students who are duly enrolled for attendance at lectures are eligible to vote. Members of the student body who have paid their nomination fee to Council are eligible to nominate and be nominated, except National Union of Students national office bearers. Full-time officebearers of the SRC may also nominate as NUS delegates.

**Nominations are called for the following elections/positions and open on the 27th July 2016 at 4:30pm:**

- The election of the Representatives to the 89th SRC (33 positions)
- The election of the President of the 89th SRC
- The election of the Editor(s) of *Honi Soit* for the 89th SRC
- The election of National Union of Students delegates for the 89th SRC (7 positions)

Authorised by P. Graham, SRC Electoral Officer 2016. Students' Representative Council, The University of Sydney  
Phone: 02 9660 5222 | [www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au)

## UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY SECULAR SOCIETY?

The Rationalist Assn of NSW ([www.nswrationalists.com](http://www.nswrationalists.com)) is willing to financially subsidise a society of students who are interested in starting a university Secular Society. A similar society exists at the University of Melbourne: [www.umss.org](http://www.umss.org).

We envisage regular discussions, occasional speakers, forums, and social events, all run by students with our support. Subjects would include reason and science, and the legal, social and political expression of secular values.

Interested persons should contact Max at: [nswrationalists@gmail.com](mailto:nswrationalists@gmail.com) or 0418 939 539.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from the SRC website: [www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au), or picked up from SRC front office (Level 1, Wentworth Building) from 4:30pm July 27th 2016.

Nominations **must also** be lodged online along with your policy statement and Curriculum Vitae (optional), by close of nominations at: [www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au). For more information call 9660 5222.

Signed nomination forms and a printed copy of your online nomination **must** be received no later than 4:30pm on Wednesday 17th August, either at the SRC front office (Level 1, Wentworth Building), **OR** at the following postal address: PO Box 794, Broadway NSW 2007.

Nominations which have not been delivered (printed, signed, hardcopy) either to the Electoral Officer at the SRC front office or to the post office box shown above **and** submitted online by the close of nominations **will not be accepted** regardless of when they were posted or received.

The regulations of the SRC relating to elections are available online at [www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au) or from the SRC front office, (Level 1, Wentworth Building).



# Taming Centrelink

Centrelink have long had a reputation of being unhelpful. Here are some tips that will help you through the process.



Centrelink have long had a reputation of being unhelpful. Mostly this is due to rigid processing, understaffing, inadequate equipment (eg. computer networks that can't cope with the volume of internet traffic), poor training of workers, and all too often, a lack of care from the Centrelink staff member dealing with your enquiry. So how can you best deal with Centrelink?

### 1. Be clear about what you want?

Know exactly what it is you want them to give you, so you can ask for it. For example, don't ask them what you should do if you are too sick to study. Instead ask them for Youth Allowance Incapacitated. It's ridiculous that you should take the lead on knowing what your rights and responsibilities are, especially considering how long and involved the legislation is. However, you may be given fully or partially incorrect information that may affect your current situation and your future payments. The SRC caseworkers have knowledge of Centrelink's student payments. Ask them what

the best outcome for your situation could be before talking to Centrelink.

### 2. If Centrelink believes you have done the wrong thing, do not say anything to them.

If Centrelink are accusing you of being overpaid, or committing fraud do not say anything to them before consulting an SRC caseworker or your own private lawyer. Often they do not actually have much information, and anything you say will actually be used to construct a case against you.

Check what you should say to them BEFORE you talk to them, if you are possibly going to be breached. If you need to, tell them that you would be happy to co-operate with their enquiry if they give you their questions in writing, so you can consider your response and give your answers in writing. Please note that the SRC urges you to not deliberately defraud Centrelink, nor should you seek overpayment.

**If Centrelink are accusing you of being overpaid, or committing fraud do not say anything to them before consulting an SRC caseworker or your own private lawyer.**

### 3. Keep copies of everything.

Centrelink deal with thousands of people each day. There are many of computer entries, and a mountain of paperwork is generated. In amongst all of that bureaucracy it is completely possible that Centrelink will lose a piece of paper. When giving any documents, letters, or other paperwork to Centrelink make sure you keep a copy yourself. Keep them until you complete your degree, just to be sure.

### 4. Make lots of money, preferably through rich parents.

The easiest way to deal with Centrelink is to not deal with them at all. Get some rich parents and take your money from them. This will help you with lots of different aspects of your life, so consider it a universal strategy.

SRC caseworkers can assist you further with Centrelink issues. Contact: 9660 5222 or email help@src.usyd.edu.au

# Ask Abe

SRC caseworker HELP Q&A



Hi Abe,

I don't think my tutor likes me and deliberately gives me bad marks in my assessments. I want to ask the lecturer if someone else could mark my work so I get the marks I deserve. What should I do?

Unfair

Dear Unfair,

Informal arrangements between you and your lecturer are probably the easiest to arrange. Try asking the lecturer if it is possible to get a different marker. It would be a good idea to be polite and tactful when seeking to negotiate this. You could also ask for a second marker for your assessments. The faculty is under no obligation to do this for you, but it is ok to ask. The SRC is in the process of urging the university to introduce anonymous marking. We will certainly be telling students if we are able to get that happening so keep an eye out for that.

Abe

**I want to ask the lecturer if someone else could mark my work so I get the marks I deserve. What should I do?**

SRC caseworkers offer advice and support on a range of issues including: academic issues, tenancy issues, Centrelink and more. Phone 9660 5222 or email help@src.usyd.edu.au

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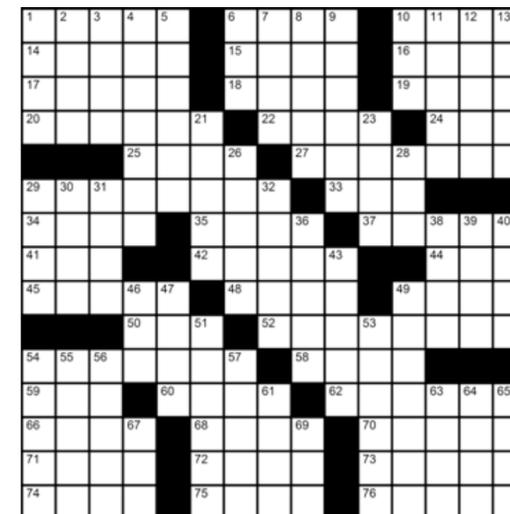
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# Quick

Quick by Zplig



### ACROSS

- Sign after Virgo
- Auditors
- Absorbed
- Principal path
- State of frustration, in poker
- Lamb alias
- Monthly bill
- 1952 Winter Olympics site
- Grad
- They're boring
- Went under
- Che's conclusion?
- Song and dance, e.g.
- Parody about a King for a day app?
- Parody about Steve Jobs' power struggle?
- \_\_\_ good deed
- Give up
- Disturb
- Shoots
- Twisty turn
- Rover
- Twosome
- Leaves for lunch?
- \_\_\_ stick

- Throw, as dice
- Hi-\_\_\_ graphics
- Parody about a jealous bug?
- Parody featuring a fake play within a fake play?
- Backside
- "\_\_\_ the fields we go"
- About, on a memo
- Topic of a Jedi's mind trick
- See 69-Down
- One of the canonical hours
- Sound
- Bibliographic abbr.
- A head
- Lead source?
- \_\_\_ Ifans, Noting Hill actor
- Doing nothing
- British screws?

### DOWN

- Passes by a unit
- Modern day Persia
- Lad
- 2001 Zucker Comedy
- Easily, perhaps
- Head in the clouds?
- Crude liquid?
- To whom a Muslims prays
- High
- Mens \_\_\_ (criminal intent)
- Back street
- Elizabeth excommunicator
- Less exciting
- Firm
- Stomach problem
- Descends
- Eddie Murphy feature
- Kills
- Tableland
- Internet abbr.
- "I can't believe I'm on TV!"
- Nigerian port
- False god
- "Mine!" speaker in Finding Nemo
- Aria, e.g.
- Was sweet (on)
- Branch
- Where to get a BLT
- Photoshop
- Japanese teacher?
- Pester
- Dry
- Moor
- Set of numbers
- Step
- Not containing, for short
- "I had no \_\_\_!"
- Minor damage
- Drunkards
- Obtains from the internet, for short
- With 66-Across, inspiration for the 4 parodies in this grid

# Target



- Stab your toe with a fork in rage: 8
- Caught masturbating in a public library: 15
- Won a pineapple on the pokies: 20

# Sudoku

Sudoku and Target by Zplig



Come complain to **Atrus, Zplig, Skribblex** and **EN** about last semester's final crossword in person at the **CrossSoc** solving session Friday, 4pm at Hermans.

### ACROSS

- Flight of rage reported in spades (6)
- Ungoverned part of Asia supported female worker (8)
- Blue sweetbreads with WHAT in Spain!? (6)
- Loss in iron (8)
- Criticize the old and new gods (8)
- Force posh clothes to be worn (6)
- He's sometimes thought to be a woman when dealt with vaguely? (6,5)
- Author's rating lay with the audience after a week (2,9)
- Sweetmeat made from small bits of honey, apples, lemons, vinegar and herbs (6)
- Spooner's youth panto is in the interval (8)
- Simple joke connected without English - ridiculous from the start (3-5)
- Related a mosquito and earwig? (6)
- Architect quit after confusing R&D (8)
- Joins informal evenings after uni (6)

### DOWN

- Predicts novel was already written (8)
- No-show sailor dispatched to East England (8)
- About to trim, rake and start to grow on an oddly hilly section (7)
- Had a row on the radio filled with fear (4)
- H&R Block; resistant from start to finish (7)
- Disgraced fake editor (6)
- Opposed to a piece of poetry (6)
- McCain, for one, amazes some conferences (7)
- Quiet relief teacher expected to stand by the Head of department (7)
- Meditative space said in a mantra's body (8)
- They show you the ins and outs? (8)
- Sport chant heard when completing a race (7)
- Beat and hung for making a small weapon (7)
- Wasted hours on end in a bed cover (6)
- Takes off - turns around - touches base - crashes (6)
- Netflix and chill - perhaps in some measure? (4)

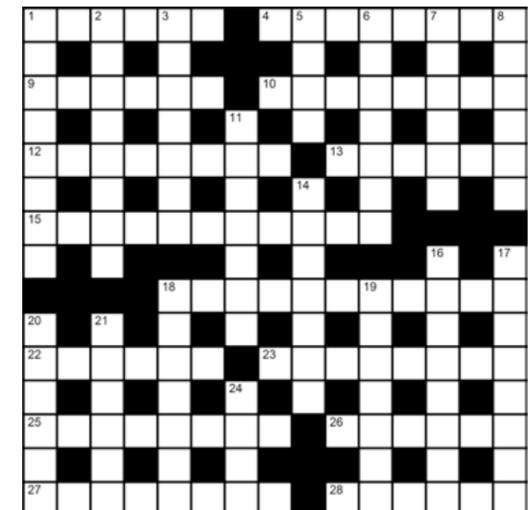
# Quiz

- In what year was Kevin Rudd last prime minister?
- Who is the current undergraduate fellow of the University of Sydney Senate?
- Blac Chyna is the former girlfriend of which current boyfriend of a Kardashian-Jenner sister?
- On which high school's council is Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence a member?
- Which country won the most medals at the 2012 London Olympic Games?
- What percentage of people are left-handed: a) 5 per cent b) 10 per cent c) 20 per cent d) 30 per cent?
- How many people take the court in a netball game?
- Which came first: Google Chrome or the iPod mini?
- What are the three elements of defamation?
- Do you know a good lawyer?

Answers on page 22.

# Cryptic

Cryptic by Zplig



## SRC REPORTS

## President

## Chloe Smith

One week down and already some big developments happening for USyd students! Following the announcement just before winter break that the university was looking to sell off the Sydney College of the Arts campus at Rozelle, an historic site that has housed the fine arts school since its establishment in 1974, students were informed last Thursday that the proposed merger with COFA (the UNSW arts school) is off and the SCA will instead be merged with the Arts and Social Sciences faculty on main campus.

Why is this significant? First of all, despite promises from university management that student reps would be kept informed about updates, neither myself nor the SUPRA President received notification from the university about the change. This is the latest in a long line of concerns students and staff have raised with management regarding lack of consultation, and doesn't help the impression that the university is concerned with only the bare minimum of consultation around these significant changes.

Secondly, although many students have regarded the failure of the UNSW merger as a success for the Let SCA Stay campaign, the proposal to move onto main campus raises a whole new set of concerns. These primarily focus on the availability of facilities for students, such as kilns, gallery and workspace, and filming rights, which main campus doesn't cater for. Naturally, there are widespread concerns that many of the courses SCA students have enrolled in or planned to study may have to be cut or significantly altered as part of the move. This also has a flow-on effect for SCA staff, future students, and students undertaking honours and postgrad courses.

More broadly, the closure of the Rozelle campus, a space specifically designated for and catering to the study and practice of fine arts, with the aim of developing artists to contribute to the national and international scene, has raised many concerns about the future of arts in Sydney: how much value does Sydney Uni, and universities more broadly, place in teaching and learning as opposed to profit-making and the bottom line? And what does this mean for us and future generations of students to come?

If you want to find out more and get involved in the campaign, visit the Let SCA Stay Facebook page. Enjoy week two!

## Vice President

## Anna Hush

As I write this, news has just broken that the so-called 'merger' of SCA with the UNSW Arts and Design school. This is a milestone victory for the Let SCA Stay campaign, and shows that coordinated action from staff, students and community can successfully challenge top-down management decisions. However, the fight is nowhere near over: the University still wants to squeeze SCA into smaller facilities on main campus. Sustained action is necessary to keep SCA where it belongs at Callan Park, and to reinstate the Bachelor of Visual Arts as its own degree, rather than collapsing visual arts into the BA. I urge everyone to get involved in the campaign: follow 'Let SCA Stay' on Facebook and Twitter, or email [letscastay@gmail.com](mailto:letscastay@gmail.com) to get in touch with the organisers.

At a university that seems bent on sacrificing the quality of our education for corporate profits, there is a more pressing need than ever to build a strong student movement and create our own platforms for education and resistance that don't depend on academic structures. As much as we need to fight against further neoliberalisation of

## Note:

These pages belong to the Office Bearers of the SRC. They are not altered, edited or changed in any way by the editors of *Honi Soit*

the academy, this needs to be complemented by autonomous student spaces and genuine engagement with non-academic community struggles. The SRC will be hosting the inaugural Radical Education Week in Week 5 to promote the sharing of knowledge and skills between collectives and the broader student population. Activists, officebearers and collective members from the SRC are hard at work organising an amazing program of workshops, talks, skillshares and film screenings that will all be free for everyone to attend. Keep an eye out for the full program – follow us at [facebook.com/radedweek](https://facebook.com/radedweek), or drop us an email at [radeducationweek2016@gmail.com](mailto:radeducationweek2016@gmail.com).

## General Secretaries

## Georgia Mantle

Welcome to Semester 2 week 2! Hopefully most of you are yet to miss a lecture and are still in the 'this is my semester' mode. Last week *Honi Soit* published a piece about the failure of the new Special Consideration system where students truly suffering have been rejected by an inhumane system that shows little compassion to students. This system is unacceptable and I want to assure students that your Student Representative Council is doing everything in its power to fight this. I understand that students may feel like there is nothing to be done but if you need assistance remember that our free casework service is here to support you while your student representatives are here to fight for you.

Another issues that has recently come to my attention is the amount of lecturers opting out of lecture recordings, choosing to not upload them or deciding to activity not speak into the mic. These actions go against University policy which require lecturers to provide a good reason to opt out of recording, and that reason can't be we want more people to turn up to lectures. Lecturers decision to opt out affects people with disabilities, people with clashes and people who need to work to support themselves and don't have the luxury of being able to come to every class. I am currently compiling a report to present to University management about this situation and its effects on students, if you have experienced a lecturer unfairly deciding not to record the lecture please send me a message at [general.secretary@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:general.secretary@src.usyd.edu.au) your anonymity will be assured.

I would also like to remind everyone about some of the collectives that the SRC offers, Women's collective meets every Monday at 1pm in the Women's room in Manning, the Environment Collective also meets weekly you can find out what time by joining the facebook group 'USYD Enviro Collective 2016' and the Education Action Group meets every Tuesday at 2pm on the Law Lawns. For a full list of the SRC departments and collectives as well as their contact details check out our website <http://srcusyd.net.au/>

- In love and rage

## Social Justice Officer

## Kim Murphy

No report submitted.

Quiz answers: 1. 2013 2. Dalton Fogarty 3. Tyga (boyfriend of Kylie Jenner) 4. Cranbrook 5. USA 6. (b) 10 per cent 7. 14 8. iPod mini 9. Imputation, identification and publication 10. Email editors@honiisrc.com

## ACAR Officers

## Aparna Balakumar, Elizabeth Mora, Lamya Rahman, &amp; Adam Ursino

Hi everyone! We have had a very busy semester break and an exciting start to this semester.

Last Monday, ACAR collaborated with the Philosophy department to organise and deliver a series of talks about damaging imaginaries that intersect experiences including feminism, race and governmentality. The event was a great success and well received by both collective members and the student community in general.

During the winter holidays, two office bearers - Adam Ursino and Lamya Rahman - attended the first ever national ethnocultural conference at the University of Melbourne. We'd like to thank Betty Belay, NUS's Ethnocultural Officer for organising the conference.

The conference alerted us to the fact that the SRC's Ethnocultural Department is one of only eight equivalent departments or collectives within the student organisations of Australian universities.

This functions as an inspiring reminder that USyd, in terms of ethnocultural representation, inhabits a space of relative privilege. It's important for us to use the resources available to us, and our attempts to do that man that we have a very busy semester ahead of us!

Towards the end of semester, we'll be producing an ACAR edition of *Honi Soit*, showcasing diverse and traditionally marginalised voices on campus.

While there have been some delays in our communication with the USU, we are in the process of attaining an ethnocultural space! We will continue updating you in the coming weeks, and look forward to holding meetings and other events regularly.

If you'd like to keep up to date with what the collective will be up to this semester, feel free to like our Facebook page ([facebook.com/usydacar](https://facebook.com/usydacar)) or join the ACAR group ([facebook.com/groups/168430210190760](https://facebook.com/groups/168430210190760)). Please note that to join the group, you must first be a member of the University of Sydney group.

We hope you have a brilliant start to semester!

# BUY BOOKS CHEAP

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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](http://src.usyd.edu.au/src-books)

Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney

## SRC Elections 2016 Postal Voting Application Form

## POSTAL VOTING

If you wish to vote in the 2016 SRC elections but are unable to vote EITHER on polling days Wednesday 21st or Thursday 22nd September at any of the advertised locations, OR on pre-polling day (on main campus) Tuesday 20th September, then you may apply for a postal vote.

## Fill in this form and send it to:

Electoral Officer  
Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney  
PO Box 794, Broadway NSW 2007.

PLEASE NOTE: postal vote applications **MUST BE RECEIVED AND IN OUR PO BOX by Friday 19th of August at 4.30pm** or they will not be considered. **No exceptions.**

You may use a photocopy of this form.

Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Student card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty/year: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby apply for a postal vote for the 2016 SRC elections. I declare that I am unable to attend a polling booth on any of the polling days, OR on the pre-polling day, for the following reason: (please be specific. Vague or facetious reasons will not be accepted. The Electoral Officer must under section 20(a) of the Election Regulation consider that the stated reason justifies the issuing of a postal vote.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send voting papers to the following address:

\_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

I require a copy of the election edition of *Honi Soit*: YES / NO

For more information contact  
Paulene Graham, Electoral Officer  
02 9660 5222

Authorised by P. Graham, SRC Electoral Officer 2016.  
Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney  
p: 02 9660 5222 | w: [src.usyd.edu.au](http://src.usyd.edu.au)



# The Postgrad Pages

PRESENTED BY 

## University of Sydney backs down on merger of SCA with UNSW, but fight continues

By Rachel Evans, SUPRA Queer Officer

The first round of the campaign to Save Sydney College of the Arts (SCA) has been squarely won by students and staff.

Sydney University's Vice Chancellor Spence sent an email to all SCA students on 28th July 2016 saying their plan to close the Roselle campus and merge it with University of NSW was over.

At the Roselle campus site, on the day, an Activist Training Day was underway when the email came through. Cheers from students and staff and the chant 'SCA here to Stay' echoed through the Cafe covered with banners, posters and campaign leaflets.

Over one hundred students gathered in a mass meeting to digest the news and plan the next steps. Clapping erupted when a staff member congratulated the students on their win. However the victory is only partial.

Management wants to move SCA to main campus, where there is very limited space for studios, exhibitions or jewellery, or ceramic teaching facilities. Moreover, Sydney University has been refusing to take enrolments for the Bachelor of Visual Arts for 2017, and is not enrolling new students for 2017 while a move takes place.

The mass meeting passed these motions unanimously. No confidence in Stephen Garton in making decisions about our future as he is not qualified and no confidence in Colin Rhodes- the Dean of SCA. The meeting reiterated they wanted the Bachelor of Visual Arts (the BVA) reinstated for 2017 and they are not willing to move to main campus. 'LET SCA STAY' means we stay at Callan Park with our course resolutions, facilities and all staff except Colin Rhodes,' declared the meeting.

**Management wants to move SCA to main campus, where there is very limited space for studios, exhibitions, or jewellery or ceramic teaching facilities.**

An American international student at SCA, Ada Seger-Brown, has had to leave because of all the uncertainty. She told Green Left Weekly, I came to SCA because of the facilities and with so much uncertainty, I have decided to go back home and go to another University. I wanted to major in jewellery and ceramics, but we had no surety those facilities would be available at



UNSW or main campus, or that subjects would be taught in 2017. So I've packed up my studio and am leaving in four days,' she said.

Provost of the University, Stephen Garton, addressed a staff meeting the next day on Friday 29th July. He said, 'we have to leave and get onto main campus, the Roselle site is not financially viable, we have a \$5.5 million deficit and enrolments have been falling. We can't guarantee all the facilities will be taken onto main campus from this site, but we will maintain facilities at Roselle for a couple of years in a transition phase.' A staff member why the urgent rush, and has the NSW government put pressure on Sydney University to move the College, Garton replied 'there has been no pressure from the NSW government for us to close this Roselle site.'

Callan Park, Roselle has been under threat for redevelopment for years. The Save Callan Park campaign group is supporting the Save SCA campaign. You can read more about the campaign at <http://www.callanpark.com/>

The campaign is continuing. Students and staff unions are organising a rally on Sydney University on August 16 (<https://www.facebook.com/events/1212968865393900/>) and spokesperson Eila Vinwynn noted 'we are planning to head to Canberra for the first day of Parliament on August 30 and 31st to put our case to the Federal government, and gather more support from political parties. To get more involved and show support, follow the facebook group

Find out more <https://www.facebook.com/letsstay/>



# OUR BIG GAY WEDDING

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday August 16th 2016

11am—3pm

Find our event on SUPRA facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/sydneyunipostgrads/](http://www.facebook.com/sydneyunipostgrads/)



Rainbow Campus campaigners are hosting a wedding to outshine all weddings and we call on all rainbow couples to come get equal married with us.

This festive gala of love and defiance in a gorgeous setting will show the new government our marriage equality campaign will not go away. With 72% of the adult population and 85% of young people in support of marriage equality, it's high time this discrimination ends.

Rainbow Campus and friends are holding this event at the University of Sydney inside the beautiful Refractory, with five lucky couples offered free hair and make-up, and all rainbow and ally guests to be treated to a delicious fully catered for reception.

Join us in this stunning ceremony to celebrate our community's enduring love and passion for equality.

Call Rachel 0403 517 266

If you are a rainbow couple and would like to get married email Ahmed :

[education@supra.usyd.edu.au](mailto:education@supra.usyd.edu.au)

Any other inquiries email Marcus and Evan: [queer.officers@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:queer.officers@src.usyd.edu.au)



@Mary Ward and Naaman Zhou

## Quidditch World Cup village runs out of all three condoms

Naaman Zhou is an investigations reporter at the *Daily Prophet*.

Organisers of the Quidditch World Cup have been celebrating a wildly successful year as the competition which saw [Australia crowned world champions](#) also saw all three condoms in the athlete's village used.

The unprecedented scenes capped an enjoyable tournament, held in Germany, that many say is a turning point for the burgeoning sport.

The past few years have seen a boom in the game, inspired by the fiction of JK Rowling. Player numbers have increased by 30 per cent year on year since 2010.

Accordingly, 2016 saw a 300 per cent increase in the contraception provided to the village, from one condom to three.

Village staff said they were taken aback by demand but quickly adapted, ensuring all couples engaged in safe, consensual sex.

"Usually when we enter the Room of Requirement, it's just a mop. Sometimes an extra pack of playing cards when there's a really rowdy game of Mafia going on," said janitor Hans Hanskopf.

"This time, it was a single condom, which we promptly delivered to the people who needed it. Crazy night."

Hotel management said staff had to be paid overtime, but were sent home once all three sexual couplings finished and the village fell into a peaceful slumber.

## Brazil announces drug trafficking, coups as Olympic demonstration sports

Oliver Moore knows a lot about sport, also mules.

As is traditional for the country hosting the Olympics, a number of demonstration sport competitions are scheduled alongside the main games. Beginning in Paris in 1900, and officially a part of the summer Olympic program from 1912, demonstration sport events offer host countries an opportunity to showcase events which are culturally or historically significant.

This year, the delights on offer include mule racing, in celebration of the country's long history of drug trafficking. Mules will be given a standard amount of import-grade cocaine, and must get it into the country as quickly as possible through the standard routes, with medals awarded for those who stay alive the longest.

Next, demonstrations of military coups will be given, with a particular focus on furthering the global power of other countries. At this time the IOC has asked that no actual murder take place in the course of this event, but *The Cursor* understands some concessions must be made to protect the spiritual origins of the event. It is understood the United States is expected to medal in this, despite not entering a team.

In what is sure to be the most hotly contested of the demonstration sports, asking bands to come to Brazil shows a real opportunity for the less athletic to slide into the comments, DMs, and emails of long-irrelevant minor celebrities.

## Hillary Clinton's running mate posts 2:20 half-marathon time

Mary Ward overestimated the median half marathon time by roughly four hours and 30 minutes.

Hillary Clinton has found her running mate in recreational half-marathon runner, Tim Kaine.

Kaine, 58, qualified for the position after running a half marathon in 2:20 in his home state of Virginia last month.

Kaine accepted the position at the Democratic National Convention last week, donning a pair of New Balance 574s for the occasion.

Clinton told the press that, while Kaine's time was slightly longer than the US median, she expected he would improve with some practice and a new pair of sandshoes.

"I didn't want someone too fast," she added.

"It's hard to train with someone who is a lot quicker than you."

Sources say Massachusetts senator Elizabeth Warren was also up for the position, however she was dropped from consideration after only completing two 'Colour Runs' and an local fair's egg and spoon race over the past six months

Warren declined to comment on whether she was disappointed by the decision, instead saying that she looked forward to watching the Clinton-Kaine team from the sidelines, and possibly throwing \$20 their way if they do a charity race.

## High school bully flourishes as university activist

Will Edwards' memoir will be released in October, just in time for Christmas.

Ash Jones never expected to succeed at university. As a high school bully, they were often warned that people they'd meet at university wouldn't be as easily manipulated as their schoolyard peers.

"If you don't develop a sense of empathy," one teacher admonished, "you're going to be rejected later in life".

So you can imagine Jones's relief when they realised the skills they developed as a high school bully were directly transferrable to life as a university activist.

According to Jones, the prevalence of identity politics on campus creates the perfect circumstances for their preferred style of bullying.

"It's all about shame," Jones explains. "When I wanted someone ostracised at school, I'd start a rumour that they're gay. Now I just post online about how problematic they are and it has the same impact. They're tainted."

Jones adds that a large number of well-intentioned university activists make it easy for clever bullies to pass themselves off as good activists.

"From the outside, no one can really tell the difference between a helpful call out and a tirade performed for my own amusement."

The main difference between high school bullying and university activism, in Jones's view, is the ability to be both bully and victim simultaneously.

Having masterfully exploited the rhetoric of identity politics, Jones can frame whomever they're shaming as the oppressor.

So where to from here? "I'm going to dominate a collective or two. Who knows how useful these skills will be after uni, when not everyone toes the same line? I need to savour power while I can."

## If Psyduck was your boyfriend...



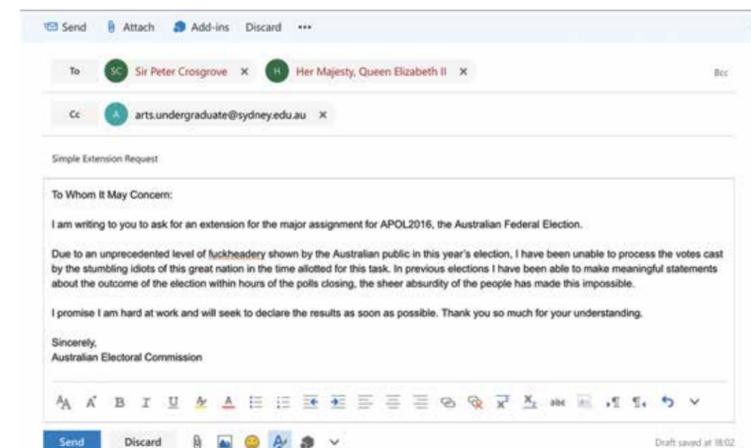
If Psyduck was Ann Ding's boyfriend, she'd never let him go.

If Psyduck were your boyfriend, you'd spend lazy days by the pool sipping fresh lemonades and listening to Ella Fitzgerald. You'd lounge on a deck chair and he'd jump in the pool and do tricks to impress you, suddenly transforming into an elegant feathered dancer, free from the self-consciousness he usually felt about his round yellow body.

If Psyduck were your boyfriend, he would run a very hot bath for you (he would know exactly how you like it) with exactly the right timing, so that when you got home from work it'd be perfectly ready for you.

If Psyduck were your boyfriend, the two of you would take turns organising to cook a three-course meal every weekend (and choosing wine to go with, of course!). You'd be unashamed foodies, trying new types of verjuice, seeking out that rare kind of forest mushroom, buying ants just to put in your food. He'd always try to show you up, but deep down he'd know you were the better cook.

If Psyduck were your boyfriend, he'd look at you over breakfast one day, one finger tracing the rim of his coffee cup. "Babe," he'd say in his reedy but tender voice. "Yeah?" you'd reply, not looking up, spooning oatmeal into your face and scrolling through your Facebook feed. "You'd never leave me for a Golduck, right?" You'd look up and your face would soften. You'd set the spoon down soundlessly in your bowl. "Of course not. Those things look fucking scary."



@Oliver Moore



## Trending

[Struggling mime feeling the pressure during family charades night](#)

[Tony Abbott: "I only watch \*Insiders\* ironically"](#)

[Fake plant laughs as mortal plants die](#)

[Rodent competitors disappointed after being forced to leave athlete's village in Rio](#)

[Scrutineers in seat of Herbert count cartoon penises as votes for the LNP](#)

[Herbert election jokes "still good" despite seat called for ALP between comedy meeting and going to print: \*Honi\* editors](#)

[Rudd cancels order of 'KevUN 1-7' shirts](#)

[MEDICAL MIRACLE: Two weeks later, local student now only speaks about Europe trip once an hour](#)

[+ More firms that rejected your clerkship application](#)



**SCA  
Here  
to  
stay**

**RALLY  
TO SAVE  
SYDNEY COLLEGE  
OF THE ARTS**

**1PM  
WED AUG 17  
USYD  
MAIN QUAD**

**STAFF MUST STAY! STUDIO SPACE MUST STAY!  
FACILITIES MUST STAY! CURRICULUM MUST STAY!  
SCA TO REMAIN AS A STANDALONE FACULTY!**