

**Student Representative Council**

Student Representative member’s reports – August

The following reports are to be provided by all SRC members

**Bekker, Frederick W. – General Secretary**

The activities I have engaged with since the previous SRC meeting are as follows;

Represented the SRC at the international student’s orientation day, and made many useful connections with other clubs on campus such as the WSISA and incoming international students who were very keen to learn about the SRC’s role and how we may help them on campus.

Participated and helped run the WSISA event, which was very positive event and had good community outreach, letting international student learn about the role of the SRC on campus.



Was interviewed by W’SUP, WSU’s own student newspaper to increase transparency within the SRC. <http://wsup.news/src-president-resigns-special-meeting-for-nus-disaffiliation/?fbclid=IwAR3OQ1PzW5eRhXMl9IfaxtbQzTxWLj1OBJsQH4jJhuw2lib8lWLbWQaYSKs>. Presented my ideas, and successfully passed the critical motion co-written with Bojanic, Matthew regarding the NUS at the special meeting on the matter.

Have been in key negotiations with the NUS ensuring that Western Sydney University students are receiving a benefit from being affiliated for 2019.

Moved 6 boxes of tote bags from the office to both Parramatta South and Parramatta City campus, one by one as these were quite heavy requiring separate trips. Have been distributing these on numerous occasions to many keen students.



Attended and minuted the Communications strategy working group chaired by Bojanic, Matthew.

Attended a meeting between the Vice Chancellor, SRC executive, and Student Board of trustee’s members.

Have been assisting with Parramatta city’s Thursday night soup kitchens.

Have been busy responding with member enquiries via email and social media, answering queries, and been in contact with many students as part of SRC outreach.

Met with the VC and had a discussion around the role of the SRC and its current objectives at the meet the VC lunch event at Bankstown Campus, and additionally met with Murray, Grant about portfolio roles.

Finally, have collated and formatted the;

- Agenda item list,

- August member reports,

- Minutes from previous council meeting,

- Minutes from Special meeting,

- Minutes from Communications Strategy working group.

This following month I shall be hoping to start the revitalisation and revamp of the WSU SRC website, and am keen to help in my role as lead co-ordinator of the working group for the upcoming Western Wednesdays Party.

**Feng, Allan - Ethno-Cultural Representative**

August has been an incredibly busy period time for the Ethno-cultural collective (ECC). As the new semester kicked in, so did our event planning. As of Spring session 2019, the campaign the ECC is pushing is “Your leadership, your hands” which is about encouraging students to take more ownership of their leadership responsibilities at university. As a result the events that we are hosting all revolve around this theme, which include:

1. [Working Visa Assist and Pathways to Permanent Residency](https://www.facebook.com/events/355083505419700/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%223%22%2C%22ref_newsfeed_story_type%22%3A%22regular%22%2C%22feed_story_type%22%3A%2222%22%2C%22action_history%22%3A%22%5B%7B%5C%22surface%5C%22%3A%5C%22newsfeed%5C%22%2C%5C%22mechanism%5C%22%3A%5C%22feed_story%5C%22%2C%5C%22extra_data%5C%22%3A%5B%5D%7D%5D%22%7D&__xts__%5B0%5D=68.ARCjUYQTxhJUh5rQomaHoo2D0h2D2eZzpvM_3ONPyeG7cywAE2cH-BhvHVOncazzkH-pJ1qYCHvr5adIxGHSdEdtO3gz81P6X8k207iuBW1TeGweHq0cHiGDywJjh3fwP65Tpk-Jm97oC9E-EIWoflkOa4D4NwQIz4V8advIdvOJZOoOupoLj_Fu_OUAy2319ibi-P4VPypM0iA49pZALPfb9U2gadQPl9LLn7Jjf_28aHscz25vjaMUoot3JbnH6_QZ7bat97i8sR9U3_RJcYcUS4SDhBsKejuTP0swEGJ1vTW8qT8Xgc1ojOp0hSg9yrbi2AoWSm_Hj3BkFN-Js8L4Rw&__tn__=HH-R)

The Ethno-cultural Collective, Western International Students Association and Unions NSW are collaborating to bring students an information session for WSU international students about VISA options and rights at work.

<https://www.facebook.com/WesternSydneyISA/photos/gm.355083522086365/2266974720221560/?type=3&theater>

(Orgsync link unavailable until event is approved)

I have tried to contact the SRC international student’s representative to collaborate on this event as this falls under his portfolio but I have heard nothing back yet.

1. Ethno-cultural collective meeting

We are holding an important meeting to be held during week 5 to discuss organisation, event planning and most of all we will discuss delegating executive positions for collective members to hold and take on in their portfolio.

1. Student Forum

We are working with Daniel from Chaplaincy to potentially hold a forum surround the student’s opinions regarding the use of common space on campus. We think it is a good way for students to take ownership of the spaces and set their own rules on how it is used.

1. End of semester celebration

I think the ECC will go around to all the campuses which hold soup kitchens to bring an culturally diverse twist as an end of semester celebration event.

Other than that I have personally attended an extra-cirricular lecture held at Parramatta South campus on August the 9th regarding Asylum seeker policy which I will disseminate to the collective.

We have also spent approximately 1000 dollars on merchandise for the collective to give away at Western fair and subsequent ECC events. This includes adhesive silicone phone pockets, transparent stickers, aprons and t shirts for screen printing, notebooks and scented candles (which has been very popular at Western Fair so far).

On a related note I will be representing the ECC at Western Fair on Bankstown, Penrith, Parramatta Sth, Campbelltown and Parramatta City campuses.

**Hammond, Hollie - Penrith Representative**

A summary of the things I’ve been involved with since Meeting 7 is included below.

* I attended a working party to investigate ways to improve Year One at Western as invited by Grant Murray on July 18th. This was an interesting group to be a part of, consisting of both staff and students. Many interesting ideas and discussion points came out of this meeting and I hope to be included should there be a follow-up session in future. Following this I met with Grant to discuss issues pertaining to my role as Campus Rep.
* I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to attend NOWSA on 22-23 July at Macquarie Uni. This was a stimulating, informative and exciting conference during which I made many new connections and was inspired by many different people. Several ideas relating to my position on the SRC came out of my attendance at this conference, which I will mention in the Initiatives section of this report.
* On 24th July I attended a meeting of WSU’s new Climate Caucus to be a part of discussion on how we might activate our campuses in a variety of ways in order to support action around Climate Change. This relates directly to the Student Values Survey run across 2018 and 2019 by NUS. The survey shows Climate Change is the biggest concern for 69.7% of Australian university students surveyed. I intend to gather further survey data to determine to what extent this is reflects the concerns of WSU students.
* On 25th July I attended Paddle Pops with the Provost at Kingswood (ahead of my first Provost meeting on August 6th) to introduce myself to the Provost Chair, Kevin Dunn. I also spent considerable time in the SRC office with Grant on the 25th discussing the logistics of some ideas I was working on in my capacity as Campus Rep (mentioned below in Initiatives).
* On 26th July I attended a meeting in my capacity as Community Advisor for The Academy at Kingswood; this links in with my Campus Rep role as James Crawford and I are hoping to hold a small event at Kingswood on August 30 for Wear it Purple, as encouraged by Cheryl Jendrachowski. We are attempting to link in with the SRC’s Queer Representative and the Office of Equity and Diversity to ensure our efforts will complement what they’re doing.
* On 29th July I attended a Zoom meeting as part of a working group to address the recommendations for Academic Senate that stemmed from the recent independent review process. The bulk of the recommendations we’re working on pertain specifically to students and student representation, including how to further encourage and increase it. It was a very productive meeting and I look forward to attending these in future. In addition, I have submitted my report in conjunction with 3 other undergraduate and postgraduate students for consideration at the next Academic Senate meeting (held 16th August).
* Following a very encouraging meeting with Daniel Jantos from Chaplaincy, I joined the team in coordinating a new and revamped weekly Soup Kitchen at Kingswood; this has since met with some logistical difficulties, and though I attended the first of the Soup Kitchen events during the second week of semester, we are currently in the process of

evaluating whether this will continue or be put on hold until next semester in the hopes we can workshop these logistical issues.

* On August 6th I attended my first meeting of Penrith Provost as a Student Rep. This meeting covered a wide range of issues pertaining to WSU students and staff at Penrith, including events and sustainability concerns and initiatives.
* On August 7th I attended Western Fair, holding a stall for the SRC and engaging with students. The layout of Western Fair at Kingswood and location of the stall did make it somewhat tricky to talk to a high volume of students, however it was a good experience and I think helpful to let people know a little about who I am and what I do (and the SRC more broadly). I also gave out a number of the new tote bags and some copies of W’SUP.
* I attended the Communications Strategy Working Group meeting on the evening of August 7th with a number of other members of the SRC. This was a great meeting with lots of concrete ideas put forth and a clear vision emerging for our communication strategies going forward.
* On August 9th I attended a morning tea with the Vice Chancellor along with several other reps from SRC, Board of Trustees and Academic Senate. This was a fantastic opportunity to engage directly with the VC around student concerns in a formal setting.

Initiatives:

1. Soup Kitchen - this *may* be put on the backburner for the next few months (as of correspondence on 9th August), however, my goal is to help transform this great initiative into something more community-oriented and community building. I hope that it will become something that staff, students and even families within our WSU community would like to attend, eventually being an informal hub for networking, brainstorming and facilitating issues that concern members of our local WSU community.
2. I have been in contact with Matthew Stansfield, Grant Murray and Charbel Korkmaz regarding the end-of-year Student Leadership Awards. This is an initiative that has spilled over from my (very brief) stint as Women’s Collective Officer at Kingswood, and something I would like to expand upon. I’m working with them to create some new categories for awards and recognition of the efforts of particularly engaged and devoted students.
3. I’ve tentatively commenced research into evidence-based ways we might enhance student wellbeing on campus through things such as ‘greening’ classrooms with plants and/or implementing a ‘creative space’ on campus. I look forward to discovering more events, strategies or initiatives I might be able to implement in my Campus Rep role through this research. I’m also looking to hold a ‘Donut Stress!’ event prior to the Spring Semester exam period, wherein we provide donuts and encourage students to come and share their best anxiety and stress reduction strategies.

I will of course be aiding other existing initiatives on campus, such as the opening of the community garden.

**Bojanic, Matthew - Vice President (Undergraduate)**

This last month has seen me remain busy with many of my ongoing projects under the Education and Employability Policy Program umbrella however, over the past few weeks I have also taken on a greater administrative and leadership role as Acting President.

Administration and Reform

Throughout recent weeks, I have been very actively involved in both ongoing administration of the council, as well as precipitating reform. This included spending a large amount of time preparing for the Special Meeting concerning NUS Disaffiliation to ensure that we achieved the best outcome for the students, and the council. I have also been active in chairing the Communications Strategy Working Group, which had its first meeting on Wednesday 07 August. The Communications strategy is something I’m quite passionate about, and we will be voting on a number of related motions this upcoming SRC meeting.

Since the resignation of the former President, Naomi Hastings, I have also been the Acting President. This has seen me actively involved in creating flying minutes, as well as liaising with the Vice Chancellor’s office and filming press releases for the council.

Academic Integrity

Since the last SRC meeting I have been incredibly active in the space of Academic Integrity. I have been fortunate to have met with academics and students active in this space on multiple occasions through my role on the National Working Group for Academic Integrity and Contract Cheating, including a full day session in Canberra. This has allowed me to forge some connections in this area, which are actively assisting me in planning the development and roll-out of the Academic Integrity Student Ambassador Program, which is an important part of the Education and Employability Policy Platform.

My student partner, Daniella Johnson, and I, have met with a number of people concerning this project including Ryan Keneally from UniSA, Dr Arianne Reis, our partner in SoSH, and Hannah McClean from Governance Services, to plan how we move forward with this project. We have since completed the scoping document and are now looking at beginning to plan the EOI process for ambassadors, as well as future integration with Learning Transformations and Governance Services.

Employability and Student Clubs

I have also continued to be highly active in the space of employability and student clubs. The VTSP is entering the transition from planning to operational phase, which is incredibly exciting. I met with Anthony Mitri last week to discuss project progress, and I, along with Hollie Hammond and Mandii Carr, plan to meet with all stakeholders within the next fortnight to begin the roll-out of phase one of the project. Furthermore, I recently met with Jackie Simpson from careers, to discuss both their current approach to finding International Students employment, and the potential for future industry partnerships, and a streamlined portal, to simplify the process into the future. Whilst the discussion is ongoing, I am hopeful it will reach a positive outcome.

Furthermore, the planning for Pitch Day 2019 is ongoing, with a number of meetings being held with student and university partners over the previous month. At this stage the event, which is designed to find students internships, and encourage entrepreneurial thinking, is to be held in October. It is to be supported by the Western Association for Computing and Mathematics (WACM), another successful project of the SRC which is almost complete, the Engineering Association, which is also being actively supported by SRC during its development phase, as well as BusSoc and 180 Degrees consulting.

**Osborne, Kiara-Lee - Bankstown Representative**

I would like to apologise for the length of this report as it will be covering my representative activity for the months of July and August. During this period, I was able to form numerous relationships with students and respective members of the university community.

July 15, 2019 – I was asked to attend the Masters of Teaching Birth-5/Birth 12 Lecture to deliver a presentation on student representation. This experience allowed me to connect with students on a personal level and answer any and all questions that they had. While majority of these questions were about the accessibility of the gym or how to join a student club, it still gave me insight into what is of importance to some students and their educational journeys.

July 15, 2019 – A College student had emailed me to set up a meeting to seek assistance in their transition into the pathway course. During the conversation the student mentioned that there is not a lot for College students to engage with and how beneficial it would be for them to get more involved.

Based on this conversation, I would like to propose that SRC make more of an effort to offer assistance and opportunity to College students. This would include: better promotion of available programs e.g. LEAD, MHWB Training etc., as well as introduce a ‘College’ position on the student representative council for all campuses.

July 26, 2019 – I attended the L.E.A.D networking event with hopes of forming meaningful connections with alumni members in the field of psychology. What I did not expect, but am extremely grateful for, is the conversation I had exchanged with former SRC President, Cheryl Jendrachowski.

 A few interesting and insightful topics that arose were as follows:

1. The implementation of a private Facebook group that was inclusive all of student and staff members of the Bankstown Campus. This platform would ideally serve as a more intimate point of contact between students and their representative(s) of the university.

Action: I created a Facebook group called ‘The Bankstown Student Voice’ and promoted it through different social media channels as well as the Western Fair. There was also a competition/giveaway created for further incentive purposes.

1. The creation/implementation of a suggestions box on campus to ensure that students have the opportunity to be more involved.

Action: The ‘Thoughts Box’ was created and placed near the cafeteria (common area for students). See an image of this ‘Thoughts box’ at the end of this report.

August 1, 2019 – I attended a provost meeting via zoom.

Please refer to minutes provided below.

**2.1 CHAIR’S REPORT**

The Chair provided an update on the new Bankstown Campus building, and noted it is in the planning phase, with final stage of approval due approximately mid this month. There is an aim to open the new Campus in 2022. The location links well with Bankstown Hospital, and there is room to engage potential long-term tenants on the levels reserved for commercial lease. The design will include flexible use outdoor areas.

A concern was raised regarding what planning permission would be needed for using outdoor spaces, the Chair noted that the Council is very supportive of the development.

The Chair requested feedback from the Committee on Campus facilities for students and staff that are outlined as below:

Positive feedback has been received regarding the BBQ area with the space becoming a great location for people to come together. It would be beneficial to encourage more areas of the University to use the space. Matthew Stansfield noted the Western Sydney University Ducks made it into the finals and are still utilising the oval for games. The surface of the oval is not being properly maintained and recommended it be assessed with possibly new turf.

**Potential hazard Action:** The Chair will express concerns in the surface quality of the oval with the Office of Estate and Commercial.

Kiara Osborne provided student feedback, noting that there is an improvement in staff engagement, along with an increase in clubs engaging with students. The campus facilities are improved such as the BBQ area and free student breakfasts are well received. However, students have raised concerns regarding the variety and affordability of food options. This is further discussed in item 2.2.

2.2 CAMPUS FOOD OPTIONS

The Committee highlighted the following concerns with the food options on campus: • Prices are not shown on certain food items and can be expensive.

• There is a lack of communication if hours of operation change from what is online. • Lack of healthy options available in quiet periods.

• Feedback has also been received that the Co-op has also closed earlier than what is advertised on the website.

The Committee recommended better communication with changes to operating times, and to encourage healthier options and for staff and students to be eating on campus. Kiara Osborne mentioned that students responded well to the Sandwich Bar which had healthy alternatives, including salad options.

Action: The Chair will contact the Division of People and Advancement and recommend more information communicated via the Western app.

2.3 CAMPUS LIFE GYM CLASS ARRANGEMENTS

Matthew Stansfield noted that Campus Life are funding a reduction for casual gym visits any time, and at any campus. They will be reduced to $2.50 for students from $7.50. Western Unlimited are also to continue to fund the daily lunch time classes for all students and staff.

Action: Matthew Stansfield will follow up on how this is being communicated.

End of minutes.

August 6, 2019 (Western Fair) – I hosted interactive competitions e.g. gumball guessing game and the ‘think outside the box’ competition. I made sure that each student I engaged with was supplied with an SRC tote bag, post-it notes, planners, and were also informed about upcoming SRC events.

Discussions with students revealed that many were concerned with the shift to a vertical campus, emphasising the disconnect between students and nature. One student in particular had approached me in regard to starting a student-led petition, which she had followed up with an email a few days later.

Action: I informed the student that the SRC is currently in the process of reviewing this issue and if they were interested in participating in potential data collection that they were welcome to.

Events/Initiatives (Confirmed and upcoming)

1. Make your Campus Clean with Ice Cream: August 22, 10am-2pm.
2. Good Thymes in the Garden: Collaborative event with ‘The Humanities Project’. August 29, 10am-2pm.
3. Replenish for Res: Ongoing.
4. Silly Sock-tember for Suicide Prevention: September 10, Time TBA.
5. Freaky Film Night (Halloween): All details TBA (Possible collaborative event).

**Clare Da Silva - Parramatta South Representative**

Since the last meeting, I have attended several events and have worked on different initiatives to engage and assist students.

Meetings:

A few days after the last SRC meeting, I had a meeting with Nap (the campus life officer at Parramatta South) that helped clarify a few different things for my portfolio. Having discussions with Nap I was able to give him some student feedback that I had received regarding different events on campus and student engagement. I also had a chat with him about a few ideas about how we can get student’s engaging with clubs more as well as facilities on campus.

I attended the special meeting regarding the NUS but as it went over time I had to leave as I was running a club event on Kingswood Campus.

SRC Office and Posters:

I have also been keeping up with the roster for the SRC common kitchen clean up. We had a big clean out of the fridge (due to old stains, etc). Nick was amazing and helped me out in this in the morning (and I finished up later) during the day.

When I received the email from Mandii regarding the blood drive, I printed off the posters and stuck them up around campus in high foot traffic areas including SSAF stands, the hub, The CO-Op shop and general walkways. I have also been using the SRC office computers to create posters for upcoming events that I am planning.

Events:

Throughout the month I have been trying to engage more with students at different events. I attended the WSISA welcome event on Parramatta Campus where I engaged with a lot of international students. I have attended several soup kitchens in order to interact more with students on campus. I also plan on attending the Parramatta South Clubs Forum and will be taking part in the Western Fair Stall all day at Parramatta South.

In regards to the three initiatives moving forward:

1. Clubs

- When speaking the Campus Life Officer at Parramatta South, I found out that there are a lot of events on campus that occur each week that many clubs could utilise as a way to promote their club as well as engage with the campus events. Thus, after some time emailing Grant (to no response) and Matthew Stansfield, I was able to get a list and contacts for all the active clubs on campus. I am using this to reach out to clubs to make them aware and encourage them to interact with these opportunities to further promote their clubs.

- I have created an O-Week Handout in order to help clubs at Parramatta South Campus to highlight some events happening on campus, the direct link to Provost, The link to the special purpose funding forms on Orgsync (noting that last Clubs Forum only 3 clubs submitted a special purpose bid), the link to the upcoming Clubs Forum for Parramatta South and my details if they had any ideas or feedback from students.

- After speaking with Nap, we came up with the idea of having club advertisements on the digital screen and around campus to highlight when clubs meetup and that they are functioning on campus. I find the issue has been that not many students know about active clubs. The current option with the communication team (that I know debating has used) is the weekly advertisements at the bottom of the screens - however, I have found that this is not eye-catching and ineffective.
- Lastly, I have been looking into the different policies regarding clubs and note that the university is still using the Handbook from 2016. I have been told in the last clubs forum that travel was no longer being accepted from special purpose funding however this is not reflected anywhere except in the minutes of that meeting. I have had a few club leaders express concerns about different policies and this is something I will bring up at the upcoming clubs forums.

2. Student Engagement

- I am in the process of planning a few Spring Semester Meetups for students on campus. This would involve

- When it comes to exam time, one initiative that Campus Life did that I found effective was the roaming study snacks on Campus. I think this is a great initiative and could be expanded by the SRC as a way for Student’s to meet me (and other Reps) as well as provide food (especially if this is done late afternoon as a lot of shops on campus close early).

- I am happy to help facilitate Western Wednesdays in the future noting the recent cancellation. I think that having more ‘party’ type events is what students are craving.

3. Events

- There are a lot of events already on campus that campus life organises. To complement these, the events I am organising are based more on students getting to know each other and their clubs. I have a few ideas such as ‘speed friending’, ‘Club matchmaker’ (this will be later in the semester a bit after Western Fair, but it is the idea of being able to have a chat to different clubs on campus and find the ‘one’ for you) and a traffic light party (note that this may be a good idea for a Western Wednesday to do or to be a separate event).

- After discussions with Nap, there is the possibility of having a Parramatta South Soup Kitchen as there is only one done at Parramatta North Campus currently. I would love the support of fellow SRC members to make this happen.

**Aditi Sengupta - Campbelltown Campus Representative**

I have worked towards identifying and promoting the interests of all students on my campus, and collaborated with the Student Campus Council and other SRC members. I have spoken to fellow students about Food outlets and prices at the university, Parking and transport, Student services, Clubs and societies, Campus ideas and activities and have encouraged them to engage with the university. I had a meeting with Tooba Anwar on future events. I also emailed Hussam Jabran, Campus Life coordinator regarding holding an educational action group meeting. I have submitted an event request for a climate change placard making activity (these placards will be used at the climate strike that some WSU students are participating in (informed by Tooba)) on Campbelltown Campus along with a barbeque and am awaiting approval. Once approved, I will coordinate with the Western Sydney Medical Society who have expressed an interest to participate in climate related events. I am also representing the SRC on 12/08/2019 at the Bluestocking Week Lunch which celebrates women’s achievements. I also restocked the kitchenette, set up CD collection box and created a poster to go with it for Queer Prom. I communicated with Grant on possible ways of creating a student education action group and a student group to discuss university services. I am currently in the process of planning posters and feedback options for students to report any difficulties or concerns regarding university services such as counselling services, shuttle bus service. I have attended all SRC meetings till date via Zoom and submitted my reports

**Danielle Wolf - Environment Collective Representative**

This month has been mainly devoted to preparing for Western Fair, “inducting” new officers and getting in touch with OrgSync members through new Outlook mailing lists and groups to ascertain individual commitments to ongoing initiatives and upcoming events.

Preparing for Western Fair has involved developing mission statements, preparing tips and tricks for environmental sustainability, collecting items to serve as easy purchasing examples such as bamboo toothbrushes, travel cutlery and straw sets, produce bags, etc. I have also been putting together a “go bag” for events and stalls so any volunteer can easily run a stall with no prior experience. I have further been collating information and data regarding climate change, local and global initiatives and the Sustainable Development Goals relevant to the Collective. This has all involved significant time investment due to essentially building the Collective from scratch.

I have also had multiple meetings to attend, including the Penrith Provost meeting, meeting with Roger Attwater about potential collaborations and having a student/s on the Sustainability Advisory Group. I have begun to seek expert advice for the ongoing Kingswood Student Community Food Garden project which will also seek to facilitate cultural connections and engage local school students.

Preparations have also begun for Climate Strike action in collaboration with the newly formed Climate Caucus which is a group of students, staff and academics as well as external partners. We are organising a forum to be held in the first week of September and are aiming to also have a presence at Open Day.

I have continued sourcing possible suppliers for merchandising and advertising which is taking longer due to seeking eco-friendly, sustainable, and where possible, Australian-made options.

I have also been involved in discussion with various academics about organising a student presence at the upcoming CoP25 Climate Change Convention in Chile at the end of the year. While the Uni has official observer status (meaning access to all internal activities, meetings, etc) it seems that we have not actually engaged in the past. I feel this is an outstanding opportunity to meet with like-minded people and organisations for across the world, and to hopefully form lasting partnerships which can have a global impact while setting Western apart as a global leader in climate action and environmental sustainability.

The UN SDSN Youth Asia Pacific is rolling out a new initiative called SDG Student Hubs which will act as a platform to link Universities worldwide and facilitate meetings, conferences and many training opportunities. I am still in the application process to introduce and implement the Hub at Western but it is promising and another outstanding opportunity for Western students to get involved in positively impacting and engaging with our local communities and open up professional development opportunities for interested students.

While this has predominantly been me undertaking these activities, I am working closely with new officers to implement projects they are passionate about and help them immerse themselves within the Collective and begin to be actively involved.

While we have multiple projects in the works, the ones we are specifically focused on (in tandem with building the Collective more generally) is the garden, developing SDG workshops for students and staff, and negotiating the implementation of several of the petitions which have been carried out.

Photos of the Fair etc will be forthcoming next month.

**Carr, Mandii – Vice president Activities**

Upcoming events

* Westmead 16th August - Blue Stocking Week
* Kingswood 20th August - Plant it at Penrith
* Hawkesbury 28th August - Winter Wonderland
* Kingswood 4th September - Floral Crown Workshop
* All campuses - Who Bleeds Wins
* Parramatta City & South 4th – Western Wednesdays (music club included)

Campus Visits

* Kingswood and Werrington North
* Parramatta South
* 1PSQ
* Nirimba
* Liverpool
* Campbelltown
* Hawkebsury

Completed KPIs

Campus visits

As many of you know, I've been actively visiting various campuses and conducting office space upgrades. I have enjoyed visiting you all on your home campuses and working in various SRC spaces across Western Sydney University as well as getting to know your cohorts on different levels.

Clubs portfolio

As per my procedures I have been undertaking my new portfolio of advocating and engaging with clubs. Including the attendance of the Club’s Boards meetings. Unfortunately, I will not be present at the next meeting due to work commitments. However, I had stressed to Matthew Stansfield to talk to the points given to me by club members I’ve been in contact with. I am seeking the club’s leaders for their feedback. Once this feedback has been acquired I will be addressing the clubs that approached me to discuss further action. I have also had a handover meeting with Matthew Stansfield to commence chairing the Clubs Board meeting, Matthew has expressed his expectations and we are hoping to deliver these meetings smoothly during this transition time.

Engagement Australia

As many of you know, Kiara and I have recently been approved to go to Engagement Australia in at ACU in Brisbane. I elected to nominate Kiara to attend this conference as this conference is designed to enhance our skills in civic and community engagement. The conference will be held of 29th - 30th.

Meetings attended

* Communications Strategy – SRC discussion around our online communications including Facebook and other social media platforms
* VC meeting – discussed WBW, Penrith Garden, 1PSQ engagement
* Michelle Gillard from MATES – discussed student welcome packs
* 1PSQ session – discussed the implementation of a new mentor program at 1PSQ between HS students and Western students
* Penrith Provost – discussed WBW, giving day at Penrith campus and Penrith student clubs

NAIDOC events

There have been various NAIDOC events on various campuses; I was fortune enough to be invited to the Kingswood campus event held by Badanami staff member, Kerry Licastro. The event had various elements of engagement including performance, free food and of course the star of the show, Aunty Jean South. There was also the NAIDOC event put on by the MedSoc club at Campbelltown, one of the driving forces behind that event, Shayne Miller is now our First Nations Representative. This event was a series of workshops about Indigenous: art, medicinal plants, language and tools. These workshops were followed by a lovely meal with several kangaroo dishes. It is with this that I hope to put in a SSAF bid for 2020. This would see that the university holds NAIDOC events on every campus.

Social media

I have been a regular contributor of the Facebook page, answering inbox messages, responding to comments and assisting in the delivery online materials this includes the issue of vertical campuses that has been brought to various campus reps a poll was issued on the facebook page which gives the SRC enough scope to create a survey for a potential campaign in regards to vertical campuses.

Western Fair

I attended Western Fair at Nirimba so there was visibility at the campus for the SRC, this gave me the opportunity to meet various students and link with staff members. Students and staff alike highlighted how unique Nirimba is as a campus. I was informed Nirimba Provost does not have student representation on the committee so I have reached out to the Provost to ask to be present at the next meeting.

Paid university employment: As some of you are aware I have two very casual roles within the uni. I’d like to E&D and WIP

Western Wednesdays

I am in the process of creating a Western Wednesday’s working party to allow other students the opportunity to create their own vision for the parties. I’ve elected Frederick to be the lead on the project (to which he has accepted) I will be offering myself as a guide or facilitator but would really like the volunteer students as those SRC members to explore this project and make it their own. I intend to meet up with the collector hotel staff with Frederick to discuss this project moving forward.

I’ve heard the students asking for Western Wednesdays at or nearing their home campuses and I am open to exploring that idea, particularly if more SRC members and student volunteers from all over Greater Western Sydney were able to participate.

Winter Wonderland

As many of you know, I’ve been working on Winter Wonderland. This event will be held at Stable Square at the Hawkesbury campus. This event has the intention of being a travelling road show, last year’s event being held at Penrith by the PeSCC. This event has repeatedly fallen in August and will include:

Live music by White Clover [alumni of WSU] $938.00

Patti’s marquees hire and set up/pack down: $1300.00 [Approx.]

BBQ spit roast + pre prep and food service $1300.00 [Approx.]

Jumping mad (inflatables, generators, snow cones, fairy floss, face painter) $TBA

Careers involvement: $0.00

Blind date with a book (second hand books purchased) $53.00

Western staff and student vendors: $0.00

Who Bleeds Wins

The Who Bleeds Wins blood drive has commenced across all major campuses (missing Westmead, regional and SOP) and ongoing task and partnerships both internal stakeholders and external. This program has been shared on the as time counted towards the Academy citizen scholar, shared on Yammer by senior university staff as well as tweeted by some staff.

**Renier-Clark, Vicky-Rae - Disabilities Rep**

I firstly apologise for the length of his report as it covers both the months of July and August as a number of our campaigns and initiatives spanned across this two-month period whilst others are more ongoing.

1. C3 CONGRESS [2ND & 3RD JULY]

I attended the congress on both days and also participated in the Student Panel discussion where I reflected on my roles within student representation over the past three years spanning both councils and clubs as chairwoman as well as within the Disability collective previously as officer and now as SRC Representative. It is my belief that this discussion went very well based on the reactions from both the audience and fellow panelists.

2. SPRING ORIENTATION – CAMPBELLTOWN & BANKSTOWN [8TH & 10TH JULY]

I attended orientation at Campbelltown for the first time this year and it was notably quieter than what I had grown accustomed to at both Bankstown and Liverpool Campuses over the last few years when the event was facilitated by Campus Life rather than the University Events/Marketing Team. I believe that this also reflected in the minimal engagement that we did receive at this event as previously orientations have been quite lively.

This was also replicated at Bankstown campus, where there was no engagement from students other than to query as to th location of university facilities.

3. MEETING WITH DRAGANA KONCAR (WSU USEP CONSULTANT) AND FORMULATION OF CAREER WORKSHOPS FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITY [16TH AND 31ST JULY]

Disabilities Officer for Campbelltown, Robert and I met with the new University Specialist Employment Program (USEP) Consultant, Dragana Koncar, firstly to discuss her role for students with disability as the program is a partnership between WSU Careers and disability employment provider, Ability Options. We found Dragana to be quite passionate in assisting students with disability (especially graduates) to “find their plus” when promoting themselves to potential employers.

These conversations sparked a partnership between the USEP program, WSU Careers and the Disability Collective to facilitate workshops for students with disability as this was identified to be an area where current careers workshops were lacking. It was noted during these consultations that these workshops were to be “strengths-based” focusing on viewing disability as a strength rather than a hinderance in th workforce as current statistics show that 76% of students with disability hold concerns that thy will not obtain employment upon graduation.

The Disability Collective is currently taking Expressions of Interest to further plan the venue and date of these workshops with the 11th September being the most popular thus far however we do require more interest for the facilitation of these to be fruitful.

I have also been in contact with Charmaine at WSU Careers who has offered her assistance to increase the reach to students as well via email and other Careers channels.

4. SRC SPECIAL MEETING (NUS) [30TH JULY]

I attended this meeting in relation to the disaffiliation of the SRC and firstly commended Frederick for raising the point to begin with, within my role as the representative for disability for the last 3 years, there has been complete lack of communication that was provided from elected NUS collective officers despite contacting them via email to assist in issues relevant to my portfolio such as the omission of disability specific action plans to the university’s evacuation procedures in the vertical campuses. In addition, I stated hat 2,500$ is a large amount of money that can go towards the better serving of WSU students through affiliating with a number of different unions and associations. I also agreed with Mandii in relation to being affiliated to a university union and its role and anecdotally pointed to the University of New England where student representation has ceased and th most the student voice can lend to is that of a SSAF committee.. I also voiced that I have concerns that we are placing all of our eggs in one basket affiliating solely with the NUS especially within my portfolio when students can be better serviced by organisations such as the Australian Tertiary Education Network for Disability (ATEND) and others such as the Australian New Zealand Student Services Association (ANZSSA) whose individual affiliation costs are significantly lower and provides more student opportunity in regards to student engagement and development through training opportunities facilitated for members of both organisations.

5. BANKSTOWN WESTERN FAIR [6TH AUGUST]

I attended this event as chairwoman of the Bankstown Student Civic Community as well as Disabilities Representative as we shared a table with the SRC. It should be noted that a number of students throughout the course of the day expressed their disgruntlement with the potential loss of the current Milperra campus and the lack of consultation with students prior to making this decision to close the campus. I note that these are very similar to the conversations that were being raised by students at the time of the Liverpool construction. In addition, students also voiced their concerns in relation to the NUS disaffiliation whilst others stated that they honestly knew nothing about the NUS and why people were upset.

6. SRC COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY WORKING GROUP MEETING [7TH AUGUST]

I admittedly attended this meeting briefly as we were having issues with our home NBN becoming unstable. I did however during my participation in the meeting raise the issues in relation to increasing accessibility in the SRC’s communication not only for those with disability that use assistive technologies but also for those international students in particular hat may not have English as a fist language to better understand who we are and what our aims and objectives are.

7. WELCOME AND HANDOVER TO NEW DISABILITY OFFICERS ON BANKSTOWN, PARRA SOUTH & PARRA CITY CAMPUSES [7TH AUGUST]

I have emailed all three of our new officers to welcome them to the collective.

Robert and I have been in close contact with Pauline Tan, Officer for Parra South in relation to her ideas for R U OK Day on her campus as she is well keen to get started though due to the late rollout of the EOI nominations the Collective did not have the time nor provision to acquire additional stalls for it’s Parramatta Representatives.

I have also suggested to Kawanjeet Singh Chawla, representative for Parra City that he gets himself out amongst students at the Thursday Night Soup Kitchens on his campus as students are more inclined to engage in conversation in informal spaces based on my own experiences as Operations Manager of the Bankstown Soup Kitchen.

I plan to meet with Stephanie Schwizler, representative for Bankstown to do an official handover on Thursday and to let her know of the initatives we are working on for th Bankstown Campus. I also hope longer term to introduce her to Kiara as campus rep for more support for her in her role as a first time representative.

8. 2020 -2024 DISABILITY ACCESS PLAN FORMULATION AND CONSULTATION [9TH AUGUST]

As the current Disability Access Plan draws to a close, I have reached out to Ellen Brackenreg in Equity and Diversity to enquire as to whether th Disability Collective will be afforded the opportunity to comment on the draft documents of this plan also as they were with th previous plan.

I have not heard anything official as of yet but have ben ensured by Disability Services Team Leader, Gay Hardwick, that she personally cannot see any reason as to why our input would be excluded in the consultation process.

9. LIVERPOOL WESTERN FAIR [13TH AUGUST]

10. CAMPBELLTOWN WESTERN FAIR [14TH AUGUST]

11. DISABILITY & ACCESSIBILITY WORKSHOP [15TH AUGUST]

**Yigiter, Erdem - Queer Representative**

* I have secured the date for the Queer Picnic for Wednesday the 28th of August. I had created a Facebook event with information about the day, which I shared on the Parramatta Queer Collective Facebook page. This event was supposed to be hosted by Nick, the Parramatta South Queer Officer, but he has recently told me that he unfortunately wont be able to anymore. I have contacted the other Queer Officers (there are only 2 at the moment – Grant and Maria) but due to work commitments, they are unable to host this event. It looks like I may have to cancel this event as I will be overseas during the time that this event is on.
* I will be hosting the Queer Collective stall at this weeks Western Fair at Parramatta south campus. The stall will be co-hosted by the women’s collective. We will be handing out prizes and snacks for people who join the orgsync portal and facebook page.
* I attended the SRC catchup with Tooba and Grant. They offered advice on ways to boost student engagement and provide support with the process of making events.
* I have followed in Kezia’s footsteps and have decided to start ideating what a Queer Collective vision statement and policy/guidelines will look like. This will address appropriate use of the Queer Rooms, and also rules and guidelines for queer students and allies to follow regarding respectful language, privacy, student interactions, etc.

**Kathik, Anirudh - Parramatta City Campus Representative**

In the past month I have been assisting Matthew in setting up the SCEM club. The current situation in Parramatta city campus is that the complaints for high school students has had a drastic reduce compared to the mid of last semester. I have taken many rounds in the city campus. Many students so far have been complaining on the recent western Wednesday that had not taken place, as the poster was but on Facebook for helping to organize the event, I have been finding some students who are reliable in organizing the event with the SRC. For future events that I was considering to do in city campus is a movie night to involve all the new and old students or some competition event to involve everyone.

**Cupitt, Sarah - Online Students Representative**

The things I have completed in my role so far include;

- Write x4 articles in WSUP spring edition

- Currently working with The Humanities Project and have discussed future collaboration between them and WOSA (Western Online Student Association) - work in progress

 - have designed around 12 or so logos to be in a survey for feedback

- WOSA would work by engaging online students with those on campus but would also be given a separate space just for online students

- Handed out tote bags to students with Frederick Bekker

- Will be volunteering on open day for SRC - Western Fair SRC

- Currently working on some articles to support online students - WSUP online needs to be improved and updated more often to communicate with students in general

 - PDFS of past editions should be available for those who can’t access print versions on campus (especially if they’ve run out)

- Western Wednesday - will be available to help out with the working group - Working on a website for online students so that they can have easier access to important information and contact the online rep for any concerns they might have etc.

- Attended workshops on behalf of SRC

- Submitted form for SRC retreat

- Collaboration with Mandii regarding online student care packages to be finalised at next meeting

**Jha, Vageesh - Residential Students Representative**

Members Report:

These are the tasks undertaken by me over the past month.

* Attended a panel discussion of the Housing Project organised by Labor NSW.

The scope of the discussion was to understand the difficulties faced by university residents in NSW, staying on as well as off the university accommodation. The panel consisted of welfare officers and student council members from universities and colleges around NSW.

* I attended the C3 on the second day, could not make it on the first day because I had academic commitments. Received some valuable information and shared ideas with fellow SRC members. Was able to establish some suitable contacts for working on the student-managed fund, through Associate Professor Meg smith.
* Through the help of Professor Meg Smith was able to meet with Dr Heath Sponge, on the planning stage for the student-managed fund.
* I have been regularly meeting residents at chaplaincy and red frog events and getting to understand the needs and issues, critical issues are highlighted below.
* Attended the WISA event alongside Frederick (General Secretary) and got to meet and discuss the issues of students.
* Assisted 1 student in attaining crisis housing and 2 students in receiving financial assistance for accommodation.
* I attended the SRC Communications strategy working group meeting, and I would like to stress on the point of having a centralised communications team. Also, we build on an integrated communications strategy by endorsing Hootsuite.

Key Issues:

* The GPS tracking of the shuttle bus is entirely useless.
* There's no scheduled service, and there's been a gap of almost an hour between services.
* Operation on various routes is unpredictable, and the wait time is really high.
* Services post 7pm on weekdays and services on Saturday are entirely unreliable, and students have had to wait approximately 45 minutes in this cold weather.
* Cancellation of Western Wednesday has created a lot of discontent amongst students.

Personal Take on the issues:

The cancellation of Western Wednesday and poor Shuttle bus services has become a flashpoint for the backlash SRC has been facing of late. I recommend a reorganising of the shuttle bus service it is imminent and would like the SRC to endorse an audit of the shuttle bus services. Western Wednesday should be done ASAP, and at a much grander scale, we should establish a working committee that works on delivering an impactful event. The SRC can use rebranding as the first objective of our communications strategy and reposition ourselves.

**Dunn, Kezia - Women’s Representative**

Apologies for the report being somewhat longer than usual as I was unable to submit an earlier report due to being on a study tour in Timor-Leste for a month. In the final week of Semester 2, new Parramatta Wom\*n’s rep Dzenita Semic and I collaborated on a mural for the Parramatta South Wom\*n’s room. We spent the morning together working on a large piece to make the room more welcoming and exciting to visit. Dzenita did an amazing job and we are very privileged to have her on board. Shortly before leaving on my study tour, I was able to create a set of guidelines for sending students to conferences through the Wom\*n’s collective, and collaborated with Rosina Armstrong-Mensah, the Liverpool Wom\*n’s representative to send students to NOWSA whilst I was away and had trouble with email access. Rosina has been an irreplaceable help and was really able to pull NOWSA together to make sure we were able to send four students to the conference. On Tuesday the 30th of July, I attended the special SRC meeting regarding disaffiliation from NUS. I advocated for student safety at conferences due to the alarming high rates of sexual assault and harassment on campuses, but also for the importance of opportunities and the benefits that union affiliation affords the SRC. On Friday August 9, the Wom\*n’s Collective held their first meeting at Bankstown Campus, consisting nbof myself, Dzenita Semic (Parramatta) and Rosina Armstrong-Mensah (Liverpool). Our meeting was fantastically productive, and the following tasks were agreed upon to be actioned as soon as possible.

1. Updating the Wom\*n’s Collective language. “Women” will now be consistently spelled “Wom\*n” to ensure the collective is visibly ensuring gender diverse people are welcomed as a part of our identity.

2. Updating the Wom\*n’s Collective branding. Some members of the student body felt that they wanted to move towards something more contemporary and inclusive, especially to celebrate our motion towards inclusive language. Dzenita and I are in the final stages of this and will release the branding this week.

3. Work on a Collective vision statement and a Collective code of ethics to help us process the enormous number of requests we get for support from charities, NGOs, advertising agencies and the student body, and to help guide the Collectives activities.

4. Create WoCo handover documents during the end of year break to help the next incoming WoCo reps at the culmination of our terms as representatives.

On August 5th, I was able to meet with Nicole Brackenreg of Lead regarding the professional

development and networking nights. Nicole was able to give me some excellent resources and suggestions and put me in touch with Alumni to invite to the events. I set three tentative dates and once I have confirmation of room bookings, I will be able to confirm our keynotes and inform Campus Life.

I hope by the next meeting to be able to report in on the success of our first Development and

Networking event.

Current Activities

1. Organising three Wom\*n’s Professional Networking and Mentoring events across Parramatta, Kingswood and Campbelltown Campus. These events will be catered with keynote speakers invited on a range of topics and alumni requested to help build a cross campus, student and graduate network.

2. Building a vision statement and a code of ethics for the Wom\*n’s Collective, as well as rebranding to ensure we are creating inclusive spaces.

3. Creating handover documents to ensure ease of transition between outgoing and incoming

representatives, allowing next year’s WoCo reps to start sooner on projects and reduce handover time.

**Members who failed to provide reports**

Nikibin, Amir - Small & regional Campuses

Espinas, Jonathan “JC” – Hawksbury Campus Representative

Chheda, Rohan - International Student Representative

Miller, Shayne – First Nations Representative.