



# Swinburne Student Union Election Report 2017

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# Summary

## Appointment

Above Quota Elections (AQE) were approached on July 5 in regard to running the Swinburne Student Union elections again for 2017. A tender was submitted on July 10 and notification of acceptance received on July 24.

## Nominations

Nominations opened on August 21 and closed on September 13 at midday. Formal notice was provided by SSU, and placed on poster boards and the SSU website. AQE understand SSU members were also alerted by email. The substantial increase in the number of nominations this year indicates that low numbers in recent years has not primarily been related to lack of notice the elections were coming up.

Nominations were run online again this year, and the nomination forms upgraded to improve this process. 108 nominations were received. It is gratifying to see that the number of nominations that arrived after the close fell from seven to one. On the other hand, three individuals subsequently informed the Returning Officer that they had accidentally nominated for a different position from the one they intended to nominate for. All had received a receipt stating the positions for which they had nominated, but apparently had failed to read it.

One of the nominations was from someone who appeared to not be a student of Swinburne, and all attempts to contact this individual to clarify the situation failed. A much smaller number of candidates than last year were not members of SSU, but one of these had nominated for a large number of positions. One SSU member also nominated for a large number of positions, including many that cannot be contested simultaneously. This was pointed out to him, and he withdrew from those positions that conflicted with his first choice.

The regulations changed this year to rule out self-nomination. As Returning Officer I missed this change, and consequently failed to change the nomination form to indicate a requirement to have a nominator. This was clearly a substantial error on my part, and one I can only apologise for and attribute the error to having taken on too many overlapping jobs, leading to a lack of attention to detail.

None of the candidates drew attention to this error until well after the nomination period had closed. Once I became aware of it I contacted all candidates and informed them that they needed to provide a nominator who was not themselves within four days. Although an ordinary reading of the new regulation would suggest that the nominator needed to be supplied by the original close of nominations, this was not explicitly specified, so nominations received by this date arguably met the letter of the regulations. Even if this argument is

rejected, given that the original error had been made, this action appeared to be the best that could be done to undo the mistake.

Those candidates who were on tickets organised nominators easily, with the registering officer nominating everyone on their ticket other than themselves, while one other ticket member nominated the registering officer. Two of the four independents also responded quickly and provided a nominator. However, two independents did not. Having emailed all candidates, I also attempted to contact the independents by phone to make sure they were aware of the issue. One never responded. Another one took the call, but indicated he was unsure whether he still wanted to run, and might not organise a nominator, as indeed in the end he did not.

Unfortunately, the deadline set for the nominations was too late to take the candidates who had not organised a nominator off the ballot. The failure of two candidates to provide a nominator meant that Hawthorn Campus Committee was uncontested. However, since this was on a ballot paper with the Campus Coordinator, the ballot was still distributed, with all the remaining candidates declared elected upon the close of polls. Had I recognised my mistake earlier an A5, rather than A 4, ballot could have been used. The extra costs resulting from this error are borne by Above Quota Elections, rather than SSU.

A list of nominations is provided later in this report.

## **Tickets**

Ticket registration closed at midday on Wednesday September 20.

Three tickets were registered:

Together by Sam Roberts

Student Voice by Steven Blacker

Yes To Marriage Equality by Brinnah Kavanagh

A challenge was made to the registration of Marriage Equality Now on the basis that a ticket cannot be registered with only one candidate. The regulations specifically state the number of candidates required to register a ticket for Student Council or for SISA, SUPA, Media Committee and Campus Committees. However, they do not specify a minimum if running for NUS delegates. I rejected the challenge based on reasoning outlined under the appeals section. It was unclear if the intention was to appeal the decision to the Appeal Committee, but no such request was received. The vote received by Brinnah Kavanagh was so low that the decision did not materially affect the outcome of the election.

## **Candidate Statements and Photographs**

Candidate statements and photographs closed on Wednesday September 27 at midday. Most of the members of one ticket submitted statements, but most independents and members of the other ticket did not, presumably indicating a view that these would not be widely read. The task of creating a booklet out of the statements and photographs was assigned to a graphic designer, who unfortunately got food poisoning at the time when the booklet was to

be produced. The failure on her part to alert me meant that the opportunity to find someone else was missed, and as a result the booklet was not produced until she had recovered, making it available for only a part of the voting period. As Returning Officer the responsibility to have this booklet prepared is mine, and, while I could not predict the designer's illness, I failed to have a back-up plan, and consequently will be offering a discount on the tendered price.

## **Polling**

Voting was conducted for six hours a day at the Hawthorn Campus from October 9-13, and on alternating days at the Croydon and Wantirna campuses. Turnout increased substantially compared to 2016, which in turn was higher than it has been for several years. Turnout was particularly heavy on the Monday, and fell every day after that. Nevertheless, it remains low compared to other campuses in Victoria, and is particularly small at the outer campuses. In total 1313 votes were accepted, along with 6 rejected provisional votes.

18 provisional votes were received. Of these 12 were accepted. Two of these were listed on the roll, but not listed as being Hawthorn students, so were given provisional votes until their eligibility to vote for Hawthorn could be clarified. The rest were students who had enrolled after the roll was produced. This reflects the downside of using the same roll for nominations as for voting, rather than being provided with two different rolls, as happens at some universities. However, since it is only a few years since the university administration started providing a roll to SSU at all, it is possibly best not to push too hard to get two separate rolls.

None of the online positions were contested, or indeed received any nominations at all, so there was no need to run an online ballot this year.

## **Count**

The count was completed for the majority of positions on the night of Friday October 13. The rest of the initial count was completed on Saturday October 14. However, enough provisional votes were outstanding to change the last position in the proportionally elected positions. Consequently, the single member positions were declared on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> October, but the proportional positions were only declared on a provisional basis. After the provisional votes were checked, with 12 ruled eligible to vote and six ruled ineligible, these votes were counted on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October, and all outstanding positions declared the following day. The provisional votes did not, in the end, change who was elected to any position, but did change the order of election for NUS delegates.

## **Complaints**

A complaint was received about the decision to allow the registration of Yes to Marriage Equality from the registering officer of another ticket. This was rejected by the Returning Officer, and followed by a message stating, "I would like to lodge notice of appeal in regards to your decision to allow a single member ticket to stand in the election." The Returning Officer discussed this with the other partners of Above Quota Elections, and the decision has

been set out under rulings. It was anticipated that the complainant might wish to take the matter to the Appeals Committee, but this did not occur.

During the campaign itself numerous verbal complaints were received, but most of these were about minor matters such as campaigning slightly across the no-campaigning line, or of inappropriate postering.

More serious complaints, some verbal and some in writing, referred to the behaviour of off-campus students. Where evidence was provided to support these, the individuals concerned were instructed to leave campus (or took off when approached by the Returning Officer and did not return). In other cases, individuals, and the team they appeared to be supporting, were warned, and electoral staff watched the individuals as much as possible.

## **Rulings**

1) The SSU rules do not specify a minimum number of candidates required in order to register a ticket for NUS. The fact that different numbers are required for Council as against the other listed positions indicates that there is no across the board number that should apply by default to NUS. In such cases it is appropriate to be as open as possible to tickets.

2) NUS delegates must be elected under rules that comply with the NUS regulations. These also do not specify a minimum number of candidates.

3) Tickets register under many circumstances in many different elections, and often only have one candidate on them. As a general principle, the creation of a ticket can mean multiple supporters as easily as it means multiple candidates.

4) We have allowed individual candidates to run for NUS in the past under tickets. No objections have been received previously. If the clauses in the regulations that might be read as requiring more than one candidate were inserted more recently, this was not drawn to our attention. Moreover, any such change could easily have been accompanied by a change specifying a particular minimum for NUS. The fact that this was not done indicates that there has not been great discomfort with the idea of a single candidate having a ticket name.

5) Well prior to the close of nominations we were contacted to ask whether there was a minimum number of candidates required to have a ticket. We responded that under our interpretation of the rules, only one was required. Had we specified a higher minimum it is very likely that Yes To Marriage Equality would have found additional candidates to meet this minimum. Even if this decision was wrong, a student or students are entitled to act on that information. Natural justice requires that people informed of a requirement not be required to meet a higher requirement after it is too late to do so.

Consequently, we consider it appropriate to allow Yes to Marriage Equality to run.

## **Acknowledgements**

As always my appreciation to my colleagues at Above Quota Elections, Haydn Steel, Goldie

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Pergl, and Jaimie Adam, and to the poll clerks Shereen Evans, Josh Adam, Mocha Lily, Marion Fahim, Vennessa Fleming, Tony Brightling and Elizabeth Peak.

I would like to thank the staff of SSU for carrying out many of the tasks that might have otherwise fallen to AQE, such as booking spaces and tables, preparing the notice poster and updating the website, and for assistance with emergency printing during the week.

Zahirabbas Nagori of Swinburne University Administration were very helpful in making available a copy of the roll and checking the provisional votes after the election.

# Recommendations

## **1. Nomination Confirmation**

As mentioned above some candidates nominated for a different position from the one they intended to, and failed to check their nomination confirmation, causing them to miss out on running for the position they hoped to. We don't have a perfect answer on how to address this, but input from past candidates on ways to make the nomination system itself, or the nomination confirmation clearer, might reduce the danger of this happening in future.

## **2. Clarification of numbers required to register a ticket for NUS**

At the moment the regulations are open to interpretation as to whether one or two candidates are required in order to run a ticket for NUS delegates. This is clearly undesirable. Even if the argument that two nominations are required is accepted, there is no question this is unclear and easy to miss in the regulations at the moment. Given minimum numbers are specified for other positions, there is no reason not to specify the number for NUS delegates to remove this problem for future.

## **3. Croydon and Wantirna**

Turnout continues to be low at Croydon and Wantirna. While the commitment to give these campuses access to democracy is admirable, it does not appear many students there are keen to use it. Although having eighteen and twelve hours of polling respectively is an improvement on the previous situation where both campuses required 30 hours of polling, it still appears a poor return for SSU's money. Decreasing polling times to three or four hours per day at the outer campuses is unlikely to have a great impact on the opportunity for those students who want to vote to do so, and would save money, as would reducing days of polling there.

## **4. Distribution of candidate statements for online voting**

Although no online ballot was required this year, inevitably these will be needed at some point, and the issues raised last year in regard to the lack of information for voters are likely to reoccur if not addressed.

## **5. A Pre-organised Appeal Committee**

The regulations refer to an appeal committee. This is positive. It is important that there be a body that students can appeal decisions of the Returning Officer to. No Returning Officer is perfect, and there needs to be a process to deal with mistakes. However, it is unclear whether the Appeal Committee would be able to do its job effectively. The regulations imply that only the chair of the Committee is chosen prior to the election, and that it is then their job to find at least two other people to join them on the committee. At no stage this year was the Returning Officer given the name, let alone contact details, of the chair,



and we still don't know if such a person was ever chosen. Even if they existed, it seems doubtful they would have been able to pull together a full committee in time to deal with any urgent matters that might have arisen during the election. Notably, if the matter of the registration of Yes to Marriage Equality had been appealed at the time it was indicated it might, any substantial delay in the committee reaching a decision would have thrown the printing of the ballot papers into doubt. We suggest that in future it would be best for the appeal committee's membership to be established beforehand. At the very least, contact details of the chair need to be provided to the Returning Officer well prior to the close of nominations.

## **6. Viewing nominations**

The regulations allow students to view all nomination forms on request. This is a fairly unusual rule. In principle AQE do not have an opinion on whether it is appropriate to prioritize transparency over privacy in this way, given that both are important. However, it is unclear how this is meant to work when nominations are made online. One request was received to view certain nominations. When the Returning Officer responded with a request for clarification, given that online nominations don't leave the same sort of trace, no further elaboration was received. Either this clause should be deleted, or some clarification is required as to what information should be available on request.

## **7. Non-Swinburne students**

This election saw very little rule-breaking, at least by the standards of student elections, from those directly involved. Although there were some complaints of misleading behaviour, these mostly could credibly be argued to be honest mistakes. Campaigning with one foot on the stairs leading to the Atrium happened frequently, but we do not consider a major breach.

On the other hand, the election saw a remarkable number of students from other universities spending time on campus. Although political campaigners are sometime keen to spend an hour or two simply observing another campuses elections to get a sense of the cultural differences, it is our experience that those who spend more time than this around an election usually have hopes of influencing the outcome. This is concerning.

The election regulations ban campaigning by non-students, and for good reasons. It is enrolled Swinburne students, particularly but not exclusively those who join the union, who will bear the costs or reap the benefits of the election outcome. Unless someone from another university plans to transfer next year, their interests are unlikely to align with those of the student body. A number of complaints were received about non-Swinburne students wasting campaigners' time and even bullying candidates. One individual was seen campaigning, but took off when the Returning Officer approached to ask if he was a student, and was not seen again. One of the polling team overheard off-campus students boasting about having engaged in such practices, although unfortunately this was not passed on to the Returning Officer until after these individuals had left. Nevertheless, it seems likely the practice was far more widespread. Other non-Swinburne students engaged the Returning Officer and staff in ways we do not permit non-students to do, saving members of the team they were supporting time. They initially got away with this because we did not realize they were not Swinburne students.

In part dealing with this issue requires more rigorous checking on the part of the Returning Officer team, rather than simply assuming that someone is a student until given evidence otherwise. In part change can only come from a change in culture – candidates should to recognize that the presence of off campus students is likely to be toxic and discourage them from spending the week at Swinburne. Unfortunately such change seems unlikely. However, it might be possible to encourage change a little by tightening the regulations to specify those activities that are restricted to students only.

# Notice of Swinburne Student Union Inc. 2017 Annual Elections

Nominations for 2016 Student Union positions open on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August at 10am and close on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 12pm (midday). Nomination forms will be available online at [www.ssu.org.au/elections](http://www.ssu.org.au/elections). Nomination forms can be lodged electronically or by appointment with the Returning Officer, Stephen Lutz. To contact the Returning Officer, email [swinRO@abovequota.com.au](mailto:swinRO@abovequota.com.au) or telephone 0438 667 787.

All elected Students' Council and Media Committee positions are eligible to claim honoraria payments. Unless otherwise stated, all Higher Education and PAVE students who are Student Union financial members are eligible to nominate for positions. Unless otherwise stated on the ballot paper, all currently enrolled Swinburne students can vote in the election.

Candidates may choose to organise together under a common banner (ticket). Tickets are for the purpose of group identification only. Ticket registration forms will be available online at [www.ssu.org.au/elections](http://www.ssu.org.au/elections). Ticket registration closes at 12pm (noon) on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Voting will be conducted between Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Polling will be open at the following times and places:

	Monday 9/9	Tuesday 10/9	Wednesday 11/9	Thursday 12/9	Friday 13/9
<b>Hawthorn (Atrium)</b>	10am – 4pm	10am – 4pm	12am – 6pm	10am – 4pm	10am – 4pm
<b>Croydon (Cafeteria)</b>	10am – 4pm		10am – 4pm		10am – 4pm
<b>Wantirna (Cafeteria)</b>		10am – 4pm		10am – 4pm	

The following positions will be elected at this election:

Committee	Position	Suggested hours per week	Eligible honoraria	Eligibility requirements
Students' Council	President	35	\$15,000	Must have been enrolled at SUT for at least one contiguous semester within previous two semesters
	General Secretary	25	\$12,000	Must have been enrolled at SUT for at least one contiguous semester within previous two semesters
	Education Officer	25	\$8,000	Must have been enrolled at SUT for at least one contiguous semester within previous two semesters
	Welfare Officer	25	\$8,000	Must have been enrolled at SUT for at least one contiguous semester within previous two semesters
	Education Public Affairs Officer	15	\$4,000	
	Hawthorn Campus Chair	15	\$4,000	Must be studying primarily at Hawthorn for the following Teaching Period
	Croydon Campus Chair	15	\$4,000	Must be studying primarily at Croydon for the following Teaching Period
	Wantirna Campus Chair	15	\$4,000	Must be studying primarily at Wantirna for the following Teaching Period
	Postgraduate Representative (President of SUPA)	15	\$4,000	Must be enrolled as a Postgraduate student
	International Representative (President of SISA)	15	\$4,000	Must be enrolled as an International student
	TAFE Representative	15	\$4,000	Must be enrolled as a TAFE/PAVE student
	Indigenous Representative	15	\$4,000	Must identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
	Queer Representative	15	\$4,000	Must identify as Queer
	Women's Officer	15	\$4,000	Must identify as a Woman
	Health/Disability Representative	15	\$4,000	
	Residence Representative	15	\$4,000	Must live in Swinburne Student Residences or Unilodge and must not be a residential advisor or an employee of an organisation which provides residential services to Swinburne students.
	People of Colour Representative	15	\$4,000	Must identify as being of an ethnically and culturally diverse background
	Environment & Sustainability Officer	15	\$4,000	
	General Representative (three (3) positions)	5	\$1,000	
	Education Board	Faculty of Business & Law Representative	5	\$0
Faculty of Science, Engineering & Technology Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as an FSET student
Faculty of Health, Arts & Design Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as an FHAD student
Department of Foundation & Pathways Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as a DFP student
Department of Design, Media & ICT Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as a DDMI student
Department of Business & Finance Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as a DBF student
Department of Health, Science, Education & Social Services Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as a DHSES student
Department of Trades & Engineering Technology Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as a DTET student
National Institute of Circus Arts Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as a student in NICA
Swinburne Online Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as a student with Swinburne Online
Open Universities Australia Representative		5	\$0	Must be enrolled as an Open Universities Australia student
Mature Age Representative		5	\$0	Must have started studying at Swinburne at the age of 21 years or over and have had an absence from prior study of at least two years
Hawthorn Campus Committee		Hawthorn General Representative (five (5) positions)	5	\$0
Croydon Campus Committee	Croydon General Representative (five (5) positions)	5	\$0	Must be studying primarily at Croydon for the following Teaching Period
Wantirna Campus Committee	Wantirna General Representative (five (5) positions)	5	\$0	Must be studying primarily at Wantirna for the following Teaching Period
Swinburne International Students Association (SISA) Committee	SISA Committee Member (five (5) positions)	5	\$0	Must be enrolled as an International student
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	SUPA Committee Member (five (5) positions)	5	\$0	Must be enrolled as a Postgraduate student
Media Committee (Swine Magazine)	Editors (4)	15	\$2,500	
Other positions	NUS Conference Delegates (seven (7) positions)			

For election rules and regulations, see the SSU Constitution and SSU Election Regulations at [www.ssu.org.au/elections](http://www.ssu.org.au/elections).

## Nominations

The following nominations were received. The list excludes one late nomination, but includes some that were subsequently found to be ineligible

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 Candidates marked with an asterisk were elected unopposed  
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Position	Name	Ticket
Activities Representative	William Broadbent	Student Voice
Activities Representative	Farhan Islam	Together
Activities Representative	Will Joseph	
Activities Representative	Andy Tran	
Education Board Department of Business & Finance Representative	Will Joseph	
Education Board Faculty of Business and Law Representative	Will Joseph	
Education Board Faculty of Health, Art & Design Representative	Paris Konstadinu	Together*
Education Board Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology Representative	Qasim Rehan	Together*
Education Board Open Universities Australia Representative	Will Joseph	
Education Officer	Xzavier Kelly	Student Voice
Education Officer	Andy Tran	
Education Officer	Param Mahal	Together
Education Officer	Will Joseph	
Environment Representative	Ayesh Wijayasiri	Together
Environment Representative	Andy Tran	
Environment Representative	Will Joseph	
Environment Representative	Emma White-Reese	Student Voice
General Representative of Students' Council	SIDDHARTH PRAMOD	
General Representative of Students' Council	PANSARE	Student Voice
General Representative of Students' Council	Sithara Shanubough	Together
General Representative of Students' Council	Andy Tran	
General Representative of Students' Council	Will Joseph	
General Representative of Students' Council	mostafa zahir	Together
General Representative of Students' Council	Starr Guzman	Student Voice
General Representative of Students' Council	Muhammad Taha	Together
General Secretary	Andy Tran	
General Secretary	Steven Blacker	Student Voice
General Secretary	Fergus Clancy	Together
Hawthorn Campus Chair	Will Joseph	
Hawthorn Campus Chair	Usman Javed	Together
Hawthorn Campus Chair	Jacob Buckley Lennox	Student Voice
Hawthorn Campus Chair	Andy Tran	
Hawthorn Campus Committee	Andy Tran	
Hawthorn Campus Committee	Will Joseph	
Hawthorn Campus Committee	Hamza Firasat	Together
Hawthorn Campus Committee	Jasjit Singh	Together
Hawthorn Campus Committee	Kainat Ghafari	Together
Hawthorn Campus Committee	Shirazi Arsh	Together
Hawthorn Campus Committee	Mulki Ali Keynaan	Together
Health/Disability Representative	Andy Tran	
Health/Disability Representative	Aashima Sondhi	Together
Health/Disability Representative	Amy gilderdale	Student Voice
International Representative (President of SISA)	Faraz Haider	Student Voice
International Representative (President of SISA)	Abdul Rehman Khan	
International Representative (President of SISA)	Jasminder Singh	Together
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Will Joseph	
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Alekszander Vujicic	Together

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Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Starr Guzman	Student Voice
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Rachel Cheng Siow Pheng	Together
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Hendrik Oosthuizen	Together
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Faraz Haider	Student Voice
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Hamza	
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Abbey Thorpe	Student Voice
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Steven Blacker	Student Voice
Media Committee (Swine Magazine Editors)	Sarah Sordelli	Together
	SIDDHARTH PRAMOD	
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	PANSARE	
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	William Broadbent	Student Voice
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	James Atkins	Together
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Samuel Roberts	Together
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Nikki Nievaart	Student Voice
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Megan Hallaway	
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Param Mahal	Together
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Fergus Clancy	Together
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Alex McGilvray	Student Voice
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Ana Tinc	Student Voice
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Shruthi Menon	Together
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Will Joseph	
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Jasminder Singh	Together
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Brinnah Kavanagh	Yes to Marriage Equality
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Meghan Walker	
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Xzavier Kelly	
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Sithara Shanubough	Together
National Union of Students National Conference Delegate	Steven Blacker	Student Voice
Postgraduate Representative (President of SUPA)	Thermina Ann Akram	Student Voice
Postgraduate Representative (President of SUPA)	Maaz Shareef	Together
Postgraduate Representative (President of SUPA)	Yasaswini Rajakaruna	
Postgraduate Representative (President of SUPA)	Pubudu Lankadeva	Student Voice
President	Andy Tran	
President	Nikki Nievaart	Student Voice
President	Samuel Roberts	Together
Queer Representative	Jane	Student Voice*
Small and Regional Representative	James Atkins	Together
Small and Regional Representative	Meghan Walker	Student Voice
Students of Colour Representative	Tarek ElMaghrabi	Student Voice*
Swinburne International Students Association (SISA) Committee	Tanishq Bhasin	Together
Swinburne International Students Association (SISA) Committee	Md Suddam Hossain	Together
Swinburne International Students Association (SISA) Committee	Amrita Kharel	Together
Swinburne International Students Association (SISA) Committee	Abdul Majid Khan	Student Voice
Swinburne International Students Association (SISA) Committee	Tushar Bassi	Student Voice
Swinburne International Students Association (SISA) Committee	Param Mahal	
Swinburne International Students Association (SISA) Committee	Jaspreet Singh	Together
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	Muhammad salman khan	Together
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	Amal Puthalath	Student Voice
	Mohammad Abdur Rob	
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	DEWAN	
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	Muhammad Sohaib Hamed	Together
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	Yash Hemant Dhruva	Together
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	Abdul Majid Khan	Student Voice
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	Suraksha Sambhaji Jadhav	Together
Swinburne University Postgraduate Association (SUPA) Committee	Hafiz Muhammad Hussain	Together
TAFE/PAVE Representative	Kubra Sener	Student Voice
TAFE/PAVE Representative	Andy Tran	

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Welfare Officer	Brenna Dempsey	Student Voice
Welfare Officer	Andy Tran	
Welfare Officer	Aura-Elle Marais	Together
Welfare Officer	Will Joseph	
Women's Officer	Malissa Lemin	Student Voice
Women's Officer	Ruby Anderson-Joyce	
Women's Officer	Shruthi Menon	Together

## Results

### President day by day

PRES	Primaries MONDAY	Primaries TUES	Primaries WED	Primaries THURS	Primaries FRI	Provisionals	TOTAL	
Andy Tran		23	8	15	9	11	0	66
Nikki Nievaart		158	122	71	74	56	4	485
Samuel Roberts		186	147	132	92	68	6	631
TOTAL FORMAL		367	277	218	175	135	10	1182
Informal		43	26	21	17	22	2	131
TOTAL		410	303	239	192	157	12	1313
								Rejected 6

### Gen Sec

Steven Blacker 506

Fergus Clancy 656

### Activities Representative

William Broadbent 493

Farhan Islam 659

### Education Officer

Xzavier Kelly 487

Param Mahal 655

### Environment Representative

Ayesh Wijayasiri 717

Emma White-Reese 471

### Health and Disability Rep

Aashima Sondhi 666

Amy Gilderdale 474

### Small and Regional Representative

James Atkins 584

Meg Walker 310

**Welfare Officer**

Brenna Dempsey 478

Aura-Elle Marais 640

**Women's Officer**

Malissa Lemin 255

Ruby Anderson-Joyce 77

Shruthi Menon 523

**Hawthorn Campus Coordinator**

Usman Javed 689

Jacob Buckley Lennox 469

**International Representative**

Faraz Haider 80

Abdul Rehman Khan 87

Jasminder Singh 437

**Postgraduate Representative**

Thermina Ann Akram 58

Maaz Shareef 269

Pubudu Lankadevea 60

**General reps on council**

Siddharth Pramod Pansare	240	4	244	19 tv1
Sithara Shanubough	293	16	305 elect 2	
Mostafa Zahir	160	elim 1		40 tv1 elected
Starr Guzman	246	11	257	3
Muhammad Taha	234	126	359elect 1	



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<b>Media Committee</b>	elim Hamza		elim Joseph		elect Cheng		elim Vljicic		
Value					0.01449				
candidate	Primaries								
Will Joseph	55	3	58	elim					
Alekszander Vjicic	58	2	60	11	71		71	elim	
Starr Guzman	90	1	91	12	103		103	11	114
Rachel Cheng	198	1	199	8	207	elect			
Handrik Oosthuizen	102	3	105	5	110		110	41	151
Faraz Haider	57	16	73	2	75		75	5	80
Hamza	40	elim							
Abbey Thorpe	180		180	4	184		184	5	189
Steven Blacker	64		64	7	71		71	2	73
Sarah Sordelli	193	2	195	4	199		199	4	203

<b>Media Committee</b>	elect Sordelli		eliminate Blacker		elect Thorpe		eliminate Haider		
Value	-0.00123				0.11397				
candidate									
Will Joseph									
Alekszander Vjicic									
Starr Guzman		114	7	121	21.541	142.541	31	173.541	
Rachel Cheng									
Handrik Oosthuizen		151	2	153	0.9118	153.911	11	164.911	
Faraz Haider		80	13	93		93	elim		
Hamza									
Abbey Thorpe		189	34	223	elect				
Steven Blacker		73	elim						
Sarah Sordelli	elect								

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<b>SUPA</b>		Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
CANDIDATE	Primaries	elect Puthalath	elect Khan	elect Jadhav	elect Dhruva	elim Dewan	elect Hussain
Muhammad Khan	70	70.00					
Amal Puthalath	72						
Mohammad Dewan	12	12.00	13.43	13.43	13.43	13.43	13.43
Muhammad Hamed	45	46.29	50.70	50.74	51.21	51.21	51.21
Yash Dhruva	58	59.87	60.34	62.68			
Suraksha Jadhv	64	64.00	64.00				
Hafiz Muhammad Hussain	49	49.43	50.03	50.07	52.43	52.43	52.43

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**NUS delegates**

CANDIDATE	DIRECT	Joseph Disqualifie					
		d	Elect Blacker	elim Kelly	elim McGilvray	elect Atkins	elim Singh
Siddharth Pansare	93.00	94.00	94.09	94.09	94.09	94.09	96.09
William Broadbent	37.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	41.00	41.00	42.00
James Atkins	127.00	129.00	129.09	129.09	130.09		
Samuel Roberts	106.00	106.00	106.09	106.09	106.09	106.09	106.09
Nikki Nievaart	87.00	91.00	92.70	103.40	108.49	108.49	109.49
Param Mahal	94.00	95.00	95.09	95.09	95.09	95.09	96.09
Fergus Clancy	101.00	103.00	103.00	105.00	107.09	107.09	109.09
Alex McGilvray	17.00	19.00	19.09	19.18			
Ana Tinc	36.00	36.00	36.18	38.27	41.27	41.27	42.27
Shruthi Menon	95.00	95.00	95.00	96.09	96.09	96.09	102.09
Will Joseph	20.00	0.00					
Jasminder Singh	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	
Briannah Kavanagh	23.00	23.00	23.09	23.18	24.18	24.18	24.18
Meg Walker	24.00	26.00	26.36	28.08	30.08	30.08	30.08
Xzavier Kelly	8.00	8.00	17.77				
Sithara							
Shanubough	24.00	24.00	24.18	24.18	24.18	24.18	27.18
Steven Blacker	142.00	145.00					

CANDIDATE	elim		elim				elect	
	Kavanagh	Shanubough	elim Walker	elim Broadbent	Nievaart	elim Tinc	elect Pansare	elect Menon
Siddharth Pansare	97.09	100.09	104.09	111.09	116.35	135.85		
William Broadbent	44.00	44.00	47.09					
Samuel Roberts	106.09	106.09	109.09	116.09	116.90	121.26	124.03	124.43
Nikki Nievaart	114.49	114.49	124.76	147.85				
Param Mahal	97.09	99.18	99.18	99.18	99.72	106.90	109.00	109.69
Fergus Clancy	109.09	111.09	112.09	114.09	114.63	119.63	120.97	125.99
Alex McGilvray								
Ana Tinc	43.36	45.36	53.99	58.99	66.13			
Shruthi Menon	103.18	116.27	120.27	120.27	120.94	128.08	128.08	
Meg Walker	35.08	37.08						
Sithara								
Shanubough	29.18							

**The following candidates have been declared elected:**

Samuel Roberts - President  
Fergus Clancy – General Secretary  
Farhan Islam- Activities Representative  
Param Mahal – Education Officer  
Ayesh Wijayasiri- Environment Representative  
Aashima Sondhi - Health and Disability Representative  
James Atkins – Small and Regional Representative  
Aura-Elle Marais - Welfare Officer  
Shruthi Menon – Women's Officer  
Usman Javed - Hawthorn Campus Chair  
Jasminder Singh - International Representative  
Maaz Shareef - Postgraduate Representative

General Representatives

Muhammad Taha  
Sithara Shanubough  
Starr Guzman

Media Committee

Rachel Cheng  
Sarah Sordelli  
Abbey Thorpe  
Starr Guzmann

Swinburne University Postgraduate Association Committee

Amal Puthalath  
Muhammad Salman Khan  
Suraksha Sambhaji Jadhav  
Yash Dhruva  
Hafiz Muhammad Hussain

NUS Delegates

Steven Blacker  
James Atkins  
Nikki Nievaart  
Siddharth Pramod Pansare  
Shruthi Menon  
Fergus Clancy  
Samuel Roberts

Elected unopposed after other candidates withdrew or failed to meet requirements

Hawthorn Campus Committee

Hamza Firasat  
Jasjit Singh  
Kainat Ghafari  
Shirazi Arsh

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Mulki Ali Keynaan

Swinburne International Students Association Committee

Tanishq Bhasin

Md Suddam Hossain

Amrita Karel

Tushar Bassi

Jaspreet Singh

The following candidates were declared elected unopposed initially after the close of nominations:

Jane – Queer Representative

Tarek El Maghrabi - Students Of Colour Representative

Paris Konstadinu - Education Board Faculty of Health, Art & Design Representative

Qasim Rehan - Education Board Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology Representative

Kubra Sener – TAFE/PAVE Representative

# Declaration

I hereby declare that the 2017 Swinburne Student Union Annual Election was conducted and administered with impartiality by myself and the directors and staff of Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd.

Stephen Luntz  
Returning Officer  
November 7 2017