Candidate Statements - Student Elections
National Union of Students (NUS) Delegates
October 2013

**Jacob MUIR**
Hello! My name is Jacob Muir. I am running for the position of a General Member of the Student Campus Council of Parramatta. I want to play an active role in the ongoing improvement of our University and its many facets. I see the position of a General Member as an excellent way to be a part of a team that is involved not only in the current student's lives, but also the bigger picture of providing a better place for future students. After previous work experience at AFL Sportsready, working alongside the NSW State Manager and Secretary, I was able to gain first-hand experience in what it means to be part of a team. If elected I would make it my goal to get more students involved in what goes on at our University. I would appreciate your vote for me, Jacob Muir, to serve on the Student Campus Council.

**Simon BAJADA**
As a member of your student campus council, I will endeavour to improve student services and parking facilities for ALL students on our campus, not only in the short term but the long term also. I will also lobby for improvements across the board throughout the campus in relation to student lecturer relationships. I will also endeavour to improve the facilities for disabled students from the left handed to the wheelchair bound.

**Matthew WALLIS**
I'm running as candidate for the Student Campus Council and a NUS delegate because I want to fight to make life better for us as students locally on campus and for students everywhere, I will fight to get a proper gym on campus, other campuses have a fully equipped gym and we are left behind, and I know many here, like me feel left out, I will fight for a proper bar on campus, I will fight to upgrade the tutorial registration system, most of us get left in the dust in the mad Rush of the opening seconds, and are left with a second rate timetable, I will fight to get greater support for clubs on campus and more funding for club events, and most importantly I will fight to have textbooks and essential course materials placed on HECS to help with the ever growing upfront costs each semester

**Talal SHAH**
Friends, I have nominated for Student Council & NUS as I believe it is vital to empower the student body with a voice that will stand up for their rights. I hope to form part of a VISIBLE and APPROACHABLE representative body. The costs of uni life are too much for the average person. My experiences as a law student spending thousands on textbooks and as the secretary of the UWS Republic Club have taught me that we need reforms such as textbooks on HECS and more student club funding. I will campaign vigorously on these issues. Check out my page on Facebook and remember, VOTE T FOR SRC!

**Mohamad AL-ABDALLAH**
Hello Everyone.
I strongly believe that I am the right person for the job! Throughout my high school years I was part of the Student Representative Council and was involved in all the schools functions and events. Being a keen sportsman and a health enthusiast I am confident in creating a healthy, enjoyable and energetic environment for the students at University
National Union of Students (NUS) Delegates

Candidate Statements

Dema CHMALI

My name is Dema Chmali and I am a second year student studying a Bachelor of Arts Pathway to Secondary Teaching. I believe I am suitable candidate to be a Student Representative Council member in Bankstown Campus as I have the qualities, skills and experiences of leadership, organising and planning and communication and listening skills. I believe in unity on campus and giving everyone a fair go and say despite gender, nationality, religion or belief. I want to be the voice of my fellow Bankstown peers. I would like to create more interaction between the SRC and students on campus in both campus life and matters, in both social and financial matters. I have an abundance of experiences working on campus and helping people and hence would like to have the honour of representing the students at Bankstown. no more sitting there! It's about moving forward and creating change! =)

Elizabeth DORNER

As a member of the Penrith Student Campus council, I would endeavour to improve the day-to-day experience of the students of UWS by continuing on the work of the council members of 2013; providing entertainment and food days across the campus as well as lobbying for improvements across the campus to make UWS a better university to come to everyday. I stand for face-to-face learning to ensure that UWS degrees remain well-respected within industry, as well as making lecture recordings available for ALL subjects and publishing exam dates and results earlier for the good of the students. Above all, I would like the opportunity to get to know what students REALLY want from their university and how to go about making it happen.

Michael ROBERTSON

I'M FOR IMPROVEMENT AT UWS. G'day I’m Michael Robertson, an Engineering student. If you’re like me you probably feel that things such as parking and food outlets and other services at UWS aren’t exactly up to scratch. What I want to do is demand a fairer go for us students and improve them!!!! I believe by lobbying both the university and representing students like YOU on the SCC and at the National Union of Students we can create some change for the better. I’m an honest bloke who just wants to get student services improved. At the end of the day I believe I can do whatever is necessary to take YOUR views to the National Union of Students to give you a voice to make things happen. Come-on give me a shot :)

Lixang LI

(NO CANDIDATE STATEMENT PROVIDED)

Liam BELL

(NO CANDIDATE STATEMENT PROVIDED)

Colette LEGERET

My name is Colette Légeret and I am a mature-age student at the end of their third year of studying arts/law (majoring in psychology). I am applying for one of the National Union of Students (NUS) Delegate positions as I would very much like to
Siobhan ARMSON-GRAHAM

I am running for the position of Student Campus Council General Member and National Union of Students Delegate because I am passionate about improving and expanding the facilities and opportunities offered to students of the University of Western Sydney. If elected, I endeavour to include the costs of textbooks in HECS to ensure students have access to resources that are essential to their study. University is not just about study but also provides students with the opportunity to engage in a variety of social clubs. I feel that UWS can offer students more opportunities to be involved in social clubs, activities and events. Therefore, I propose the introduction of on-campus social events that engage students; such events could also be used to indicate key issues students believe are a concern and maybe affecting themselves. Finally, if elected I would strive to change the stigma that is attached to UWS and... (CANDIDATE STATEMENT EXCEEDED WORD LIMIT)

Mervat NASSOUH

(NO CANDIDATE STATEMENT PROVIDED)

Murray ROBERTSON

Murray Robertson is a first-year doctoral candidate in the Writing and Society Research Centre. He is Campus Council post-graduate member and is on the SRC. He has the seniority, background, experience and skills to help Bankstown Campus Council become student-focused during 2014.

Murray believes that ALL STUDENTS expect:

THEIR ISSUES to be BANKSTOWN Student Council's business;

treatment with respect by the University;

open and accountable management of educational, financial and staffing procedures.

He also believes that STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:

must HEAR & ACT UPON student problems, suggestions and ideas;

must IGNORE private political opinions.

Murray has a BIG presence on campus and is not afraid of speaking the truth.

He has taught high school, has written for The Australian and The Age/SMH, has strong English, and can deal effectively with Management and bureaucracy.

He supports Helal Said for Council and confirms: there is only ONE GOD.
Patrick FOOTE

Dear Alumni,

My name is Patrick Foote and I want to see changes in key areas at UWS. Firstly, I want students to have a say in changes to course units and eliminations of entire courses (i.e. entire economic program). I propose that students in courses affected should vote, on whether units will be scrapped and it should include students who will do the unit in the future and those that have done the unit, it’s not fair that programs are run like dictatorships. I want free parking for all students, our fees pay for the parking and the parking is on private UWS property, why should we pay! I want to change timetable registrations, we should preference. The classes should be based around these preferences, stopping the insane scramble for course times. The mindset amongst the administration must change from students fitting around with what is decided by administration to administration changing to fit in with what students decide.

Nicole SMITH

Having lived in the Campbelltown area my whole life, I have an extensive understanding of the needs of our University. I understand the uniqueness of our area and, having spent a lot of my time on campus in the last 12 months, I understand what UWS students’ feels are important. I believe that I have the necessary vision and passion to stand up for the rights of students. I am passionate about making sure that the Campbelltown campus has the same opportunities as all other campuses and I want to ensure that every student’s time on campus is as enjoyable as possible. I will listen to all students and I feel that my study of law will help me to advocate and fight for their rights.

Rabih EL-HAGE

HEY GUYS! My name is Rabih El-hage and I’m in my first year of university currently studying the Bachelor of policing degree. I’m a very enthusiastic and dedicated student that wants to make a difference not only in the police force but also in the Bankstown campus by having a voice and being there for all you guys by proposing various motions including having better sporting facilities, more sporting events and a place that’s enjoyable for everyone. In doing so, I really need your guys help which will definitely be returned back to you! Feel free to come up to me around the campus and approach me with your enquiries, don’t be shy! Thank you

Mohamed ELMIR

Hi I’m Mohamed Elmir, and I’m running with Student Action. Campus life has deteriorated over the past several years and these changes have affected Students and staff alike. Upon being elected, my duty and purpose is to be the student voice, so students at UWS have the same opportunities that Previous Students had. WE ARE THE UNIVERSITY. Together we can create a positive change for us all here at UWS.

Student Action will fight for:
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4 - An inclusive campus for all people.
5 - For a more environmentally sustainable campus.

A vote for Student Action is a vote for a more democratic affordable and inclusive university!
Chris MOUJALLI
Hello fellow UWS students. I wish to represent you as a member of the Parramatta Campus Council. I am currently in my 4th year of a B Business & Commerce (Accounting)/B Laws. I am running for election, as I believe that I can implement a plan for all students across the Parramatta campus.
I will look at the potential for an express bus service from Parramatta Station to the University Campus. I will also look at the prospect of a multi level parking facility at UWS Parramatta and attempt to solve the parking issues that exist at UWS Parramatta.
The student life at UWS can be improved through the running of Intra University sporting events and activities. The potential for a pub night on campus must also be looked at.
I can deliver a positive plan to improve your campus experience at Parramatta with your vote!!

Louis HEARNDEN
My name is Louis Hearnden, I am a student at Bankstown UWS and I am running for a general member position on the SCC and as a NUS delegate.
I believe that cost of living pressures are the number one issue for students. If elected I will work tirelessly to ensure that students costs are reduced and fight for placement of essential course materials and textbooks to be placed on HECS. I will serve the student community always to the best of my ability should I be elected.

Fahad GUL
I am an International Student Leader & Ambassador for the City of Sydney. I am constantly trying to improve the lives of international students by delivering the valuable information to the City of Sydney Council. Also I have been participating and volunteering at various cultural events in the Sydney area.
Being an International Student member for the Parramatta campus, I will work hard to deliver you the following:-
• I will unite all the international students in the campus. Thousand voices asking for one thing are the most effective ones!
• Unity will bring a change. There should and will be free buses from the Parramatta Station.
• Change will bring a new hope. I will give you a chance to organise your cultural events within the campus. All these events will be not-for-profit which will allow you to help people in need in your countries.
For Unity, Change & Hope vote for me!

Marko PETROVIC
My name is Marko; I’m running for Student Action. I’m a first year student in BA Psychology/History at Bankstown. I am running for the positions of Campus Council member, NUS Delegate and Student Editor as I am dedicated to providing the students of Bankstown a transparent and honest voice for the students, and fight for their rights, at Bankstown and across UWS as well as national level at NUS.
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Adnan ALAMEDDINE

I’m a student currently studying a bachelor of business and commerce majoring in Accounting. I believe you should vote me because I will be the right person for that position. Why? Because I want to see students get together and enjoy their time at Uni and I can make that happen. How? With your votes and support I will do the best that I can to bring out the best for Bankstown Campus and unite the students. I want to create an environment on our campus where students can come to uni and have more activities to alleviate stress during exam periods. Make your vote count for Adnan Alameddine.

Margaret RUTHERFORD

I would love to have the honour of being elected at a Delegate Representative for UWS. I am from a middle class working family and have grown up fighting to be the voice for those people who don’t have one.

I have worked in the Hospitality Industry for four years whilst studying. In that time I have become an accomplished workplace union delegate in my own right. This role has taught me the essential skill of open communication, interpersonal skills and stepping up to the mark of leadership. As well as this, it has taught me to fight for what I believe in as well as the power of being a collective.

I have had the opportunity to represent my workplace union recently as a part of the 2013 ALP election campaign. I spoke to over 500+ unionists as well as Kevin Rudd about the importance of fairness in the... (CANDIDATE STATEMENT EXCEEDED WORD LIMIT)

Anushka THEVAMANOHARAN

Hey everyone!

My name is Anushka Thevamanoharan, and I would be honoured to continue serving in YOUR Campbelltown Student Campus Council. I’m currently finishing off my third year of uni, and second year contributing to our growing student council. If elected as part of the 2014 team, I will continue to dedicate efforts into improving your time at university, because the student council is about every single one of YOU.

In 2012 we saw the re-opening and maintenance of a student run kitchen, and in 2013 we hope you enjoyed our numerous food give-aways including Krispy Kreme doughnuts and scrumptious Subway cookies.

If you’ve ever come up to me and voiced your concerns before, you know that I am approachable, ready to listen, and genuinely prepared to help. I am passionate about making these years here as enriching as possible for you.

Vote ONE for Anushka – a voice representing YOU.

Jake BONANNO

(NO CANDIDATE STATEMENT PROVIDED)

Nathaniel DAINES

Everyone has dreams and aspirations of what the ideal University looks like... a balance between a social life and a study life. As many of you can see UWS has a poor social ethos, which has lead to less motivation in wanting to get work done.

Since joining the campus council at the start of 2013, I have learnt many things, voiced the opinions of other students and helped to create a better UWS for the students.

I would like to ask for your support to be elected to be your representative on the Penrith Student Campus Council for 2014, so that we can continue to develop the ethos at UWS and create a place that is warm and welcoming to students and making their voices heard, and bringing equality to all students.
Azeem KHAN

Hi my name is Azeem khan I would like to become a leader of the national union of student I am really interested in joining the national union of student I am second year student of bachelor of engineering I would like to do a lot of work for national union of student I want one chance to prove my self as a good leader I want to join national union of student to improve our education system and student life university of western Sydney is a good university but it does not have a good leader at the moment for national union of student making me the leader of national union of student will not disappoint anyone but our education system and student life will be more improved I will make sure that I take care of my reponsibilities.

Zaynab YOUSSEF

Hi, my name is Zaynab, I’m a first year student at Bankstown. I’d like to see a campus that represents us, and by us I mean THE STUDENTS! As part of Student Action, If I am elected I will utilise my position to fight for:
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I want to empower students who feel voiceless, and use student representation to express student feelings and opinions. Vote for me to help make this happen!
A vote for Student Action is a vote for a more democratic affordable and inclusive university!

Tahani HUSARI

My name is Tahani Husari; I am your right NUS and Student Campus Council member candidate and representative at university and here is why:
I can make your voice reach to the right place and I speak your language: I speak four different languages. Currently, I am an Academic Senate Member; we have the opportunity to review new legislation and to vote on important issues that would benefit the students and the university.
I am ‘Student Ambassador’ and ‘Ask Us’ Program Assistant. In 2011 I volunteered with MATES@UWS, and in 2012 a member at Penrith Student Campus Council and participated in NUS conference. I did start uni five years ago; I am a mother for three children. I had BA/ Psychology and currently doing my post graduate degree in TESOL.
THEREFORE, I know what is going on with student's uni life and together we can make it successful and fun.

Lamees MOUSSA

HEY GUYS !
I want to voice the opinions of all students at UWS through the Student Campus Council. I’ve been a student here for 2 years now, studying Bachelor of Arts (Pathway to Primary Teaching), and I have loved the experience and lifestyle here. I want to take place in the exciting events that are carried out here because they always gather so many people together and it’s great to see so many students getting involved and enjoying themselves. I believe I am self-motivated, enthusiastic, hardworking, and overall FUN! I want to help create a better environment at Uni by changing the things that matter most! But I won’t be granted this awesome opportunity without your vote!
Fouad David ABI ESBER

My name is Fouad, a very passionate student who is a current member of the Student campus council and a member of UWS honours senate committee. I have also established the UWS study2graduate club in order to provide support to students who may be struggling at uni. I do believe I can offer more to the council while embarking on being upgraded to a phd study early in early of next year.my motto is to be the voice of students on campus.

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A vote for Student Action is... (CANDIDATE STATEMENT EXCEEDED WORD LENGTH)

Helal SAID

Helal Said is needed on Bankstown Student Campus Council.

He is already on the council, and “knows the ropes”.

Helal believes that he is bold enough to represent ALL students, listening to what they say and making sure that those who run the Uni hear what students need them to hear.

He has a background in helping with BSCC events, has made table-tennis a fun-for-all game near Building One and knows the Bankstown student-community well.

Helal will:

- support ALL students’ rights,
- fix food and other things that really matter,
- bring students together in harmony.

He is studying to be a teacher, is young at heart, has a heap of younger siblings, devoted parents and cares for others.

Murray Robertson supports Helal for the BSCC because he is vibrant, works hard, is committed to his Faith and has the respect of the majority of Bankstown Students.

James MIDDLETON

To me, the ultimate goal of any university should be the production of quality graduates. The quality of the education at UWS is thus of utmost importance, and I do not believe any goal other than the employability of graduates should be the focus of any body at UWS. While there are many paths to this goal, the question must always be “what actual, long-term benefit will this provide to students?” Too often, I feel that this question has been forgotten, and that students have been looked over for ostensible benefits in other areas.

Having been on the Bankstown Campus Council for a while now, I am aware of how UWS works, and feel that I can bring a valuable, auspicious perspective to any position I hold. This perspective would focus on educational quality and student benefits, and would do my best to make these things a reality.
Jawad AZZI
As the Vice-Chair of Campbelltown SCC in 2013, I have learnt and gained a lot of experience in understanding the needs of students on our campus. Being part of the CSCC in 2013, I have worked with the rest of the council to try and create more of a community at our campus as well as addressing the concerns of students. We have been continually supplying Tea, Coffee and Milo in the student Kitchen as well as having food events throughout the year such as Pizza, Krispy Kreme and Dippin’ Dots as well as the carnival on October 8th.
If elected as a member of CSCC in 2014, I hope to bring even more initiatives to our campus. I hope to make SCC a better-known council that meets the needs of the every student of UWS Campbelltown and encourage better integration with all the UWS campuses. VOTE-1 JAWAD AZZI

Jade MCGINTY
Jade McGinty is an outgoing, sporty, fun-loving second-year.
She plans to become a Primary Teacher specialised in childcare from birth to age 12.
Her five-year double degree is a BA in Social Science leading to Masters of Primary Teaching.
Jade wants to ensure that the BSCC focuses on student needs in order to give all students a real voice.
She plans to work hard to —
Reduce student stress;
Help students who have study, library or management problems;
Foster a happy, engaging Bankstown Campus where all students feel included and get along with one another;
Get more sport involvement;
Take student concerns to UWS Management;
Be a trusted representative for students;
Fight bravely for change that benefits Bankstown;
Make the Bankstown Campus environment safer, healthier, fun, and more inclusive.
If Jade is your representative on the BSCC she will have the power to influence UWS decision-making on your behalf.

Chimezie KINGSLEY
CANDIDATE: CHIMEZIE KINGSLEY (STUDENTS ACTION GROUP - SAG)
I am currently studying Bachelor of Arts – Psychology.
UWS needs a New Approach towards Student Representation, Advocacy and Sustainability on Campus.
I am one of many students who feel the need to fight for real solutions to real issues for a real change for students and our Campuses.
I have participated and given numerous lecture/tutorial announcements about the past rallies on No Cuts, More Funding and Education for All.
I am the President of African Students Association (ASA) across UWS campuses, also a founding member of the Students Action Group, a group of likeminded students from diverse backgrounds with passion for action for real change in our campuses.
SAG has a strong policy agenda built on fighting for a broad range of student issues on campus, developing a stronger role for the SCC and SRC in regard to activism and advocacy.
Action Plan... (CANDIDATE STATEMENT EXCEEDED WORD LIMIT)
Greg PALTAR
I am a proud resident of Western Sydney and have lived in the area for most of my life. By nominating for NUS & Bankstown Student Council, I aim to participate in a more collective student representative body. My underlying values are progressive and I have a vast array of experience in a range of different community organisations. Areas in which I will be seeking to push for reform include textbooks on HECS, smokers rights, access for disabled students, improved parking and a better tutorial registration system. I am a motivated and passionate individual who will work hard for your vote.

Ben PETERSON
My name is Ben, I’m running for Student Action. I’m a first year student in Arts/Teaching at Bankstown. I’m running for the Bankstown Campus council because I’m concerned what’s happening to our education. Universities are increasingly being run like businesses at the expense of students.

Since I’ve started at UWS I’ve been actively campaigning against cuts- including organising students to attend protests against education cuts in the city and on Bankstown campus.

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Manpreet BANGA
My name is Manpreet Banga, aka ‘Banga’, feel free to use at will! I am currently studying Law/Business and Commerce at this great university of ours.

I am running for Campbelltown SRC and NUS! I transferred to this great university from UOW for a higher quality education and to be in the real world, it’s that kind of education we all deserve.

I stand for you! This year I was honoured to be the Chair at Campbelltown Campus and I would love to have the chance to represent you again.

I want to see a fair timetabling system, more engagement of multicultural societies, texts books on HECS, adequate transport measures, adequate student facilities, and more events on campus. A vote for me is a vote for someone who will work hard to represent you and remember a vote for me is a vote for you.

Vote 1 – Manpreet Banga

Marlene CARRASCO
I am Marlene, 3rd year Community Welfare and committed to improving the journey of UWS Students. In my time serving on the SCC and SRC we have gained free bus shuttles, a much needed traffic light ensuring safe crossing, lockers, permanent BBQS. I have served students with lots of FREE food and advocated for numerous students in hardship. I am passionate about working with students and empowering them to take back their power and to take control over student affairs.

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VOTE FOR STUDENT ACTION! because WE ARE... (CANDIDATE STATEMENT EXCEEDED WORD LENGTH)

Mary GIRGIS
I recently saw an article in the Cruwsible about how the student campus council (SCC) managed to create a safe way to cross the road at Bankstown campus. These students came together and lobbied to create this safe space, upon reading this I became ridiculously inspired. I looked at myself and realised that I needed to be a part of the SCC, I needed to stop complaining and start getting things done. These students can look back and see that they did their best, that they fought and won, that they succeeded in being heard. I also want those fond memories. When I read the article I was infused with passion, I came alive, and I realised that I wanted to aid the SCC in any way that I could, that I too wanted to do my absolute best.