

MCC BYTES

30th May 2014



Seen the smashed up car out the front of campus??

Well, we all know how it goes. You didn't mean to drink, but one thing led to another and now you're probably over the limit.

Still thinking of driving home? Think again. Apart from the fact that could end in disaster, the number of mobile RBT out there means you need a plan B!

What's your plan B?

Calling a taxi?

Crashing on a couch? Could be with your mate, your girlfriend, your ex or your next.

Or even just walk.

For more information visit:

http://www.whatsyourplanb.net.au/

http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/campaigns/planb.html

If you would like something posted in the next edition of the Bytes, email your article and photos to mccbytes@gmail.com by 4th July!





18 May 2014

Dear Sussan,

Letter to Sussan Ley regarding 2014 Budget, written by CSU Student Daniel Searle. Daniel would like to encourage other students to write to Sussan Regarding the issue.

I have watched with interest as the Coalition Government announced their first Federal budget and as a rural University student at Charles Sturt University I hold serious concerns about the changes announced to Higher Education.

As the son of dairy farmers from Barham NSW (approx. 300kms west of Albury) and a student with a disability, I am extremely grateful to live in a country where these are not barriers to the opportunity of obtaining a University qualification. At present, neither being from a rural area, a low socio-economic background or having a disability have impacted on my opportunities to access University education. Equally, being able to move to Albury to study rather than Melbourne or Sydney have made it more affordable and made the transition from living at home on the farm to living independently considerably easier. However, I hold genuine trepidation about whether these same opportunities will exist for people like myself if the proposed changes to higher education are passed.

As my elected member for Farrer and the Assistant Minister for Education, I was extremely disappointed that you would support these proposed changes given the impact that they will have on rural students and rural universities. I was also extremely disappointed that you have broken your pre-election commitment of "no cuts to education".

I am surprised that you have made no mention of the changes to University funding and deregulation of the industry in your press release on your website despite this issue being part of your portfolio and the significant impact on future students these changes will have on those in your electorate.

I can appreciate the argument that deregulation of the University sector may be beneficial to those strong and well established research universities, specifically the 'group of 8', But the negative impact on smaller regional institutions such as Charles Sturt will I believe be considerable. Your party's planned changes can only further exaggerate the divide between rural and metropolitan people. On your website you have stated that you are a strong advocate for regional and rural issues especially those that assist in bridging the city versus country divide. Knowing that, I cannot reconcile how in conscience you can support these changes that can only continue to widen the divide.

CSU's Vice Chancellor recently publically commented that the changes you endorsed will have a negative impact on the University but it is unclear how large that impact will be. Irrespective of the future, we already know that Universities have already suffered budget cuts since your government has come to power through removal of SSAF funds.

The increase of the student contribution to course fees will increase by at least 20% and this could result in reduced students being able to afford University education and therefore impacting further on University budgets through reduced student numbers. We also know that through reduced government support the cost of some degrees are highly like to increase significantly for students. For example, under your changes Charles Sturt University has stated that they believe the likely cost of an Agricultural degree will rise from \$27,000 to \$40,000 and the cost of an Environmental science degree will rise by 140%. These are issues and education opportunities that are vitally important to the growth and development of our electorate which you and your party are sabotaging.

I know that if I was leaving Year 12 now, under your proposed changes I would not be able to obtain a University education and as the only person in my family (and the first of my generation) with a tertiary qualification you would effectively be denying that for a generation which would be a tragedy. I fear that if these changes are made you will

be denying many other families an opportunity to ensure a child in their family receives their family's first tertiary qualification.

If you are supportive of rural educational institutions and opportunities for rural students as you say, I would urge you to reconsider your support for these changes. I know you want to do the right thing by your electorate of Farrer but this will not help. Instead, it will further isolate us, limit our opportunities and further widen the divide that exists between city and country. The people of Farrer, the people your represent, did not vote for this.

To my mind, your first priority is to the people of Farrer and the Liberal Party, second. But at the moment all I see and hear are politicians being more concerned about the needs of the party than they are of those of their electorate.

Please reconsider your position on the changes to education and honour your election commitments.

I look forward to your response and am happy to discuss these matters further.



Trivia!

Student have been active this term with some friendly competition, battling it out in Trivia (8^{th} May) and at the Medieval Festival, which followed with an amazing feast back at the G (22^{nd} May).

Great creativity and enthusiasm put into the costumes!!



Netball Grand Final



The **Froffdactyls** defeated the Hot Rods in a close game on Wed 28th at the New Courts on Campus.

Daniel (Ren) Jacobs took out best on court & a \$100 spirit award was given to James McQuillan (which will be donated to his fund)

Presentations, Free Hot Dogs & screening of State of Origin was held back at The G after the game



JOIN THE CSU BLOOD CHALLENGE

Just one blood donation can save the lives of three people and it takes less time than the average trip to the library.

We're running a competition between CSU campuses from 1 March to 1 July 2014 to see who can save the most lives. Turn your university pride into something life-saving and give blood.

To make your donation count towards your campus tally, donate blood between 1 March and 1 July 2014 and sign up to Club Red online.

It's easy:

- 1. Visit donateblood.com.au/clubred
- 'Join' the Charles Sturt University (CSU) group, selecting your campus as a division
- Complete your details

Your group tally will be updated daily, showing the total number of donations for each campus and the number of lives saved.

Roll up your sleeves and give blood together.

Call 13 14 95 or visit donateblood.com.au/clubred



2014 University Council Elections

ELECTION OF STUDENT MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Nominations from eligible students to fill the vacancy on Council have now closed.

Candidates for election are as follows:

STUDENT CANDIDATES

Rowan ALDEN
Trent HAMMOND
James LEMON
Richard MAHER

Please click on the candidate's name to view that person's Candidate Statement.

In accordance with the *Charles Sturt University By-law* 2005, a poll will be conducted of all eligible to vote students on **Thursday 19 June 2014**. Students wishing to vote in the election may vote on the following campuses: Albury, Bathurst, Canberra, Dubbo, Goulburn, Parramatta, Port Macquarie, Ontario, Orange, and Wagga Wagga on Thursday 19 June 2014 **between 10.00am and 4.00pm**. Most polling places will be located in the Library or Learning Commons areas. You will need to present your ID card or other form of identification to vote.

Students unable to vote on campus may vote by post. Please download and complete an Application for Postal Vote or contact the Deputy Returning Officer at lbreen@csu.edu.au to request an application. Applications for Postal Vote must be submitted to the Deputy Returning Officer at: lbreen@csu.edu.au, no later than Friday 6 June 2014 to allow sufficient time to receive and return ballot papers.

Postal votes must be received by the Deputy Returning Officer no later than 4.00pm on Thursday 19 June 2014.

Questions in relation to these elections can be directed to the Deputy Returning Officer, Linda Breen on 02 63384258 or via email to lbreen@csu.edu.au.

http://www.csu.edu.au/division/vcoffice/oca/uc/elections-2014



Thursday

5th June

Rec Space

11:30am-1:30pm

Come over for some FREE hot soup & muffins, courtesy of the CareVan & Chaplaincy Services.

Take part in some stress reduction activities

Be sure to be wearing your 'Onesie' just for the fun of it ⊕











2-6 JUNE 2014







