Welcome to this edition of SRC NEWS. The SRC or Student Representation Committee consists of the Presidents of the four Student Associations at SCU together with elected representatives from across the various student cohorts at SCU. Part of my role at SCU is to work with the SRC and help distribute the funding we receive from the Student Services and Amenities Fee or SSAF. This funding is crucial in supporting the student experience here at SCU through its use in Clubs and Societies including sporting, cultural and well-being focused activities. Some of the activities and events are reflected in this edition of SRC NEWS.

You cannot have failed to notice the great atmosphere at Lismore, Gold Coast and Coffs Harbour during Orientation week and again during Get Connected week this year. This was achieved by the Student Associations working closely with many areas of the University including, UniLife and the Student Engagement & Retention Team, with the support of SSAF funding. I overheard many students comment and also saw postings on Pulse which clearly acknowledged this to be the best O-Week ever! We also delivered a Welcome Pack for all our new students studying by distance and also had campus based ‘Connect and Prepare’ sessions. However, the most excitement seemed to revolve around the return of the Student Diary and Wall Planner; definitely one of the most talked about innovations this year! Now we have to get organized for 2017!

Periodically we survey our students to see how they would like SSAF funding to be spent in line with the allowable categories in the legislation. So later this year we will be conducting a survey and this will be your opportunity to have your say. I strongly encourage you to participate as the findings will influence the funding decisions of the SRC in November this year when all the bids for funding for 2017 are considered.

For now, whichever way you are choosing to study with SCU I hope you are having a great year and enjoy the engagement opportunities offered by the many activities supported by the SRC and through the Student Associations and SCU.

Subject to the SCU Act, any By-Laws of the University and any Rules of the University, the Student Representation Committee is authorised to:

◊ develop recommendations about how SSAF for services to students should be spent. The recommendations will be approved by the Vice Chancellor;

◊ be a recognised means of communication between its various student cohorts and the University to promote harmonious relations between its student cohorts and the University;

◊ represent its student cohorts in matters affecting their educational, social and cultural interests, but excluding those solely or mainly concerned with their religious or political interests;

◊ provide a forum for the dissemination, discussion and debate of information and knowledge about matters of student interest;

◊ promote the participation of their student cohort in, and the consideration of, matters affecting their interests; and

◊ provide a point of contact for advocacy assistance to their student cohorts as required.

The Student Representation Committee must ensure that, at all times, it complies with the HESA, the Representation Guidelines and any other relevant legislation.
Student Associations are funded by the Student Services & Amenities Fund (SSAF) at each campus. They provide the services & activities to the students that also funded by SSAF. Their achievements to follow.....
LEXSA Office

The LEXSA Office has been a hive of activity with:

- Printing and Binding - Students are taking advantage of the cheaper printing and binding prices, the LEXSA office has been very busy with Internal and External Printing.
- LEXSA Memberships – lots of new and current LEXSA members.
- Student Common Rooms – the four common rooms across campus are being well supported, with students enjoying the Computers, lounges, and staples left in the common rooms, for their use.
- LEXSA BBQ’s - running every Wednesday Lunch time with many students turning up to the Plaza for the BBQ, lots of positive feedback, this year we have had new Students joining the LEXSA Crew and volunteering their time with cooking and set up. Live Music is also available, with students performing in the Plaza.
- LEXSA Childcare Rebate assistance – this program has commenced; many students have signed up for the assistance with their Childcare costs.
- First Aid/ CPR Training – two First Aid Courses have already been held on campus with great attendance.

LEXSA Event and social Stuff happening:

O Week

Lismore kicked off with a free pancake breakfast in the Goodman Plaza followed by a Widjabal Welcome to Country and Smoking ceremony. During the week students soaked up a wealth of information whilst socialising and interacting with other students. LEXSA (Lismore and External Student Association) put on a free BBQ lunch with live music and stalls each day, which was an excellent way for students to appreciate just how much the association has to offer.

Geek Out Night

LEXSA and the Uni Bar are co-hosting a monthly "Geek Out Nights"

Come indulge your inner Geek for a night of retro games, happy hour drink prices and delicious nachos! Think old school Playstation, Xbox, Wii, Jenga and some Cards Against Humanity for good balance. Last Friday of the Month from 4pm at the SCU Unibar. Free Entry and Prizes for the gaming champion.
LEXSA Presents: Sombrero and Senoritas - YEO, Nocturnal Tapes and Pretty Visitors

LEXSA was stoked to have Triple J touring act Yeo supported by Nocturnal Tapes (SCU national band comp winners!!) and Pretty Visitors come by the Unibar Lismore for our Sombreros & Senoritas night on the 10th March from 8.30pm. Free for all Students. Taco’ bout a great time!

SCU Community Garden Meet Up

LEXSA had its first community garden meet up/working bee for the year last Thursday (17.03.16) which was a great success! Students got their hands dirty cleaning up the garden and enjoyed a delicious pizza lunch for their efforts.

SCUSM - Southern Cross University Magazine

SCUSM is an independently run magazine, published by and for the students of Southern Cross University (SCU). The magazine is available online and will be launching soon. A print issue will be distributed bi-monthly at Gold Coast, Lismore, Coffs Harbor, Sydney, and Melbourne campuses. SCUSM’s proud goal is to provide a relevant, important, and unique outlook on (and about) all-things-student.

For more information or to get involved email Claudia editorinchief@scusm.com.au

SOMANTIX Student Podcast

Produced by a group of Osteo and Media students. It recognises and discusses the huge opportunity studying at SCU offers, not only for Osteopathy students in Australia, but for varied disciplines and faculties, and we want to exchange ideas and expand our understanding by opening up dialogue with these people. Podcast available: https://www.facebook.com/somantixpodcast/timeline

Easter Morning Tea/ Easter Egg Hunt

LEXSA and Student Advocacy jointly hosted a morning tea for Lismore Campus Students, with entertainment, lots of Easter Eggs and goodies for them to enjoy.

Coming up:

- LEXSA Stress Less Day - beat exam stress with a day of relaxing activities 18.05.16
- BBQ and Beats every Wednesday of session
ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2015

♦ Introduction of new CoastRs Clubs and Societies
  - Education Society
  - Hula Group
  - Surfing Society

♦ Our Midwifery Society are hosting an inaugural ‘Day of the Midwife’ event in May, 2016. They have secured key note speakers, ran their own advertising campaign, secured giveaways from well know companies such as Huggies, Bonds, baby product lines etc.

♦ In collaboration with UniLife there was an inaugural Gold Coast v Lismore Rugby match at Currumbin

♦ Introduction of new Committee with a vast array of International Students

♦ Successful and sold out Annual Gala Ball

♦ Community Partner Relationships:
  - Timezone Coolangatta
  - Hogs breath Cafe Coolangatta
  - Study Gold Coast
  - Air Factory
  - Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary
  - Hard Rock Cafe
  - Beaches Cafe on Kirra

♦ Signed up over 500 CoastRs Members for 2016
Hello there from the Southern Cross Postgraduate Association (SCPA)!

We have currently entered into our third full year of operations with a part-time presence on each Campus. We have hit the ground running for 2016 by successfully engaging in all of the SCU orientation events and those more specifically for our Postgrad Students. It is our aim to create awareness to all of our On-Campus and external students about the support services we provide them during their precious postgrad years.

We are looking forward to a year of improvements and growth within the Associations’ service delivery to our SCU Postgrad Students. Concentrating more resources into the flexible delivery of our Workshops and Training Programs. Developing and designing specific parallel programs that support the needs of our students, so they can confidently achieve their research goals. We are also finding that there is increasing demand on our FREE Helpline service to provide experienced support for the very varied and specific issues that can impact the outcomes for our Postgrad students. With relevance to this, we are also continuing our Exceptional Circumstances funding assistance to students who are at high risk of incompletion due to financial constraints. These are just some of the support strategies that we will be improving for 2016.

It has been well overdue, especially in the digital world as it stands today, so we are currently in the process of producing a fresh new website with additional functionality and content, to better engage with all of our stakeholders. Alongside all of the great website improvements will be a new look logo and Facebook page to ensure all of our students can identify us amongst other SCU services and also stay up to date with all things SCPA and more. Increasing our reach to all of our Postgraduate students and providing the opportunity to participate in our growth, as a service, is key to the support we strive to provide them.

On our website the SCPA has already announced the call for abstracts and presenters to our Annual 2016 Research and Practice Conference to be held at the Coffs Harbour Campus on June 16th and 17th. It is one of our biggest events all year and the SCPA team are currently very focussed on the organisation of what looks to be the most successful Conference we’ve had to date. We encourage anyone interested in presenting or being an audience member to visit our website www.scpa.net.au or contact us on 02 6659 3900 / scpa-admin@scu.edu.au for further details. This specialised event aims directly towards skills development, networking, research support and publishing student research.

The SCPA has always been designed to be a service by students for students and its core value is to support students to succeed. If you’d like to become a member of our service (It’s FREE to join) we’d encourage you to visit our website to fill on our online form or email scpa-admin@scu.edu.au. Alternatively if you are in need of further support please call our free Helpline on 1300 654 830 and one of our experienced staff will assist you with your inquiry.
COFFS HARBOUR STUDENT ASSOCIATION

After a restructure of the Student Association at the end of 2015, CHSA have been busy getting things done for their students.

There have been a number of exciting things that have been happening at the CHSA over the past months.

Uni Lounge:
The final approval for the renovations for the Uni Lounge have gone ahead, which will see the installation of air-conditioning and computers, along with a general revamp of what was previously known as the Unibar/Quiet Space.

Weekly Lunches:
The weekly lunches have been hugely successful, with each week having a different option for food that has been greatly received, for example, this week we have a French Toast day, and next week we will have a pasta and salad day on Tuesday.

Orientation Week:
Orientation Week at Coffs Harbour Campus was greatly successful, with the CHSA signing up 230 new members, plus our free totes bag was very popular!
You are invited to a screening of ‘The Hunting Ground’ which is a documentary about sexual assault on U.S. university campuses. The screening is part of The Hunting Ground Australia Project which is working with Universities Australia as part of a unified campaign around the incidence of, and responses to, sexual violence in Australian universities. The campaign has a number of streams including an independent national survey which will take place later in the year. Universities Australia have also launched their ‘Respect. Now. Always.’ campaign which always aims to prevent sexual violence and assault.

The Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education) has been working with key stakeholders at SCU, including the Student Associations, to ensure a unified approach to our engagement with this issue. The screening will include a brief introduction to the documentary which will be followed by the screening (approx. 1 hour). After the screening a panel discussion will be held with relevant experts with the opportunity for the audience to discuss their reactions to the film. Should anyone feel affected by the film there will be private space with counsellors available to offer support.

To register for one of the screening please go to the relevant Campus below:

**Lismore:**

**Gold Coast:**

**Coffs Harbour:**

**Melbourne:**

**Sydney:**