

## Media Release Creation of a New University

Last night students and staff were notified that the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide have agreed to proceed with the creation of a new university, *Adelaide University*.

One of USASA's core values is the promotion of equity and access within the education sector, and are pleased to see that this will be one of the core missions of the new institution.

A new university has the potential to grant students from all backgrounds access to a higher quality education, have a richer university experience and contribute to their fields through research in new and exciting ways. However, these outcomes are not to be taken for granted, and much work must be done to ensure they are achieved.

Over the past few years, UniSA has embraced the role of the student voice in decision-making at all levels of the University. This must continue in the new institution and is an integral part of ensuring it realises its full potential.

Students are and always will be the single largest stakeholder in any University, and embedding the student voice at all levels of decision-making is necessary to fully realise the potential of this new institution.

A new institution will present new challenges, but this transition process gives an opportunity to address many existing struggles faced by students on a daily basis.

USASA will continue to hold the Universities and the Government accountable throughout the transition process and ensure that no students are left behind.

USASA will always advocate on behalf of and seek to empower students to shape their university journey.

## **Quotes attributable to Isaac Solomon**

"While this new institution presents the potential for a vast number of improvements to the education sector in SA, these are not to be taken for granted. There is still a lot of work ahead, and it must be done with students in mind.

"In recent years, UniSA has done a fantastic job in embedding the student voices at all levels of university decision-making. The continuation of this is integral to realising the potential of the new university.

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"The people who live and breathe University life every day are the best placed to create something newer and better, and the institutions would benefit greatly from recognising this.

"While this is an exciting time, it's also an anxious and confusing time for many students and staff, and we need to be fully aware of this as we progress with the transition.

"We are going to be working collaboratively with both universities and the government to ensure that Adelaide University offers the best possible student experience and the highest quality education".

"The potential opportunities for both contributions through research and for students to gain meaningful and fulfilling employment is not to be understood though this means taking a student-centric approach to designing the new institution".

"I would caution members of State Parliament against playing politics with this issue."

"We all have a job to inform ourselves about exactly what this means for the state, but seeking to undermine the process will only hurt students."

## **Contact**

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