Joint statement from SUPRA and the SRC: improving food on campus at the University of Sydney

The University of Sydney will launch $5 hot lunches from August 2025 and is planning to develop a low-cost canteen, set to open in 2026 – marking a major reform.

SUPRA and the SRC have consistently advocated for better, cheaper, and more accessible food and drink on campus. In March 2025, PG Senate Fellow and SUPRA Education Officer Weihong Liang submitted a proposal to the University Senate, suggesting that a canteen is the most effective way to deliver subsidies directly through affordable, quality meals for students and staff.

The University Senate expressed its support for improving campus food provision. Following this, the University launched a program of work led by Vice-President Operations, Nicole Gower, to drive food reform across the entire campus. The University considers this initiative a priority in enhancing the student experience – aiming to make the campus a better place to learn, connect and grow.

In April 2025, the University conducted benchmarking visits to peer institutions. In May, it established the Campus F&B Advisory Group, with Weihong Liang and SRC President Angus Fisher appointed as the postgraduate and undergraduate student representatives. The group has since worked closely with Infrastructure, Student Life, University of Sydney Union (USU), and University executives to develop and deliver a range of initiatives to improve food on campus.

SUPRA and the SRC believe that campus food must be treated as a core public service. Affordable, nutritious and culturally inclusive meals are essential to a fair and supportive learning environment.

Students thank the University for its commitment to meaningful reform, which reflects what is possible when student voices are heard and acted upon – and sets a strong foundation for lasting change.

SUPRA Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association

STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL