UTS STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Our voice. Our way. Our SA.



Each year in October, student elections are held by the UTS Students' Association (UTSSA) for the Students' Representative Council (SRC) and National Union of Students (NUS).

Voting will be held for the following contested positions

President
General Secretary
Assistant General Secretary
Education Officer
Welfare Officer
Postgraduate Officer (Identified)
Women's Officer (Identified)
International Students' Officer (Identified)
Indigenous Officer (Identified)
14 General Members of Council
7 Delegates to the National Union of Students

There will be no elections for the Vertigo editorial team this year.

Who can vote

Student members of the UTSSA are entitled to vote in person for any elections they are eligible to nominate for.

If you wish to vote, please bring a physical or digital student ID to the polling booths to be checked against the electoral roll.

When and where to vote

Polling will be open from **10:30AM to 5:30PM** across Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 20-22 October at:

- **Building 2, Level 4**
  (along the escalator in The Hub)
- **Building 6, Level 4**
  (near the stairs and escalators)
- **Building 10, Level 2**
  (near IT Support)
- **Building 11, Level 2**
  (near elevators at Jones Street entry)

1:30PM to 2:30PM is a **'Quiet voting'** period for students where no campaigning in the vicinity is allowed.

Complaints

Complaints from the student body and public should be directed to J. Hoang, the Returning Officer at electoral.business@gmail.com.

What is the UTSSA?

Run by students, for students, the UTSSA is funded here to represent, support and advocate for the UTS student body.

The UTSSA wants to ensure that your voice is heard at the highest levels of the university and delivers a number of student support services including Academic Advocacy and Advice, Peer Tutoring, Bluebird and Night Owl, Food Pantry, and Vertigo publications.

Part of your Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) goes towards funding the UTSSA.

What is the SRC?

The SRC is a team of students elected each year by the student body to represent all UTS students and act as the peak governing body for the UTSSA. Its role is to represent student issues, run campaigns on student initiatives, participate in national education campaigns, support safer spaces on campus, lobby for the reduction of course fees, provide a strategic direction for the UTSSA and ensure that students are represented at all decision-making levels at UTS. These are discussed and voted on at monthly meetings.

What is the NUS?

The NUS is the peak representative and advocacy body for higher education students in Australia, representing over 1,000,000 students. The NUS is established on the principles of student unionism and its primary objectives include working for the interest of students in improving quality of education, academic freedom, access to education, social security, health and welfare.

The NUS uses the affiliation fee paid by universities to enable student-elected National Office Bearers to campaign for issues that affect universities nationwide. As well as lobbying and protesting, the NUS holds an annual National Conference where student activists advocate for policies.

List Statements

Collective Action



Policy statement

Your university education is increasingly essential to get into work. And the living and learning conditions for your education, and survival to fund and support yourself for that education, are overbearing, direful and grim – as working students and workers in training, we share this interest, like that among fellow workers on the shop floors of our workplaces, facing brutal working conditions, exploitation and wages below inflation that we're expected to accept from our bosses. It's only through collective action that we can bargain and struggle till self-emancipation.

Today, appalling decisions by UTS management, in multimillion-dollar partnerships with corporate financial consultants, have cut the jobs of many UTS tutors, lecturers, services staff, professionals, academics, fellow researchers, and workers who run the university. And management has cut many of our courses, and whole areas in nursing, teaching and international studies, in an attack on our education. Management likes to say that this is for "cost-cutting," and "sustaining" operations. This only furthers the commercial interests of UTS, and other universities, committed to the neoliberalisation of their institutions, putting profit over the interests of students and workers, as we continue to experience the fallout of these cuts and restructures.

This all, of course, bypasses many other concerns of students and workers, like the poverty we're in to fund our education and survive, and austerity measures especially for many who are studying and welfare recipients; the supply of destructive, water-guzzling AI tech for UTS; undemocratic and poor UTS governance; threats to, or no guaranteed funding for, services like that for UTS Child Care for some time; hikes in international students' fees; racism, bigotry and sexual and domestic violence, and rape on campus; university complicity in genocide and climate collapse through partnerships with weapons companies, big tech, Zionist aparthied against Palestinians, and Australian imperialist wars through UTS's partnerships with the ADF for government funding; and many more concerns in the broader community, like the rise of Pauline Hanson's One Nation, the far right, and neo-Nazi organisations.

Student unions, like the UTS Students' Association, fight on many of these issues and provide many much-needed services for students' academic experience and day-to-day needs. But they're often not serious political organisations or organs for mass struggles. Much of this is owed to how student unions are run today under Howard-era legislation that Labor has refused to repeal since. It has atomised student unionism and mass participation in these student organisations behind desk dividers.

Since then, to remain functional, the UTSSA must sign a Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with UTS management for only a percentage of your student services and amenities fees, rather than students having total say on the services we pay for. It means student unions lose their independence and must continually toe the university line for fear of riling management, especially when their SPA is set to expire, and are due for a new agreement, as is the case next year during this upcoming election term. So who you vote for in this election, no matter who replaces them in the coming years after, can determine how much the union can improve your living and learning conditions. And negotiations aren't looking great under the status quo Labor Right-run Student Reps. Council (SRC) of the UTSSA.

LIST STATEMENT

A principled, left-wing student union with a majority left bloc on the SRC, that's independent of Labor and party governments, builds stronger, fighting mass student movements, which'll be the crucial bargaining chip against management for a better funding agreement, as protest can sway enrolments and the public image.

We're running socialists and working students, to take the helm on the UTSSA Executive and in Office-Bearer positions on the SRC, to fight for. Alongside a better SPA deal for students, we're fighting for:

- Streamlined and UTSSA-provided food vouchers, $50 emergency grants, and Opal transfer credit to get home, no approvals necessary.
- Stopping the supply of destructive, water-guzzling AI for UTS; keeping Gen AI off student services; mass, collective action against destructive AI partnerships at UTS.
- A better deal for students. We'll fight at the bargaining table for more funding for your student union and, as a result, better student services in the upcoming Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with UTS management.
- Greater, stronger representation; 50 student reps. (instead of the current 25) for 50,000+ enrolled students.
- Real autonomy for student collectives; UTSSA Office-Bearers preselected by their collectives; UTSSA Co-Officers; and co-convenors for student collectives, regardless of whether Office-Bearers are elected.
- Video games from the UTS Library, and physical, borrowable copies for 6th (PS2, GameCube and Xbox), 7th (Xbox 360, PS3, and Wii), and 8th (PS4) generation video game consoles.

As the climate worsens dramatically, atop schemes on building hundreds of loud, energy-guzzling data centres across this continent, pushing greater demand and the opening of more fossil-fuel plants. As the genocide in Gaza goes on after a so-called "ceasefire." As cuts to university funding and courses continue, and attacks on the working conditions of UTS staff and workers everywhere are unrelenting. The political work of on-campus, grassroots, and community organising becomes more important. In community action groups and student union collectives, like UTSSA's Collectives at UTS, it starts with participating in and being the change you support, and it starts with taking collective action.

Vote for Collective Action on the UTSSA Executive:
VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for PRESIDENT.
VOTE [1] KRISHAANG MOHAN GOWDA for GENERAL SECRETARY
VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WELFARE OFFICER

Vote for Collective Action for UTSSA Office-Bearers:
VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for POSTGRADUATE OFFICER
VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WOMEN'S OFFICER

Collective Action

Authorised by Rohen Snowball, FDS II

FIRE UP!



Policy statement

FIRE UP! For UTSSA & NUS
Who are we?

FIRE UP! is a team of dedicated and passionate students working to make the UTSSA a strong and effective UTSSA that opposes cuts, stands up for students, provides key services, and improves uni life. Our team is a mix of experienced leaders and new voices, ready to bring both proven experience and expertise and fresh ideas and energy to the UTSSA.

Our Achievements
The FIRE UP! team consists of experienced activists and student leaders, with a strong track record of working inside and outside of university bureaucracy to deliver real results for students.

Our record of achievements includes (but is not limited to!):

- A 3-day simple extension process across faculties with no documentation required;
- A single point-of-contact case management system for sexual harm reporting at UTS, allowing the hiring of four new staff members;
- Securing the expansion of blue bird brekky to a 5-day a week program, beginning next year.
- Standardised 11:59pm submission times across faculties;
- Successfully cut ties with Technion, by protesting and bringing student momentum to UTS Management;
- Pressuring the university to improve access to GP and counselling services on campus.

Our Platform
With the cost of living on the rise and degrees being cut left, right and centre, it has never been harder to be a university student. FIRE UP!'s ambitious platform outlines what our priorities will be on next year's UTSSA.

Making Academic Life Easier
Supporting students to achieve their full potential over their time at uni.

- 5 Day Simple Extensions and Expanding Simple Extensions to include quizzes; Bringing UTS up to national standards and giving students more flexibility with their assignments.
- Mandatory feedback must be provided for final exams; so students can learn from their performance and understand their results.
- Banning High Schools students from the Library during exam periods; prioritising university services for university students.
- Recorded Tutorials and sharing of Tutorial Slides; giving students more options with their education.
- Ensure subsidised textbooks for students and increase the number of free textbooks per student in each class; addressing the financial burden of required course materials.
- Banning AI lecture slides; students deserve the education they're paying for.

Cost of Living Support
Keeping uni affordable and reducing financial pressure on students.

- Fully funded 5-day's a week night owl noodles; building on our existing work securing a permanent space for night owl noodles, FIRE UP! will strive to ensure no UTS student goes hungry while pursuing their education.
- Free uniforms for nursing students; if the university's going to demand uniforms the least they can do is pay for them.
- Increase night class offerings; giving more flexibility for students who are working and studying.
- More Period Products on campus; ensuring no student suffers from period poverty.
- Expanding the free HIV testing programs; bringing in more HIV

testing kit machines to ensure students can look after their sexual health without worrying about how much it's gonna cost them.
- Donation Bin for Labcoats; reducing pressure on science students and protecting the environment by recycling lab coats.
- Improving the quality and accessibility of GP and Mental Health Services on campus; helping students access affordable, timely care and support without excessive waiting times or barriers.
- More bubblers on campus; and ensuring the ones we currently have are properly maintained and pressurised.

Improving UTS Housing
Holding UTS Housing accountable and fighting against surging rental fees.
- Fight for affordable, safe, and accessible student housing that doesn't exploit students' need for accommodation;
- Remove reapplication fees for UTS housing – students shouldn't be penalised financially for wanting to continue their accommodation;
- Ensure apartments are cleaned and checked for defects before students move in, providing basic standards of habitability;
- Ensure accountability for exterior events held outside student housing that may impact residents;
- Implement standardised visitor processes that balance security with students' right to have guests;
- Push for fair rent, stronger tenant protections, and investment in UTS residences rather than continued sell-offs and rent increases.

Supporting International Students
Fighting for a UTSSA that supports and values international students, and standing against corporate university structures that treat international students merely as income generators.
- Deliver compulsory racism modules and training for staff and students to create a more inclusive campus environment;
- Campaign to reduce international student visa prices that create financial barriers to education;
- Fight for full Opal card concessions for international students, ensuring equal access to public transport.

Progress your worldview
FIRE UP! believes that the university's policies should reflect the views of its students, including supporting human rights and standing in solidarity with oppressed peoples internationally.
- Cutting ties with private weapons manufacturers and defence contractors; FIRE UP! opposes UTS's ties and partnerships with weapons companies, such as Thales and Lockheed Martin, which promote militarism worldwide and provide equipment used by the IDF in their campaign of ethnic cleansing in Palestine.
- Opposing Partnerships with IDF linked institutions; In 2025, the UTSSA led a very successful campaign that forced UTS to break its partnership with Technion, a university that provides research support to IDF military operations. FIRE UP! will continue this work by putting pressure on the university to break ties with any and all institutions supporting the IDF or other military organisations operating in violation of international law and human rights.
- Standing in solidarity with Palestine; Through hosting fundraising events for NGOs and supporting Palestine students and refugees studying at UTS, FIRE UP! will ensure the UTSSA's long standing support for the nation and people of Palestine continues.

Creating a university fit for the 21st century.
The rise of AI and online exams poses an existential threat to the quality of university education. Yet, in other areas, UTS remains backwards and inefficient compared to our contemporaries. FIRE UP! YOUR UTSSA will fight for a university that is modern and digital, but keeps student experience and education at its heart.
- Integrating AI in a way that protects staff jobs, improves student's education, and includes a protected

right to opt out; AI in the university sector has the potential to be of great benefit by reducing the time staff spend on admin work and increasing students' access to information. As UTS prepares its first AI Policy, FIRE UP! will fight for responsible AI use that works alongside staff to improve students education, and protecting a right for contentious objection for students concerned about the environmental and social effects of AI.

- Ending Proctor U for exams; online proctoring treats students like suspects, rather than learners. AI passed ‘flagging’ can result in exams results being held up for months, causing stress and uncertainty for students.
- Fix ongoing issues with UTS WiFi, EdSTEM, and Okta Verify; students should be able to study without having to approve an Okta Verify notification every time they want to access Canvas.
- Implement a digital student ID; Streamlining campus services and eliminating the need for students to carry around an easily loseable physical ID.

Why Fire UP!?
UTS is at a tipping point. The chaos caused by the cuts pushed by university management in 2025 and the strong backlash from students and the wider community has given students unprecedented momentum. At the same time, university life has never been harder, cost of living is growing more difficult every day, and forces remain within the university that seek to increase class sizes, reduce courses, and run UTS as a purely profit-making operation.

Now more than ever, it is so important to have a strong and effective UTSSA that can shift the balance of power back towards students, bringing in key academic policies and cost of living supports so that students can learn, have a social life, and thrive during their time at university.

FIRE UP! ’s record speaks for itself, our team has been responsible for some of the biggest student wins over the last few years, including simple extensions, trauma-informed sexual assault reporting, and securing the expansion of the UTSSA’s food services to five days a week. FIRE UP!is the ticket that will not accept declining educational standards and harder student life, but will fight for the UTS you deserve.

A UTS that puts students first, not profits. A UTS capable of giving students a quality education, while providing students with the support necessary to focus on studying without having to worry about financial pressures.
We are fighting for the UTS you deserve.

FIRE UP! Your UTSSA by voting 1 FIRE UP! at elections over 20th-22nd October.

Ready to bring proven experience, fresh energy, and unwavering commitment to student advocacy.

VOTE [1] FIRE UP! FOR UTSSA
VOTE [1] FIRE UP! FOR NUS
VOTE [1] SINA AFSHARMEHR FOR PRESIDENT
VOTE [1] CAM PEREZ FOR GENERAL SECRETARY
VOTE [1] EAMONN RYAN FOR ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY
VOTE [1] GRACE COLE FOR WELFARE OFFICER
VOTE [1] MENATH JAYAWARDANA FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS’ OFFICER
VOTE [1] WILL REID FOR POSTGRADUATE OFFICER
VOTE [1] FRANCESCA HARRISON FOR WOMEN’S OFFICER
VOTE [1] AMELIA IRELAND FOR INDIGENOUS OFFICER



LEFT ACTION

Policy statement

Maoism, Trotskyism and Stalinism are different interpretations of Marxism, but they share several important similarities. All three ideologies are based on opposition to capitalism and the belief that society should ultimately be transformed into socialism. Mao, Trotsky and Stalin all believed that revolutionary change was necessary and that a strong political organisation was needed to lead and protect the revolution.

Another major similarity is their emphasis on class struggle. Each ideology viewed history as a conflict between different social classes and argued that capitalism exploited workers. They also believed that socialism required significant changes to economic and political structures, including greater collective or state control of the economy.

Maoism and Stalinism were particularly similar in their support for a powerful communist party and a highly organised state. Both Mao and Stalin also promoted rapid industrialisation and collectivisation, although these policies were carried out differently in China and the Soviet Union. Trotskyism differed by opposing Stalin’s increasing centralisation of power and arguing for international “permanent revolution".

Despite these differences, all three movements sought to create socialist societies through revolutionary political action. Their shared opposition to capitalism, belief in class struggle, and commitment to revolutionary socialism demonstrate the significant ideological similarities between Maoism, Trotskyism and Stalinism.

That is why we need decisive LEFT ACTION that unites the love of communism from Mao, Stalin and Trotsky.

F*CK ONE NATION



Authorised by Lauren Finlayson, Comms I

Policy statement

Remember when Pauline Hanson warned that Australia was being “swamped by Asians”? Or when it turned into threats about being “swamped by Muslims”? When she told Mehreen Faruqi to “pack your bags and piss off back to Pakistan”? Now, Hanson's greatest enemy is apparently the concept of a multicultural society - as well as the working class, women, LGBTQI+ people...

We're students who want to fight far-right, billionaire-backed bigots like Hanson. They've spent decades recycling the same tired formula: find a minority, and blame them for society's problems. F*ck that. Pauline Hanson should have retired sometime around the invention of the iPhone.

We’re sick of the idea that students should stay in our lane while politicians decide what kind of society we get to live in. Migrants belong here. Muslim women can make decisions about what they wear without parliamentary supervision. Workers should get more money, billionaires should get less, and universities should educate people rather than turn a massive profit.

If you agree, vote [1] F*CK ONE NATION.

Grassroots 4 SRC

Policy Statement

The grassroots movement is about being left-wing, independent experienced activists who embody grassroot organising principles. Grassroots for your SRC are a collective of broadly left and socialist activist individuals who believe in standing up for what is right and pushing against the systems that hold us back. This means mobilising students both on and off campus to fight for what we believe is right. We have seen what a truly grassroot led student union can achieve with the University of Sydney just down the road. As their 2026 president states, “Students need and deserve an SRC president who is principled, left wing, socialist, doing the work and getting shit done.” and that is what the movement is all about.

We are an organisation built on solidarity and solo-darity, we are not connected with any existing political parties, in fact we strongly oppose them. We do not align with the ideas of a political party, we believe that left-wing activism is about bringing all different broadly left views together to fight for real change.

We will run on these key policies
STUDENT HEALTH
GRASSROOT ORGANISING
AFFORDABILITY

Student health is of utmost importance, we believe that n95’s should be provided to all students.

Grassroots organising, we will continue to run a grassroots organisation. We will run weekly meetings on the alumni green, making sure the grass, and our numbers, are standing tall and looking lusciously green.

Affordability, campus life is simply too expensive. We will endeavour to make sure the UTSSA obtains its very own completely vegan and socialistically run convenience store where people can get all the oat milk they need.

If you want to stand up for what is right.
VOTE [1] GRASSROOTS.

Social Justice



Policy statement

Social Justice is a team of left-wing activists. We think our student union should campaign for students’ interests and take up the fight for a better world.

Far right parties are on the rise, including One Nation in Australia. Student fees are constantly increasing for domestic and international students. The cost of living crisis is forcing students into poverty, and welfare and wages aren't keeping up. The sickening genocide in Gaza has continued for three years - and both UTS and our government are complicit. UTS management is cutting courses and sacking staff.

For years, we've been the key activists at UTS. We've organised student protests against Pauline Hanson. We've convened the Students for Palestine collective on campus, and fought for our university to cut ties with weapons companies supplying Israel's genocide in Gaza. We've run the Stop the Cuts campaign to fight management's prioritisation of profits over our education.

Social Justice isn’t affiliated with either of the major political parties. Our student union shouldn’t just be a place for future politicians to pad their CVs. We want a progressive, democratic union that fights for our future. If we're elected, we'll fight for free education, a free Palestine, and an end to the racist, far-right politics that's becoming mainstream in our society and finding its way onto our campuses. Vote [1] Social Justice.

President

Rohen Snowball

Collective Action



Hiii! My name is Rohen Snowball, and I'm a part-time postgraduate research student in the School of Design at UTS. I'm a welfare recipient on JobSeeker. I'm a dedicated grassroots political organiser and queer community activist, and active in campaigns for queer rights and education action in student collectives on campus. I've been a proud member of the Retail and Fast-Food Workers' Union. And I'm running with COLLECTIVE ACTION for the President of the UTS Students' Association.

Your university education is increasingly essential to get into work. And the living and learning conditions for your education, and survival to fund and support yourself for that education, are overbearing, direful and grim – as working students and workers in training, we share this interest, like that among fellow workers on the shop floors of our workplaces, facing brutal working conditions, exploitation and wages below inflation that we're expected to accept from our bosses. It's only through collective action that we can bargain and struggle till self-emancipation.

Today, appalling decisions by UTS management, in multimillion-dollar partnerships with corporate financial consultants, have cut the jobs of many UTS tutors, lecturers, services staff, professionals, academics, fellow researchers, and workers who run the university. And management has cut many of our courses, and whole areas in nursing, teaching and international studies, in an attack on our education. Management likes to say this is for "cost-cutting," and "sustaining" operations. This only serves to further the commercial interests of UTS and other universities committed to the neoliberalisation of their institutions, putting profit over the interests of students and workers, as we continue to experience the fallout of these cuts and restructures.

This all, of course, adds to the many other concerns of students and workers that management likes to bypass:

- The poverty we endure as students, from undergrad to mature age, to postgrad coursework, to PhD candidates, with stipends below standard and lower than those of universities down the road – this, and the low social wages we might receive on welfare payments, are austerity measures.
- Management itself has been under righteous scrutiny by the NSW Government for its corporate managerialism, poor governance, and the self-appointed, undemocratic leadership of the UTS Council, the governing body of UTS.
- Racism, bigotry, sexual and domestic violence, and rape on campus and in our local community.
- UTS and university complicity in genocide and climate collapse through partnerships with weapons companies, big tech, Zionist apartheid against Palestinians, and Australian imperialist wars through UTS's partnerships with the ADF for government funding.

Student unions, like the UTSSA, fight on many of these issues, and provide many much-needed services for students' academic experience and day-to-day needs. But they're often not serious political organisations or organs of mass struggle capable of fighting for necessary social change, material reforms, and building workers' and students' power. Much of this is owed to the way student unions are run today, following anti-student organisation

laws of the Howard era that Labor has refused to repeal since, only reintroducing student fees to fund student organisations and services, with the caveat that it goes to a wide range of services aside from what goes to the student union and services it decides fees go to. It has atomised student unionism and mass participation in these student organisations, behind desk dividers. Since then, to remain functional, the UTSSA must sign a Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with UTS management for only a percentage of your student services and amenities fees that the UTSSA has to bargain for, rather than students having total say on what we pay for. It means student unions lose their independence and must continually toe management's line for fear of riling them, especially when their SPA is set to expire and are due for a new agreement, as is the case next year, during this upcoming election term. So, who you vote for in this election, no matter who replaces them in the coming years, can determine how much the union can improve your living and learning conditions. And negotiations aren't looking great under the status quo, Labor Right-run Students' Representative Council (SRC) of the UTSSA.

This election, you have a choice between status quo leadership, or a fighting, democratic, left-wing change – a principled, socialist SRC, with a majority left bloc, that's independent of Labor and party governments. An SRC that can build stronger, fighting mass student movements, which'll be the crucial bargaining chip against management for a better funding agreement.

COLLECTIVE ACTION are running socialists and working students, to take the helm on the UTSSA Executive and in Office-Bearer positions on the SRC. We're fighting for:

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- Greater, stronger representation; 50 student reps. (instead of the current 25) for 50,000+ enrolled students.
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VOTE for 'COLLECTIVE ACTION' on the UTSSA EXECUTIVE:
—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for PRESIDENT.
—— VOTE [1] KRISHAANG MOHAN GOWDA for GENERAL SECRETARY.
—— VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WELFARE OFFICER.

VOTE for 'COLLECTIVE ACTION' for UTSSA OFFICE-BEARERS:
—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for POSTGRADUATE OFFICER.
—— VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WOMEN'S OFFICER.

Vincent Jiang

Independent



I am Vincent Jiang, a Bachelor of Information Technology (Co-op) student, and I am running for President because UTSSA already delivers valuable services, but too many students only discover them when they are already struggling. The President should lead the Association, coordinate its advocacy and services, and take student concerns directly into university decision-making.

First, I will make academic advocacy easier to access. UTSSA employs professional advocates who assist with assessment disputes, misconduct allegations, special consideration and exclusion appeals, but these processes remain intimidating and confusing. I will work with the Advocacy Service to publish short, plain-English guides showing each process, key deadlines, what evidence may be needed and how to book confidential support. I will also take recurring procedural problems to the relevant UTS committees and press for clearer decisions, consistent timelines and accessible communication.

Second, I will protect and improve UTSSA's cost-of-living support. Bluebird Brekkie, Night Owl Noodles and the Bluebird Pantry provide direct help, but limited opening times, weekly registration and reliance on donated stock can restrict access. I will review service demand with staff and students, publish clear information about availability, and pursue additional SSAF funding, food-rescue partnerships and donations where demand exceeds capacity.

I will push UTS management on the issues it controls, including affordable food, suitable campus spaces and accessible hardship support, rather than pretending UTSSA can solve rent or living costs alone.

Third, I will make representation and spending easier to scrutinise. SRC meetings occur monthly, yet students should not need to search through lengthy minutes to understand what happened. I will introduce concise monthly updates listing motions passed, actions assigned, progress made and matters raised with UTS. I will also build on recent reforms to SSAF consultation by advocating for student priorities, allocation decisions and service outcomes to be communicated publicly in a form students can understand.

Fourth, I will establish a reliable pathway from student feedback to action. Students will be able to submit issues through a simple, accessible channel, with recurring concerns grouped and reported without exposing personal information. Collective representatives and affected students will be consulted before UTSSA adopts a position. Issues within UTSSA's authority will receive a clear response; university matters will be formally raised with management; and matters outside either body's control will be referred honestly to the appropriate service or organisation.

My experience supporting concurrent projects and improving internal systems at the Reserve Bank of Australia has taught me that good intentions require documentation, follow-through and accountability. My work with UTS student societies has also shown me the importance of communication that reaches students where they are.

I am asking for your support to lead a UTSSA that protects its existing services, explains what it is doing and turns student concerns into practical, traceable action.

Sina Afsharmehr

FIRE UP!



Hi all! I'm Sina, a third year Law and Business (Economics) student running to be your President with Fire Up!

Over the past two years, I have had the pleasure of serving as Environment and Technology Officer and then as Welfare Officer. Over this time, I have done what I can to make sure that the concerns of students are taken seriously by university management and that the support students get from our union continues to expand. There is still work to do and I am running to build on all of the things that I have already started.

In my time on council, I have seen how important our free food services are to so many students, especially during a cost of living crisis where your next meal can be such a big issue. I have worked to make these services more accessible by expanding food options in the pantry and extending hours during Ramadan, and in the coming year, I will oversee the implementation of a permanent food space and the expansion of days that these services run, so that getting access to healthy food is never a barrier that stops anyone from accessing university.

In my various roles, I have sat on numerous university boards that deal with the whole of issues that comprise the student experience at UTS. Over this time, I have learned the importance of using my place in these spaces as student representative to push university management to consider the interests of students when it comes to issues such as exam fairness, sustainability and the quality of healthcare on campus. As President, I will continue to fight for our interests as students when dealing with university management, being staunchly and vocally in favour of more exam fairness, the end of ProctorU, more sustainability, more accessibility, more accountability on the part of management, more free speech and better representation of marginalised groups at every possible opportunity.

For better or for worse, just sitting in meetings will never be enough to achieve all of the goals of the SA. I have been a part of our union's activism for many years now, having participated in many protests for a free Palestine, against the cuts and most recently against the rise of One Nation. As President, I will continue on this work by helping to facilitate continued activism over my term, so that at a University level, we can keep up the fight against the cuts to jobs and courses and for a demilitarised campus that is fully divested from war and genocide, and at a national level, we can help to demonstrate that young people are opposed to the far right and that immigrants, unlike racists, are always welcome at UTS. That last issue is particularly important to me as a person of colour and an immigrant who learned English as a second language.

Alongside the rest of my ticket, I will keep up the fight for a more fair and open UTS!

General Secretary

Eelan Al-zuhairi

Independent



My name is Eelan Al-Zuhairi, and I am nominating for General Secretary because I know what it feels like to be a student who is technically “included” in university life, but still feels like they are standing outside of it.

I have had days where I have gone from class straight to work, answered emails between commitments, rushed across Sydney just to make it somewhere on time, and opened university updates late at night because that was the first quiet moment I had. I know I am not the only student living like that. There are students who work, commute, support people around them, fall behind, catch up, and keep going without ever feeling like university structures were designed with them in mind.

That is the student I want to represent.

I do not want UTSSA to only feel visible when elections come around. I want students to know what is happening, why decisions are being made, and how they can actually have a say without needing to already know someone on Council. If elected, I want to make information easier to find, follow-ups easier to understand, and student concerns harder to ignore.

One thing I have learned through studying law is that process matters. When people do not understand a process, they often assume they have no power within it. I want to help change that. Whether a student is raising an academic concern, suggesting an idea, or simply trying to understand who can help them, the path should not feel confusing or closed off.

My work and leadership experience has taught me something else: people remember whether you follow through. They remember who responds, who takes responsibility, and who still shows up when the exciting part is over. That is the kind of General Secretary I would be. I would rather be known for getting things done than for making promises that sound good in a campaign statement.

I also want the Council to feel more human. Student representatives should not feel distant or unapproachable. Sometimes a student does not need a speech, a policy document or another link. Sometimes they need someone to listen properly, tell them what happens next, and make sure they are not forgotten once the conversation ends.

I am not running because I think I have experienced every problem students face. I have not. I am running because I know how important it is to be taken seriously when you speak, especially when you are tired, busy, uncertain, or convinced nobody will listen.

If elected, I will bring organisation, consistency and a willingness to do the unglamorous work behind meaningful representation. I want UTSSA to become something students do not have to chase for answers, but something they can trust to meet them halfway.

If one student feels less invisible because we made the system easier to reach, then that is already worth doing. That is the standard I would hold myself to every day, not only during elections, but throughout the entire year.

Cam Perez

FIRE UP!



Hello lovelies!
I am Cam Perez, a fourth year Communications (Social and Political Science) (Media Business) & Creative Intelligence & Innovation student. I am running on Fire Up! to be the General Secretary of the UTSSA in 2027.

My time as Assistant General Secretary has shown me the amount of invisible work behind the scenes that keeps the union alive and strong. Over the past year I have established practices to keep the UTSSA more accountable to promises made in SRC meetings. Through up-to-date procedures, active delegation and hiring students to fill in the gaps establishing the expectation of work and communication has made us more effective. It is important to me as a member of the executive to continue the success of the Association through building strong processes and making our incredible services more accessible and known to the greater UTS community.

My General Secretary platform revolves around 4 key pillars.
1. Accountability and continuity
Teaching our student activists who in UTS management to speak to in better communicating student needs with the university. And assisting in establishing a Canvas module for all classes to show all services accessible to students

2. Connecting student advocacy
I want to work hard to connect different boards of student advocacy from UTS Council, Academic Board, faculty boards & the UTSSA. It is important to utilise every opportunity we have for students to have a more equitable and accessible education.

3. Accessible student services
To me, this looks like having all tutorial slides sent out to each student before tutorials, cc-transcripts on lectures, having final exam feedback, ensuring automatic extensions work for every student regardless of the faculty or type of assessment. Free condoms, free breakfast and dinner every day of the week, free HIV test, free period products in every bathroom. Easing cost of living pressures, work pressures, family pressures. Each UTS student deserves a student union that stands up for their needs.

4. Sustainable union operations
Fire Up! is the only ticket that works to keep UTSSA services alive. Fire Up! will always fight for the UTS you deserve both on the picket lines, in UTS management offices and keeping our collectives alive.

As a Honduran-Ecuadorian Australian woman, I understand the importance of ensuring that student services reflect the diverse experiences of our community. I believe an intersectional approach to designing these services is essential to supporting students who are the first in their families to attend or graduate from university in Australia. This extends to students living with disabilities, balancing caring responsibilities, or experiencing racism or sexual harm on campus. Education should be safely and equitably accessible to everyone, and it is our responsibility as a student association to defend, support, and protect every UTS student.

Next year as General Secretary I commit to continuing the plight to hold a UTS account on the National Code. I promise to be available; I promise to do everything this position entails to keep the Association accountable, accessible, and active.

Vincent Jiang

Independent



I am nominating for General Secretary because I want UTSSA to be well organised, transparent and easier for students to engage with.

My first priority is improving transparency around what UTSSA is doing. Students should be able to understand what issues are being discussed, what decisions are being made and what progress has been made on previous commitments. I would support clearer public updates, more accessible meeting information and straightforward reporting on major initiatives.

I also want to improve the way students raise concerns and receive follow-up. Too often, feedback disappears into forms or inboxes without students knowing what happened next. I would support clearer pathways for submitting issues, tracking recurring concerns and reporting outcomes back to students.

Another priority is improving internal processes so UTSSA can operate more efficiently. My experience with technology, automation and process improvement has shown me how better systems can reduce administrative work and make services easier to access. Where appropriate, I would support practical improvements to internal workflows and student-facing systems.

Finally, I would support stronger coordination between elected representatives so that work is not duplicated and responsibilities are clear.

My approach would be practical: improve how UTSSA operates, make its work easier to understand and ensure student concerns are followed through consistently.

Krishaang Mohan Gowda

Collective Action



Hi there! My name's Krishaang Mohan Gowda, and I'm a law student and a grassroots political organiser. I'm a proud member of the Australian Services Union. And I'm running with COLLECTIVE ACTION for the General Secretary of the UTS Students' Association, your student union.

Today, UTS management has been under righteous scrutiny by the NSW Government for its corporate managerialism, poor governance, and the self-appointed, undemocratic leadership of the UTS Council, UTS's governing body. This governance has been causal for huge cuts in jobs and courses in an attack on our education, and workers at UTS. And recently, we've seen appalling fee hikes for international students, and racist migration caps from the Labor government, caving to demands of Pauline Hanson, and her far-right and fascist One Nation party that's on the rise.

I believe that student unions can be serious political organisations and organs of mass student struggles to fight on these issues, against the harsh conditions of student poverty, and against attacks on workers everywhere. This starts with grassroots participation in our student collectives. Student collectives enable real rank-and-file engagement with the student union by the UTS student body. It's a format for any student to, on paper, be a part of decision-making processes that will affect their living and learning conditions, and student movements for radical change. But the student union hasn't been doing its part to empower collectives and give them the autonomy to organise.

I also believe that greater representation is necessary for a much more democratic and fighting student union. The Students' Representative Council (SRC) should have 50 representatives, instead of the current 25, for the 50,000+ students enrolled at UTS.

That's why COLLECTIVE ACTION are running socialists and working students, to take the helm on the UTSSA Executive and in Office-Bearer positions on the SRC, to fight for:

- Real autonomy for student collectives; UTSSA Office-Bearers elected by their collectives; UTSSA Co-Officers; and Co-Convenors for student collectives, regardless of whether the Office-Bearer position is vacant.
- Greater, stronger representation; 50 student reps. (instead of the current 25) for 50,000+ enrolled students.
- Streamlined and UTSSA-provided food vouchers, $50 emergency grants, and Opal transfer credit to get home, without the bureaucratic hoops.
- Stopping the supply of destructive, water-guzzling AI for UTS; keeping generative AI off student services; and mass collective action against destructive AI partnerships for UTS.
- A better deal for students; we'll fight at the bargaining table for more funding for your student union and, as a result, better student services in the upcoming Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with UTS management.
- Video games from the UTS Library, and physical, borrowable video game copies for 6th (PS2, GameCube and Xbox), 7th (Xbox 360, PS3, and Wii), and 8th (PS4) generation video game consoles.

Most importantly, whether it's in on-campus and grassroots or community action groups, or student union collectives like the UTSSA's Collectives at UTS, these fights require participating in and being the change you support, and taking collective action.

VOTE for 'COLLECTIVE ACTION' on the UTSSA EXECUTIVE:
—— VOTE [1] KRISHAANG MOHAN GOWDA for GENERAL SECRETARY.
—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for PRESIDENT.
—— VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WELFARE OFFICER.

VOTE for 'COLLECTIVE ACTION' for UTSSA OFFICE-BEARERS:
—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for POSTGRADUATE OFFICER.
—— VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WOMEN'S OFFICER.

GENERAL SECRETARY

Jocelyn Yu

Independent



Hi, I'm Jocelyn Yu, a PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering at UTS. I also completed my undergraduate degree at UTS, so I understand the University from both undergraduate and postgraduate perspectives.

I am nominating for General Secretary because I see student representation as more than responding to individual concerns. A strong student association should turn recurring student experiences into organised evidence, clear priorities, accountable decisions and follow-through. It should also preserve institutional knowledge so that progress is not lost when representatives change.

My professional background has prepared me well for this kind of work. At Christian Dior Couture, I worked in boutique administration and operations, supporting more than 20 staff and coordinating with suppliers, finance and headquarters. I handled operational reporting, complex after-sales matters and administrative responsibility for high-value jewellery and watches worth more than AUD 2 million. When senior store management was unavailable, I took on broader coordination responsibilities and helped resolve time-sensitive operational issues. This taught me to prioritise quickly, handle sensitive information carefully, identify when escalation is required and remain calm when circumstances change.

At UNSW, I served as Media Minister of UNSW CNA, managing communications and event promotion while helping organise major student activities with more than 50 participants. I later worked at Finisar, part of Coherent, in process development engineering, collaborating across R&D, production, process, software and mechatronics teams. Engineering strengthened my approach to problem-solving: define the issue, examine evidence, identify the right people, implement a workable solution and verify the outcome.

I am now back at UTS as a PhD researcher, with experience as a research assistant and casual academic. This gives me perspectives across research, teaching and student support.

As General Secretary, I would focus on four areas. First, stronger governance: clear agendas, accurate records, transparent decisions and reliable follow-up. Second, continuity: a simple action-tracking system so responsibilities, deadlines and unfinished matters remain visible across the year. Third, accessibility: clearer communication so students can understand what the SRC has decided, what support exists and where to raise an issue. Fourth, evidence-based representation: identifying patterns in student concerns so recurring problems can be raised systematically rather than treated as isolated cases.

I also believe good governance should support long-term organisational continuity. Administration is not just paperwork; it is what allows advocacy, budgeting, policy and student services to function consistently.

My approach would be practical and accountable: listen carefully, understand the problem, identify the appropriate pathway, coordinate the relevant people and follow the matter through to a clear outcome. I would also look beyond the immediate issue and ask what process, communication gap or recurring pattern allowed it to happen in the first place. Where possible, the goal should be not only to solve one case, but to improve the system so the same problem is less likely to affect the next student.

Assistant General Secretary

Eamonn Ryan

FIRE UP!



Hi everyone, I'm Eamonn, and I'm running to be your 2027 Assistant General Secretary with Fire Up!

I am a third-year Law and Economics student, and I have had the privilege to serve on the UTS Students' Association for two years now, as both a general councillor and as the 2026 Environment and Technology Officer.

In my capacity as Environment and Technology Officer, I've been able to participate and advocate for students on a number of key committees, including the university's sustainability steering committee and AI Operations Board. In these roles, I've been able to push for the development of an AI policy at UTS that protects staff jobs and quality education, while also ensuring that allowed use of AI is as consistent and visible as possible across courses.

I'm running for Assistant General Secretary because I believe the UTSSA is an essential part of student life at UTS — Delivering food services, academic support, and advocacy on issues affecting students. I also believe it has the potential to be even more: permanent 5-day-a-week food services, improvements to academic life, and a body capable of holding university management to account.

In order to expand its service provisions, the UTSSA needs strong governance foundations, focused on empowering our officebearers to advocate across their individual portfolios while working with University and Students' Association's staff to deliver expansive and high-quality services for students. As your Assistant General Secretary, I will strive to ensure that every UTSSA collective is active and supported.

On an academic front, I'm keen to support the fight for 5-day simple extensions, mandatory feedback for final exams, recorded tutorials, and banning high schoolers from the library during exam season. Academics and education are at the core of the university experience, and I consider it essential that one of the UTSSA's foremost priorities is ensuring our university's academic systems support students and make it easier, not harder, to succeed in their degrees.

I'm honoured to be standing as your candidate for Assistant General Secretary, and I'm proud to be part of a Fire Up team focused on delivering real results, better services, and improved learning conditions for students.

Sara Allahbakhshianfarsani

Independent



I'm Sara Allahbakhshian, a PhD candidate in Engineering and IT. The Assistant General Secretary looks after the UTSSA's websites and social media and helps keep its records and produce the Handbook. Done well, that work means students can find help when they

need it and hold their union to account. I've done SEO work for a machine learning blog, and as a researcher I'm used to making complex ideas clear.

1. A union you can actually find: I'll make the UTSSA's websites and social media easy to navigate, with plain-English and multilingual guides to free services like academic advocacy and legal help, plus an up-to-date events calendar.

2. Open books, open meetings: Working with the General Secretary, I'll publish SRC agendas, minutes, office bearer reports and the policy register online on time, share meeting dates so any student can come and watch, and post a simple breakdown of how your union spends its money.

3. Your SSAF, working for you: UTS must give at least 40% of the Student Services and Amenities Fee it collects to student-led organisations like the UTSSA. On the Finance Committee, I'll push for budgets that fund services and campaigns students actually use, with strong governance that keeps the money in student hands.

4. A Handbook worth keeping: I'll help turn the Handbook into a searchable, mobile-friendly guide with sections for first-year, international, postgraduate and part-time students, so everyone knows where to get help before they need it.

5. Safe, inclusive online spaces: I'll make UTSSA content accessible with captions and alt text, and moderate our channels firmly against harassment, hate and scams, including fake rental and job posts that target students.

6. A union that answers: I'll make sure student messages on UTSSA channels get a reply within five working days, help the SRC respond quickly and clearly when UTS decisions affect you, and share a short update after every SRC meeting on what was decided.

Good representation starts with information students can find, trust and act on. Vote Sara Allahbakhshian for Assistant General Secretary.

Shaghayegh Chamani

Independent



I am running for Assistant General Secretary because I would like to be more involved in supporting students and helping the Students' Association work well for everyone.

I think this role is not only about helping organize the Association, but also about ensuring students feel comfortable raising their concerns and knowing that someone will actually listen. Good representation also requires clear communication and strong teamwork among the different officers.

If elected, I would work closely with the General Secretary and other student representatives to bring student concerns to the fore and, where possible, follow up on issues. I would also like to make information about support, events, opportunities, and student services easier to find and understand.

I also think it is important to help students feel more connected to the university community. Students come from different courses, backgrounds, and stages of study, and sometimes it can be difficult to meet people outside your own class or faculty. I would support activities and initiatives that give students more chances to get involved and connect with each other.

For me, being a student representative means being approachable and willing to listen. I would try to be someone students can speak to comfortably, and I would do my best to follow up on their concerns and help where I can.

I would be happy to serve as Assistant General Secretary and help make the Students' Association more supportive, connected, and useful for students.

Vincent Jiang

Independent



I am nominating for Assistant General Secretary because I want to help UTSSA operate efficiently and make student representation more accessible.

A key priority for me is improving communication between UTSSA and students. Important information about representation, services, events and support should be easy to find and written clearly. I would support more consistent updates and better organisation of student-facing information.

I also want to strengthen how UTSSA handles student feedback. Students should have simple ways to raise issues, and recurring problems should be identified rather than treated as isolated cases. I would support clearer feedback channels and regular reporting on the issues students are raising.

I am also interested in improving UTSSA's internal systems. Through my experience in technology, automation and process improvement, I have seen how small changes to workflows can save time and reduce unnecessary administrative work. I would bring that perspective to the role while making sure any changes are practical and useful.

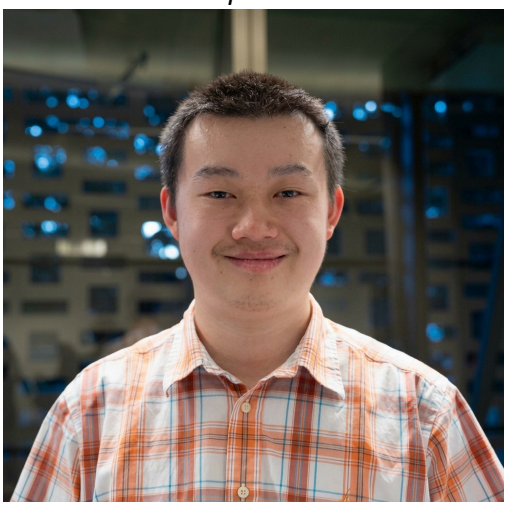
Finally, I would support the General Secretary and other representatives in maintaining clear records, coordinating projects and following through on Council decisions.

My goal would be to contribute a practical, organised and evidence-focused approach to the day-to-day work of UTSSA.

Education Officer

Vincent Jiang

Independent



I am nominating for Education Officer because academic policies and administrative processes have a direct impact on almost every student at UTS.

My first priority is making academic rights and processes easier to understand. Information about appeals, special consideration, assessment disputes and academic support can be difficult to navigate. I would support clearer guides and better signposting so students know what options are available to them.

I also want to improve how recurring academic problems are identified and raised with UTS. If students across a subject or faculty are experiencing similar issues, those concerns should be recognised as patterns rather than handled individually. I would support structured collection of student feedback and evidence-based advocacy to relevant university bodies.

Another priority is improving communication around assessment expectations and academic administration. Students should receive clear, timely and consistent information about requirements, deadlines and changes that affect them.

I would also support initiatives that strengthen students' access to academic support and practical learning opportunities, including clearer links to tutoring, study assistance and career-related opportunities.

My approach would be practical and evidence-based: make academic processes easier to navigate, identify systemic issues and work with students and UTS to improve them.

Isabel Turner

Social Justice



- Hey I'm Isabel! Member for Students for Palestine and the Education Action Group, and I believe that universities should NOT be corporate entities, and SRC should be a radical left wing body that fights against the rise of the right and for a free Palestine.

- I've been a part of organising campaigns on campus including the Stopthecuts campaign which involved supporting striking workers demanding better working conditions
- I've also been involved in SFP organising, and the building of protests including the Herzog rally!

- Joined the student referendum to vote for our universities to CUT TIES with Israel

- Organised to build the NDA against Hanson! Fought to put opposition to the rise of the right in the MAINSTREAM.

- I got involved during the blockade for the ICC of the maritime weapons expo, was peppersprayed and realised the brutality of the police and INACTION taken against war criminals involved in genocide

Shaghayegh Chamani

Independent



I am running for Education Officer because I want students to have a stronger voice in the issues that directly affect their learning and academic experience at UTS.

Education is at the centre of university life, but students can still face problems such as unclear assessment expectations, heavy workloads, limited access to academic support, inconsistent communication, and uncertainty about where to go when something goes wrong.

If elected, I would focus on making sure student concerns about teaching, assessment, course delivery, and academic support are heard and taken seriously. I would also like to improve communication so students can more easily understand their rights, responsibilities, available support, and the processes for raising academic concerns.

Another priority for me is making education more accessible and supportive for students from different backgrounds and study situations. Not every student has the same experience, and I think it is important that university policies and teaching practices reflect that.

I would also support more opportunities for students to give meaningful feedback about their courses and learning experience, with better follow-up so students can see that their feedback leads to real discussion and, where possible, improvement.

For me, being Education Officer means listening carefully, being approachable, and speaking up when students face academic issues that need attention. If elected, I would work with students, staff, and other representatives to help create a learning environment that is fair, clear, supportive, and focused on helping students succeed.

I would be proud to represent students as Education Officer and work toward practical improvements to the academic experience at UTS.

Sara Allahbakhshianfarsani

Independent



My name is Sara Allahbakhshian, and I am a PhD researcher in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at UTS. I am standing for Education Officer because I want every student to have access to quality teaching, useful learning resources and a meaningful voice in decisions about their education.

As an international research student, I understand the challenges of navigating university processes and preparing for a future career. Through helping organise IEEE workshops and seminars and supporting International Women's Day activities, I have seen the value of practical learning opportunities and welcoming student communities.

If elected, my priorities will be:

Quality teaching and fair academic policies. I will bring students' concerns about teaching quality, workload, assessment and subject

availability to the Student Representative Council and relevant university staff. I will advocate for clear assessment expectations, timely feedback and meaningful student consultation before changes to courses or teaching arrangements.

More accessible learning.I will advocate for accessible learning materials, lecture recordings where appropriate, and affordable access to essential textbooks and software. I will listen to students balancing study with employment, caring responsibilities or long commutes, and raise concerns about barriers to participation.

Easier access to AI for education.I will advocate for university-supported access to AI tools such as Claude through education partnerships or affordable licences. I will support practical workshops on using these tools for learning, coding, research and academic writing, alongside clear guidance on permitted use, accuracy, privacy and academic integrity.

Internship and industry connections. I will seek collaborations with UTS careers services, faculties and industry partners to organise internship information sessions, employer networking events and career workshops. These should include opportunities tailored to postgraduates and research students. I will also advocate for better support for students facing financial pressures during compulsory placements.

Representation that leads to action. I will work with the Education Collective to gather feedback through open discussions and accessible online channels, raise concerns through UTSSA, and report back on progress. I will help students find existing academic support and advice services when they need assistance.

I will represent undergraduate and postgraduate students, domestic and international students, across all faculties. My approach will be to listen carefully, work collaboratively and follow through on the issues students raise.

Ella Haid

Social Justice



Hey I'm Ella and I reckon we need more socialist activists in the UTSSA!
I study a diploma in languages, one of the degrees that have been slashed in UTS' $85M+ cuts process. I spent my first two years of this degree as the convenor of the Stop The Cuts UTS campaign. I organised meetings, speakouts, protests, forums and soon a Fair Day Against The Cuts - because we think that protest and people power should come first in student unions.

As this year's UTSSA Education Officer my proudest achievement was playing a role in organising the nationwide protest against Pauline Hanson on Aug 13, which over 10K university and high school students across Australia took part in.
Gaza is without a doubt the crime of our generation - I was proud to have been a part of organising last year's brilliant UTS wing of the National Student Referendum on Palestine which saw 5k students participate across Aus. We held UTS' biggest ever event for Palestine when 300 students voted to sanction Albanese for his complicity in the Gaza genocide and voted for UTS to cut ties with weapons companies.

The Social Justice ticket is full of student activists who spend their time fighting to build what we direly need: a real anticapitalist fightback to a world that puts profits first while ordinary people come last.

Welfare Officer

Grace Cole

FIRE UP!



Hi, I'm Grace and I'm a second-year comms student majoring in journalism and social political science! I am running with Fire Up to be your 2027 UTSSA Welfare officer!

Over the past year I have had the amazing opportunity to serve the UTSSA as your queer office bearer and I am looking forward to continuing this journey with the association next year.

As welfare officer I am running to help students with 3 key things

1. A safer campus
A key issue that I see not only on campus but in the country as a whole is the gender-based violence epidemic we are facing. The government introduced a new GBV code at the beginning of this year and I will endeavour to ensure that the university is held to these standards and make sure that our campus is safe for everyone.

2. A liveable campus
Our campus and its facilities are something all of us use multiple days a week. I am running to ensure the standards of our campus facilities remain up to a high standard. For example, I will endeavour to ensure that the bubblers and water bottle fillers across campus are regularly serviced. As for our fellow peers who live on campus, I will endeavour to make sure all students who live in campus housing are afforded the rights and living conditions they deserve.

3. An affordable campus
Through the UTSSA there is an amazing program called clue bird brekky and night owl noodles which provide students free breakfast and dinner on campus during select days of the week. Not only am I looking forward to ensuring this gets expanded to 5-days a week, but I am going to push for further affordability on campus with $5 lunches. I will also make sure to continue the great work that has been done this year by our current welfare officer and make sure that the campus clinic remains affordable and I will push for further accessibility appointments so students do not have to go to off campus doctors and pay exorbitant fees when they're in need of doctors' notes for classes and or assignments.

Next year as welfare officer I will stand up for all students on campus and make sure they have the university experience they deserve and hold the association and university to account.

Laura Veasey

Collective Action



Hellow! My name is Laura Veasey, and I'm a nursing student at UTS. I've assisted students in programs like U:PASS, supporting many who at times faced roadblocks in their learning and overall academic experiences. I'm a working student who's appreciated much of the support student services provide, but I've also sometimes experienced their pitfalls firsthand. These were services often provided by student unions, such as, in the

case of UTS, the UTS Students' Association. But after anti-student organisation laws of the Howard era, which Labor has refused to repeal since (only reintroducing student fees with the caveat to fund a wide range of university services), student services are more answerable to profit-driven Vice-Chancellors, and a user-pays education system that's not supporting us and our education. That's why I'm running with COLLECTIVE ACTION for the Welfare Officer of the UTS Students' Association.

As a nursing student, I've seen how appalling decisions have been made by Vice-Chancellors and UTS management, in multimillion-dollar partnerships with corporate financial consultants, to attack our school, facilities, and education. Management likes to say this is for "cost-cutting," and "sustaining" operations. This only serves to further the commercial interests of UTS and other universities committed to the neoliberalisation of their institutions, putting profit over the interests of students and workers, as we continue to experience the fallout of these staff and course cuts and restructures.

This all, of course, adds to the many other concerns of students and workers that management likes to bypass. Like the poverty that students endure, from undergrad to mature age, to postgrad coursework, to PhD candidates, with stipends below standard and lower than those of universities down the road – this, and the low social wages we might receive on welfare payments, are austerity measures. We've been seeing threats to, or the lack of, guaranteed funding for services like UTS Child Care for some time, along with dodgy partnerships and an expanding supply of destructive, water-guzzling AI.

AI development is a huge gamble, and destructive for our environment. The global AI frontier is being driven by US state backing to provide a military edge over China, and is a largely unwanted frontier being rolled out across industries and into our universities. Students and workers aren't given a choice; they're required to use energy-guzzling generative AI for assignments, research, and day-to-day tasks, with few options to opt out. Across this continent, we're seeing more partnerships between the Australian government and US AI infrastructure as part of alliances between each imperialist power. Universities are embracing socially unnecessary, general-purpose generative AI that relies on enormous, destructive data centre infrastructure, under deployments without any agreement from workers and students.

That's why COLLECTIVE ACTION are running socialists and working students, to take the helm on the UTSSA Executive and in Office-Bearer positions on the SRC, to fight for:

- Stopping the supply of destructive, water-guzzling AI for UTS; keeping generative AI off student services; and mass collective action against destructive AI partnerships for UTS.
- Streamlined and UTSSA-provided food vouchers, $50 emergency grants, and Opal transfer credit to get home, without the bureaucratic hoops.
- A better deal for students; we'll fight at the bargaining table for more funding for your student union and, as a result, better student services in the upcoming Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with UTS management.
- Greater, stronger representation; 50 student reps. (instead of the current 25) for 50,000+ enrolled students.
- Real autonomy for student collectives; UTSSA Office-Bearers elected by their collectives; UTSSA Co-Officers; and Co-Convenors for student collectives, regardless of whether the Office-Bearer position is vacant.
- Video games from the UTS Library, and physical, borrowable video game copies for 6th (PS2, GameCube and Xbox), 7th (Xbox 360, PS3, and Wii), and 8th (PS4) generation video game consoles.

Most importantly, whether it's in on-campus and grassroots or community action groups, or student union collectives like the UTSSA's Collectives at UTS, these fights require participating in and being the change you support, and taking collective action.

VOTE for ‘COLLECTIVE ACTION’ on the UTSSA EXECUTIVE:
—— VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WELFARE OFFICER.
—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for PRESIDENT.
—— VOTE [1] KRISHAANG MOHAN GOWDA for GENERAL SECRETARY.

VOTE for ‘COLLECTIVE ACTION’ for UTSSA OFFICE-BEARERS:
—— VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WOMEN’S OFFICER.
—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for POSTGRADUATE OFFICER.

Postgraduate Officer

Rohen Snowball

Collective Action



Hello! My name is Rohen Snowball, and I’m a part-time postgraduate research student in the School of Design at UTS. I’m a welfare recipient on JobSeeker. I’m a dedicated grassroots political organiser and queer community activist, and active in campaigns for queer rights and education action in student collectives on campus. I’m a postgraduate student member of the UTS branch of the National Tertiary Education Union. And I’m running with COLLECTIVE ACTION for the Postgraduate Officer of the UTS Students’ Association.

I’m running for the Postgraduate Officer because, regardless of whether I’m elected for UTSSA President (which you can see my statement for alongside those of other presidential candidates) or Postgraduate Officer, I want representation of the UTS postgraduate body on the student union and an Office-Bearer for the Postgraduate Collective that understands the need and necessity for a postgraduate representative council for UTS postgraduates and higher degree by research candidates. And this election, we have a choice between the status quo, or a fighting, democratic, and left-wing change, that’s independent of Labor and party governments, and will take a stronger fight to UTS management, as this upcoming election term is when the student union’s Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with management is set to expire and is due for a renewed agreement. A principled, socialist Students’ Representative Council, with a majority left bloc, can build stronger, fighting mass student movements, which’ll be the crucial bargaining chip against management for a better funding agreement, and a postgraduates’ union on the SPA.

Alongside a postgraduates’ union, COLLECTIVE ACTION are running socialists and working students, to take the helm on the UTSSA Executive and in Office-Bearer positions on the SRC, fighting for:

- Real autonomy for student collectives; UTSSA Office-Bearers elected by their collectives; UTSSA Co-Officers; and Co-Convenors for student collectives, regardless of whether the Office-Bearer position is vacant.
- Video games from the UTS Library, and physical, borrowable video game copies for 6th (PS2, GameCube and Xbox), 7th (Xbox 360, PS3, and Wii), and 8th (PS4) generation video game consoles.
- Streamlined and UTSSA-provided food vouchers, $50 emergency grants, and Opal transfer credit to get home, without the bureaucratic hoops.
- Stopping the supply of destructive, water-guzzling AI for UTS; keeping generative AI off student services; and mass collective action against destructive AI partnerships for UTS.

POSTGRADUATE OFFICER

- A better deal for students; we'll fight at the bargaining table for more funding for your student union and, as a result, better student services in the upcoming Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with UTS management.
- Greater, stronger representation; 50 student reps. (instead of the current 25) for 50,000+ enrolled students.

This, however, will require action far beyond the ballot box – it starts with participating in and being the change you support, and taking collective action.

VOTE for 'COLLECTIVE ACTION' for UTSSA OFFICE-BEARERS:
—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for POSTGRADUATE OFFICER.
—— VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WOMEN'S OFFICER.

VOTE for 'COLLECTIVE ACTION' on the UTSSA EXECUTIVE:
—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for PRESIDENT.
—— VOTE [1] KRISHAANG MOHAN GOWDA for GENERAL SECRETARY.
—— VOTE [1] LAURA VEASEY for WELFARE OFFICER.

Fryderyk Liao

Independent



Hi, I'm Haolong (Fryderyk) Liao, and I'm running for Postgraduate Officer. Our university experience is shaped by more than lectures and research. Finding work, paying rent, receiving good teaching and feeling connected on campus all matter.

During my Master's degree at the University of Sydney, I served as a student representative at SUPRA. I helped organise employer and alumni networking sessions, recruitment events and career information sessions for Master's and PhD students. I also listened to concerns about course quality, brought them to university staff and worked with them on improvements.

Student welfare has been just as important to me. I contributed to campus dining research and advocated for better food options. With other volunteers, I co-wrote a Sydney rental guide and later coordinated its revision, making practical housing information easier for students to access. I also supported welcome events, social gatherings and activities that gave postgraduates a chance to meet people and relax.

If elected at UTS, I will focus on three priorities:

Career opportunities. I will work with employers, alumni and university teams to create useful networking and career events, with attention to the different needs of coursework and research students. I will seek opportunities that offer direct conversations about jobs, internships and research careers.

Teaching quality. I will gather feedback on courses, assessment and research supervision, identify recurring problems and raise them with UTSSA and UTS. I will ask for clear responses and follow up, so students know whether their concerns have led to action.

Campus life and practical support. I will help students find reliable information about housing, food and wellbeing services, and work with the Postgraduate Collective to organise welcoming, accessible activities. I want students who are new to Sydney, balancing work and study, or feeling isolated to know where they can turn.

I will listen through conversations and online feedback, bring your priorities to the Student Representative Council, and share updates on what has been raised, what response we received and what happens next.

Vote Fryderyk Liao for Postgraduate Officer.

Sara Allahbakhshianfarsani

Independent



My name is Sara Allahbakhshian, and I am a PhD researcher in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at UTS. I am standing for Postgraduate Officer to give postgraduate students a stronger voice in university decisions and improve access to support and opportunities.

As an international research student, I understand the challenges of navigating university processes, managing research milestones and preparing for a future career. Through helping organise IEEE workshops and seminars and supporting International Women's Day activities, I have seen how shared learning and connections can improve students' university experience.

If elected, my priorities will be:

Strengthening postgraduate representation. I will encourage participation in the Postgraduate Committee through regular meetings and accessible online feedback channels. Both coursework and research students should help shape our priorities, including those balancing study with employment or caring responsibilities and those based away from the main campus.

Turning concerns into advocacy. I will gather feedback on study costs, scholarships, research funding, supervision and academic policies, and raise these through UTSSA and relevant university channels. I will keep students informed about the concerns raised and progress made.

Making support easier to access. I will work with existing UTS and UTSSA services to share clear information about academic support, research milestones, extensions, financial assistance and wellbeing services, helping students find appropriate support when they need it.

Organising postgraduate internship and career events. I will seek collaborations with UTS careers services, faculties and industry partners to organise internship information sessions, employer networking events and career workshops specifically for postgraduates. These activities would help students explore suitable placements and career pathways within and beyond academia.

Improving access to AI for education and research.I will advocate for easier access to AI tools such as Claude through university-supported licences or education partnerships. Alongside this, I will support practical workshops on using AI responsibly for learning, coding, research and academic writing, with attention to accuracy, privacy and academic integrity.

Building a connected community. I will help organise social events and peer support activities that bring students together across faculties and create opportunities to share experiences.

I will listen to students whose circumstances differ from mine and represent both domestic and international postgraduates across disciplines and study modes. I would be proud to work with you to make our postgraduate community more connected and better supported.

POSTGRADUATE OFFICER

Will Reid

FIRE UP!



Hi, my name is William Healy (Reid) and I'm running for the position of Postgraduate Officer with the UTS Student's Association (UTSSA).

I have recently completed a bachelor's degree in medical science at UTS and am now continuing my postgraduate study in International Relations, with an interest in improving health outcomes and scientific collaboration on a global scale.

Over the past 3 years I've actively been involved with the UTS community. I served as a student executive with the UTS Red Cross Society, and I've served as the Welfare Convenor over the past year. I have a background in student advocacy and have seen first-hand issues affecting UTS students. As the welfare convenor of the UTS Welfare collective, I aided in delivering multiple permanent spaces for clothing donations on campus and assisted in running a survey interrogating the current UTS Health system.

I'm now running for postgraduate officer of the UTSSA as many postgraduate students face the unique challenge of blending study, work, research, life commitments, responsibilities and the increasing cost of living pressures.

I believe UTS students need an active and experienced student representative within the Student's Association that advocates for the interests of students, rather than university management.

As Postgraduate Officer, I'll continue to advocate for automatic 5-day simple assignment extensions that require no documentation, rid of the short extension application process, ban AI lecture slides and implement 11:59pm standardized assessment submission times.
I will push to expand access to period products on campus for students; ensuring no student at UTS needs to suffer through period poverty.

Currently at UTS, receiving marks or feedback for final Assignments is not mandatory. I'll push for mandatory feedback for final exams and assessments. Each student deserves the opportunity to reflect on their submissions, especially their final exam or assessments.

Continuing my prior work as Welfare Convenor I will pressure the university to improve access to GP, counseling and sexual health services on campus. I will push to expand the free university HIV testing kit programs by bringing in more HIV testing kit machines for students.

UTS students deserve a postgraduate student representative who will listen to them, that advocates for real change, and pressures university management to make actionable decisions that interests students.

If I am elected, I will advocate for coursework and my colleagues in higher degree by research programs, fight for student rights, and push actionable, real change that benefits all UTS students.

Shaghayegh Chamani

Independent



I am running for Postgraduate Officer because I want postgraduate students to feel that they have a strong voice and someone who genuinely understands the challenges that come with postgraduate study.

Postgraduate life can be rewarding, but it can also be demanding. Many students are balancing research or coursework with teaching, work, financial pressure, deadlines, and uncertainty about what comes next. It can also be isolating, especially when much of your time is spent working independently.

If elected, I would focus on making sure postgraduate students are better connected to the support, opportunities, and services available to them. I would like to improve access to information about scholarships, research support, teaching opportunities, professional development, wellbeing services, and career pathways.

I also want to help build a stronger postgraduate community at UTS. I think there should be more opportunities for students from different faculties and backgrounds to meet, share experiences, and support each other. This could include social events, networking, research-focused activities, mentoring, and career development opportunities.

Another important part of the role is making sure postgraduate concerns are heard. Whether the issue is related to workload, supervision, funding, facilities, communication, or student support, I would aim to listen carefully, raise concerns where needed, and follow up on issues rather than letting them be ignored.

As a postgraduate student myself, I understand how important it is to have representation that is approachable and practical. If elected, I would do my best to support students, improve communication, and contribute to changes that make postgraduate life at UTS more connected, supportive, and rewarding.

Jocelyn Yu

Independent



Hi, I'm Jocelyn Yu, a PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering at UTS. I also completed my undergraduate degree at UTS, so I have experienced the University from both undergraduate and postgraduate perspectives and understand how significantly students' needs can change when they move into postgraduate study and research.

I see the Postgraduate Officer role as more than a channel for individual complaints. Effective representation should identify recurring issues, distinguish personal cases from structural problems, bring evidence to the right decision-making forums and then communicate outcomes back to students.

My background spans administration, student organisations, engineering industry, research and teaching. At Christian Dior Couture, I worked in administration and operations, managing competing priorities and time-sensitive issues. At UNSW, I served as

POSTGRADUATE OFFICER

Trisha Calugay

Independent



Media Minister of UNSW CNA, managing communications and major student events. I later worked at Finisar, part of Coherent, in process development engineering, where I learned to analyse problems systematically, coordinate across different teams and follow solutions through to implementation.

I now bring that approach into my PhD, research assistant work and casual academic teaching at UTS. These roles allow me to see postgraduate life from several perspectives: as a researcher managing a long-term project, as someone working within collaborative research, and as an educator supporting students.

Postgraduate students can face complex issues around research progress, supervision, scholarships and funding, access to resources, professional development, financial pressure and balancing study with employment or other responsibilities. HDR students can also become isolated within research groups and may not always know where to go when a problem sits outside normal academic supervision.

As Postgraduate Officer, I would focus on three practical priorities. First, clearer pathways to information about scholarships, financial assistance, research support and professional development. Second, a stronger feedback loop so recurring postgraduate concerns can be identified, documented and raised through the SRC, university consultations and the Postgraduate Advisory Committee. Third, stronger connections between postgraduate study and future academic, research and industry careers through better visibility of mentoring, networks and development opportunities.

My approach would be evidence-based and outcome-focused. Representation should not stop at collecting feedback. It should help students understand the system, turn patterns into actionable issues and keep following up until there is a clear response. Over time, I would like postgraduate representation to become more proactive: using recurring feedback to identify emerging pressure points early, rather than waiting until the same problem has already affected many students.

As a postgraduate student, I understand that postgraduate study comes with different challenges and responsibilities. My aim is to ensure postgraduate students have a stronger voice in the Students' Association and that their experiences are represented in university decision-making. I also want to create more opportunities for postgraduate students to connect, build networks and support one another. Most importantly, I want postgraduate students to feel heard, represented and supported throughout their university experience.

Women's Officer

Jocelyn Yu

Independent



Hi, I'm Jocelyn Yu, a PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering at UTS. I also completed my undergraduate degree at UTS, so I have experienced the University from both undergraduate and postgraduate perspectives.

My background spans administration, student leadership, engineering industry, research and teaching. At Christian Dior Couture, I worked in administration and boutique operations, where I developed strong organisational skills and learned to respond calmly to time-sensitive issues. At UNSW, I served as Media Minister of UNSW CNA, managing communications and helping organise major student activities. I later worked at Finisar, part of Coherent, in process development engineering, before returning to UTS for my PhD.

My experience in engineering has shaped how I understand the importance of women's representation. During my engineering studies, there were often very few women in my classes. Later, at Finisar, I worked in a department of around 20 people where I was the only woman. These experiences made me very aware of what it can feel like to study and work in environments where women are significantly underrepresented.

At the same time, I do not believe ability, potential or professional contribution is determined by gender. Women should be able to enter technical, research, professional and leadership environments with the same confidence, opportunities and recognition as anyone else. I would like to use this role to help ensure that when women students face barriers or concerns, they have someone willing to listen, understand the issue and follow it through.

As Women's Officer, I would focus on three areas: access, connection and representation. First, I want support services, referral pathways and relevant information to be easier to understand. Second, I would like to strengthen connections between undergraduate students, postgraduate researchers and professional networks through mentoring, networking and career-focused opportunities. Third, when recurring concerns appear around safety, wellbeing, academic pressure, financial stress, workplace transition or career barriers, I would work to ensure those issues are clearly represented through the appropriate UTS and student representative channels.

I believe student representation should go beyond reacting to individual problems. It should identify patterns, understand why they keep occurring and help improve the systems around them.

My approach would be practical and inclusive: listen without assumptions, assess the situation carefully, involve the right people and follow issues through to a clear outcome. I want women students across different faculties, cultures and stages of study to feel that their concerns are heard and that representation can lead to practical action.

Sara Allahbakhshianfarsani

Independent



I'm Sara Allahbakhshian, a PhD candidate designing low-power chips, in a field where women are still heavily outnumbered. Through IEEE Women in Engineering and the WiSR mentoring program, I've seen what women achieve when they feel safe, supported and connected, and what we lose when they don't. I'm running so that's the norm at UTS, not the exception.

1. Preventing gender-based violence: UTS is now legally bound by a national code on gender-based violence and is developing a prevention and response plan that runs to 2029. Working with UTS's Safe and Respectful Communities team, I'll make sure students shape that plan, and I'll hold UTS to its obligations: easy-to-find support, trauma-informed responses, academic adjustments for victim-survivors and public reporting on progress.

2. Reporting you can trust: In the 2021 National Student Safety Survey, only 1 in 30 students who were sexually harassed made a formal complaint. I'll push for confidential, clearly explained reporting options, regular updates for anyone who reports, and better awareness of the National Student Ombudsman. When new survey results are released, I'll press UTS to respond publicly and act on them.

3. A safer campus and social life: I'll campaign for safer late-night routes to transport, consent and active bystander training for clubs and societies, and drink-spiking prevention at campus events.

4. Equal opportunity in every field: I'll advocate for mentoring, networking and leadership programs in every faculty, especially fields where women are underrepresented, and for clear action on sexism in classes, labs and placements.

5. Health, care and cost of living: I'll fight for free period products reliably stocked across campus, easier access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, and real support for student parents and carers, including parent rooms, flexible deadlines and affordable childcare.

6. A community where you belong: I'll grow the Women's Collective, with events that work for international, postgraduate, mature-age and part-time students, take your concerns straight to UTS decision-makers and report back on my progress.

Every woman and non-binary student at UTS deserves to be safe, respected and heard. I'll listen, show up and keep pushing until that's true for all of us. Vote Sara Allahbakhshian for Women's Officer.

Shaghayegh Chamani

Independent



I am running for Women's Officer because I want women at UTS to feel supported, respected, and confident that their concerns are taken seriously.

University can be a very positive experience, but women can still face challenges that affect their study, work, wellbeing, and sense of belonging. These experiences can be different for everyone, so I think it is important to have a representative who listens carefully and understands that there is no single experience of being a woman at university.

If elected, I would focus on making sure women know what support and services are available to them and feel comfortable accessing them. I would also like to improve communication around issues that affect women, including safety, wellbeing, equal opportunities, academic and professional development, and access to support when problems arise.

I also want to create more opportunities for women from different faculties, backgrounds, cultures, and stages of study to connect with each other. This could include social events, networking, mentoring, career-focused activities, and spaces where students can share experiences and support one another.

Another important part of this role is advocacy. I would listen to the concerns raised by women students, bring those concerns forward, and follow up where possible. I believe representation should be visible and practical, not just a title.

If elected, I would aim to be approachable, open-minded, and respectful of different experiences. My goal would be to help build a university environment where women feel safe, included, supported, and able to make the most of their time at UTS.

I would be proud to represent women students and work toward practical improvements that make a real difference to their university experience.

Laura Veasy

Collective Action



Hello! My name is Laura Veasey, and I'm a nursing student at UTS. I've assisted students in programs like U:PASS, supporting nursing students who, at times, faced roadblocks in their learning and academic experiences, which needed a stronger student union to fight back. And as a working student, who's well-connected with many women students in nursing through coursework, and a big supporter of feminist class struggle as a student member of the New South Wales Nurses and Midwives' Association, regardless of whether I'm elected for Welfare Officer (for which you can see my statement under the candidates for Welfare) or Women's Officer, I want working-class feminist representation on the student union and an Office-Bearer for the Women's Collective that coordinates stronger, fighting mass student movements, and action organised at the cross-collective level, with the autonomous collectives, the Welfare Collective and the Education Action Group.

WOMEN'S OFFICER

In light of anti-abortion movements across this country and threats to, or the lack of, guaranteed funding for UTS services, like UTS Child Care for some time, stronger, fighting, mass collective action is more and more important, especially on campus, as the student union's Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with management is set to expire and is due for a renewed agreement. A principled, socialist Students' Representative Council, with a majority left bloc, can build stronger, fighting mass student movements, which'll be the crucial bargaining chip against management to secure a better SPA for students, and a UTSSA that gives democratic power back to student collectives for greater autonomy and more feminist collective action.

And that's why COLLECTIVE ACTION are running socialists, feminists and working students, to take the helm on the UTSSA Executive and in Office-Bearer positions on the SRC, to fight for:

- Real autonomy for student collectives; UTSSA Office-Bearers elected by their collectives; UTSSA Co-Officers; and Co-Convenors for student collectives, regardless of whether the Office-Bearer position is vacant.
- Greater, stronger representation; 50 student reps. (instead of the current 25) for 50,000+ enrolled students.
- Streamlined and UTSSA-provided food vouchers, $50 emergency grants, and Opal transfer credit to get home, without the bureaucratic hoops.
- Stopping the supply of destructive, water-guzzling AI for UTS; keeping generative AI off student services; and mass collective action against destructive AI partnerships for UTS.
- A better deal for students; we'll fight at the bargaining table for more funding for your student union and, as a result, better student services in the upcoming Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) with UTS management.
- Video games from the UTS Library, and physical, borrowable video game copies for 6th (PS2, GameCube and Xbox), 7th (Xbox 360, PS3, and Wii), and 8th (PS4) generation video game consoles.

This, however, will require action far beyond the ballot box – it starts with participating in and being the change you support, and taking collective action.

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—— VOTE [1] ROHEN SNOWBALL for POSTGRADUATE OFFICER.

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Francesca Harrison

FIRE UP!



Hi! I'm Francesca, a fourth-year Bachelor of Communications (Social and Political Science) and Bachelor of Creative Intelligence and Innovation student. Having been your 2025/26 Women's Officer, I've had the opportunity to see what this role can do when it focuses on the issues students actually experience. Over the past year, we've worked on expanding the free period products service, introduced free condoms, and represented students through the National Code. These changes have been about making support more accessible and making sure students' needs are being heard. I'm running again because I want to build on that work rather than start from scratch.

Practical Support for Students
This year, I've focused on making sexual and reproductive health support more accessible to students. We've built on the free period products service across Central Campus, introduced free condoms, and started pushing for better access to sexual health services. There's more we can do. I want to keep expanding access so that where you study doesn't determine what support you can access. That means bringing free period products to Moore Park Campus, expanding the services already available on Central Campus, and making sexual health support easier to access without cost or stigma. This means:

Bring free period products to Moore Park Campus, so students across our campuses have access.
Continue expanding free period products across Central Campus and into more buildings.
Free condoms available in campus bathrooms
Expand free HIV testing and improve access to regular testing.

Transparency and Accountability on Sexual Violence
Students deserve to know what support is available, how to access it, and what happens when they report sexual violence. I want to push for a university response that is clear, transparent and accountable. This means:
Clearer reporting pathways and information about available support.
More transparency around university sexual violence policies and services.
Better communication about what happens when concerns are raised.
Real accountability for the university's commitments to students.

Supporting Student Carers and Parents
Student carers and parents face additional barriers that university policies don't always recognise. Balancing study with caring responsibilities shouldn't mean having to choose between your education and the people who rely on you. This means:
More flexible policies around deadlines, attendance and university requirements.
Better recognition of the additional barriers faced by student carers and parents.
More equitable support for students balancing study with caregiving or parenting.
Making sure care responsibilities don't become a barrier to education.

International Students' Officer

Shaghayegh Chamani

Independent



I am running for International Students' Officer because I want international students at UTS to feel supported, included, and confident that their concerns are being heard.

Studying in another country can be exciting, but it also comes with challenges. International students may have to adjust to a new academic system, manage financial pressure, understand visa and work requirements, communicate in a second language, and build a new social network away from family and familiar support.

If elected, I would focus on making information and support easier to access. I would like international students to have clearer guidance on university services, academic support, wellbeing resources, employment opportunities, and other issues that can affect their experience in Australia.

I also want to help international students feel more connected to the wider UTS community. It can sometimes be difficult to meet people outside your own course or cultural group, so I would support more social, cultural, networking, and career-focused activities that bring students together.

Another important part of this role is advocacy. International students can face concerns that are different from those of domestic students, so I think it is important to have someone who is willing to listen, raise those issues, and follow up where possible.

I would aim to be approachable and open to students from all backgrounds and cultures. I want international students to feel comfortable sharing their concerns, asking questions, and getting involved in university life.

If elected, I would be proud to represent international students and work toward making their experience at UTS more supportive, connected, and welcoming.

Vrinda Sharma

Independent



I've called three countries home. Born and raised in India, I moved to Singapore for 8 years, and now I'm in Sydney studying Business at UTS. Every move taught me what it's like to be the new person in the room, figuring out a new system, a new culture, a new way of doing things, often with no one showing you the ropes. That's exactly why I'm running for International Students Officer.

I'm not approaching this as an outsider looking in. I've filled in visa paperwork at 1am. I've sat in a lecture unsure if the referencing style I learned back home would get me flagged here. These aren't hypotheticals for me, they're a random tuesday.

My priorities:

Sara Allahbakhshianfarsani

Independent



I'm Sara Allahbakhshian, an international PhD candidate in Engineering and IT. I know how much is riding on every semester when your visa, finances and future depend on it, and how hard it can be to find the right help far from home. I'm running to make sure international students at UTS are heard, protected and supported.

1. Protecting your degree and visa: As UTS cuts courses and subjects, I'll fight to make sure no international student's visa or graduation is put at risk, with guaranteed pathways to finish, clear advice before any change to your enrolment and no extra cost.

2. Fair travel and living costs: Most international students in NSW pay full adult Opal fares, while eligible domestic students pay half. I'll campaign for concession fares for international students, push UTS to expand emergency grants, and connect students with free tenancy advice to avoid rental scams and unfair leases.

3. A voice on visas: A student visa now costs $2,500 and a graduate visa $5,750. I'll speak up in national debates against changes that make studying here less fair, and ensure students get clear updates and access to qualified advice whenever rules change.

4. Your rights at work: Too many international students are underpaid. I'll run know-your-rights campaigns on visa work conditions, minimum wages and wage theft, and connect students with free legal help through the UTSSA.

1. Housing that doesn't take advantage of us. Apart from UTS housing, a verified & affordable UTS-backed housing list and a fast-response line for students facing dodgy landlords or lease issues, because navigating the Sydney rental market with no local history is hard enough without getting scammed too.

2. Making visa and academic stress less isolating. Clear, centralised guidance on visa conditions and work-hour limits, plus workshops on Australian academic expectations before they turn into a misconduct case.

3. Community that outlasts orientation week. A peer-mentorship program pairing new international students with people who've already found their feet, someone fresh off the plane from Delhi, Jakarta, or Shenzhen paired with someone who's already been through it.

4. Making support easy to find. Multilingual, accessible info on counselling, legal aid, and financial support embedded where students actually look, not buried on page six of the UTS website.

5. Advocacy that treats us as a priority, not an afterthought. Consistently raising international student concerns, tuition hikes, casual work exploitation, visa issues directly with UTS management and student bodies.

I'm not promising to fix everything overnight. What I am promising is to show up, listen, and fight for what international students actually need because I've lived versions of these struggles across three countries, and I know how much it matters to have someone who gets it fighting your corner.

I know what it's like to rebuild your sense of home more than once. I want to make sure no international student at UTS has to do it alone.

5. Careers and belonging: I'll push for careers events with more employers open to hiring international graduates, run cultural and networking nights with the International Students' Collective, and advocate for culturally responsive mental health support.

6. A real voice at UTS: The International Students' Officer sits on UTS's Student/Council Liaison Group. I'll use that seat to raise the issues you bring me, hold regular drop-in sessions at times that suit students who work, and report back on progress.

International students give so much to UTS and to Sydney. We deserve a representative who fights just as hard for us. Vote Sara Allahbakhshian for International Students' Officer.

Jocelyn Yu

Independent



Hi, I'm Jocelyn Yu, an international PhD student in Electrical Engineering at UTS. My experience as an international student in Australia began long before my PhD. I came to Australia in 2014 to study Year 11 and later completed my undergraduate degree at UTS. I have therefore experienced international student life across secondary school, university, professional employment and now postgraduate research.

That journey has not always been straightforward. I know what it is like to arrive in a new country at a young age and learn to navigate a different education system, culture and way of life. During COVID, I was also caught overseas and had to continue my studies online from China, experiencing first-hand the isolation, uncertainty and practical difficulties that many international students faced when normal university life suddenly became inaccessible.

Since then, my experience in Australia has expanded beyond study. At Christian Dior Couture, I worked in administration and operations. At UNSW, I served as Media Minister of UNSW CNA, managing communications and helping organise major student activities. I later worked at Finisar, part of Coherent, in process development engineering, collaborating across technical and production teams. I am now back at UTS as a PhD researcher, with experience as both a research assistant and casual academic.

These experiences have shaped how I understand student representation. International students do not need representation only when a crisis occurs. They need clear pathways through the different transitions of student life: arriving in Australia, adapting academically and socially, managing financial and personal pressures, entering professional workplaces, progressing into postgraduate study and planning what comes next.

As International Students' Officer, I would focus on three areas: navigation, connection and representation. I want important information about support, financial assistance, academic services and professional development to be easier to find and understand. I want stronger connections between international students, the International Collective, the Students' Association and the wider UTS community. And when the same concerns repeatedly affect students, I want those patterns identified and raised through the appropriate university channels rather than remaining isolated individual cases.

I would also pay particular attention to international postgraduate and research students, whose needs can sometimes sit between international student services and postgraduate support.

My aim is to help build a system in which international students are not simply welcomed when they arrive, but supported through every stage of their university journey and given a clear, meaningful way to be heard when something is not working.

Menath Jayawardana

Independent



International students are a vital part of our university community, but they are too often expected to pay more while receiving less support. International students deserve practical representation that fights for material improvements to their lives.

As International Students Officer, I will campaign for international students to receive the same Opal card concessions available to domestic students. The cost of getting to university, work and essential appointments adds up quickly, and international students should not be excluded from Opal concessions simply because of their visa status.

I will also advocate against further increases to student visa fees and other government charges that make studying in Australia increasingly unaffordable. International students already contribute significantly through tuition fees, rent and living expenses and should not continually be treated as an easy source of additional revenue.

Housing and financial security will be another major priority. I will push for stronger safe-housing programs specifically designed for international students, including information about rental rights, scams, overcrowding and exploitation. I will advocate for emergency grants for students struggling to afford food, rent or temporary accommodation, so financial hardship does not force students into unsafe situations.

International students can also face unique safety concerns when arriving in a new country. I will push for expanded safety programs covering personal safety, workplace rights, scams, sexual violence support, public transport and where students can seek help without fear or confusion.

International students should also have a guaranteed voice in university decisions. I will campaign for mandatory international student consultation on university policies and decisions that substantially affect international students, rather than consultation occurring only after decisions have already been made.

Finally, students experiencing emergencies overseas should not be left stranded because they cannot afford to get home. I will lobby the university to establish an emergency travel assistance program to help fund flights home where a student's family has experienced serious hardship, natural disaster, conflict, bereavement or another exceptional emergency.

International students deserve more than being welcomed during orientation and forgotten afterwards. They deserve affordable transport, safe housing, financial security, meaningful consultation and support when things go wrong. As International Students Officer, I will fight to make those commitments a reality.

Indigenous Officer

Taya Morante

Independent



Mob is the most important influence in my life. It shapes how I live, form connections and the values I carry into my work and future career.

When I started university, I felt alone. I will soon be the fourth person in my family to complete a tertiary degree; my grandparents did not receive the opportunities that I did, nor did my aunts and uncles. University never felt like a choice to me, but arriving here was overwhelming and lonely. I felt left out. I want Indigenous students to know that they belong here too.

Before I entered this position, there was no Indigenous collective. There was no safe space within the student community for Indigenous students who had not provided proof of Aboriginality, or who were unable to do so for reasons that are quite frankly, none of our business. We now have a collective that has grown throughout the year. It is still small, but students can speak openly and find friendship and support through it. I want to keep building that community, especially for those living off Country or away from family.

My first priority is to finish the work I began this year and continue to advocate for a yarning circle on campus. Indigenous students deserve a place to gather, share knowledge and connect. I will continue pressing the University for a space and work with students to ensure their voices shape it. The circle should be somewhere that everyone can see. We deserve to take up space, to be seen, and to be unavoidable.

The collective brings students together to vent, have a yarn about beliefs and opinions, and ask for support without feeling they must explain themselves. I will keep creating opportunities to form friendships, and help students find University services.

Community means helping students access opportunities. I have reached out to contacts to seek funding for national conferences, helped students gain access to free textbooks, and helped facilitate contacts within the workforce. I want to continue pursuing opportunities that help students learn from mob and build networks and friends that will last a lifetime.

I do not run for this role because it looks good on my resume. I run because I remember questioning whether there was a place for me here. I want every Indigenous student who comes to UTS to recognise that this institution is for us too, and we belong.

Amelia Ireland

FIRE UP!



Yaama Maliyaa! Hello friends! My name is Amelia. I am a Gomeroi woman hailing from Darug Country, a third-year Communications (Journalism & Social and Political Science) student, and I am running with Fire Up! to be the UTSSA Indigenous Officer for 2027.

Over the past two years, I have served on the UTSSA as both Disabilities Officer and as a general councillor. During my time on the SRC, I have done my best to tangibly support students, particularly students like me from marginalised backgrounds. Indigenous students continue to face systemic barriers to higher education. We make up just one per cent of the total student population at UTS. That's less than our national average. I'm supporting Fire Up! because we are the only ticket that is committed to supporting First Nations students at UTS in all areas of our lives.

Supporting First Nations Students
Indigenous students deserve to feel seen, heard and cared about. We know that our mob do best when we have a strong community around us. To support First Nations students, I will:

- Work closely and in collaboration with the Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research
- Host cultural events and workshops on campus, fostering a culturally safe community through the UTSSA's Indigenous Collective.

Combatting Racism on Campus
As indigenous students, the racism that we face is often ongoing and constant. To combat racism on campus, I will:
Ensure that our university takes racism seriously and is implementing policies and complaint handling processes that embed safe, respectful, and inclusive practices, making sure students feel safe to call things out as they happen.
Deliver compulsory racism modules and training for staff and students to create a more inclusive campus environment.
Make sure that students know where they can turn to get support if they are victim to racism on campus.

Solidarity with Oppressed Peoples
The fight against colonialism is ongoing, and we see this across the globe. From Gadigal to Gaza, our fight for self-determination, sovereignty and the right to live in peace and security is a shared struggle. To continue the union's solidarity with oppressed peoples, I will:

- Stand in continuing solidarity with Palestine and ensure that the UTSSA's long-standing support for the nation and people of Palestine continues.
- Oppose partnerships with IDF-linked institutions, maintaining pressure on the university to cut ties with institutions supporting the IDF or other military organisations operating in violation of international law and human rights.

Maarubaa! Thank you!

General Members of Council

LEFT ACTION

Candidates

Louie Comitogianni
(Photo not supplied)

Estelle Ferguson



Januka Suraweera



Ashley Jordan

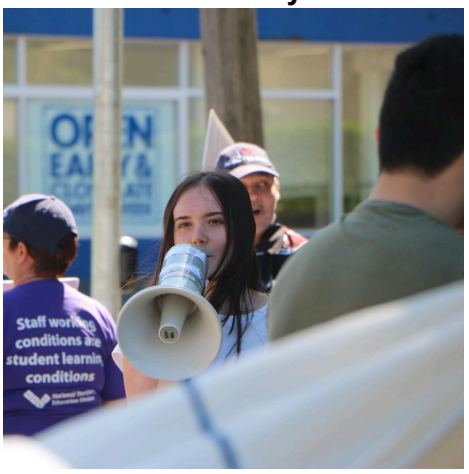


Social Justice



Candidates

Lauren Finlayson

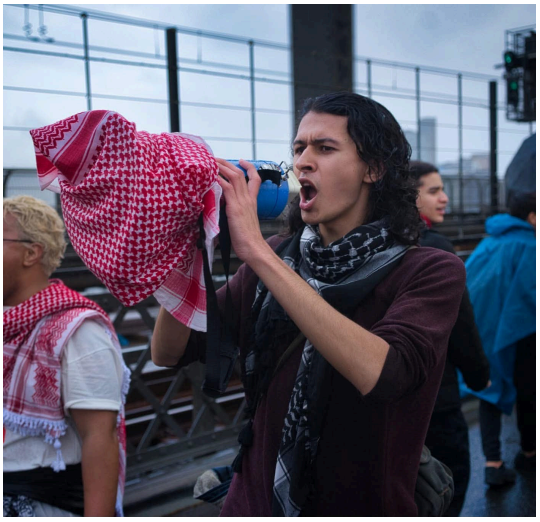


Hi my name is Lauren! I am running with Social Justice because I think we need a student union that will fight against the insurgence of far right politics embodied in Pauline Hanson and against the ongoing genocide in Gaza.

- I am a member of Students for Palestine UTS and I helped to organise the march for humanity last year which saw 300,000 people protest across the Harbour Bridge for Palestine.
- I helped to organise the National Day of Action against Pauline Hanson which brought together hundreds of university and high school students from across NSW.
- I was at the protest against Isaac Herzog (the president of Israel) when he was invited to Australia by Albanese, and witnessed the police brutality against those who wanted to stand up against a genocide.
- I have stood on picket lines with UTS staff when they went on strike to

demand better pay and working conditions.

Zack Hossain



Hey! I'm Zack and I'm a socialist running for a general councillor role on the UTS Student Association.

I reckon UTS needs a left-wing student association that will fight for the things that matter. In that vein, I've been an activist for the past 3 years as part of Students for Palestine, Community Action for Rainbow Rights, and Campaign Against Racism and Fascism. Across two campuses, I have organised the student contingent to the Harbour Bridge March, the massive student strike against Pauline Hanson, solidarity protests with the Gen-Z revolutions across the world, opposed the UTS cuts, and much more!

UTS management is infamous for it's massive cuts, ties to the weapons companies arming the Gaza genocide, and mass lay-offs of staff. We need more left-wing students, activists, and socialists on the UTSSA to fight against this. You might've seen me outside Building 1 leafleting for the next protest, standing with UTS and USyd staff in their fights for better pay and conditions, or chairing Students for Palestine meetings.

Alongside the other activists running with Social Justice, I am dedicated to fighting for a better world! Vote [1] Social Justice for a UTSSA that will fight back.

Isabel Turner



Hey I'm Isabel! Member for Students for Palestine and the Education Action Group, and I believe that universities should NOT be corporate entities, and SRC should be a radical left wing body that fights against the rise of the right and for a free Palestine.

- I've been a part of organising campaigns on campus including the Stopthecuts campaign which involved supporting striking workers demanding better working conditions.

- I've also been involved in SFP organising, and the building of protests including the Herzog rally!

- Joined the student referendum to vote for our universities to CUT TIES with Israel.

- Organised to build the NDA against Hanson! Fought to put opposition to the rise of the right in the MAINSTREAM.

- I got involved during the blockade for the ICC of the maritime weapons expo, was pepper sprayed and realised the brutality of the police and INACTION taken against war criminals involved in genocide.

Allysa Carling



Hey! My name is Allysa and I'm running with Social Justice. I'm running because I have been angered by the rising cost-of-living crisis that sees basic necessities and housing become unaffordable, and the inaction of both Labor and Liberal parties in parliament.

From the start of the anti-Pauline Hanson student movement, I have helped campaign alongside other activists who recognise that Hanson's racism and sexism will create a society that is more barbaric for ordinary people.

I have been involved in Students for Palestine, attending the protest against Issac Hertzog at the start of the year, and the protest against Labor Conference for failing to take action against the ongoing genocide against Palestinians.

I have attended NTEU staff strikes at UTS and USyd to support striking professional staff and teachers, as better teaching conditions are better student conditions.

Jesse Judson



Hi, I'm Jesse, a students for Palestine member and socialist activist here at UTS. I'm running in this year's student elections as a member for Social Justice because I believe that the UTS students association should be an organisation that should be fighting for the rights of students and also using all of our collective power to fight against the rise of the far right , racism and the corporatisation of university.

I became an activists as witnessing the genocide and war in Palestine made me realise that as students we have a role to play in voicing opposition to the universities ties with weapons companies. One of the first protests I was involved in organising was a student strike against universities weapons ties.

Most recently I have been involved in the organising and building of both the national day of actions against Pauline Hanson where 10,000 students came out in protest of Pauline Hanson's racist, billionaire backed politics. I believe that the UTSSA should be more involved in fighting against far right politics and the rise of one nation.

Ve Chlebek



Hi, I'm Ve, and I'm a socialist activist and member of students for Palestine at UTS. I first got involved in politics during the Palestine Student Encampments. I've been an activist ever since.
In the past few years I've helped build dozens of protests and political events on campus.

I helped build for the protest against Issac Herzog, the Israeli president who visited Sydney back in February. I've gone on strike with our tutors and university staff in the NTEU (the teachers union) through the Stop the Cuts campaign. Last year I marched across the Harbour Bridge alongside 300 thousand other protesters in the March for Humanity and helped build the national student referendum for Palestine that UTS students voted in. Most recently I've helped organise the country wide student strikes against Pauline Hanson and her rampant bigotry.

Tim Rawson



Hi, I'm Tim and I'm a socialist. I'm running because I think the student union should be an institution that fights for our rights and opposes cuts to welfare and education.

As a member of the Education Action Group I helped organise to support the staff strikes last year and the Stop the Cuts campaign to protect staff and save our courses.

This year, I helped organise both Anti-Hanson national day of action student strikes.

As a Nurse and trade union activist, I've organised campaigns and protests to defend Palestine activists and freedom of speech, and as a Students for Palestine member helped organise the student referendum for Palestine.

Ella Haid



Hey I'm Ella and I reckon we need more socialist activists in the UTSSA!

I study a diploma in languages, one of the degrees that have been slashed in UTS' $85M+ cuts process. I spent my first two years of this degree as the convenor of the Stop The Cuts UTS campaign. I organised meetings, speakouts, protests, forums and soon a Fair Day Against The Cuts - because we think that protest and people power should come first in student unions.

As this year's UTSSA Education Officer my proudest achievement was playing a role in organising the nationwide protest against Pauline Hanson on Aug 13, which over 10K university and high school students across Australia took part in.

Gaza is without a doubt the crime of our generation - I was proud to have been a part

of organising last year's brilliant UTS wing of the National Student Referendum on Palestine which saw 5k students participate across Aus. We held UTS' biggest ever event for Palestine when 300 students voted to sanction Albanese for his complicity in the Gaza genocide and voted for UTS to cut ties with weapons companies.

The Social Justice ticket is full of student activists who spend their time fighting to build what we direly need: a real anticapitalist fightback to a world that puts profits first while ordinary people come last.

Euan Mendoza
(Photo not supplied)

Hey, I'm Euan, a student and staff activist at UTS. I'm part of a collective of activists that have put on the biggest events in our memory — the national student referendum for weapons off campus, the student strike against Pauline Hanson and numerous campus protests.

Last year I was one of the key staff voices against the cuts, and this year I have been one of the key staff voices for striking for better pay and conditions. This year I was part of organising and voting for two 24 hours strikes and a 6 hour staff strike last year.

More broadly, student activism has been an integral part of student culture for decades — from the freedom rides to the Vietnam war protests. I am a proud socialist and activist — this means that I want the student bodied legacy to be one of fighting for the big political issues that affect all students. We are living in a world that every year is the hottest recorded, new imperial wars and the rise of misogyny and racism and our institutions — the university management pushing for weapons contracts and the Labor government rolling out the red carpet for war criminals — are complicit!

I've been a student at UTS for 5 years both as an undergrad and postgrad. I have been pepper sprayed and gone to research meetings on the same day! This is why you should vote for us!

Ellie Feng



Hi I'm Ellie.

I'm a member of Students for Palestine and the Socialist activist group that organised protests for Palestine and the nation-wide Anti-Hanson Protest.

I heard about the UTS staff cuts prior to enrolment, since then I have joined the Stop the Cuts Campaign and supported staff going on strike. Becoming a student activist has been the best decision I've ever made!

My first year of uni has taught me the importance of advocating for workers and students, climate justice, palestinian liberation, women's rights, and more.

I believe students are a force to be reckoned with; we are a layer of society that are capable of changing the world.

I want the SRC to empower students to fight for a better world.

Benjamin Karol Grant-Skiba



Hi, I'm Ben. I'm a final year Biomedical engineering student and proud activist with Students for Palestine and the Socialist Club. I've helped organise the historic march for Humanity across the Harbour Bridge. I spoke at the Student Referendum on Palestine. I campaigned against the course cuts and joined the student contingent in support of UTS staff on strike. I helped build the Nationwide student strike against Pauline Hanson.

Neil Ayon
(Photo not supplied)

Hi my name is Neil. I'm a fourth year student studying environmental biology at UTS. This semester I participated in student activism on campus by leafleting for the national day of action against Pauline Hanson. I am a member of the UTS Students for Palestine and was involved in campaigning for Palestine action on campus. As an environmental science student, I strongly believe that the SRC should be an organisation that pioneers environmental activism by standing up and opposing the destructive nature of corporate universities, including its ties to the fossil fuels industry. I strongly believe in funding free education, lowering student rent and free university campaigns.

Ash Satchell
(Photo not supplied)

Andrew Brogden
(Photo not supplied)

My name is Andrew and this is my fourth year in the student elections at UTS with Social Justice. Social Justice is a much needed radical, left wing, activist grouping that fights against all issues today.

The world is changing for the worse and the solution is to fight. Social Justice members that have provided an invaluable lead to many of the key activist campaigns inside and outside UTS.

We have been leading the free Palestine campaign and the fight for UTS to cut all ties to the genocide in Gaza. Social Justice helped lead the student referendum for Palestine at UTS that saw over 300 students come out to say no to genocide.

Another campaign is the Stop The Cuts Campaign. We stood up to the corporate university and management who wanted to put profits before our staff and our education. I was proud to have joined staff on the days they went on strike and to help bring other students to support the staff.

The rise of Pauline Hanson and One Nation is a horrific development. These far right politics need to be resisted. Already Social Justice members have organised the nationwide student strikes against Pauline Hanson. To fight One Nation and their rotten politics we need an uncompromising response that calls a racist a racist.

We stand in a long tradition of students resisting the system. But tradition means nothing if it remains simply a potential. We need an active resistance, a living tradition. Vote Social Justice.

Karthik A

Independent



Hi, I'm Karthik, and I'm running for General Member of Council.

Most students don't have time to get deep into student politics, and honestly, you shouldn't have to. That's exactly why I'm running: to be a Council member who actually shows up, listens, and follows through, so you don't have to.

My approach is simple. I'll push for practical improvements to the things that affect students every day: campus facilities, events, communication from the SA, and support services that are easy to access when you

actually need them. I'm not chasing one narrow agenda. I want to be a steady, dependable voice who represents what students genuinely want, not what's easiest to decide behind closed doors.

I bring real experience coordinating student-led initiatives at UTS, working across different groups and priorities to get things done collaboratively. That's the same energy I'll bring to Council: turning up prepared, listening properly, and making sure decisions reflect the student body, not just the loudest voices in the room.

If you want a Council member who takes the role seriously without taking themselves too seriously, I'd appreciate your vote.

Vote 1 Karthik Ananthanarayanan for General Member of Council.

FIRE UP!

fire up!
for src + nus
authorised by Eamonn Ryan Law III

Candidates

Aarushi Duggal



Thomas Snow



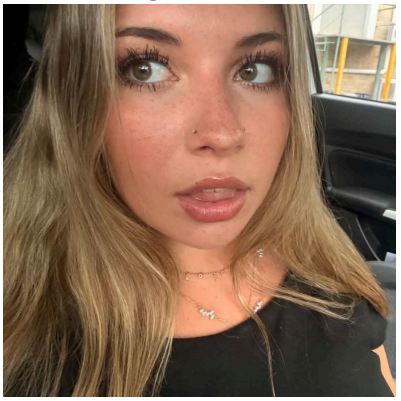
Isabella Taylor



Amelia Raptis



Allegra Riskalla



Ruby Roche



Sam Dryden
(Photo not supplied)

Huw Watson

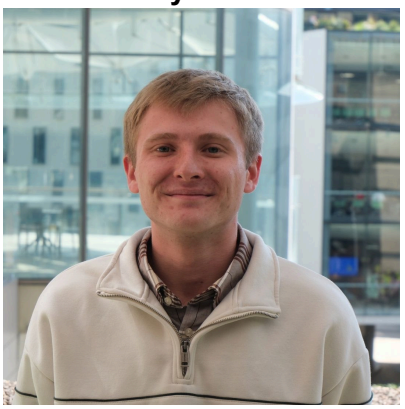


Arlo Smithies



Joshua Baroudy
(Photo not supplied)

Harvey Kerrison



Annabelle Jones



Olivia Lee

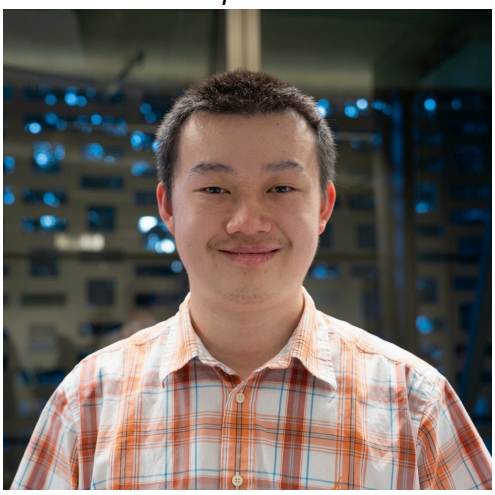


Ryan Newman



Vincent Jiang

Independent



I am nominating for General Member of Council because I want UTSSA to be practical, accessible and focused on issues that students actually experience day to day.

My first priority is improving communication between students, UTSSA and UTS. Important information about support services, academic processes and student opportunities should be easy to find and understand. I would support clearer communication, better feedback channels and more transparent updates on the issues Council is working on.

I also want UTSSA to focus on practical student support. Cost-of-living pressures, academic stress, administrative problems and finding work or internship opportunities can all have a major impact on students. I would support initiatives that make existing services easier to access and advocate for improvements where students are consistently encountering problems.

I am particularly interested in how technology can improve student services. Through my experience in technology, automation and process improvement, I have seen how better systems can reduce unnecessary administrative work and make services easier to use. I would bring that perspective to the Council while making sure technology is used where it genuinely benefits students.

Finally, I want the Council to be accountable and responsive. Students should be able to understand what their representatives are working on, raise concerns easily and see whether those concerns are being followed up.

My aim would be to contribute a practical, evidence-based perspective to the Council and help turn student feedback into concrete action.

F*CK ONE NATION

Authorised by Lauren Finlayson, Comms I

Candidates

William Murray



Trang Tran



Adrian De Dona



Hamish Bell



I'm Hamish, running with F*CK ONE NATION for UTSSA. I'm a student and political activist. I'm part of the UTS Education Action Group, which organised 'Stop The Cuts' against management's attacks on courses and staff, and more recently UTS contingents for the anti-Hanson student strikes.

An active member of UTS Students For Palestine, In 2025 I helped build the National Union of Students' Referendum on Palestine, the blockade of the Pan-Pacific Weapons Expo, and this year we ran the 'Weapons of Campus' campaign.

I'm a proud unionist and NTEU member as a casual warehouse employee at Sydney University.

I think our student association should represent our political interests, and be uncompromising with university management on issues like their ties to weapons companies, political repression on campus and cuts to our education.

I think the UTSSA should fight against the prevalent scapegoating of migrants, Muslims and International Students in Australian politics by mobilising more students to demonstrate against One Nation and Pauline Hanson's bigotry.

GENERAL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Jonathan Waters



I'm running with F*CK ONE NATION because we need left wing student unions that fight for students and left wing causes!

I got involved in politics due to the threat of climate change. My first protest was walking out of school during the 2019 School Strikes for Climate. Since then capitalism has only taken us closer to climate disaster.
In Europe heatwaves have killed 35,000 people and the UN has announced that passing 1.5° of global heating is now unavoidable.

Meanwhile Labor steams ahead with record fossil fuel developments, with only tepid criticisms and support from the Greens on the one hand, and on the other One Nation is renormalising open climate denialism.
Never has the need for a left wing fight back been so urgent.

This year I was elected to the general council of the UTSSA and throughout this year and the last we have used our position to push the student union to take an important stand and mobilise students around a range of left wing issues and campaigns.

The Nationwide student referendum in support of Palestine.

A Nationwide school strike against universities' weapons ties.

The 20k strong protest against Israel's president Isaac Herzog.

Opposition to UTS management's $100 million cuts, and support for striking UTS Staff.

Mobilising students to attend Nationwide Student walkouts against Hanson.

We need student unions that mobilise students around left wing issues and rebuild the type of movements we need to push back against climate distaster, genocide, racism and capitalism.

Shalinee Bajwa



Andrew Brogden



Autumn McMahon



Grassroots 4 SRC



Candidates

Ilya Azizkhani



Nikolai Shchekochikhin



Caitlin McInnes



Olivia Dang



Delegates to the National Union of Students (NUS)

Grassroots 4 SRC



Candidates

Aarushi Duggal



Arlo Smithies



Olivia Dang



FIRE UP!

fire up !
for src + nus
authorised by Eamonn Ryan Law III

Candidates

Eamonn Ryan



Grace Cole



Sina Afsharmehr



Caitlin McInes



Ruby Roche



Cam Perez



Vincent Jiang

Independent



I am nominating as a Delegate to the National Union of Students because many of the issues affecting students extend beyond a single university.

My priorities are affordability, employment opportunities, academic support and making national student representation more practical and accountable.

Cost-of-living pressure is one of the clearest challenges facing students. I would support stronger national advocacy on issues such as student financial support, transport, housing affordability and the costs associated with studying.

I also want greater attention given to the transition between university and employment. Students should have better access to internships, work experience, industry connections and clear information about career pathways. My own experience across technology, industry and university activities has shown me how valuable these opportunities can be.

I would also support stronger protections around academic fairness and student wellbeing, including clear processes for students experiencing difficulties with assessment, administration or access to support.

Finally, I believe national student representation should be transparent about what it is doing. Students should be able to understand what their delegates are advocating for, what decisions are being made and how those decisions affect them. As an NUS delegate, I would bring a practical and evidence-focused approach to national student issues, while making sure the experiences of UTS students are represented in those discussions.

Social Justice



Candidates

Thomas Snow



Ella Haid



Amelia Ireland



Isabel Turner



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- I've also been involved in SFP organising, and the building of protests including the Herzog rally!

- Joined the student referendum to vote for our universities to CUT TIES with Israel
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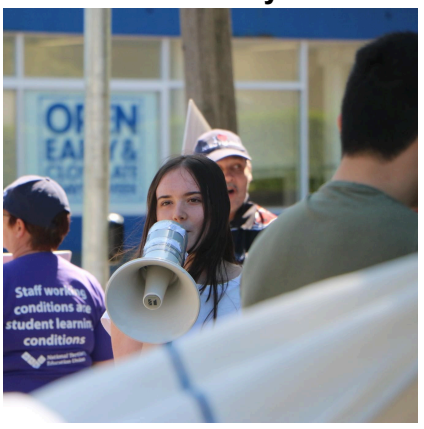
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Lauren Finlayson



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- I helped to organise the National Day of Action against Pauline Hanson which brought

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- I have stood on picket lines with UTS staff when they went on strike to demand better pay and working conditions

Allysa Carling



Hey! My name is Allysa and I'm running with Social Justice. I'm running because I have been angered by the rising cost-of-living crisis that sees basic necessities and housing become unaffordable, and the inaction of both Labor and Liberal parties in parliament.

From the start of the anti-Pauline Hanson student movement, I have helped campaign alongside other activists who recognise that Hanson's racism and sexism will create a society that is more barbaric for ordinary people.

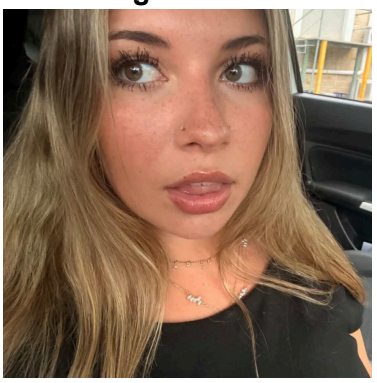
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LEFT ACTION

Candidates

Allegra Riskalla



Olivia Lee



Francesca Harrison



Annabelle Jones

