

April 2025 SRC MINUTES

30/04/2025 | 6:30pm | CB10.02.470

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1. Opening of meeting at 6:36pm

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Mia delivers the acknowledgement of country, acknowledging the Gadigal people of the Eora nation upon whose ancestral lands UTS stands, and extends respect to elders past, present and emerging and any Indigenous people present today. Mia acknowledges that sovereignty was never ceded, and that this always was and always will be, Aboriginal land.

1.2. Confirmation of Deputy Chair

Mia calls for nominations for Deputy Chair. Januka nominates as Deputy Chair. There are no other nominations for Deputy Chair, so Januka is confirmed as Deputy Chair.

1.3. Attendance, Apologies and Proxies

Attendees

Name	Position (Councillor, Student Observer, Staff)
Mia Campbell	President
Januka Suraweera	General Secretary
Aryan Sharma	Assistant General Secretary
Neeve Nagle	Welfare Officer
Samiha Emran	Education Officer
Olivia Lee	Women's Officer
Daewah Thein	Queer Officer
Sina Afsharmehr	Environment and Technology Officer
Amelia Ireland	Disabilities Officer

Salma Elmubasher	Ethnocultural Officer
Natasha Abdulghani	Councillor
Amelia Raptis	Councillor
Eamonn Ryan	Councillor
Lucia Thornton	Councillor
Yasmine Johnson	Councillor
Elliot Kameron	Councillor
Ella Haid	Councillor
Omar El-Sobihy	Councillor
Chloe Ferrira	Undergraduate UTS Council Representative
Jennifer Willis	Staff
Kimia Nojournian	Vertigo
El Potts	Observer
Matthew Murray	Observer
Tyberius Seeto	Observer

Apologies

Name	Position (Councillor, Student Observer, Staff)
Alessio Maiese	Councillor

Proxies

Name	Proxy Accepted By
Dirk Hoare	Sina
Vaishnavi Omar	Januka
Harshvardhan Suvarna	Olivia

Jermaine Petterson-Heard	Neeve
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1.4. Declarations of Interest

Mia calls for declarations of interest to be made for this meeting.

No one makes any declarations.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes from March were not included in meeting notice and will be approved at May meeting.

2.1. Executive Business

Januka tables the Executive minutes attached to the meeting notice from several Executive Meetings.

2.1 03.03.2025 *Executive Meeting Minutes*

2.2 16.03.2025 *Executive Meeting Minutes*

2.3 25.04.2025 *Executive Meeting Minutes*

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Mia explains the introduction of table to track action items which have responsibilities assigned to individuals.

4. Correspondence

Mia raises communication from Deputy Vice-Chancellor Kylie Readman received this month regarding news policies to deal with potentially unsafe student activity.

Yasmine: Describes it as concerning and reflective of action by other Universities. That Universities keeps using student safety to justify large security and shutting down protests.

Speaks to these will only be used to oppose students, as most protests are meant to make some

group uncomfortable to something.

Mia: Suggests that this discussion can be left till later only due to the fact she has put up a motion covering the topic.

Yasmine: Suggests the letter is unique as it shows that the University is focused on student safety and that students should instead be focused on political rights.

Mia: Will talk further at that later motion, although at the time of the letter she was unaware on the investigation into the National Day of Action but reflects these are connected as it is the start of the new policies suggested.

5. Office Bearers' Reports

Mia: Suggests that all OB's limit themselves to 30's recap unless they want to simply take it as read to ensure the meeting can conclude on time.

5.1. President

Mia speaks to their report, highlighting the following aspects from their report:

Touches on the Campaign for Palestine. With other campaigns requiring support from SRC in future motions. Mentions work on the New UTSSA Office Spaces.

5.2. General Secretary

Januka reads their report.

5.3. Assistant General Secretary

As the role was only recently filled no report was submitted.

Aryan: Introduces himself as a Bachelor of AI student. Looking forward to working for the SRC

Mia: Explains the process of the succession. After the resignation of the previous General Secretary, the role was offered to the Assistant General Secretary who accepted at which point it was offered to the Education Officer who refused leading to the person to come second in the elections to be offered the role.

5.4. Education Officer

Samiha takes report as read.

5.5. Welfare Officer

Neeve speaks to their report, highlighting the following aspects from their report:

Mentions compulsory bench marking Survey for student housing that they created in response to the SCLG paper previously put up. Wants to encourage students to fill it out because so far housing has stated they received no complaints.

5.6. Women's Officer

Olivia speaks to their report, highlighting the following aspects from their report:

Flags Period Product survey has begun, encourages anyone who can help to assist in poster.

5.7. International Students' Officer

Harshvardhan is absent and so their report is taken as read.

5.8. Indigenous Officer

Jermaine is absent and so their report is taken as read.

5.9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

Vaishnavi is absent and so their report is taken as read.

5.10. Ethnocultural Officer

Salma speaks to their report, highlighting the following aspects from their report:

Updates on event with IDF soldiers on campus earlier in the month, which was distressing for students. When this was brought up, they were ignored. Rally in opposition was threatened with Misconduct for anyone involved which Kylie since apologised for, while members of security cried during the rally.

Warns about wearing the UTSSA hoodies, because staff member unprompted brought up Hitler and Hamas to her.

5.11. Disabilities Officer

Amelia Ireland takes report as read.

5.12. Queer Officer

Daewah takes report as read.

5.13. Environment Officer

Sina speaks to their report, highlighting the following aspects from their report:

Highlights stall that was run earlier in the day, gives thanks to those that helped.

6. Other Reports

6.1. Committees

Kimia on behalf of Vertigo: Speaks to Launch party tomorrow night which has broken even and will be at the Abercrombie at 7pm.

Mentions work towards third edition including getting a Trans advisory body as it will be the Queer edition.

6.2. Reports from Councillors, Convenors and Staff as requested or required.

No reports requested or required.

7. Operational and Procedural Business, Stipends and Reimbursements.

7.1 2024 Audit Approval

Action: That the UTSSA SRC:

1. Confirm that the UTS Students' Association is not a reporting entity, and that the 2024 financial report has been appropriately prepared as a special purpose

financial report in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the 2024 financial statements.

2. Endorse the view that the 2024 financial report, as set out on pages 1 to 10, presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the UTS Students' Association as at 31 December 2024 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date.
3. Affirm that, as of the date of this resolution, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the UTS Students' Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
4. Confirm, as stated in the formal letter of representation to the auditors, that to the best of the SRC's knowledge and belief, the information provided in connection with the audit of the 2024 financial report is accurate and complete.

Mover: Sina

Second: Neeve

Mia: reads out motion explains this motion is legal requirement for the SRC as a non-profit including the responsibilities that entails.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.2 Reimbursement Request for Extra Pizza Costs – Trip to Palm Beach for International Students on 20th April 2025

Preamble:

For the *Trip to Palm Beach for International Students* held on 20th April 2025, we had initially planned to cater pizzas from Domino's. However, due to their unavailability on the day, we had to opt for Pizza Hut, which was the most affordable alternative available. As a result, the total cost of pizzas came to \$334.76. We had received \$275 from ticket sales, but there was an extra cost of \$59.76 that needed to be covered.

Action:

That the SRC will reimburse the International Students' Officer, Harshvardhan Suvarna, \$59.76 for the extra costs of pizza that was purchased to cater the *Trip to Palm Beach for International Students* on 20th April 2025.

Mover: Salma

Second: Neeve

Samiha: Mentions because of the Pizza Hutt and Dominos expenses in the motion that she will abstain as a part of BDS.

Salma: Explains she had not realised that and will also be Abstaining.

Mia: Will reach out to both Harshvardhan and Vaishnavi to ensure they are aware of BDS in future.

6 Abstentions:

1. Samiha
2. Omar
3. Salma
4. Natasha
5. Ameila Ireland
6. Daewah

16 Votes in Favour:

1. Mia Campbell
3. Januka Suraweera (Holding Vaishnavi's Proxy)
4. Aryan Sharma
6. Neeve Nagle (Holding Jermaine's Proxy)
8. Olivia Lee (Holding Harshvardhan's Proxy)
10. Sina Afsharmehr (Holding Dirk's Proxy)
11. Amelia Raptis
12. Eamonn Ryan
13. Lucia Thornton
14. Yasmine Johnson
15. Elliot Kameron
16. Ella Haid

The motion passes.

7.3 Postgraduate Careers Workshop Funding

Action: The UTSSA approves a budget of \$350 for the Postgraduate Careers Workshop event being organised by the Postgraduate Officer, Vaishnavi Omar, for the postgraduate students on 30th April. This event includes pizza & soft drinks lunch for students and

bouquets to welcome the panel guests, the allocated budget will be used towards the arrangements.

Mover: Neeve

Secunder: Sina

Ella: Speaks to the issue of the UTSSA, not needing to do what the University is already doing as it doesn't achieve much.

Samiha: That these events will help build engagement with collectives and collectives already have funding although acknowledges it as valid concerns.

Neeve: Adds on that Careers is very important for postgraduate students so it is the best way to build the Collectives reputation.

Tyberius: Ask's if we know the companies invited and whether we know for sure they are not boycott list.

Mia: Was not made aware was organised with UTS Careers, acknowledges it as important question. There was a policy implemented for this but as not part of the Bylaws there is limitations to enforcement unless there are massive breeches in order to continue the freedom of the collectives to decide their own events.

Mia: Would be more inclined to discuss further if it was prior to the event, as usually collectives have independence and funding has already been spent so difficult to refuse reimbursement now. Agrees that there needs to more discussion.

Neeve: Mentions it is important to bring forward policy in future meetings to ensure partnerships are captured.

Yasmine: Reiterates a concern that it is not about whether companies involved were objectionable but whether the UTSSA should be spending funding doing the same thing as the university instead of focusing on issues relevant to Postgraduate Students. Disagrees on events like these assisting in getting students involved in Collectives.

Mia: Agrees that there are issues with UTS Careers and does not want to repeat them. Believes that the event is better because it is focused on created networks and community between students in the Collective.

Januka: Mentions that Vaishnavi had let him know earlier that she had spent more than she initially wrote the motion for and requested for it to be amended.

Neeve is Amendable to increase it to \$368.5 an extra \$18.50

“Action: The UTSSA approves a budget of \$368.50”

Motion as Amended goes to vote

4 Votes Against:

1. Lucia,
2. Yasmine
3. Elliot
4. Ella

19 Votes in Favour:

1. Mia Campbell
3. Januka Suraweera (Holding Vaishnavi’s Proxy)
4. Aryan Sharma
6. Neeve Nagle (Holding Jermaine’s Proxy)
8. Olivia Lee (Holding Harshvardhan’s Proxy)
10. Sina Afsharmehr (Holding Dirk’s Proxy)
11. Amelia Raptis
12. Eamonn Ryan
13. Chloe Ferrira
14. Samiha
15. Omar
16. Salma
17. Natasha
18. Ameila Ireland
19. Daewah

The motion passes.

7.4 Plant a Tree Day

Action:

That the UTSSA approves a budget of 200 dollars for expenses relating to the Plant a Tree Day on April 13th in accordance with the vote to approve the spending at the Enviro meeting held on 18/4/2025.

Mover: Sina

Seconder: Amelia Raptis

Sina: Explains the motion, as a basic event to plant trees which required funding.

Mia: Mentions that due to Collective independence if approved at a Collective meeting SRC can't reject reimbursements unless it goes against the Bylaws.

Lucia: Mentions facing massive climate change related issues and that real action involves protesting. References protests involving some of UTS current partnerships so considers it a joke that the Environment Collective is being used to plant trees.

Sina: Thanks Lucia for the comment stating that's all that criticism deserves.

Mia: Reiterates this isn't the place to debate what the collective approves and that those with Issues with its spending should go to their meetings. As the SRC doesn't have input on what the Collective chose to spend their funding on unless it goes against the rules of the Union.

Yasmine: Says we should be able to discuss what collectives should or shouldn't be doing while their Office Bearers are here, not should they have the right to spend the money. Agrees with Collective Autonomy, disagrees with current actions.

Mia: Makes clear she is saying those with disagreements with those actions should go to the meetings.

Sina: Make extended response, states there is nothing right wing about planting trees, mentions communities appreciate the work. Expresses confusion as to why so much focus is going into this motion. Recognises that they have no real issues with the trees and that they are asking for other action which he understands but doesn't consider it relevant to the current motion.

Ella: Responds that in a Climate Crisis planting trees is a right-wing as it does not do enough to oppose Climate Change. That he would be much more effective fighting the Labor government instead of doing what Corporations do by presenting the crisis as ordinary people's fault.

Neeve: Reiterates that those opposed to the motion, are against planting trees.
Speaks to the motion being on spending for trees and that those opposed should come to a collective meeting as the current forum to discuss collective issues.

Ella: Responds, that they have a right to criticize. Reiterates their groups opposition to the previous motion on the basis that the UTSSA should not be running normal events that assist the University instead of countering it on issues.

Tyberius: Asks whether the collective will return to environmental collective activism.

Sina: Open to doing activism alongside other events, is not opposed states that they should come to the collective meetings and help plan action.

El Potts: Asks why this particular event is an issue instead of going to the collective. States that as a Convenor would appreciate more input from SRC and that they should come to collective meetings if they do have issues to discuss with the collective so that it can be done earlier.

Sina: Confirms no one raised concerns at the Collective meeting.

4 Votes Against:

1. Lucia,
2. Yasmine
3. Elliot
4. Ella

19 Votes in Favour:

1. Mia Campbell
3. Januka Suraweera (Holding Vaishnavi's Proxy)
4. Aryan Sharma
6. Neeve Nagle (Holding Jermaine's Proxy)
8. Olivia Lee (Holding Harshvardhan's Proxy)
10. Sina Afsharmehr (Holding Dirk's Proxy)
11. Amelia Raptis
12. Eamonn Ryan
13. Chloe Ferrira

- 14. Samiha
- 15. Omar
- 16. Salma
- 17. Natasha
- 18. Ameila Ireland
- 19. Daewah

The motion passes.

7.5 Reimbursement for Printing:

Preamble: In order to promote the Your Period, Your Voice Campaign, WoCo is printing out posters to put up around campus. 100 posters were printed out on 28/4/25 costing \$34.

Action: Reimburse Olivia Lee \$34 for printing costs.

Mover: Olivia

Second: Neeve

Olivia: States that the motion is self-explanatory.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.6 QC Reimbursement Motion April 25:

Preamble: For the first meeting held by the Queer Collective's new Convener, food was purchased and provided for members to encourage newer members to attend the meeting and participate. The remainder of the food which was not consumed on the day was left for members to share in the Queer Space.

The meeting successfully met quorum and several motions were passed, and progress has been made towards further improvement of internal Collective operations.

Action: That the UTSSA reimburse El Potts (Queer Convener) \$36.50 for the cost of food

for a Queer Collective Meeting and New Member Introduction spent on 8th of April 2025
as per the Queer Collective minutes on 8th April.

Mover: Daewah

Seconder: Ameila

El Potts: Held a meeting which managed to get new interest in the collective where food was purchased for the meeting.

The motion passes unanimously.

8. Other Business Arising on Notice

8.1 UTSSA Policy on Event Ticketing

Preamble: The UTSSA recognises the need for clear, transparent, and accountable processes when charging for attendance at events, particularly those run by collectives and Vertigo. As a registered charity, the UTSSA has legal obligations under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) regulations to ensure that any funds raised—including through ticket sales—are used responsibly and in line with our charitable purpose.

This policy provides a consistent framework for approving, managing, and reporting on ticketed events, ensuring compliance with charity law, financial best practice, and the UTSSA's commitment to student representation and engagement.

Action: That the UTSSA adopt the following policy on event ticketing, to be incorporate into our internal policy documents:

7. UTSSA Policy on Event Ticketing

7.1. Requirement for Approval

7.1.1. Tickets may not be sold for any UTSSA, Collective or Vertigo event or initiative without prior approval by the SRC or Executive.

7.1.2. The motion must explicitly authorise the sale of tickets, the cost of the tickets, the purpose for fundraising and what the proceeds will be used for. The motion should also include a declaration that all ticketing activities will be conducted in accordance with this

policy. For example:

Action:

1. *That the SRC approves the sale of tickets for [Event Name] at a cost of \$[Amount] per ticket, in accordance with the UTSSA Policy on Selling Tickets.*
2. *The purpose of charging for tickets is to: [Briefly explain purpose, e.g., cover catering costs, pay for venue hire, fund materials, etc.]*
3. *Proceeds will be used for: [Specify, e.g., delivering the event, supporting specific collective initiatives, etc.]*
4. *All funds will be managed in line with UTSSA Policy on Event Ticketing.*

7.1.3. Ticket sales conducted without this approval are considered unauthorised and may result in disciplinary action or cancellation of the event.

7.2. Permitted Purposes of Ticket Sales

7.2.1. All ticket sales must be for a purpose consistent with the UTSSA's charitable purpose and must directly benefit UTS students.

7.2.2. Permissible purposes include:

- a. Supporting student participation in educational, activist, cultural or community events;
- b. Delivering workshops, creative projects, or performances that engage students;
- c. Providing materials or services for the event being ticketed (e.g. food, transport, venue hire, accessibility);
- d. Fundraising for approved UTSSA campaigns or initiatives consistent with the UTSSA's charitable status.

7.2.3. Proceeds must not be used for:

- a. Personal benefit;
- b. Gifts, prizes, or honoraria not explicitly approved in the authorising motion;
- c. Purposes that are primarily commercial, external to the UTSSA, or reputationally damaging.

7.3. Ticketing Platform and Bank Details

7.3.1. Unless otherwise approved by the Executive or SRC, all ticket sales must occur through Humanitix (<https://humanitix.com/au>).

7.3.2. The event organiser must:

- a. Use a UTSSA or Vertigo-affiliated email address to register;
- b. Set the UTSSA as a registered charity and link to the UTSSA ACNC page in the description ([University Of Technology Sydney Students' Association | ACNC](#));
- c. Input the following payout details:

Bank Account Details:

University of Technology Sydney Students' Association

ABN: 59 352 932 539

Bank: St George Bank (Westpac Group)

BSB: 112-879

Account Number: 146-711-737

Branch: 4–6 Montgomery Street, Kogarah NSW 2217

Email for Humanitix receipt payment reports: mariah.brown@uts.edu.au

7.3.3. Ticket prices must include a 10% GST and account for Humanitix fees (~5% or more).

7.4. Payment and Registration

7.4.1. All payments must be received before participation in the event.

7.4.2. Event registration must close at least four days before the scheduled event date.

7.4.3. Organisers must track all invoices and ensure payment is confirmed prior to the event if invoicing is enabled.

7.5. Use of Proceeds, Accountability and Oversight

7.5.1. All proceeds from ticket sales must be used exclusively for the purpose authorised by the SRC or Executive.

7.5.2. A financial report and breakdown of expenditure must be submitted to the Executive Officer and UTSSA President following the event. When the “Humanitix Final Payment” email is received, please forward the email with the “Payout Receipt” report to:

- a. UTSSA Executive Officer mariah.brown@uts.edu.au

b. UTSSA President president@utsstudentsassociation.org

7.5.3. The Executive Officer will maintain records of all Humanitix payouts and income allocations.

7.5.4. A breach of this policy may result in disciplinary procedures or financial restrictions.

Mover: Neeve

Seconder: Eamonn

Matthew Murray walks in at 7:16pm

Mia: Speaks to motion.

Her and Mariah identified continuous issues where events with ticketing had potential for fraud. Now when people run ticked events, the money will go straight to the UTSSA, instead of holding the money individually to ensure transparency. Ticketing events will still have to be approved, there just now will be set steps for running ticketed events.

Mentions in future there will be two more motions about running events with incentives and incentives for surveys, insuring they are fraud proof.

The motion passes unanimously.

8.2 Revised UTSSA Spaces Policy

Preamble: This revised Spaces Policy reflects recent changes to UTSSA's physical spaces, including the addition of a new office and available desks for use by Office Bearers. With these new resources comes the need to clarify expectations around maintaining a productive and respectful workplace environment. The updated policy introduces clear procedures for booking spaces through reception, outlines responsibilities for keeping shared areas clean and safe, and affirms the purpose of autonomous Spaces as supportive environments for collective organising. These additions aim to make the policy more practical, accessible, and responsive to how our spaces are now being used.

Action: That the UTSSA:

1. Repeal the existing UTSSA Spaces Policy; and
2. Replace it with the following UTSSA Spaces Policy:

3. UTSSA Spaces Policy

3.1. OBJECTS OF THE POLICY

The UTSSA Spaces Policy aims to establish effective guidelines regarding the use and maintenance of UTSSA Spaces and spaces booked on behalf of the UTSSA, the Executive, Collectives and the Vertigo team. Appropriate use of UTSSA and UTS Spaces involves behaviour that is respectful, safe, and considerate to other members, the Spaces themselves, and the broader UTSSA community.

3.2. SCOPE

This Policy applies to all UTSSA Spaces and all the furniture, equipment, and shared resources contained within them, including but not limited to:

- a. CB01.03.60 UTSSA Office (inclusive of the UTSSA President's Office)
- b. CB01.03.22 Activist Space (inclusive of UTSSA Archive Space, and Food Welfare Storage Space)
- c. Queer Collective Space
- d. CB01.03.23 A–J Women's Collective Space
- e. CB03.02.14 Marketing Manager's Office
- f. CB03.02.15 Executive Officer's Office
- g. CB03.02.16 Caseworker's Office
- h. CB03.02.17 Caseworker's Office
- i. CB03.02.18 Caseworker's Office
- j. CB03.03.27 Ethnocultural Collective Space

This Policy also applies to the use of UTS Spaces booked on behalf of the UTSSA, the Executive, Collectives and the Vertigo team.

3.3. GENERAL RULES

3.3.1 All users of UTSSA Spaces must ensure that the area is left clean and tidy after use. This includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Disposal of waste in appropriate bins
- b. Ensuring no personal items are left behind. *Personal items left for seven or more days may be removed.*
- c. Wiping down surfaces after use
- d. Returning furniture to its original position if rearranged.

3.3.2 The use of all UTSSA materials and property must be treated with care. Any damage or misuse of property may require the user to pay for or replace the damaged item. Additional consequences may apply under Section 3.5, depending on the severity or recurrence of damage.

3.3.3 Acts of vandalism, including graffiti and intentional damage, will result in consequences as outlined in Section 3.5.

3.3.4 The following activities are prohibited within UTSSA Spaces:

- a. Consumption of alcohol
- b. Use of illegal substances
- c. Other inappropriate conduct – including but not limited to disruptive behaviour, harassment, or actions that compromise the safety or comfort of others.

3.3.5 Users must ensure that noise is kept to a reasonable level at all times. Severe noise complaints may result in enforcement under Section 3.5.

3.3.6 All users must conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful to others. Harassment, discrimination, or inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. Users should have reference to the [UTS Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#) in interpreting this section.

3.4. REPORTING

3.4.1 Breaches of General Rules (Sections 3.3.1 – 3.3.6) should be reported to UTSSA Reception staff in person, via phone, or via email. If UTS Security is contacted regarding an incident, the UTSSA President or Reception must be notified.

3.4.2 Unintentional damage to UTSSA or UTS property or equipment must be reported to UTSSA Reception as above.

3.4.3 Maintenance or repairs required in UTSSA Spaces should also be reported to UTSSA Reception.

3.5. ENFORCEMENT

3.5.1 Failure to comply with the UTSSA Spaces Policy may result in:

- a. Verbal or written warning
- b. Temporary or permanent suspension of access to UTSSA Spaces
- c. Other disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the UTSSA President and Executive Officer. This may include mandatory cleaning of the misused Space, training in appropriate conduct, or referral to UTS Student Misconduct.

3.5.2 If an issue cannot be resolved through the above process, it may be referred by the UTSSA President, Executive Officer or UTSSA Executive to the Grievance Committee, in accordance with Schedule 3 of the UTSSA By-Laws.

3.6. AUTONOMOUS SAFE SPACES

3.6.1 For the purpose of this section, the Spaces referred to include the: Queer Collective, Women's Collective, and Ethnocultural Collective.

3.6.2 Users must ensure that only authorised individuals have access to these Spaces. Sharing key cards or propping open doors for unauthorised individuals is strictly prohibited to ensure safety and privacy.

3.6.3 Users of Autonomous Safe Spaces should be mindful of the purpose of these Spaces as supportive, community-focused environments. Members are expected to respect each other and the events or discussions held in these Spaces by not sharing personal information or conversations without clear and explicit consent.

3.6.4 UTSSA student representatives, staff, and collective members with access to the Queer Collective must keep its location confidential to protect the safety and privacy of its members.

3.6.5 Activities within these Spaces should promote community-building, support, and advocacy.

3.6.6 Changes to the purpose of these rooms must be approved by a simple majority vote of the SRC.

3.7. BOOKING SHARED UTSSA AND UTS SPACES

Some UTSSA and UTS Spaces (e.g., the Activist Space, Concourse, lecture theatres) are available for booking for UTSSA-related activities.

3.7.1 Booking requests must be made through UTSSA Reception.

3.7.2 Requests must come from a member of the UTSSA Executive, a Collective Office Bearer, or a Collective Convenor (unless otherwise approved by the UTSSA President).

3.7.3 All bookings are subject to space availability and reasonable advanced notice.

3.7.4 The Office Bearer, Convenor or Executive member booking the space is responsible for ensuring that the space is left clean and undamaged after the event. Any damage or mess resulting from the event must be addressed by the Office Bearer, Convenor or Executive member and they may be held liable for the costs of cleaning or repairs if necessary.

3.7.5. UTSSA and UTS Spaces cannot be booked on behalf of an external organisation (including an ActivateUTS club or society) unless the UTSSA or a UTSSA Collective is co-hosting an event with the organisation. This ensures that the event aligns with UTSSA's values and purpose, and fosters collaboration between the collective and the organisation.

3.8. UTSSA OFFICE WORKSPACES

The UTSSA Office uses a combination of flexible and allocated workstations. The following protocols apply:

3.8.1 Flexible Workstations (“Hot Desks”)

Subject to availability, these desks may be designated by the UTSSA President, and are available to all UTSSA Office Bearers to support collaboration and flexibility.

To support a productive, respectful, and efficient working environment, office bearers using shared office spaces and unassigned workstations are expected to observe the following:

- Workstations are available on a first-come, first-served basis and may not be reserved unofficially.
- Workstations must be cleared of personal items at the end of each day to ensure availability for others.
- Noise levels should be kept to a minimum to avoid disrupting others in the shared environment.
- Any technical issues or maintenance requirements should be reported to UTSSA Reception.
- All users are expected to act considerately and collaboratively to foster a positive and respectful office culture.

3.8.2 Allocated Workstations

Subject to availability, these desks may be designated by the UTSSA President to members of the Executive or other Office Bearers.

To maintain a professional, safe, and respectful working environment, those with allocated work desks are expected to observe the following:

- Workspaces must be kept tidy and free of clutter, in line with health, safety, and organisational standards.
- Personal items may be kept at assigned desks, but should be appropriate for a professional setting.
- Food and beverages must be handled responsibly, and any spills should be cleaned promptly to maintain hygiene.
- Noise levels should be kept to a minimum to avoid disrupting others in the shared environment.
- Any technical issues or maintenance requirements should be reported to UTSSA Reception.

Mover: Samiha

Seconder: Amelia Raptis

Mia: Explains that new spaces means that it requires an update to the rules alongside outline usage of new desks and how to book spaces. Otherwise includes no difference to previous spaces policy.

El Potts: Raises question on point 3.6.2:

Asks if it could it be more clearly defined who the authorised individuals are.

As the Queer collective room currently has large amounts of people with access to it as it was formerly the Activist Space and it isn't clear who should have access.

Mia: Depends on the situation, authorised refers to the Office Bearer or Convenor, being able to decide who has access.

El Potts: Wants to clarify, who currently has access because the Queer collective is in a grey area due to so many students having access..

Mia: Asks her to send an email so they can access the Card Access and Collective Membership list.

El Potts: Will have a discussion with collective to ensure they only let in Authorised members.

Mia: Again up to the Officer and Convener to decide how they want it to function.

The motion passes unanimously.

8.3 Justice for Audrey Griffin

Content Warning: Femicide and Gender-Based Violence

Note: We encourage other members of SRC to propose additions to the preamble/platform/actions of this motion in order to improve its strength and capacity for change.

Preamble

On 23 March 2025, 19-year-old Audrey Griffin, a student and athlete at UTS, tragically lost her life in Erina, NSW, at the hands of a 53-year-old man. She was walking home from a night out at the pub with friends. Audrey's vibrant future was stolen in an act of senseless violence that has shocked her family, friends, campus, and community, and resonated nationwide.

Audrey is the 22nd woman to have lost her life this year, and the 123rd woman since January 1st, 2024. Sadly, these figures continue to rise, as violence against women remains a national crisis in Australia.

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, approximately one in four women in Australia have experienced violence from an intimate partner since the age of 15. In 2022–2023, an Australian woman was killed every 11 days, with the majority of victims dying in domestic and family violence contexts. Audrey's death, however, was a rare and tragic random attack - a stark reminder that violence against women can occur in any setting, and that no woman is truly safe while gender-based violence persists.

While we recognise that men can also be victims of domestic, family and other forms of violence, the vast majority of gender-based violence targets women. When men do experience such violence, it is not intrinsically connected to gender and

patriarchal values in the same way as it is for women. Domestic and family violence is a deeply gendered issue, with women disproportionately impacted.

The loss of Audrey reminds us that behind every statistic is a real person: a daughter, a friend, a peer. It is not enough to mourn; we must act. In honour of Audrey and all those who have been affected by violence, we must pledge to drive real change and build a future where safety, dignity, and respect are guaranteed for all.

Platform

That the UTSSA:

1. Recognises and honours the life of Audrey Griffin and extends its condolences to her family, friends, and the wider Central Coast community.
2. Condemns gender-based violence and acknowledges the persistent and devastating impact it has on women across Australia.
3. Commits to raising awareness, improving education, and strengthening support services to protect women and prevent further tragedies.

Action Points

1. That the UTSSA promotes the following to its Instagram and other social media platforms:
 - a. The What Were You Wearing? Campaign's ongoing petitions, rallies, statistics, and any other educational material.
 - b. The UTS Bats' Walk for WAGEC donation link:
<https://www.walkforwagec.org.au/st/838/s>
 - c. A list of support services and hotlines for students affected by violence to social media, both on and off campus (collated by the UTSSA Women's Officer); and
 - d. The preamble and platform of this motion.

2. That the UTSSA Women's Officer will contact Respect. Now. Always. and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education and Students) urging UTS to make a statement for Audrey Griffin that acknowledges the crisis of gender-based violence in Australia, and offers support for all students and staff affected.

Mover: Amelia Raptis

Seconder: Salma

Amelia Raptis: Reads speech as background to her motion.

The Speech in general was provided in full:

"Audrey Griffin was killed by a 53 year old man who had been previously charged with and at the time had 11 other convictions of domestic violence offences when he attacked her.

To share why I am putting forward this motion, Audrey and I shared one of our first university classes together, and as scared and intimidated first years we got to know each other very well.

Audrey's death comes as a huge shock to me as someone who knew Audrey but also as a 19 year old girl.

I'm put forward this motion to honour my friend, to honour Audrey as a UTS student, and to remind everyone that there's no criteria for violence - it can happen at any time, and to anyone.

Audrey's death comes as a reminder that gender-based violence is an ongoing issue, and something that I want the association to raise awareness about. It's so important that students know that this is a very real problem in our society.

In my action points, there are some organisations and activists groups that I've taken note of. If there are any others that anyone wants to include or raise, I'm happy to discuss.

Finally, I want to say a huge thank you to Mia and Neeve for helping me write this motion. It's something that's really personal to me and Im glad that as an association we can fight for change and justice together."

Salma waives right to speak to Neeve.

Neeve: Echoes that gender based violence is an important issue that women face and that it is a stark reminder this violence can be.

Amelia Ireland: Commends the motion, mentions that while she didn't know Audrey, is also 19 and a victim survivor so really happy to see the SRC support a motion like this .

Mia: Mentions her sister played AFL against Audrey, where Audrey played for the UTSSA AFL team and as such the appropriate action is supporting a group who knew her personally. Rather than doing anything political with it, although noting that femicide is always political.

Also mentions the importance of supporting the upcoming What Were You Wearing rally.

The motion passes unanimously.

8.4 Response to UTS Review into Policies on Student Demonstration + NDA

Preamble:

The University has engaged an external legal firm, Bartier Perry, to conduct a review of the 26 March 2025 NDA protest on campus organised by the UTSSA. The UTSSA President, Mia Campbell, was informed of this review on Thursday 24th April, in an email sent by Kylie Readman (DVC (Education and Students)) that invited the UTSSA President to an interview with the lawyer engaged.

In a phone call last Friday, Kylie explained that the review aims to evaluate UTS safety protocols, ensuring a "neutral, external perspective," particularly in areas like "crowd management, police attendance, counter-protests, and filming." The President was informed that the review would also consider whether UTS policies are strong enough to deal with any potential problems arising at demonstrations and whether there are opportunities for policy improvements.

The President was informed that letters sent by herself, the UTSMS President, and UTSSA Ethnocultural Officer/President of PalSoc (Salma) in response to the IDF event held on 2 April 2025 would also be considered as part of the review

There is no specific timeline for this review, and at the time of putting this motion forward, the President has not received written responses to the detailed questions she submitted over email to Kylie regarding the scope, transparency, and impact of this review.

During discussions, the President raised concerns about whether any changes arising from the review would affect freedom of speech and protest rights on campus. Kylie confirmed that changes to demonstration policies would be considered, alongside advice on state and federal laws, including anti-discrimination and hate speech legislation.

The UTSSA notes the grave concerns about the precedent set by the University of Sydney's Campus Access Policy (CAP) introduced in 2024. The CAP at USYD significantly restricts students' and staff's ability to protest, advertise clubs and societies, hold information stalls, or even poster freely without prior approval, effectively stifling free expression and activism.

Key concerns regarding the CAP include:

- Requirement for 72-hour notice and university approval for basic organising activities such as postering, stalls, and protests.
- Blanket bans on indoor protests.
- Empowering university security to detain students and deliver them to police.
- Discretionary powers for the university to deny approval based on vague or subjective criteria, threatening freedom of speech and dissent.
- Curtailment of the ability of students and staff to organise swiftly in response to events, including industrial action and advocacy campaigns.

Action: The UTSSA:

1. Expresses grave concerns about any review that could be used to implement policies at UTS resembling the Campus Access Policy at the University of Sydney, which constitutes a serious attack on freedom of speech, protest rights, and vibrant campus life.
2. Call on UTS to commit in writing that it will not introduce any new policies relating to demonstrations, protest activities, postering, or campus access that mirror or replicate the restrictions imposed by the University of Sydney's Campus Access Policy.
3. Support the UTSSA President to engage in the interview process accompanied by an academic from the UTS Faculty of Law and, if deemed necessary by the UTSSA President depending on the scope and direction of the review, to engage an external lawyer to assist in reviewing any proposed policy changes arising from the review.
4. Approve an upper spending limit of \$5,000 to engage legal support if required to defend students' rights to free speech, protest, and campus activism.
5. Direct the UTSSA President, once written information about the review is received, to coordinate the development of a first written submission on behalf of the UTSSA, and to ensure that the UTSSA SRC is consulted at all subsequent stages where draft changes to policies are proposed.

Mover: Neeve

Seconder: Omar

Mia: Is a worrying motion, would value discussion.

Mentions recent addition that, she received a response from Kylie after she asked for clarification of aspects of the review.

Response answered few questions. Response was Bardi parry was hired to investigate issues like the protest, looking at methods to ensure safety. Uni will not be discussing any findings of the review. May show some to stakeholders if relevant. They understand the UTSSA would be aware about organisation of the protest including speakers.

Mia: refers this is likely related to the speaker Peter Slezak.

Response Cont. The Firm will not reveal list of questions. Will be focused on organisation of the protest.

Mia: Says we would never be able to see the recommendations of the review.

Also is not concerned about not receiving questions ahead of time, has seen the topics and can foresee what questions would be asked.

But from earlier call Kylie Readman (Deputy Vice-Chancellor), UTS will likely take the law firm's recommendation on policy changes.

Mia: Open for discussion, believes in partaking because otherwise it will only be Zionists deciding the review.

Mia: Reiterates nothing about the protest was done improperly only that later it appeared on right wing news sites. Therefore UTSSA has no liabilities, with the speaker themselves being external and also unlikely to face consequences.

Yasmine: Agrees with the motion and that it is worrying, she participated in USYD similar external review. Started with assuming the protests were antisemitism and asks you why you did it says this will be a similar review. The start is the assumption is that the NDA was a threat to student safety and learn how to change the rules.

Provides advice the well prepared, and if possible to bring more people to support, mentions potential to involve NTEU who could support it discussion and that the Jewish Council of Australia make a submission to the Hodgkinson review. Still unlikely the review will be in our favour.

Mia: Responds that she asked if any staff was reached out to as she wanted to know if she as a democratically elected president will have her voice be equal to faceless students who have

consulted no one while she is consulting the SRC.

Response from Kyle was that that she can send her details of any staff involved in the process.

Omar: Commends Yasmine contributions, reiterates that the interview is a set up but that there is a legal argument to be made that we don't know the scope of what the interview is covering which makes it difficult to participate, it is important to make an effort to push back on the response from Kylie to try and level the playing field.

Salma: Adds they should have already received a letter after the IDF event about its effects on Palestinian students and all student society from having military on campus, wanted to note this hasn't been done.

Mia: Moves on to the complaint that this is specially being externally reviewed, while other complaints about far more important issues are not getting similar responses, but Kylie has said she would include other complaints in the review including the IDF event but as this was over the phone with nothing in writing this may have just been appeasement. While she raise it again It may be that they will only look at this event to produce policy.

Mia: Begins discussion about how the IDF event will be differentiated, so that the excuse for the review isn't that we asked for policy changes. Whether we leave it as a free for all events free or justify why our events are different in an argument that leaves protests unaffected.

Omar: The difference we can argue, is inviting foreign militaries, argument can be unrelated to Palestine.

Yasmine: Event was technically organised by AUJS, they will argue that they can do that as students. Issue when you allow Universities to shut down any events, it has already picked the side of Israel and so the events that it will shut down will be our events.

Does not want to give the universities the power to shut down events. Similarly faced repression over lecture announcements, our defence should just be over free speech.

Eamonn: Question over review, that if the review is bad intentioned, asks Mia if she thinks the review will be predetermined.

Mia: There are legislative requirements for Academic Freedom although they have been breached at UYSD. Naïve to think it will be fair, but was told by Kylie it was the internal UTS legal team's decision to go with an external review to get advice on the legislative requirements. Clear they are unprepared to respond and has been lobbied so is using an external review to answer Zionists lobbying them so not completely one sided as to have a predetermined outcome.

El Potts: Concerned over safety of Muslim and Middle Eastern students, based on how this has been approached at other Campuses, important to keep student safety in mind if security including police at protests increases.

Samaha: As another argument to differentiate the events from a is there a legal issue, that the ICJ currently has a plausible case of Genocide.

Mia: Kylie says there were looking at the difference between uncomfortable and unsafe.

Mia: This is an important distinction, so it may be beneficial to have a consistently applied policy on that, protests generally will always feel uncomfortable.

Elly: Important statement difference between uncomfortable and unsafe. Recently was at a protest over a pro-rape speaker, was called into disciplinary meeting, accused over intimidation. Revealed how policies for Safety could be utilized in different ways.

With the Women's officer was expelled over this, policy used against them was initially brought in to protect women. Reiterates importance to always protect the right to protest as it can be used against them

Mia: Wants to make a list as to why the IDF was uniquely a risk to student safety so while the still protecting academic freedom but as an argument that the event and similar should be changed to reduce the safety risk that goes beyond feeling uncomfortable. Multiple options were suggested in the case of the IDF event. Mainly to prevent IDF members at university without any restrictions on their movements, among students and potentially refugees. Asks whether there is agreement in any high barriers where the safety risk is so high that the University should step in.

Neeve: Reiterates International Law, the ICJ finding of plausible genocide as that potential high bar.

Salma: Reiterates whether there are checks on speakers, so activate should approve with speakers. Mentions that AUJS did not do event through activate just went straight to security and booked room avoided it getting approved.

Omar: Mentions the importance in focusing on this situation issue demonstrating the difference between uncomfortable and unsafe because a Palestine student may be feeling that someone who may have killed a family member is on campus a major difference. Present this argument while also defending academic freedom, while important to contest Zionist who state that they are scared at UTS as false.

Omar: If we provide documented evidence showing that Jewish students are not being made uncomfortable, important to differ Israel and Jewish People.

Salma: Asks if they are interviewing anyone else like a Palestinian students.

Mia: Can request Palestinian society to be interviewed as conditional for her partaking.

Yasmine: For the interviews, important that they try to get Anti-Zionist Jewish student to make clear the separate between Judaism and Zionism.

Mia: Confirms students for Palestine endorsed the rally, so may be able to get them included as a organiser in the interviews.

Yasmine: Also mentions importance in defending the NDA on its own terms as legal academic freedom requirement. That they have the right to make people feel political uncomfortable, rather than fighting over when an event becomes unsafe through a large checklist requirement. With the potential that the IDF event was designed to potentially to be as defensible as possible while inducing as protest as a trap.

Lily: Much more continuous if we go for the middle ground, as there exists arguments for the IDF being a student event. So, it may be better to keep it in on the NDA running well in alignment with legal requirements without referring to the event.

Omar: Agrees, we have an inherent right to protest, and it was a trap event, important to point out that this event compared to the ones at other universities was that this was advertised differently with a small bio specially stating he served in Gaza. So that it can be argued that this event was particularly presented separately.

Mia: Going forward will push to have other students involved and will again reach out to staff again in the hope that the NTEU will be involved anyway. Will also request to have a written submission from the UTSSA happy to work with other SRC members on that.

The motion passes unanimously.

8.5 The UTSSA supports the UTS WoCo Campaign for Improved Period Products

Preamble:

Free period products is one of the many great achievements of the UTSSA and I commend the absolute legends before me who worked hard to achieve that,

However, through consultation with WoCo, my menstruating friends on campus and with myself - the period product supply on campus can falter at times. This is particularly challenging, especially for students who rely on these supplies.

Managing a period should not be a burden to enjoying student life, the UTSSA should be pushing the university to normalise free and easily accessible period products for menstruating students.

Platform:

- The UTSSA supports the free and easily accessible period products at University.
- The UTSSA supports the UTS WoCo Campaign for Improved Period Products.

Action:

- The UTSSA will support the UTS WoCo Campaign for Improved Period Products through:
- Helping out with posterage to promote:
- Information about student period poverty.
- The period poverty survey.
- Sharing the UTS WoCo posts around the campaign on collective social media accounts

Mover: Olivia

Second: Amelia Ireland

Olivia: Speaks to it being straight forward motion focused on improving the Period products in the UTSSA bathrooms, mentions everyone who completes the survey is incentive by entering the draw to win period products. Asks that people can support her Instagram posts for the survey.

Mia: mentions most far 82 response, wants as many response as possible in order to expand the service as much as possible. University has said they would act with enough Data. Mentions security should not take posters down.

Olivia: Reiterates if anyone can help she will be posterage tomorrow.

Amelia Raptis: Asks why the current locations were chosen as some seem strange.

Mia: Responds the University only went for most the highly used bathrooms and likely had inaccurate data.

Mentions important Goal is more money to pay for more frequent restocking in bathrooms that are actually heavily used.

The motion passes unanimously.

8.6 No job cuts! UTS must reinstate Jack Yasmineh as a permanent employee

UTS management have ended the employment of Jack Yasmineh, after three years of service as a technical systems and operations manager in Advancement. In February, Jack was offered a 6-month extension on his temporary contract, but he argued instead that he should be converted to continuing employment, as is his legal entitlement under both our EBA and under legislation. He has been denied employment.

Jack is an active NTEU member and a vocal advocate for UTS to cut ties with the genocide being carried out in Gaza. He is just one of many people at UTS who are losing employment at the end of their temporary contracts, despite entitlement to conversion and the ongoing need for their duties. These “cuts by stealth” are happening ahead of the 400 job losses associated with management’s ‘Operational Sustainability Plan’.

Platform

- The UTSSA condemns management’s decision to end Jack Yasmineh’s employment, and opposes broader reductions in staff numbers. UTS must not punish staff members for exercising their political and industrial rights.
- The UTSSA demands that UTS immediately reinstate Jack as a permanent employee.

Action

- UTSSA councillors and office bearers will sign on to a forthcoming petition regarding Jack Yasmineh’s case, and will publicise and attend future rallies against job cuts at UTS

Mover: Elliot

Seconder: Yasmine

Elliot: Speaks to background of Jack’s situation in the general context of UTS’s cuts, mentions it is important for students to oppose and stand in solidarity with staff.

Yasmine: Refers to it being a part of the larger job cuts and restates the important to stand up for all staff facing job cuts, as it also affects student's academic experience.

Neeve: Asks questions on EBA and whether the University broke the rules of the EBA.

Ella: Response, under the terms of the contract worker employment was offered an 6 month extension, instead of the permanent employment he was entitled to under the EBA.

Mainly about supporting some who is speaking up about it and standing up for themselves.

Neeve: Only raises issues with wording which mandates all future rally attendance rather than encourage as it would be unlikely councillors could attend all future rallies.

Samihah: Wants to clarify what all Rallies against Job Cuts was referring too as the action does not make a clear reference does not want to bind the SRC to unknown rally organizers.

Yasmine: Response is that as it is within a motion about the NTEU the connection to NTEU rallies only can be inferred.

Omar: Commends motion, refers to Jack as a great guy and that an injustice occurred to him but also refers to the action point as unenforceable with rewording needed..

Lily: Suggests amendment to dissuade doubts raised by councillors.

Amelia Ireland: States that she read the motion as UTSSA posts, and encourages rally attendance but if wording is an issue is supportive of changing it.

Mia: Clarifies whether it will be a NTEU petition.

Yasmine: Confirms it will be a NTEU petition on this case.

Amendment is suggested for action point to read:

Action

- *UTSSA councillors and office bearers will sign on to a forthcoming NTEU petition regarding Jack Yasmineh's case, and will **encourage Officer-bearers and councilors to publicise and attend future rallies against job cuts at UTS***

Ella: Puts forward amendment to have solidarity photo for Jack states it's important to stand up for left wing cause, not frivolous to put their names and faces to it.

Salma: Agrees with taking a picture, speaks to how good of a guy Jack is mentions it shows up to Palsoc events all the time.

Neeve: Supports taking a Photo

Mia: Agrees with Photo since they do actually know Jack.

Amendment Suggested is

Action Point 2: UTSSA will take solidary photo to be sent to Jack after the meeting.

Elliot is amenable to all amendments.

The motion passes unanimously as amended.

9. General Business

Lucia submits motion to Januka as follows:

Stop the cuts! The UTSSA endorses the May 15th NTEU rally

UTS management is planning \$100 million worth of cuts to its annual budget. They have announced in their most recent town hall that these budget cuts include plans to slash 400 jobs, including 250 professional staff and 150 academic staff. This will have a detrimental impact on both staff working conditions and student learning conditions. It will mean larger workloads for staff, bigger class sizes for students, fewer course options, and longer wait times for academic and logistical assistance.

The NTEU has called a rally for the 15th of May at 1pm on the Alumni Green to take a stand against management's cuts. Students should stand in solidarity with staff against all attacks on learning and working conditions by attending and helping to build the NTEU rally.

Platform

- The UTSSA condemns management's plans to cut \$100 million from the budget and sack 400 staff members, and recognise this as an attack on both staff and students.
- The UTSSA stands in solidarity with staff and endorses the May 15th NTEU rally.

Action

- The UTSSA will make a post from its public social media accounts endorsing the NTEU rally.

Mover: Lucia

Seconder: Ella

Mia calls for a vote on whether the matter is urgent and should be allowed to go to a vote.

No dissent.

Lucia reads out motion.

Samiha leaves proxies to Amelia Ireland

Lucia: Speaks to staff cuts being tough on Academics and Students, while Chancellor is flying first class. Principle of Solidarity to stand with Staff especially when University can clearly afford to not cut if they can fly first class.

The motion passes unanimously.

10. Close of Meeting at 8:35pm

Appendix 1: Office Bearer Reports

1. President

President's Report – April 2025

I have found this month to be very difficult with the university!

Campaign for Palestine

On Thursday, 27 March, I was made aware of an upcoming event hosted by AUJS UTS titled *Shared Stories – Powerful Minority Voices & Immersive Experience* scheduled for 2 April. The event featured two active IDF soldiers, including one who had served in the Gaza envelope, and included a VR experience of the October 7 attacks. Myself and Salma immediately raised concerns with ActivateUTS and UTS Security about the safety and reputational implications of hosting active-duty soldiers involved in genocide. Alongside student representatives from the Palestinian Youth Society and Muslim Society, I co-signed a letter to senior university officials expressing concerns about the risk to Palestinian students and warning that the event could incite violence and disrupt campus safety.

The university allowed the event to proceed, citing the principle of "freedom of lawful expression" while advising that any protest would be unauthorised. Nonetheless, a peaceful protest was held on 2 April, drawing a strong turnout and a heavy security and police presence. UTS Security locked Tower doors during the demonstration. A public statement was released that evening by the UTSSA, PalSoc and UTSMS followed by a formal letter to UTS calling for an apology and safeguards against similar events. In Kylie's response, she acknowledged that the University's communication and safety measures were inadequate, and said that detailed consultation would happen in future for high-risk events – but was very vague. Our core concerns remain the university's failure to protect affected students and the inconsistent, politically biased application of UTS policies around academic freedom and safety.

Review of NDA Protest and Policies Related to Student Demonstrations

Over the past week, I have been engaging with university management in response to UTS's decision to commission an external legal review into the 26 March NDA protest. I was informed of the review through an email from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education & Students) Kylie Readman on Thursday

24th April. The review is being conducted by external law firm Bartier Perry, and its stated scope includes assessing UTS's protest and safety protocols, the management of counter-protests and police involvement, and the University's broader approach to student demonstrations.

While Kylie gave me verbal confirmation that the UTSSA will be able to provide written submissions to this review, I have significant concerns about the lack of student consultation in initiating the review and the potential for policy changes that mirror the highly repressive Campus Access Policy implemented at the University of Sydney in 2023. I am awaiting a written response from Kylie on questions I asked regarding student involvement in the review and whether any proposed changes to university policy will be consulted with students before implementation.

Internal Updates on the UTSSA

Following Januka's succession to the role of General Secretary, I offered the Assistant General Secretary position to Samiha in accordance with UTSSA by-laws. As she declined the role, we are now onboarding our new Assistant General Secretary, Aryan.

I have also been coordinating the setup of our new UTSSA office space in CB01.03.60 to ensure it is functional and welcoming for office bearers, and am glad that this is now ready for people to use.

I've also been drafting policy alongside the staff on running ticketed events, and on using our spaces.

Meeting with Kylie

In my monthly meeting with Kylie, I raised ongoing concerns regarding UTS's continued lack of action and transparency in response to sexual violence, which I first raised over two years ago. I reiterated my opposition to any university-wide system for managing sexual violence that fails to adequately support both students and staff, lacks integration across university services, and would be managed by the Student Services—an approach I believe is inconsistent with the National Code and insufficient in meeting students' needs. We also discussed the need to follow up on the absence of SSAF disclosure on marketing materials for the Safety Caseworkers. Kylie agreed to take several actions ahead of our next meeting, including sharing GSU feedback on the SCLG Council paper, progressing the release of the Student Rules review report for feedback from students and participants, and drafting a document outlining what students can expect from the Sustainable Teaching and Learning changes.

2. General Secretary

It has been a learning experience this month getting dropped into this role as I got use to my role and the various requirements and I definitely hope to be much more effective over the next month as I've gotten a feel for it all now.

I immediately began the role with being involved in working with *Vertigo* through the review and approval process for their second edition. This included the Vertigo Working Group, which had a focus on ensuring that publication timelines and procedures were met. Alongside discussion on different elements of Vertigo including their Launch party soon there was always I believe meaningful dialogue on how the association can work with Vertigo better so I'm hopeful for the production of future editions and to have another Vertigo working group next month.

The rest of my work is obviously largely administrative and its lot of smaller work and changes in the governance of the union. Generally, this involved the financial approval process, ensuring that the expenditure was accurate. Setting up the Executive meetings, maintaining the record of financial motions approved. Alongside other General assistance to collectives in running their convenor elections.

Future Aims:

Looking ahead, I my main focus will be working on getting Collective Pages from collective and having them on the website. This will be to ensure that Officer bearer's are completing them which is required under the bylaws.

I'm also very interested in looking at potential changes to our Oday stalls and services to ensure more engagement from students.

In terms of Oday work I'm also hopeful to have another Working group with Vertigo this semester to ensure everything is clear as they go to produce the third edition for Oday next sem but I'll discuss that with Vertigo.

I'll also be finishing off my last task from my time as Assistant general secretary and uploading the Collective Videos which are ready on the Website.

3. Education Officer

The Education Collective is entering a critical period as UTS faces significant budget cuts that threaten student services and learning conditions. This situation demands urgent attention and coordinated action, yet we're receiving very limited information from the university, making it a challenging phase.

Despite this, the collective is gaining momentum. We recently held our first formal meeting, reached quorum, and began mapping out our key priorities for the semester. There is strong interest among members in responding strategically to the budget cuts, and we're committed to building pressure through student organising and campaigns.

In the face of these challenges, the university is suggesting staff use AI tools to deal with the job cuts, is what we received from the townhall and letter back from Mia's email.

Separately, the Spec Cons Working Group has continued meeting and we are currently navigating matters such as 'fit to sit' rules at different universities, and what support students want to actually receive as to what we think they should receive.

4. Welfare Officer

Welfare Report – April

Over the past month, I have been actively progressing several key welfare initiatives and projects:

Permanent Food Space Meeting

I am currently setting up a meeting with Mariah to discuss the establishment of a permanent food space. It is crucial that we approach our meeting with the UTS project managers with all necessary preparations completed, as we aim to finalise the process promptly once they become involved. Securing funding for this initiative depends heavily on having our proposal ready to move forward without delay.

UTS Housing Benchmarking Survey

UTS Housing has launched a confidential benchmarking survey focusing on the “quality of residences and residential life at UTS.” It is no surprise that this survey was launched following our scathing report into the conditions of UTS Housing. I encourage everyone who knows students living in UTS Housing to strongly urge them to complete this survey, as the data collected will be vital in supporting improvements to the student residential experience.

Cross-Campus Collaboration around Student Housing

I have been reaching out to previous and current student leaders at UNSW, USYD, and ANU to build cross-campus support across our student housing campaigns. This collaboration is important as we prepare for the finalisation of 2026 licence agreements, which must be completed by October. Our aim is to conclude negotiations by June to allow time for these contracts to proceed through UTS Council.

SCLG Paper and UTS Housing

UTS Management must respond to the UTS Housing SCLG paper by the second meeting of the year, which is scheduled for June. I am monitoring this closely to ensure that the issues we have raised regarding student housing conditions are appropriately addressed. In the same vein as this, I am continuing to follow up with Matthew Bowerman and Sarah Lok – senior representatives of UTS Housing – regarding UTS legal's determinations in relation to our ongoing licence agreement negotiations. Ensuring clarity and fair terms in these agreements remains a key focus.

Office Set-Up

I have had the opportunity to assist Mia with setting up the new UTSSA office. The space is now fitted out with posters from past UTSSA and NUS campaigns, creating a vibrant environment that reflects our long-standing commitment to student welfare and activism, I highly suggest checking it out.

I look forward to continuing to drive all of these welfare initiatives forward and will provide further updates as they progress.

5. Women's Officer

In April, my main goal was to finally organise the Period Products Campaign.

I started with the main part of the campaign which was organising the survey. Despite some technical issues, I worked with Mia to finalise the questions for the survey. The survey takes about 5-10 minutes to complete and is open to all people using the period products at UTS. Bilijana and I also organised free pairs of period undies as incentive to complete the survey.

Working with my collective in the past few meetings, we have come up with some potential campaign activities to promote the survey. We're starting with some poster sessions which I have scheduled and I intend to make some promotional material for Instagram. The collective members also expressed interest in running a stall during Uni hours.

Goals for May include continuing the work on finally electing my WoCo convenor and working on some more social events. My collective are keen to do another picnic which I am particularly excited about as it has been my most successful event.

6. International Students' Officer

Monthly Report: April 2025

Prepared by: Harshvardhan Suvarna, International Students Officer

Date: April 30, 2025

April was a productive month with a strong focus on building partnerships, community engagement, and administrative development. Below is a summary of key activities and achievements for the month.

1. Meeting with Supra Chair and Mia Campbell - 8 April 2025

On 8 April 2025, I held a meeting with Weihong (Supra Chair) and Mia Campbell. Mia has been assisting us in building connections with the NUS (National Union of Students) President. This collaboration aims to strengthen relations and develop initiatives for international students across various universities.

2. Business Account Setup for NSW IPART Office - 10 April 2025

On 10 April 2025, Weihong and I successfully opened a business account with Commonwealth Bank for the NSW International Students Representative Committee (IPART Office). This is an important administrative milestone to manage finances securely and transparently for upcoming projects and events.

3. Meeting with Postgraduate Officer - 12 April 2025

On 12 April 2025, I had a meeting with the Postgraduate Officer to discuss the planning and logistics for the upcoming international students' trip to Palm Beach. The discussion focused on ensuring a smooth and enjoyable experience for all participants.

4. International Students Trip to Palm Beach - 20 April 2025

On 20 April 2025, I successfully organized a trip to Palm Beach, which saw participation from 65

Monthly Report: April 2025

students. The trip received highly positive feedback, significantly boosting engagement and adding new members to our growing community.

5. Meeting and Campus Tour with ISANA President - 30 April 2025

On 30 April 2025, I organized a meeting and campus tour at CQU Sydney with Annette, the President of ISANA (International Student Advisers Network of Australia) and Campus Coordinator for CQU Sydney. The meeting served as a networking opportunity and helped in exploring potential collaborations to further support international students.

Conclusion

April 2025 was marked by solid progress in expanding our networks, strengthening community engagement, and advancing organizational infrastructure. Our successful collaboration efforts,

event organization, and administrative milestones set a strong foundation for upcoming projects and initiatives aimed at enhancing the international student experience.

7. Postgraduate Students' Officer

Postgraduate Collective OB Report – April

Progress:

- 1) Connected with Research manager from Monash University to collaborate on their Health, Family and Finances Survey for students, which will be conducted in May.
- 2) Conducted meetings with various industry professionals, UTS careers team, and UTS alumni to plan a careers event for the postgraduate students.
- 3) Successfully organised the Careers workshop, resume review and networking event for the Postgraduate students with over 70 students.
- 4) Collaborated with UTSSA International Collective to organise a trip to the Palm Beach with 65 students.
- 5) Connected with multiple UTS alumni to discuss collaboration for next semester events and ideas for increasing opportunities available for postgraduate students to build industry network.

Upcoming Plans:

- 1) Collaborate with Monash University in conducting Health, Family and Finances Survey for students, the results of which will be helpful for us in identifying student concerns, and issues that need attention.
- 2) Volunteering for Bluebird Pantry in the first week of May.
- 3) Conducting a student survey among postgraduate students to understand their experience at UTS, feedback on the services available for them and events conducted for them during this semester.

8. Ethnocultural Officer

Ethnocultural Officer Report for SRC (April 2025)

Introduction

This report outlines the actions taken in April 2025 regarding concerns over Palestinian student safety at UTS, particularly in relation to the hosting of IDF representatives on campus. Despite university officials claiming to care, their actions—or lack thereof—leave us deeply skeptical.

1. Letters to University Officials

In early April, letters were sent to the following officials:

- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC), Kylie Readman

- Pro-Vice-Chancellor (PVC) Social Justice and Inclusion, Amy Persson
- Head of Security, Shaun O'Mara

These letters raised concerns about the safety of Palestinian students, especially in light of the IDF presence. We demanded immediate action to ensure the well-being of students on campus.

2. Responses and Follow-Up

- Kylie Readman (DVC): Kylie apologized for the oversight in authorizing the protest and provided action points, including consulting with student leaders more effectively. However, the idea of moving the event online, which we suggested, was not even considered, raising questions about the university's genuine commitment to addressing the issue.
- Amy Persson (PVC Social Justice and Inclusion): Despite her claims of concern, Amy has not followed through with any tangible actions. The lack of response to our concerns has left us questioning whether any real changes will occur.
- Amy Purcell (Activate): During a meeting the day before the event, Amy Purcell made false claims about the university addressing concerns, which were proven to be lies. This only compounds the feeling of being misled by those in power.

3. Collaboration on Podcast

We held our first ethnocultural meeting to discuss the collaboration with Vertigo on the ethnocultural podcast. This podcast will provide a platform for marginalized voices and promote inclusivity. The meeting was productive, and the collaboration is moving forward as planned.

Conclusion

University officials have claimed to care about student safety, but their inaction and contradictory statements raise significant concerns. We remain skeptical of their commitment and will continue to hold them accountable, ensuring that the voices of Palestinian students are heard and respected.

9. Disabilities Officer

April has been another productive month for the Disabilities Collective, with finally holding a quorate meeting in March and regular coffee catchups. The main thing that the collective worked on this month were regarding the 2025 Federal Election, ensuring that disability justice is not forgotten at the ballot box.

I worked on an online campaign regarding accessible elections, using information available from the Australian Electoral Commission. I made simple graphics with information on accessibility

accommodations offered by the electoral commission such as auslan interpreting, hearing loops and wheelchair accessibility as well as how to find an accessible polling place, and on how to make your vote count in the house of representatives and in the senate.

We also continued to hold our fortnightly coffee catchups which have proven to be a great way of building up the collective and community, as well as sending around our monthly newsletters to update members on the upcoming events, campaigns and meetings of the Disabilities Collective.

10. Queer Officer

Queer convenor report April

This month has been very productive for the Queer Collective. The collective has been able to continue to grow its membership through our newsletters, campaigns and regular meetings.

We have started publishing weekly newsletters through Mailchimp, and these are distributed via email to all queer collective members. We have also began reaching out to other collectives to coordinate events and campaigns, in particular the Disabilities Collective as our collectives have a bit of an overlap in membership.

We have continued to have regular meetings at least once a month, with the last one being held on the 8th of April, where the collective spoke about collective conduct, incoming changes to the Queer Collective social medias and discord server, financial reimbursements for the Queer Convenor as well as various motions on furniture, reimbursements, and setting up the new queer space.

One suggestion the queer collective has discussed is wanting to have their own internal rules and code of conduct similar to bylaws. As far as I'm aware the UTSSA does not enable collectives to have their own rules like this.

11. Environment Officer

Enviro Report April

Community Gardening:

Gardening and the Ultimo Community Garden has continued throughout this month. By now most of the people interested in gardening have had a turn on at least one of the days but we will be having one more session next session to give the last couple of people a chance to participate. UTS Soul continues to help with the promotion of it which has been very helpful because of the change from Thursdays to Wednesdays meaning that some new people who were busy on Thursdays but free on Wednesdays finding out about the program through Soul.

Plant a Tree Day:

On the 13th of April we held a plant a tree day in Concord. This was an event done in collaboration with the Red Cross Society. We obtained permission to plant the trees from Canada Bay Council who gave us a location and instructions on what trees to plant. They will also be doing placement of mulch and other general maintenance of the trees after the event.

Both the Red Cross Society and Canada Bay Council were great to work with and helped me out with organising the event and with the logistics behind it.

Green Week:

The Enviro Collective will be participating in UTS green week this week. We will be running a stall on Wednesday to promote the collective and the UTSSA more generally and have also helped with circulating information about the UTS green week photo competition.

Sustainability Steering Committee:

I am in the process of reviewing the University's Sustainability training module in order to ensure that it ensures that those undertaking the training can contribute effectively contribute to achieving the university's sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Newsletter:

We have published another edition of our newsletter for March-April. This one was made to a much higher standard than the previous edition thanks to the work of my collective convenor. We are aiming to have these newsletters out every other month.

Upcoming plans:

My main plans for the coming month besides continuing the gardening are to run a movie night and to reach out to STEM clubs so that I can run more 'technology' related events in Semester 2 than I did in semester 1.