

Attendees

Mia Campbell (chair)
Adam Levett (minutes)
Daewah Thein
Mathew Murray
Laura Currie
Jeremey Higgins
Rahgav Motani
Aylin Cihan
Samiha Emran
Januka Suraweera
Kurt Chen
Peter Munford
Neeve Ann Nagle
Joesph Naffah
Salma Elmubasher
Sina Afsharmehr

Observers

Melodie (vertigo)
Raphaella (vertigo)
Isabel (vertigo)
Mariah (staff)

Zoom

Bridie O'Kelly (Assistant gensec)
Adrian Lozancic (councillor)
Tyberious (vertigo)

1. Opening of meeting

Meeting opened at 6:35pm

1. Acknowledgement of country

Mia delivers acknowledgement of country

1.2. Confirmation of deputy chair

Mover: Mathew

Secunder: Neeve

1.3 Attendance, apologies and proxies

Peter Munford proxies to

1 Januka

2 Aylin

3 Bridie

Januka accepts

Bilvika Abburi proxies to

1 Dirk

2 Bridie

3 Aylin

Dirk accepts

Alisa Hamilton proxies to

1 Daewah

2 Mathew

3 Samiha

Daewah accepts

2. Confirmation of previous minutes

2.1 March 2024

Mathew

Daewah

Passing

2.2 Emergency Meeting (2/04/2024)

Jermey

Bridie

Passed

3. Matters arising from minutes

Bridie on previous (emergency) SRC vertigo raised that correcting an area when reading quotes for cost when went to print.

Ty and Raph confirm

4. Correspondence

5. Office Bearers' Reports

5.1 President

Mia: a lot lost dense since I came back last money, first thing rolling out google form, to go on back of bathroom stalls about how we operate, so we can gauge student feedback to gauge on what we want to campaign on, outside of collectives we don't have much student input, we can get data from students about stuff they don't like, informational accept which the uni doesn't have. Will likely do on monthly basis, bridie did all the questions. Me and staff have gone through and looked through edit.

National rally against DV on the weekend. A bunch of work over last week, would be great to see you guys there on Friday even for a bit.

5.2 General Secretary

General Secretary report:

The past month has been quite uneventful, with many other staff members being on leave throughout the previous few weeks. There are a few updates throughout this past month however.

1# Vertigo: As many councillors would have attended, during our emergency meeting we passed the vertigo working group's motion which was originally brought up during as an emergency item at the March SRC meeting. This secured funding for the immediate printing for volume one, which is to be distributed on campus psychically in the coming week. There are still pressing issues which are yet to be resolved, such as the lack of office space for the elected vertigo team, as well as missing equipment belonging to vertigo which was removed from the office at the time. The Vertigo working group will next convene on Tuesday the 23rd of April.

2# End Student Poverty: Last Friday various executives and councillors including Mia and myself attended the National Union of Student's 'End Student Poverty Snap Speak-Out'. This rally, which took place outside of State Parliament House, was a reasonable success. Many of us will likely also picketing Federal Parliament House on the day of the federal budget next month, in an attempt to continue to protest for this issue.

3# Legalise It: A few student unions across the country have started to engage in the upcoming 'Drug Reform' / 'Legalise it' campaigns which will likely be pushed by the government and other parties such as The Greens in the coming months. Specifically, Myself and a couple other councillors observed a planning event held by the USyd SRC for this campaign. The USyd SRC's mobilisation on this issue provides a gold standard for how our own education and/or welfare collectives could engage with this campaign when it will likely head into full swing next semester. I am personally keen for the UTSSA to start engaging with this campaign alongside other issues which we have already made leeway on this year.

Taken as read, speaks to vertigo working group update Speaks to receiving vertigo printing schedule

5.3 Assistant General Secretary

Assistant General Secretary Report

Over the past month, I have been working on the following project:

1. Student feedback campaign:

- Due to low engagement in various collectives, the UTSSA is currently lacking student feedback about what key issues facing students at UTS are, and we are increasingly reliant on our own personal experiences.

- This campaign will look like having posters in bathroom stalls and various other high-traffic places on campus with a QR code that leads students to fill out a feedback/complaints/issues form.

- We hope this form provides the UTSSA with greater direction about the issues we should focus on.

☑ Since last SRC, Mia, Aylin and myself have drafted a set of questions that will be included in the Google Form.

☑ We are working alongside Biljana to create a design for the poster.

- Further updates will follow.

Taken as read, already covered by Mia. Thanks Derek that the QR could be passed at night owl noodle.

5.4 Education officer

5.5 Welfare officer

Welfare Officer Report:

Students are now well and deep into the Autumn semester for 2024 and are keeping busy with course work and assignments. With that in mind this month has been slower for the welfare collective. As the welfare officer I was able to take part in the hiring of a new position here at UTS, known as the director of student experiences. After a long and thorough interview process I alongside UTS management were able to settle on a candidate that we believe is best suited for the role to ensure that the time spent here by students is a memorable one surrounded by ease and assistance. The new position for the director of student experience will hopefully lead to indicators to monitor progress and define steps by closing gaps in activities that are otherwise unresponsive and lack action. As this new position is heavily involved with the wellbeing of students on campus the welfare collective is invested in ensuring its success to give way to a greater environment for students on campus. This month I will also be taking part in a project run by the CSJI to record the acknowledgment of country in another language, that being Turkish, as its important that we recognise and accommodate for the multicultural background in Australia and pay our respects to the indigenous community. I will also be taking part in National Rally Against Violence by creating a banner, when considering the current tragic events in Bondi and the ongoing issue of violence against women to ensure that these situations do not just become another statistic.

Taken as read, doing rally and banners, taking part in CSGI project to do acknowledge of country in different languages

5.6 Women's officer

Past Events/ Initiatives Summary:

Throughout the month of April these events and initiatives were undertaken:

1. Meetings with the organisation Respect Now Always (RNA), to initiate more collaboration between RNA and woco on future events and campaigns.
2. The women in media panel with Jsoc and Utsoc
3. Conducting a raffle for woco members one that was sponsored by Dendy cinema Newtown.
4. Discussions surrounding the upcoming period product survey that will be released in order to keep supplying UTS students in free period products in the bathroom.

Upcoming Events and Initiatives:

- 1.A feminist movie night in collaboration with RNA.
2. Our second collective meeting.
- 3.The period product survey.

Goals Still to Be Achieved:

- An official women's safe space opening to be held when the woco space is redecorated
- Get the woco book club up and running
- Ongoing efforts to enhance the women's space are in progress.
- More promotion of our initiatives and achievements on social media platforms.

Taken as read by general secretary on her behalf

5.7 International students officer

OPAL Concession Advocacy:

On April 8th, the City of Sydney officially approved its support for the OPAL concession and drafted a letter addressed to the transport minister advocating for fair OPAL concession for all students in New South Wales (NSW). This initiative aims to address the transportation challenges faced by international students and ensure equitable access to transportation services. We anticipate that this issue will be deliberated upon during the upcoming parliamentary debate, and we remain hopeful for a favourable outcome.

Newcastle Trip:

We organised and successfully executed a trip to Newcastle, which was attended by 27 international students. The trip included an exploration of the vibrant street art depicting the rich Aboriginal culture of Australia. Additionally, participants gained insights into the coal and mining history of Newcastle, further enriching their understanding of Australia's industrial heritage. The highlight of the trip was a visit to Fort Scratchley, offering a breathtaking panoramic view of Newcastle, enhancing the students' appreciation for the historical significance of the region.

Cybercrime and Scam Prevention Workshop:

In collaboration with the NSW Police, we are conducting a workshop focused on cybercrime and scam prevention. This initiative aimed to equip international students with essential knowledge and skills to safeguard themselves against cyber threats and scams prevalent in the digital age. By educating students on current laws and regulations in NSW and providing practical tips for emergency situations, we empower them to navigate challenges effectively and ensure their safety and well-being.

Conclusion:

April witnessed significant progress in our efforts to support and empower international students in NSW. From advocating for fair transportation concessions to organising educational trips and workshops, we remain committed to addressing the diverse needs of our international student community. Looking ahead, we will continue to explore opportunities for collaboration and innovation to enhance the overall experience and well-being of international students in UTS.

Taken as read, opal concession campaign, March 8th we did receive a city of Sydney response (letter to transport minister), formal reply by minister of transport, "was not a positive response" copy pasted from a few years back, waiting for parliamentary debate and might be taking international students from various unis to observe in public gallery. Monday scam prevention workshop, Greg, Senior crime prevention officer gave speech. Newcastle trip during stuvac. Few event planned for next few weeks.

Mia: big congratulations for the work Rahgav has done during opal campaign. Letter from Jo Haylin "poor response". And "overplayed excuses".

Rahgav: we are waiting for responses

Mia: a few PMs supporting this campaign at debate such as Alex Grenich

5.8 Indigenous officer

5.9 Postgraduate students officer

Laura: lately working with high degree research committee, what's been a success is mentorship program, (PHD student mentoring honour students). Also holding conferences for research students at UTS. Recently also met with Rahagv over concerns with international postgrad students. First is international postgrad doing research having stipends cut off, only problem at UTS, less time than normal students to do research, domestic students 4 years but at UTS international gets 6 months less and \$200 a day beyond that. Putting case together so Rahgav can bring to SGLC meeting (7th of May) both me and Rahagv attending. Rahgav sent student feedback survey for postgrad business school. Laura thinking of doing for school of law and health- to bring to meeting with higher ups.

5.10 Ethnocultural officer

Ethnocultural Collective Report

Past Progress Summary:

The ethnocultural collective has made great progress this month;

- We are now in collaboration with the Centre of Social Justice and Inclusion (CSJI)

(and the international collective) to gather qualitative data alongside quantitative statistics on racism and racial discrimination at UTS, this includes surveys and co-facilitating interviews with BIPOC individuals at UTS. We also have made progress on working with the CSJI by working on the project in which members of the UTS community will be reading AOC in their mother tongue and giving us insight on their connection to their mother tongue.

- We hosted an event for Eid on the 12th of April, it was quiet and many students were not able to have the opportunity to try the treats because the timing of events relies on the phases of the moon, it landed on a day where many muslims choose to fast (the third day of eid), so it wasn't that successful however our goal was to make people feel seen and valued, and we definitely had a couple of people pass by thank us for doing something to celebrate.

- We are now in the process of regaining traction on social media, as we only recently retrieved our passwords from past ethnocultural officers.

Goals to still be achieved:

-The room is becoming more and more tidy, however we need to get everything properly tidied up so we can host in person interviews for the project we're working on with CSJI at UTS.

-Increase membership.

-Increase social media presence.

Taken as read. Now collaborating with centre of social justice and inclusion, gathering qualitative data on racism at UTS. Working on getting people interviewed in ethno safe space. If POC in this room want to get involved please read out to me it is all confidential. 12th of April first event, successful to get seen and valued, less sign ups than expected however. Somewhat successful. Finally got passwords back. Since vertigo archives are big and full removalists need a lot of time to convert the space. Why space hasn't been set up yet

5.11 Disabilities officer

April has been a slower month than usual, this is due to the Collective not meeting quorum for meetings at every attempted meeting. I have decided to go ahead with events on my own.

It is hard to campaign etc with little support. On a more positive note - I have been contacted by the Film Appreciation Society about the educational screening of a documentary film, "Defiant Lives". DisCo plans to purchase a lifetime copy of the film for the future of the collective. This event will be open to non-collective members, hoping to broaden our reach and promote awareness. However, the date for this screening is yet to be confirmed as they screen on specific days, likely towards the end of the semester to accommodate schedules.

Taken as read, motion to cover on event later

5.12 Queer officer

I am working to get in contact with 2010 org. They specialise in free housing for LGBTQIA+ housing with no family support. Gathering materials.

5.13 Environment officer ‘

Environmental Collective Report

CDS on campus

Ian McInnes from central services had investigated the feasibility of reverse vending machines for bottles/cans by contacting the peak provider, TOMRA. Unfortunately, in the judgement of TOMRA’s customer service team, their products are found not to be suitable in an education campus setting like UTS. The correspondence made note of “minimum requirements” for a space to become a collection point, such as access for trucks, access for public (UTS being students only on weekends).

Ahead of this issue, a renewed approach to the 10c deposit bins on campus should be looked at, this is likely to involve a volunteer-based system.

Upcoming events and activities:

07/05 Collective meeting. The collective aims to meet on the 7 th of May, especially to elect a convenor before semester’s end.

Correspondence

a. The Sustainability newsletter has reached out to incorporate any promotional material ahead of the release of the next newsletter. Items should include promoting the next meeting.

b. Zack Schofield, Community Organiser of Rising tide reached out to organise one of their East Coast tour events to be on UTS grounds to increase cooperation and save money. This involves booking the Great Hall for use on the 6 th or 7 th of July this year. This process is pending.

Taken as read, trouble with tongra and central services, unfortunately vending machines for return and earn not appropriate for schools as they cant meet minimum requirements and vehicles, do something different. Rising tide wanting to use space for event in Sydney, don’t think we can confirm great hall. Good relationship to nourish.

6. Other Reports

6.1 committee

Kurt, from UTS council ethical partnership, council commented EPA paper and referred to DVC for formal response, taken rest of report as read. Mention university accords and number of issues in sector UTS isn’t immune to. One of big issues is student safety, in process of preparing support for students policy. HECS indexation, redefining how HECS works. Also mentions OPAL concession, UNI in Principe support on equity level. SPA renewal, Mia working with Aciviate president. Kurt

speaks to the SPA and how it operates over 2 years. (SA/SH and student safety) in 2 years hasn't met what we hoped. SRC will be influential in this process.

Peter adds encouragement that SA should make submissions to SPA. Chance to have a real say on policy on how policy is developed. If anyone has questions raise with me Kurt or Mia. Raises anonymous with uni for goods line escalators, requested update from psychical infrastructure committee. There will be lift in place of escalators. Lift will be stopgap solution. Goods line renovation over the next five years. Asks marketing to roll out comms with students and staff.

Mia: on SPA if you want to make submission, tell me if you're intending to make a submission in next week. Isn't something that will get approved until June/July.

Kurt proxies to Joesph 706pm

6.2 Reports from Councillors, Convenors and Staff if requested or required

6.3 Vertigo report

Raph: a few printing updates, vol 2 due to be sent to printers tomorrow (2 weeks to confirm printing), done callout for vol 3. Calendar not final

7. Operational and Procedural Business, Stipends and Reimbursements

8. Other Business arising on notice

8.1 Insertion of Communications Policy

Action: That the UTSSA adopts, in line with the bylaws, the following policy "2 Communications"

Mia: Bridie drafted this, I think we should talk through this.

Adam: clarifies that between all comms (e.g OBs to collective members)

Bridie: Familiarise yourself with something that's been finalised, first part is relevant to everybody (eg drafting email). Going into nitty gritty the further down you go on third parties. Generally Media reaches out to President themselves.

Mia: Main things new rules, all rules is precedent put into words. If new people coming into this it puts it all together so we're not operating based off preference. Learning curve with new people this year.

Key areas are section 2.2 on external comms, (anyone not from organisation).

Internal communication how we speak to each other and staff, not using messenger for important stuff.

Documents should be on email, notice for event or meetings should be in email, anything that pertains to role should be in email. Don't care if you use discord for

trivial stuff but date and time needs to be used for both for there is a track record for everything.

Refrain for contacting outside work hours unless urgent (recommendation), you're not going to get into trouble if you don't follow (unless it's a bylaw) just recommendation for new members or staff.

This will apply to Vertigo (anyone who is elected under students association) This doesn't take away group-chats.

Not to apply to lower level communication

Ty: 24.5 will our social media have to go through these guidelines.

Mia: it probably shouldn't.

Mia: 24.5 is tone for colour pallet,

Raph: we have the guidelines but we don't use it religiously.

Mia: It's so you have the colours we use, maybe fine how it is, consult doesn't mean you can only use that.

Raph: could this be used to censor in future years

Mia: no consult doesn't mean its binding

Samiha: consulting is fine wording.

Adam: stuff that is in the bylaws it specifies that the code of conduct applies.

Mia: 2.4.5 can stay but there is no 2.4.4

Ammend 2.2.5 and 2.4.6 to 2.2.4 to 2.25 (respectively)

Aylin

Samiha

Rahgav: 20 days before marketing manger a lot of email are done later than this, very hard to send email it goes out later as there is a whole form.

Mariah: maybe because manager has a whole bunch of jobs to do, if you need banners flyers posters that is impossible to do in three days.

Rahagv, for my collective ob I make this.

Mia: 20 days does seem like a lot

Rahgav: different societies might contact weeks prior

Mia: we can clarify wording a but more, if you need assistance from akreting manager this is the time that is allowing, will not be relevant for every event which you have autonomy to do yourself.

Mia: to insert "if required" to 2.6.2

Mover: jeosph

Rahagv

Ty: for 2.5 if we need to approach a councillor we will need to go through marketing manager to direct one of us to speak?

Mia: I don't think media inquiries should apply to Vertigo

Mariah: its so people cant go forward and say I represent the entire UTSSA.

Mia: its phrased for official requests, its for ABC, Sky News, Guardian and its all for comment on behalf of UTSSA, sometimes for personal experience. Unless its on behalf of UTSSA than it doesn't apply really.

Raph: that would be on you (mia) not us?

Mia: yes it is a delegable duty, if you came to Adam for official comment I will need to authorise it.

Mia: everyone can make comments about stuff UTSSA has one or approved but something contentious we can't. 2.5.4 is about contentious issues or not approved we run policy for.

Mia: more specifically would have to be passed through SRC, we are allowed to make more personal comments, only applies if it is on behalf of the UTSSA.

Mia: you can always quote "the GenSec of the UTSSA Adam says this" we will have our own views always, its like when something makes a terrible comment and a workplace, it reflects on them and not the organisation.

Mariah: its future proofing if people come who have radically awful ideas.

Adam: if for example the queer collective made a view on behalf of the collective that nobody but the OB supports would this apply?

Jeremy: important that is something if asked of you that it reflects your capacity

Mia: 2.5.2 any media enquiry ect should be directed to manager or president, if someone comes to you let us know. Good point to have this for what capacity "are you asking this to me because I live in UTS housing or because I'm a postgrad officer?"

Jeremy: ok to have different opinions as one person, but important to state what capacity for the protection for others.

Adam: will we be able to amend this in following meetings

Mia: easier to amend compared to byalws

Adam: encourage to read everything

Mover: Jermey

Secunder: dirk

No dissent or abstention.

Passes

8.2 Disability Collective Event Approval

Action: That the UTSSA Approve \$200 for the Disability Collective to spend on

-Purchasing a copy of the movie ['Defiant lives']

-Snacks including popcorn, drinks, ect

Samiha: can I change to \$150 dollars, working with F.A.P so there is good turnout with non collective members.

Samiha Mover:

Aylin: secunder

Samiha as mover changes 200 to 150 \$

8.3 National Rally Against Gender Based Violence

Action:

1 That the UTSSA support the What Were You Wearing? National rally against gender-based violence, happening on Friday 26 April to Sunday 28 April. This support should take the form of re-sharing social media posts from 'What Were You Wearing?' as well as forming a UTSSA contingent to the rally

2. That the UTSSA approve \$100 in spending for snacks for the banner paint event on Friday 26 April

Mia: about rally for gender based violence, 31 (as of today) women have been killed. Significant increase especially considering Bondi Junction event. Mia, men in the room please be there, for women this can be difficult.

Mover: Joepsh

Seconder: Neeve

No dissent or abstentions

Passes.

9. General business

Mariah: financial report, it has to be presented to you. Big thing we made \$185k loss, biggest in the decade.

Mia: reminders for SPA,

10. Close of Meeting

Meeting closed 7:44pm