

# JUNE SRC MINUTES

25/06/2025 | 6:30pm | Online

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# 1. Opening of meeting at 6:33pm

### 1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Mia as joining the Zoom from Australian National University delivers the acknowledgement of country, acknowledging the Ngunnawal people upon whose ancestral lands ANU stands alongside 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
Olivia Lee	Women's Officer
Salma Elmubasher	Ethnocultural Officer
Vaishnavi Omar	Postgraduate Students Officer
Amelia Ireland	Disabilities Officer
Daewah Thein	Queer Officer
Eamonn Ryan	Councillor
Omar El-Sobihy	Councillor
Amelia Raptis	Councillor



Natasha Abdulghani	Councillor
Yasmine Johnson	Councillor
Lucia Thornton	Councillor
Ella Haid	Councillor
Elliot Kameron	Councillor
Sreekar Reddy	Postgraduate UTS Council Representative
Mariah Brown	Staff
Max D'Ambrosio	Observer
Kaityln	Observer
Tyberius Seeto	Observer

# Apologies

Name	Position (Councillor, Student Observer, Staff)
Jermaine Petterson-Heard	Indigenous Students Officer

### **Proxies**

Name	Proxy Accepted By
Sina Afsharmehr	Eamonn Ryan
Samiha Emran	Amelia
Chloe Ferreira	Neeve Nagle
Harshvardhan Suvarna	Januka

# 1.4. Declarations of Interest

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



**Mia:** Declares interest in motion "7.4 Reimbursement for GIPA Application Fee" as it is a motion to reimburse herself.

### 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes from May are confirmed as a true and accurate record.

### 2.1. Executive Business

No Executive Meetings to table.

### 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Nothing arising from Minutes.

### 4. Correspondence

No correspondence tabled.

# 5. Office Bearers' Reports

### 5.1. President

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

Mentions progress on the SSAF Campaign.

Alongside updates on the Palestine Campaign including engaging with the recent inquiry.

# 5.2. General Secretary

Januka takes report as read.

# 5.3. Assistant General Secretary

**Aryan's** report was not circulated to Council, and therefore Aryan submits their report in writing to Januka and reads this aloud.



### 5.4. Education Officer

**Samiha's** report was not circulated to Council, and therefore Samiha submits their report in writing to Januka.

**Yasmine:** Mentions recent NTEU meeting, including upcoming action legal action against the cuts alongside potential strikes with their EBA expiring.

**Mia**: Talks to the University's plan to release a report at the end of this month with specific information on cuts to Academic cuts which the NTEU was planning to use to more specifically target the campaign.

Yasmine: Speaks to the NTEU's plan to hopefully get that delayed using the legal and strike action.

Mia: Mentions Vaishnavi is soon to meet with the NTEU.

Vaishnavi: Confirms they are in the process of setting up a day.

### 5.5. Welfare Officer

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

Mentions she has received the results of the housing survey run by UTS following her campaign, results were tilted against the campaign by the University wording the questions to be about whether there were extremely poor living conditions rather than the substandard conditions the campaign was targeting.

### 5.6. Women's Officer

Olivia takes report as read.

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

Highlights her work with her newly elected convenor including planning for campaigns over student concerns and events covering student interests alongside Oday.

### 5.10. Ethnocultural Officer

Salma takes report as read.

### 5.11. Disabilities Officer

Amelia's report was not circulated to Council and instead reads theirs aloud.

Mentions work with UOW SAFF Committee to support establishing a Disabilities Committee there including writing a letter of support.

Organising for Disabilities pride month and the launch of the Sunflower Scheme

### 5.12. Queer Officer

Daewah report was not circulated to Council and instead reads theirs aloud.

Mentions getting minutes for the planning of Wear it Purple day. Highlights the blood donation ban on LGBTQ+ People has been repealed.

### 5.13. Environment Officer

**Sina** is absent and so their report is taken as read.

### 6. Other Reports

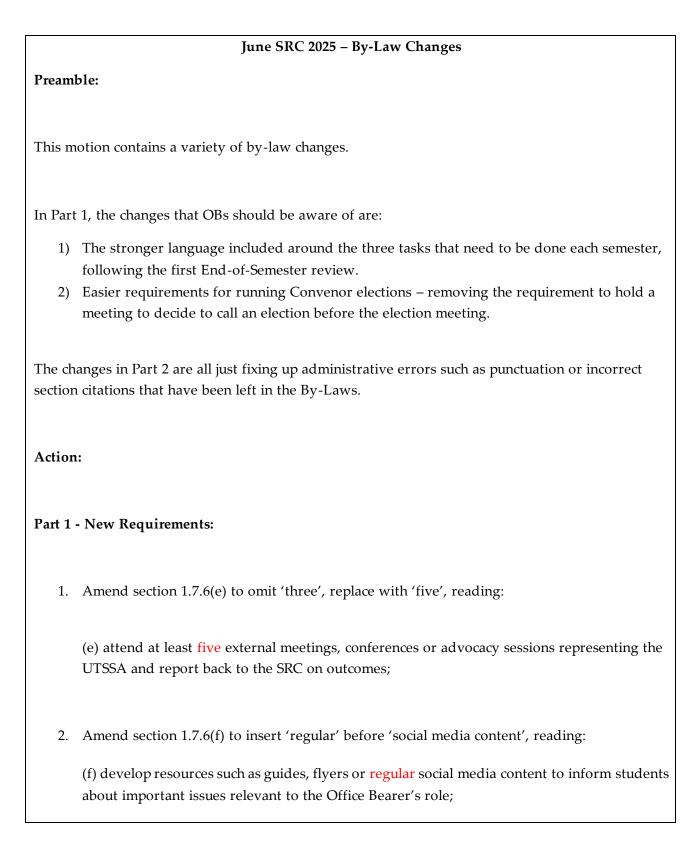
# 6.1. Vertigo June Report

Report was submitted in writing but is not spoken to as no one from Vertigo is in attendance.



# 7. Operational and Procedural Business, Stipends and Reimbursements.

# 7.1. June SRC 2025 By-Law Changes





- 3. Amend section 1.7.6(g) to insert 'at UTSSA spaces' after 'hours', and to insert '(if an Office Bearer, this time must be advertised to Collective members from the start of Semester through email and/or social media platforms)' after 'concerns', reading:
  - (g) host regular office hours at UTSSA spaces (min. 4 hours per week) to engage with students and address their concerns (if an Office Bearer, this time must be advertised to Collective members from the start of Semester through email and/or social media platforms);
- 4. Amend section 1.7.6(h) to omit 'two committees or working groups', replace with 'three committee or working group meetings', and read:
  - (h) actively participate in at least three committee or working group meetings established to support the union's governance; or
- 5. Omit Schedule 2, section 5.1 5.4, replace with:

#### 5.1 Initiating an Election

A Collective election may be initiated by the Collective Office Bearer, who will first request a Returning Officer (RO) to run the election in accordance with this Schedule. The RO must be a member of the UTSSA Executive, but cannot be the Welfare Officer or Education Officer if they are also the Office Bearer for the Collective. The Office Bearer is responsible for selecting and confirming an eligible RO.

#### 5.2 Role of the Returning Officer

The Returning Officer shall read this Schedule and administer its provisions correctly and in good faith. The Returning Officer will send the election rules set out in section 5 of this Schedule to every member of the Collective with the notice of the election sent before the opening of nominations. The RO must obtain the full list of Collective members from UTSSA staff to ensure all eligible members are properly notified.

#### 5.3 Nomination Period

The nomination period must be between 7 and 14 days. For the purpose of interpretation, an election commences when nominations open. The Collective Convenor, Office Bearer, or Returning Officer is to email notice of the election to every eligible member – including the time and date of the opening of nominations, close of nominations, and the election – before the opening of nominations.

6. Renumber Schedule 2, sections 5.5 – 5.9 accordingly.

#### Part 2 - Simple Admin Edits



- 1. Amend 1.9.3 to omit 'a', omit '1.8.1 or 1.8.2' and replace with '1.9.1', reading:
  - 1.9.3 A suspended honorarium must be restored by the SRC if a majority determines that the recipient of the honorarium that has been suspended under clause 1.9.1 is now performing their duties, as applicable to the office, under the Constitution and By-Laws.
- 2. Amend 1.9.4 to omit '1.8.1', replace with '1.9.1'.
- 3. Amend Schedule 2, section 1 to omit 'Wom\*n's', replace with 'Women's'.
- 4. Amend Schedule 3, section 3.1 to omit 'Subject to this clause 0,'
- 5. Amend Schedule 3, section 3.5 to replace 'clause 0 or 0)' with 'clause 3.4(e) or 3.4(f)', reading:
  - 3.5 Where a Grievance Committee Member is removed under clause 3.4(e) or 3.4(f), a person appointed to replace a removed person must not be involved in the consideration of any matter before the Grievance Committee prior to their appointment.
- 6. Amend Schedule 3, section 5.5 to omit 'clause 0' and replace with 'clause 5.4(b)'.
- 7. Amend Schedule 3, section 6.4(a) to omit 'clause 0' and replace with 'clause 6.3'.
- 8. Amend Schedule 3, section 7.2 to omit 'clause 0' and replace with 'clause 5.2'.
- 9. Amend Schedule 3, section 8.2(b) to omit 'clause 0' and replace with 'clause 4'.
- 10. Amend Schedule 3, section 8.2(c) to omit 'clause 0' and replace with 'clause 10.2'.
- 11. Amend Schedule 3, section 10.1 to omit '0'.
- 12. Amend Schedule 3, section 10.1(c) to omit the first 'clause 0' and replace with 'clause 3', and omit the second 'clause 0' and replace with 'clause 8'.
- 13. Amend Schedule 4, section 3.4.1 to omit 'university life and student news', replace with 'student life and university news'.

Mover: Salma

Seconder: Omar

Mia: Explains the set of policy changes

Including removing the requirement for two meetings for a collective to call an election. While keeping the notice rules the same as collectives anyway need to call an election.

Then changes to the OB End of Semester review criteria to fix issues noticed in the first use of the new by-laws

The motion passes with 22 votes for 0 against.

#### **Votes in Favour:**

#### 1. Omar



- 2. Eammon
- 3. Salma
- 4. Mia
- 5. Amelia Ireland
- 6. Daewah
- 7. Vaishnavi
- 8. Olivia
- 9. Aryan
- 10. Sreekar
- 11. Amelia Raptis
- 12. Natasha
- 13. Yasmine
- 14. Elliot
- 15. Lucia
- 16. Januka
- 17. Neeve
- 18. Ella
- 19. Sina (Proxy)
- 20. Harshavardhan (Proxy)
- 21. Samiha (Proxy)
- 22. Chloe (Proxy)

# 7.2 Spring Session Collective Meeting Pilot Schedule

### Preamble:

1. Noting that several Collectives have struggled to consistently run meetings throughout the year, and that low engagement has limited their ability to organise, collaborate, and make decisions transparently;



- 2. Recognising the opportunity presented by post-O'Week momentum to engage new members and set a strong foundation for semester-long organising; and
- 3. Understanding that logistical challenges including booking rooms and managing communications can be a barrier to running effective and accessible Collective meetings,

This pilot is being introduced as a way to test a more structured and consistent model for kick-starting Collective activity in Spring 2025. It is not intended to shift responsibility for running meetings onto staff, but rather to provide OBs with a dedicated, well-supported window for hosting their first Collective meetings, with all required procedures (notice, agenda-setting, and minutes) still being the responsibility of the relevant Office Bearer.

The schedule for the day would look roughly as follows:

10:00 – 10:30: International Collective

10:30 – 11:00: Postgraduate Collective

11:00 – 11:30: Indigenous Collective

11:30 – 12:00: Ethnocultural Collective

12:00 – 12:30: Women's Collective

12:30 - 1:00: Welfare Collective

1:00 – 1:30: Enviro Collective

1:30 – 2:00: Education Collective

2:00 – 2:30: Disabilities Collective

2:30 – 3:00: Queer Collective

#### Action:

- 1. That the SRC endorses the **Spring Session OB Meeting Process Pilot Schedule** to support Collective engagement and collaboration through the following:
- 1. First Collective Meetings for <u>all Collectives</u> will be scheduled on the Wednesday following Orientation Week in Spring Session 2025 (**Wednesday 30th July**).
- 2. Meetings will take place in on-campus meeting rooms **booked in advance by staff.**
- 3. Each meeting will run for 30 minutes, with light refreshments (pastries and fruit) provided.



- 4. OBs are responsible for:
  - Setting the agenda;
  - o Giving **notice** to Collective members as per usual practice;
  - Ensuring **minutes** are taken and submitted to SRC if spending is approved.
- 5. A **mid-semester feedback process** will be conducted to evaluate the pilot and inform future Collective meeting processes.
- 2. The SRC notes that this is a **pilot**, designed to support and test better engagement not a permanent structural change or a staff-run process.
- 3. The SRC approves an upper spending limit of \$1,000 for the purchase of light refreshments by UTSSA staff for the facilitation of these Collective meetings.

Mover: Salma

Seconder: Omar

**Mia**: Explains this as a suggestion by Biljana as a meeting for all the collectives on the same day to provide more support to OB's in organising meetings.

Salma: Question is it all in one room

**Mia**: It was all be in the same room but will have it rolling times so collectives with overlapping membership could easily attend multiple collective meetings, not actually all at the same time.

The motion passes unanimously.

# 7.3 International Students Collective Convenor Approval

**Action:** That the UTSSA:

1. Confirm Jishnu Ramachandran Sreekala Devi as International Students Convenor for 2025 following the internal election results from the International Students Collective meeting held on 18/06/25



Mover: Januka

Seconder: Eammon

Januka: Confirms he was the returning Officer.

The motion passes unanimously.

# 7.4 Reimbursement for GIPA Application Fee

#### Preamble:

The UTSSA President, Mia Campbell submitted a GIPA (Government Information (Public Access)) application to obtain internal documents related to governance issues concerning the university's response to sexual violence since 2022, including information about external reviews into university policies as well as statistics on misconduct proceedings. This work was undertaken in the interests of transparency, student representation, and improving institutional accountability in relation to sexual violence. The application fee of \$30 was paid personally by Mia Campbell.

**Action:** That the SRC approves the reimbursement of \$30 to Mia Campbell for the cost of the GIPA application fee.

Mover: Amelia Ireland

Seconder: Salma

Mia: Explains the process of the GIPA request for documents regarding sexual violence,

Mention it has been having been a bit of back and forth to get them as originally she was told to make scope smaller as a result she took out drafts documents and committee reports that she already had access to but wanted on public record from the request.

The motion passes unanimously.



### 8. Other Business Arising on Notice

# 8.1 UTSSA Incentives and Prizes Policy

#### Preamble:

As a student-led organisation committed to equity, integrity, and student welfare, the UTSSA recognises the value of using incentives and giveaways to increase engagement and support student participation. However, without clear guidelines, there is a risk that prizes may be distributed unfairly or perceived as benefiting organisers or their associates. This policy ensures that all giveaways are conducted transparently, ethically, and in alignment with the UTSSA's values, reinforcing trust in our processes and outcomes.

**Action:** That the UTSSA insert the following policy at Section 8 of the Internal UTSSA Policy:

#### 8.1. Purpose

This policy outlines the principles and procedures governing the use of incentives, prizes, and giveaways by the UTSSA. It ensures that all rewards support the mission of student welfare, equity, and social justice, while maintaining transparency and accountability.

#### 8.2. Scope

This policy applies to all UTSSA departments (inc. Vertigo), Collectives, and affiliated student programs that wish to offer prizes or giveaways as part of their initiatives, events, or campaigns.

However, it does not apply to complimentary items or tickets received at no cost to the UTSSA, unless those items are intended to be distributed to students as part of a UTSSA campaign or event.

### 8.3. General Principles

- 8.3.1. Incentives and prizes must directly support student engagement, welfare, or social justice outcomes.
- 8.3.2. All prizes and giveaways must be approved by the SRC prior to being promoted or distributed.



- 8.3.3. UTSSA prioritises ethical and inclusive practices that benefit students equitably and avoid reinforcing disadvantages.
- 8.3.4. Prizes and giveaways must not be used to provide personal benefit to the organiser or to individuals with whom the organiser has a close relationship.
- 8.3.5. All incentives must be distributed through a fair and impartial process to ensure equity, transparency, and public trust in UTSSA initiatives.

### 8.4. SRC Approval Process

A Prize/Giveaway Proposal must be submitted to the SRC for their consideration and approval.

The proposal should include:

- Purpose of the incentive
- Target audience
- Proposed prize(s)
- Estimated cost and funding source
- Alignment with UTSSA values (welfare, equity, and social justice)
- Description of the selection method for recipients (e.g. random draw, judged entry, first-come basis). The method must be fair, transparent, and clearly communicated to participants.

#### 8.5. Prize Purchasing

Once approved, prize purchasing can be coordinated by either the responsible SRC member or through the Marketing and Strategy Manager, who will oversee procurement in line with UTSSA policies.

#### 8.6. Terms and Conditions

All giveaways must include clearly communicated Terms and Conditions which should cover:

- Eligibility (e.g. current UTS students only)
- Entry method (e.g. registration, participation, survey)



- Start and end dates
- Prize details and value
- Selection method (e.g. random draw, judged entry)
- Notification of winners
- Collection or delivery of prizes
- Privacy statement (how student data will be used and protected)

#### 8.7. Records and Reporting

If you are conducting a giveaway, you must:

- Maintain a record of giveaways and recipients (where applicable)
- Report spending and engagement outcomes in end-of-semester reports
- Flag any issues with prize delivery, fairness, or student feedback

### 8.8. Compliance and Accountability

- 8.8.1. All departments, Collectives, and affiliated programs are expected to comply with this policy when running giveaways or offering prizes.
- 8.8.2. Where a breach of this policy is identified including failure to seek SRC approval, lack of transparency in selection, or use of giveaways for personal benefit any member of the Executive may:
  - Request a written explanation from the relevant office bearer or organiser;
  - Withhold reimbursement for costs of the prizes/giveaway items;
  - Require a retrospective report on the giveaway including participant data and selection method;
  - Withhold or suspend approval for future giveaways until compliance issues are addressed.
- 8.8.3. Repeated or serious non-compliance may be referred to the Executive or Grievance Committee for further review, as per standard UTSSA governance processes.

Mover: Salma



Seconder: Amelia

**Mia:** Explains it is a continuation of the governance improvements to ensure we have a clear policy on for UTSSA prizes. Was written by Biljana to formalize the process she was using. Highlights that it also applies to Collectives and Vertigos.

The motion passes unanimously.

### 9. General Business

#### 9.1 The UTSSA endorses the Aug 7 National Day of Action for Palestine

Ella submits motion to Januka as follows:

#### Preamble

Israel's genocidal war on Gaza has murdered over 57,000 Palestinians, including more than 17,000 children, 180 journalists, 120 academics, and over 224 humanitarian aid workers. The Australian government has done nothing serious to stop these atrocities, while also continuing its two-way arms trade with Israel. As has been evidenced with Israel's attack on Iran, the Albanese Government has is lock-step with Israel and the USA when they decide to expand war further into the Middle East.

Meanwhile, our universities continue their collaborations with weapons companies and Israeli institutions. Students should take a united stand against this genocide, and our leaders' willingness to build the drive to war.

As has been announced by the NUS, on August 7th, a series of National Day of Action protests will take place across Australia with the following demands:

- 1. Weapons Companies Off Campus
- 2. Sanction Israel
- 3. Stop the Repression of Palestine Activists

#### Action

1. The UTSSA will publicise the August 7 2025 National Day of Action on its social media via a tile post.



2. The UTSSA will produce a short reel on its social medias encouraging UTS Students to attend the August 7 2025 National Day of Action.

3. The UTSSA encourages office bearers to publicise the August 7 2025 National Day of Action to their collectives' social medias.

4. The UTSSA will have 300 A3 posters and 500 A5 leaflets for the August 7 2025 National

Day of Action printed, once an official poster design has been created.

Mover: Ella

Seconder: Lucia

No dissent to being heard

Ella reads out the motion.

Opens to discussion.

Salma: asks about the reasoning behind the number of 300 A3 posters.

Ella: Will not actually be much and will be torn down regularly to needed to refresh.

Mia: Mentions potential need for more flyers.

**Januka:** Raises the issue that the motion may not be not be able to include expenses under the standing orders as it is a emergency motion.

**Mia:** Agrees that she was also considering that and that likely to expense section of the motion would need to be approved at an executive meeting later. Alongside potential for approving more expenses.

Mia: Banner paints, Other content. Flying rosters, Tote bags, will put all up at the next meeting.

Amendment to remove point 4.

Raised by Mia

Ella is amenable

Amended motion passes unanimously.



#### 9.2 Approval of Eryn Yates as Women's Collective convenor

Olivia submits motion to Januka as follows:

#### Preamble:

- On the 24th of June, the Women's collective voted Eryn Yates as convenor.

#### Action:

- The UTSSA approves Eryn Yates as Women's Collective Convenor

Mover: Salma

Seconder: Neeve

No dissent to being heard

**Olivia:** Just to approve Eryn yates, who was voted up on Tuesday so it couldn't be sent with other motions.

**Ty Sweeto:** Asks if it is a conflict of interest, since Eryn is on vertigo.

Mia: Confirms she would have to declare it on articles.

No dissent motion passes.

#### Mia brings up general business

Describes issue of the definition of student, does not have set definition, raises options. Either to use the definition of student under UTS's definition, which includes everyone except those who are on leaves of absence or exchange.

Other possible definition of student is based on who pays SSAF. Students who are enrolled in short courses do not pay SSAF.

So, question is whether to use the UTS Definition, or whether its focused on SSAF for those able to vote.

**Neeve**: Says it's important that it is just those who pay SSAF, thinks it's important because students who pay SSAF should be the one in control of how its spent compared to the university who just cares about who's paying them fees.

**Amelia Ireland**: Does not have particular opinion does think it makes sense from organisational perspective.



Ty Sweeto: Raises whether this would change who gets access to UTSSA services.

Mia: Says no would not change what they do, would also be difficult to check.

**Ty Sweeto**: Asks as to why students doing short-course students don't deserve to run to be Union representatives.

**Neeve:** Talks about Short-Courses being far too short to be on the SRC, including one that it would be 5 days for \$5000.

Doesn't mean they can't access our services but doesn't mean they should be running, seems like a waste of time.

Mariah: Asks about UTS College, do they pay SSAF

Mia: Does not think so and mentions UTS College students have never has been voting members.

Mia: Will proceed on the basis of SSAF usage, is open to hearing to different opinions later.

Mia raises another General Business:

Whether anyone has any other ideas for what we can give out on Oday, if anyone has any better ideas then power banks.

**Salma:** mentions totes bag.

Mia: They would be cheaper, can also put UTSSA flyers inside of them.

**Natasha:** Mentions you could do leaflets per collective, like each rep for the UTSLS which can help explain collectives.

**Mia:** Thinks it would be a good idea to have different one for different collectives.

**Ty Sweeto:** Question about NUS rules, and relationship with the Media, why did NUS not have a press summit asks Neeve as she is a NUS Executive.

**Neeve:** it was a part of the tender deal made with ANUSA, last years was bad especially for NLS.

Does know ANUSA did not want a press summit on university grounds, was happy if it happened off campus. Any media needs to be approved by national executive, last year it was done as Labor members not as NUS members.

**Ty:** Has questions about Tweets made by a NUS EdCon attendee, asks Neeve as she is a NUS Executive.

**Neeve:** Mentions it was likely a mistake, that it was a bad take that trivialised the issue, does not support it, but asks NUS questions are asked to her personally outside of SRC.



Ty Sweeto: Brings up a potential welfare campaign supporting USYD's Housing.

**Neeve** says she does a lot of work, including lots of important campaign, does not intend to fight with UYSD on public housing because while she is supportive does not believe it is the best use of resources to spend SSAF on an issue not focused students.

# 10. Close of Meeting at 7:29pm



# **Appendix 1: Office Bearer Reports**

### 1. President

### Campaign for SASH

This month, I have continued the campaign for UTS to improve its response to sexual violence affecting UTS students. This has been through:

- The GIPA request that I filed with the university requesting information on misconduct statistics, the un-released Angela Hill report conducted from December 2024 – January 2025, information on external contractors engaged by UTS to investigate sexual violence, information on my own report of sexual violence report made in 2022, and the directions given by UTS to ActivateUTS on these types of matters.
- Advocating through the RNA Steering Committee for an earlier and better alignment between UTS' current policies and the National Code in relation to "investigations" of sexual violence.
- Advocating through the Student/Council Liaison Group for better statistics and data management of sexual violence matters – noting that the SSU continuously reports different sets of data through different committees as it relates to SASH.

I have not received the documents from the GIPA request yet, but will be expecting these in the next week to continue this campaign.

### Campaign for Palestine

This month, I have continued the UTSSA's campaign for Palestine alongside the UTSSA Ethnocultural Officer by pushing the DVC(ES) and PVC (Social Justice and Inclusion) to put out a statement in support of their Palestinian students.

Beyond this, myself and the UTSSA Welfare Officer presented at the NSW Inquiry into Antisemitism, where it was clear that various members of the NSW Parliament were determined to frame protests for Palestine as antisemitism, and to frame student



representative councils as not broadly representative of students at their universities. I think that the student representatives in our inquiry session spoke really well and in support of the Palestine movement, while also unequivocally condemning antisemitism and racism in all of its forms.

I am hoping to be involved in July in the public inquiries for the APAN Peoples Inquiry, and to plan towards the NDA on August 7<sup>th</sup> alongside other student representatives and staff.

### Campaign on SSAF

During the SCLG June meeting, I brought forward a paper about how I believe UTS is not properly consulting students on the use of SSAF, alongside ActivateUTS. This paper was not very well received – the DVC(ES) had many notes on points that she didn't agree with. The outcome of this is that we will now be going back to the SSAF Committee, which will have an extra meeting to discuss the proposals that we put forward in this paper before returning to the SCLG.

# 2. General Secretary

Throughout June, I've been focused on planning and supporting ongoing initiatives within the UTSSA. The beginning of the month centred around end-of-semester reviews and assisting the International Officer with the running of their Convenor elections. Having now served as a Returning Officer in several elections, I've developed a interest in improving the election processes and will be working on adding on to the great improvements proposed by Mia already ahead of our next meeting.

My planning for the UTSSA Handbook continues as I have been investigating the possibility of using other formats for it. Mainly what would be required to make it in the form of Video content such that it could provide continues value to the UTSSA over years rather than being a single expense. This is alongside continued planning towards improvements to the Start of Semester operations of the UTSSA so that more students engaging with our stalls and services.

With Vertigo's next edition to be going to print at the start July, I'm anticipating being



involved in the approval process quite soon alongside the next Vertigo Working Group meeting which has been moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July.

Alongside my usual varies administrative tasks, ending this month like many other members of the SRC, I've spent my time at the Education Conference and am keen to report my final experience of the conference at next month's SRC.

# 3. Assistant General Secretary

June wasn't too hectic, but it's been a fun and productive month as I've gotten more comfortable in the role.

One highlight was working on the Smartraveller alcohol safety campaign. I reached out to DFAT, received their social media tiles, and put together a post for Instagram to raise awareness around drink spiking and methanol poisoning — something really relevant with the travel season coming up. I kept in touch with Mia throughout and made sure everything was shared as needed.

I also updated the internal policy with the platform changes passed at the May SRC meeting.

While I noticed the SRC minutes I originally took weren't great, I managed to pull out the key points and got in touch with Januka to help fix it — lesson learned for next time!

Overall, it's been good getting more hands-on, and I'm looking forward to doing more in the next month.

### 4. Education Officer

June has been a quieter month in terms of direct campaign activity due to the exam period and semester break. However, I used this time to focus on forward planning for next semester.

Goal Setting & Semester 2 Preparation:

I spent time outlining key goals for Semester 2, including refining campaign priorities around education equity and student welfare. These goals will guide upcoming initiatives and collaborative work.



PSS Collaboration – Event Planning:

I've been in initial discussions with the Public Speaking Society (PSS) to co-host a cross-organisational event. This would aim to address shared student concerns including academic support, campus inclusion, and wellbeing. We are currently in talks around theme, logistics, and budget.

Budget Cuts Campaign:

I attended a planning meeting regarding the university's proposed budget cuts and their impact on staff and students. I participated in a joint call with relevant collectives and stakeholders to discuss how we can build awareness and resistance strategies and what I will be doing from my end.

### 5. Welfare Officer

Over the past few weeks, I've continued work across several key areas of the Welfare Collective. I recently contacted Matthew Bowerman to request access to the results of the UTS Housing Survey. These results have now been received and will be instrumental in shaping our ongoing advocacy around student accommodation, particularly as we push for more transparent policies and improved living standards within UTS Housing.

In relation to this, the Licence Agreement terms for UTS Housing have been sent to an external legal service for review. This is somewhat unusual and raises questions as to why UTS Legal was not able to handle the matter internally. We are seeking clarity on this process and will continue to follow up to ensure students' rights and interests are being appropriately prioritised.

The Food Services campaign has unfortunately encountered significant delays. The location we were promised for launching distribution of Night Owl Noodles and Blue Bird Brekkie is now confirmed to be unavailable until mid-June next year. This is an extremely disappointing setback, as the space was central to our plans. We are currently exploring alternative venues and interim solutions to ensure food relief can still be delivered to students in the meantime, particularly in light of the rising need on campus.

Finally, I appeared alongside Mia at the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism. While the formal proceedings of the inquiry were not particularly helpful in facilitating meaningful



dialogue or engagement with student perspectives, we were able to have informal discussions with several members of the panel. These conversations gave us the opportunity to raise specific concerns that may otherwise have been overlooked, and we are hopeful this input will help inform the inquiry's final recommendations.

Despite these setbacks and the structural challenges we continue to face, the Welfare Collective remains focused on delivering practical support, centring student wellbeing, and holding the university accountable where necessary.

### 6. Women's Officer

In June, WoCo were asked to work on Vertigo articles for their upcoming edition. I worked alongside WoCo members Elspeth and Elizabeth to write up articles around students dealing abortion stigma and period pain, particularly how these issues are ignored by the University and how the continued ignorance of these issues heavily impacts student wellbeing. This was a great initiative to promote advocacy around these issues and ultimately promote the work of the Women's Collective.

I also finally elected my WoCo convenor Eryn Yates! I am very excited about Eryn and the work she will do for the collective. She has been extremely supportive of progressive initiatives on campus and is highly motivated to promote the collective particularly through Vertigo where she is heavily involved.

I have also started drafting a report on the period product survey I have been working on over the past few months with the goal of hopefully being able to achieve more funding for this program and expand the program across more bathrooms on campus and potentially the Moore Park campus.

Finally, I ran the draw for the winners of the period product survey and handed out some of the period undies for the winners who could make it on campus. I will most definitely look at resuming this in a way that is more effective for handing out the prizes as students are on holidays currently.

# 8. International Students' Officer

#### **International Community Meeting - 11 June 2025**

Although held in mid-June, this milestone set the stage for July initiatives. We hosted our first international community meeting, where I had the opportunity to address attendees about the upcoming



student elections. This meeting helped strengthen our international student network and energise participants for greater civic engagement.

#### Launch of Election Campaign - 10 June 2025

In anticipation of student elections, we began our official campaign activities on June 10, which have continued through July. The focus has been on increased student representation and expanding awareness of international student concerns, particularly related to transit affordability and equitable access to support services.

#### Election Results - 18 June 2025

We successfully conducted student elections on June 18, with high levels of participation. Jishnu emerged as the elected representative with a clear majority. His leadership will further bolster our efforts across advocacy and engagement initiatives going forward into July and beyond.

#### Fair Fares Campaign Mobilisation

Throughout July, our efforts have pivoted heavily toward mobilising support for the Fair Fares petition.

We're continuing to raise awareness that NSW is the only Australian state where international and parttime students still pay full fares. This inequality must end.

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) supports change-but it's now up to us to push this forward.

We are aiming to collect 20,000 signatures to prompt a parliamentary debate.

Petition link:

https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/Pages/ePetition-details.aspx?q=27FbsaMZUo0AVBfL4cGZXg This campaign is gaining traction across campuses, and I've been coordinating with local collectives and union leaders to boost visibility through social media and in-person outreach.

#### Conclusion

June 2025 has been a significant month for engagement and advocacy. From the momentum of our election campaign to the launch of the Fair Fares petition, we are seeing international student voices grow stronger. Our team remains focused on equity, accessibility, and empowering student leadership.

# 9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

In June, I continued engaging with postgraduate students, addressing their concerns around academic support and career development. I also created and distributed certificates to volunteers who contributed to the success of the April Postgraduate Careers Workshop, recognising their valuable efforts.



To prepare for the upcoming semester, I connected with Postgraduate Convenor Manasvi to discuss potential events, including workshops and networking sessions. We are currently developing plans for events that align with student interests and academic timelines.

Additionally, I began planning for the July O'Day by coordinating activities, preparing promotional materials, and planning for required resources to welcome incoming postgraduate students and encourage engagement with the Students' Association.

### 10. Ethnocultural Officer

Over the past month, I've been focusing on building support structures for the incoming 2026 cohort of Palestinian students arriving at UTS on humanitarian scholarships. After reaching out to the Centre for Social Justice and Inclusion (CSJI), I've been in contact with several students and offered myself as a point of connection and cultural grounding.

To support their transition, I've offered a UTS and Australia crash course, planned an on-campus catch-up at Cornerstone Café, and proposed a relaxed day trip to Wollongong — an opportunity to unwind, explore, and connect with each other and the land. The response so far has been really positive, and I hope this becomes an ongoing part of our collective's welcome efforts.

Separately, I've received verbal confirmation that UTS may be releasing a statement regarding the genocide in Gaza — something we've been advocating for over several months. However, given the shifting political climate following the developments with Iran, the process now feels uncertain. I will continue pushing for this statement to reflect the urgency and humanity that our community deserves.

Finally, Chloe and I have decided to push back our joint paper on anti-racism work and training across UTS to ensure it is both strategic and sustainable. I'm currently in the early stages of forming a working group to help guide this process and deliver recommendations that centre the voices of BIPOC students meaningfully, not just symbolically.

# 13. Environment Officer

June has been a slower month due to the end of semester 1, however there have been a few notable updates for the collective.

O'day stall:



Preparation has begun for the semester 2 O'Day stall. I am considering purchasing new seed packets to give away on the day as we are now running low. Unlike last semester, due to the larger size of the collective, there should be a couple of people on the booth to help me at any given time and I am hoping this gets us more attention.

#### Tree Planting:

I am in talks with the UTS Red Cross society about running another, hopefully slightly larger tree planting day in late July/late August. I will be discussing this further with them over the coming month.

### Community Gardening in Semester 2:

We are still in touch the Ultimo Community garden. The Enviro continues to have an active group chat and I will coordinate with members on that group chat to decide a set day in the week where we have enough available people to run the gardening sessions, likely closer to the start of semester when people know when their classes are.