

# MARCH 2024 SRC MINUTES

CB11.04.301 | 27/03/2024 | 6:30pm

# Agenda

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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. Adam nominates as Deputy Chair. There are no other nominations for Deputy Chair, so Adam is confirmed as Deputy Chair.

# 1.3. Attendance, Apologies and Proxies

#### **Attendees**

Name	Position (Councillor, Student Observer, Staff)
Mia Campbell	President
Adam Levett	General Secretary
Bridie O'Kelly	Assistant General Secretary
Bilvika Abburi	General Councillor
Peter Munford	Postgraduate UTS Council
Januka Suraweera	General Councillor
Aylin Chian	Welfare Officer
Neeve Ann Nagle	General Councillor
Sina Afsharmehr	General Councillor
Jermey Higgins	Environment Officer
Samiha Emran	Disabilities Officer
Alisa Hamilton	Education Officer



Mathew Murray	General Councillor
Daewah Thein	Queer Officer
Tyberious Seeto	Vertigo
Raphellea Mae	Vertigo
Jennifer Willis	Staff
Lisa Windon	Staff
Dirk Hoare	General Councillor
Adrian Lozancic	General Councillor
Jeramine Petterson-Heard	Indigenous Officer

# Apologies

Name	Position (Councillor, Student Observer, Staff)
Kurt Cheng	Undergraduate UTS Councillor
Joeseph Naffah	General Councilor
Mariam Yassine	Women's Officer
Laura Currie	Postgraduate Officer

### Proxies

Name	Proxy Accepted By
Kurt Cheng	Salma
Joesph Naffah	Aylin
Mariam Yassine	Dirk
Laura Currie	Daewah



### 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes from February 2024 and Emergency SRC held on 6/03/2024 are confirmed as a true and accurate record.

# 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising from previous minutes

### 4. Correspondence

No correspondence on Agenda

### 5. Office Bearers' Reports

### 5.1. President

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

Opal concession campaign tabled at vice chancellors committee, will raise at NSW vice chancellors committee to be sent to different ministers on behalf of all NSW vice chancellors, "a great body of work done at not this Student union but every student union"

Ethical partnership payment, tabled and received quote well and it seemed like there was an agreement to move forward with it and are awaiting more formal response for contents of that paper

Student partnership being renewed 22-24 agreement and were renewing it "not just renewing stuff but reviewing what has and hasn't been achieved and can adjust our strategy. Writing policy for our agreement is food opportunity for general councilors, there hasn't been as much input as I wanted but something is better than nothing, if any of you are interested at putting policy for this than look at the old student partnership agreement. If you have an idea but don't know how to write it I can help you write it active will put a body of work management will have a go at it but it's a good chance to have in writing what we want the uni to work on

Accessibility training, spoke to kylie Katie Duncan, and were not spending 3000 on that, we'd have to review if it's a good program or not but we'd have to do that either way- open to all councilors. Will send details to everyone.

Other main thing is going on leave tomorrow for 2 ½ weeks, contact other execs.

### 5.2. General Secretary

Adam Takes report as read, highlights ongoing work with Vertigo Working Group



### 5.3. Assistant General Secretary

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

previous projects such as social media and opal, student feedback campaign to increase engagement in various collectives.

### 5.4. Education Officer

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

Event with RNA postering to see how it worked, we didn't get too bug of a turnout, I've had trouble with education social media, that event was successful for first one, starting work on university extension policy currently planning on getting involved in working group established by UTS to get a universal extension policy, in the meantime putting together a survey, trying to get ed collective up and running

### 5.5. Welfare Officer

No report received

### 5.6. Women's Officer

Mariam is absent so their report is taken as read.

### 5.7. International Students' Officer

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

opal concession campaign, had meeting and discussed how UTS can help us and did end up giving support to the campaign, so that was a success opal concession other unis have engaged and given good support started gathering, speaking to ministers to speak about how opal concession effecting finances, monthly meeting after two years for int collective, started with 5 or 6 since and the idea is the have general idea of what collective is, get good feedback on wanting to talk more about opal concessions.

# 5.8. Indigenous Officer

Jermane takes his report as read

# 5.9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

No Report Received

### 5.10. Ethnocultural Officer

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



First collective meeting for the 12<sup>th</sup> of April for some funding, as we haven't had first meeting as collective so we have to have it passed through here, for the end of the Islamic holy month, slow start considering dramas with the room, hasn't been resolved and it was left in "interesting condition" so has been kind of slow. There will be little sweet treats and drinks.

### 5.11. Disabilities Officer

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

Had Collective meeting organised but it didn't meeting quorum so since we still got direction, we have timeline for 1<sup>st</sup> of May for next collective meeting, budget not finalised, also concern that subject where they didn't record lectures, haven't heard back any response

### 5.12. Queer Officer

No Report received, speaks to first collective meeting of the year scheduled to convene tomorrow

### 5.13. Environment Officer

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

Partnership which many of you have heard of, Jackson mills has sent complete campaign package, borrow cup campaign which Monash had return rate of 95%, we can do better because we have the infrastructure and staff, will be big done in stages, first UTSSA then Activate, then some cafes,

### 6. Other Reports

### 6.1. Committees

No items on agenda

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

Peter delivers spoken report for undergraduate UTS Council:

Speaks to council retreat, a couple weeks ago where we had two days of deep strategic discussion at UTS, out of those discussions we will see 27 strategy to 20230, due to the university accords process, wrapping our heads around what accords mean for UTS, unique challenges for higher education system, strategic changes coming for UTS and some projects foreseen are to be put on hold and more focus on uni leadership for international post grad and short form as key areas for changes, as well as undergrad Student partnership agreement-encourage people to put forward things for UTS partnership agreement and to senior members of leadership, since SPA council has had visibility. Encourage to link it as much as possible. Happy to help with suggestions.



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

None on notice.

### 8. Other Business Arising on Notice

### 8.1. Future SRC Dates

Preamble: So that we can all plan ahead and be organised for SRC meetings, let's approve the meetings for the rest of the year now.

Action: That the UTSSA approve the following dates and times for SRC meetings in 2024.

- April: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 6:30pm
- May: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 6:30pm
- June: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 6:30pm
- August: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 6:30pm
- September: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 6:30pm
- October: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 6:30pm
- November: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 6:30pm

Mover: Mathew

Seconder: Januka

The Motion is Passed Unanimously.

### 8.2. Port Botany Rally

Preamble: As many have probably seen on social media, last Sunday evening NSW police violently arrested 19 peaceful protesters in Port Botany picketing Israeli shipping company Zim. This is not just a blatant attack against free speech and democracy; but also part of an increasing and concerning trend of police brutality against peaceful activists in support of a free Palestine and an end to Australia's role in supporting Israel's genocide on Gaza.

#### Action:

 $1\ That\ the\ UTSSA\ condemns\ the\ actions\ of\ NSW\ police\ at\ the\ March\ 24\ Port\ Botany\ Palestine\ rally.$ 

2 That the UTSSA condemns the Minns Labor government for their commitment to anti-protest laws which continue to supress "unauthorised" acts of protest in New South Wales.

Mover: Mathew

Seconder: Samiha

The Motion is Passed Unanimously.



### 8.3. Ethnocultural Collective Event

Preamble: The Ethnocultural collective is hosting an event to celebrate the end of the Muslim holy month, Eid. This event is going to be held on the 12th of April 2024 and is meant to encourage sign ups but also focusing on general awareness of the Collective. Action: That the UTSSA approve \$200 for the Ethnocultural Collective to spend on:

- Printing

- Sweets and drinks

Mover: Sina

Seconder: Aylin

The Motion is Passed Unanimously.

### 9. General Business

Neeve on behalf of Vertigo Working Group moves that an emergency motion be heard

Mover Alisa Mathew Motion passes unanimously

**Neeve speaks to:** Vertigo misread gst, due to late approval of budget vol 1 was made thinking it was sent online, due to this and the volume of OB reports, if we are to deliver max amount.

Asked that emergency meeting could be held

Asked to print 5 editions to be put online and the missing copy can be put online and can be put up to cover gst costs.

Mia: what is the motion for

Neeve: make a motion that we only need to print 5

**Mia**: my understanding is that we need notice that includes costs including reallocation of costs, that is read out loud because it is detailed and we should all have motion in front of us.

**Mathew:** motion concerned with getting first one printed as soon as possible so if we don't vote it cant be printed, its verry important to print as soon as possible, ready to print tomorrow even if this passes tonight,

Mia: it is against bylaws to table this type of motion on urgency at this meeting

Salma: we need more notice a lot of numbers were read out to us,

Bilvika: could the first one be printed off the old budget, it was a lot of numbers thrown around,

**Raph:** We did consider that as option but the more we print the cheaper it becomes due to price margin, even tho its gone down by a couple hundred it could go down by 3000.

**Mia**: I don't want to spend 17\$ per vertigo magazine, this wouldn't be in line with the budget we passed, if we want to change budget, we have to have emergency meeting, I don't want a precedent for late notice motions that are quiet complex

Januka: proposes looking into gst extension,

Alisa: should pass motion for emergency meeting,



**Mia:** I don't mind what put up at emergency meeting I just need proper notice. If we already had prepared we could just send it to everyone and put up for approval at emergency src.

#### Motion is not tabled

**Tyberious:** last meeting towards the end we had Joey join us there was discsuion on condoms in the vertigo office, this is an egregious claim, its something that involves us as a team and I want to see proof, currently it is he said she said.

Raph: Especially since this will be posted online

Mia: Nour spoke to this at the last meeting, I cannot speak to this

# 10. Close of Meeting at [7:28pm]



### **Appendix 1: Office Bearer Reports**

### 1. President

March has been a busy month for me – here are some of the things I have been working on this past month, and some updates from last month's report:

#### Opal Concession Campaign Momentum

The concession campaign petition reached 20,000 signatures and has been scheduled for debate in parliament on May 9<sup>th</sup>. I tabled a paper in the VCSJI Committee to recommend that the Vice-Chancellor supported this campaign in the NSWVCC, which was approved. I received from Kylie a copy of the letter that was sent to the Transport Minister from Alex Zelinsky, VC at Newcastle Uni on behalf of all NSW VCs (NSWVCC is NSW Vice Chancellors'

Committee). Raghav and I had a meeting with Kylie (DVCES) and Ellen Goh to discuss forward plans for this campaign, which will include us having meetings with various government MPs and ministers alongside SUPRA.

#### Ethical Partnerships

I tabled my ethical partnerships paper at the Student/Council Liaison Group, and it was quite successfully received. Kurt and Peter might have more to add to this in regards to what UTS is now doing in this space, but hopefully I will get a response from the VP (Advancements) to share with you as soon as possible.

#### Renewal of Student Partnership Agreement

The previous two-year agreement made between Activate, the SA and management expires this year in July. This means that we need to start working on the policy we'd like to put forward into the new agreement basically now. We will also need to review the current SPA to determine which policies were followed through with and which require more work.

#### Accessibility Training

Following from the approval of the Vertigo budget, I spoke to Kylie about finding training within the university for accessible design and production of printed and digital work. She forwarded me on to Katy Duncan, who works in Inclusive Practices at UTS. Katy is happy to run a session for the UTSSA and Vertigo in this area so please let me know if you'd like to come along.

#### General Governance

I am working with Bridie, Adam and Mariah to create further policy to help new Office Bearers and Execs to jump into their roles more quickly. If anyone wants to share feedback as to what would be useful for these policies to address, please reach out to me!



#### Leave

I am going to Washington DC for one of my Law subjects from Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> March until Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> April. I will be pretty much uncontactable/on leave between Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April, but will be checking emails throughout the time I am away. Still email me if you have longer-term plans you want to sort out, but if it's something short-term please contact any of the Execs – Adam, Bridie, Alisa or Aylin – for more urgent requests.

### 2. General Secretary

This month as general secretary I have been prioritising:

1# Drafting the vertigo working group agenda and procedures, as well as electing UTSSA nominations, which occurred during the most recent exec meeting. The first vertigo working group will be convened tomorrow 26<sup>th</sup> of March

2# Working with Mia and Mariah on helping improve standardise and simplify meeting minutes and handover documents for (particularly new) collective OBs

### 3. Assistant General Secretary

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

- 1. Get to know your Students Association social media series:
- Last month I touched on the initial stages of this social media campaign. Since then, we have posted 3 introductions and have received a great response from social media users and students.
- Such regular use of Instagram has increased our metrics and overall viewership.
- 2. Concession opal card campaign:
- UPDATE: On Thursday, 29 February 2024 the goal of obtaining 20,000 signatures for the Fair Fares campaign was reached! This demonstrates huge community support for travel concessions for all students, including

international & amp; part-time students.

- WHATS NEXT: The petition will be announced and debated by the Legislative Assembly of the NSW Parliament. This means the NSW Government will need to consider extending travel concessions to all students in NSW.
- Watch this space.
- 3. Communications Policy:



- I'm currently drafting a new communications policy that's to be contained in the new policy document.
- This is to consolidate all the random social media documents into one, concise document that can be consulted throughout the year, particularly upon joining the organisation i.e. email etiquette, outside of hours contact etc. Watch this space.
- 4. 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.

### 4. Education Officer

N/A

### 5. Welfare Officer

N/A

### 6. Women's Officer

Past Events/ Initiatives Summary:

Throughout the month of March four significant 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. One of these future events being an upcoming feminist movie night.

- 2. Finalising the women in media panel that is to be run on the 27 th of March with UTSoC and Jsoc.
- 3. Hosting our internationals women's day cupcake stall on the 8 th of March that gained significant engagement and enabled woco to increase our social media presence to over 700 followers.
- 4. Conducting two different raffles for woco members one that was sponsored by Dendy cinema Newtown.
- 5. 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. Another raffle with Dendy Newtown.
- 2.A feminist movie night in collaboration with RNA.



- 4. Our second collective meeting.
- 5. 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.

# 7. International Students' Officer

#### 1. Support for OPAL Concession:

One of the key focuses this month has been advocating for OPAL concession for all international students in New South Wales (NSW). Collaborating closely with SUPRA (Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association), we have actively campaigned for the inclusion of international students in the OPAL concession scheme. This initiative aims to alleviate transportation costs and enhance accessibility for international students across NSW.

#### 2. Meeting with Kiely and Support from UTS:

A significant milestone was achieved through a constructive meeting with Kiely regarding the OPAL concessions. During the meeting, discussions centered on how UTS can actively contribute to this cause. I'm pleased to report that we received a positive response from Kiely and further support from the Vice-Chancellor's Committee NSW. Additionally, a letter was dispatched to the Transport Minister advocating for the support of concessions for international students, highlighting the collective endorsement from the academic community.

#### 3. Monthly Meeting Revival:

On 11th March 2024, we successfully reconvened our monthly meetings, marking a pivotal moment in reinstating the operational efficiency of the collective. Following a hiatus of two years, this meeting served as a platform for addressing general business matters and providing assistance to international students with their queries and concerns. The renewed engagement underscores our commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for all international students at UTS.



In conclusion, March 2024 has been characterised by proactive advocacy, collaborative efforts, and the ability of collective engagement. Moving forward, we remain steadfast in our dedication to advancing the welfare and interests of international students at UTS.

# 8. Indigenous Officer N/A

# 9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

### 10. Ethnocultural Officer

Past Progress Summary:

Throughout March, The collective has made some progress:

We have finally received access to our space and are going through the motions of building a safe space, although it's been pretty slow because of the state the room was left in, as well as not being allowed to touch most of the items in there.

We've discussed with Mia the approach to extending university-wide holiday wishes to different ethnic groups. We sent an email to the activate team and honestly haven't back, mia has also reached out on our behalf.

We've planned an event on the 12th of April for the celebration of Eid for our muslim student population to encourage signups and just generate some awareness.

Goals Still to Be Achieved:

- Continuation of efforts to increase membership and participation within the collective. We didn't realize how long the room process would have taken and have been running at a slower pace than we would like but with no access to the social media accounts either its been harder for us to generate awareness besides word of mouth. The lack of a handover as well has been pretty challenging to navigate through, we are moving forward as a collective slowly but surely.
- More promotion of our initiatives and achievements on social media platforms once we receive access from the past Ethnocultural Officer, Suzy Monzer.
- The setting up of the safe space is our top priority.

### 11. Disabilities Officer

**Enter Announcements** 



# 12. Queer Officer

Enter Announcements

# 13. Environment Officer

**Enter Announcements**