

May SRC MINUTES

27.05.2026 | 6.30pm | CB 11.00.100

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1. Opening of meeting at 6.38pm

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Neeve 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. Neeve acknowledges that sovereignty was never ceded, and that this always was and always will be, Aboriginal land.

1.2. Confirmation of Deputy Chair

Neeve calls for nominations for Deputy Chair. Cam is nominated as Deputy Chair. There are no other nominations for Deputy Chair, so Cam is confirmed as Deputy Chair.

1.3. Attendance, Apologies and Proxies

Attendees

Name	Position (Councillor, Student Observer, Staff)
Neeve Nagle	President
Cam Perez	Assistant General Secretary
Sina Ashfarmeher	Welfare Officer
Ella Haid	Education Officer
Francesca Harrison	Women's Officer
George Tulloch	Postgraduate Officer
Amelia Wilson-Williams	Disabilities Officer
Eamonn Ryan	Environment & Technology Officer
Jonathan Waters	General Councillor
Liyara Flavel	General Councillor
Andrew Brogden	General Councillor
Benjamin Grant-Skiba	General Councillor
Amelia Ireland	General Councillor
Jessica Van Den Broek	UTSSA Staff
Mariah Brown	UTSSA Staff
Simran Shoker	Vertigo
Oscar Favelle	Observer
Arlo Smithies	Observer
Zack Hossain	Observer
Ellias	Observer

Apologies

Name	Position (Councillor, Student Observer, Staff)
Isabella Taylor	General Councillor
Taya Morante	Indigenous Officer
Salma Elmubasher	General Secretary
Omar El-Sobihy	Ethnocultural Officer
Chloe Ferriera	UG Student Representative UTS Council
Rose Saksena	International Students' Officer
Yasmine Johnson	General Councillor

Proxies

Name	Proxy Accepted By
Isabella Taylor	Francesca
Taya Morante	Liyara
Salma Elmubasher	Grace
Omar El-Issawi	Cam
Chloe Ferreira	Sina
Rose Saksena	George
Yasmine Johnson	Ben

1.4. Declarations of Interest

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

George declares his interest as a relevant stakeholder in Motion 8.4 Supporting Student-Led Scientific Innovation. He recuses himself from voting in that motion.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes from April 2026 are confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Neeve brings the UTS Actionables spreadsheet that **Cam** created to everyone's attention and our process moving forward with statements.

2.1. Executive Business

There were no Executive meetings over May.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

5. Office Bearers' Reports

5.1. President

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

Neeve notes that Her and **Francesca** meet with **Emma** having an update on GBV.

Neeve is continuing to meet regarding the PAF. There is an updated version. **Neeve** believes there is a better place we are in. They have taken away the approval aspect yet it still has the psychosocial aspect within the process. **Neeve** also notes that UTS is trying to put definitions to antisemitism. They attempted to follow the IHRA definition. **Neeve** thinks this will be pushed back, as it doesn't have complete support of external stakeholders.

Neeve has been taken to Fair Work, the UTSSA has approved the employer's response. She notes that she will let people know if there are any following actionables and that UTS had to be made aware of the Fair Work Commission.

Neeve is currently organising EdCon and rooms.

Ella has a question about IHRA; did the push come due to AUJS or other universities?

Neeve replies noting that they are 'proactively' adopting a definition for antisemitism. It has moved past just IHRA. 'doing it bc the royal commission will expect'

Ella asks a follow up Is there another meeting on this? Can we workshop this collectively in the following meeting?

Neeve says she wants to integrate a definition with a better stipulation of anti-semitism and anti-zionism. **Neeve** says a call out for collective work on this.

5.2. General Secretary

Salma is absent and her report is taken as read.

5.3. Assistant General Secretary

Cam takes their report as read.

Cam moves a procedural motion to limit speaking time for Officebearers whose reports have been circulated to be limited to 2 minutes.

Mover: Amelia Ireland

Secunder: Sina

5.4. Education Officer

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

Ella notes the attack on bureaucracy. Attacks on being able to call out genocide.

5.5. Welfare Officer

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

Sina notes the clothing bins were achieved and lots of volunteers were there.

5.6. Women's Officer

Francesca takes her report as read.

5.7. International Students' Officer

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

5.8. Indigenous Officer

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

5.9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

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

George was in a consultation with UTS administration and notes that their obsession with risk management slows down their process of making positive change.

5.10. Ethnocultural Officer

Omar is absent and did not submit a report.

5.11. Disabilities Officer

Amelia takes her report as read.

5.12. Queer Officer

Grace is absent and did not submit a report.

5.13. Environment Officer

Eamonn had a meeting with the sustainability meeting today. It went well. They approved their 2025 report and it was based on the UN goals. In areas the university does poorly in they did not discuss any internal aspects e.g. poverty, housing etc.

6. Other Reports

6.1. Committees

There have been no reports.

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

Rohen would like to give a report from the Queer Collective.

Rohen notes the current anti-trans attacks shaping rhetoric said by Chris Minns. **Rohen** tried to contact NUS queer OB, but they have not gotten back to them. **Rohen** notes how the Waterloo demolition is a grave attack on housing rights, especially Queer communities that overrepresent people in social housing and homelessness.

Rohen invites the UTSSA to a ProChoice counter rally. Tuesday night June 2nd 6pm. Due to Christian Right demonstration at NSW Parliament. **Rohen** has discussed with Vertigo making a collective handbook for Spring O'Day. And an ongoing project with **Cam** about making Self ID for students financially available and have easier access.

Simran gives a Vertigo report.

Simran notes online submissions are currently slow since the exam period. And the glass we are in the final stages. By earliest done within the next week.

Biljana notes the Google Drive migration has commenced. Currently working on email accounts. You do not need to do anything. Let **Biljana** know of any issues. **Biljana** is trying to organise a demo session next Tuesday at 2pm. Discussing how SharePoint & Outlook operate if you need. There are no embarrassing questions, everyone is welcome to ask. **Biljana** notifies the UTSSA that personal files left in UTSSA google drives will be migrated to a collective SharePoint and seen by other councillors.

7. Operational and Procedural Business, Stipends and Reimbursements.

7.1. Meet Your Student Representatives Event – Revised Budget

Preamble

The original motion proposed funding for a website. This motion serves to amend that proposal, as the project has since evolved into an in-person event.

Following consultation with the Events and Marketing Directors, it has become clear that a revised budget is required to reflect the updated scope and delivery of the initiative. The event now focuses on student engagement through an on-campus activation rather than digital development.

The revised budget includes costs associated with engaging student designers for promotional materials, as well as providing food and beverages to encourage attendance and participation. These costs also incorporate broader promotional activity, including social media content and O'Day integration. We will have a Humanitix registration and use the budget for food and drink accordingly.

The event is scheduled for Thursday 6 August at 4:30pm in The Loft, during the second week of the upcoming semester.

Item	Cost
Pizza	\$650
Drinks	\$600
Design costs	\$750
Printing (incl O'Day)	\$200

Total Estimated Cost: \$2,200

Action:

That the UTSSA:

1. Approve a revised budget with an upper spending limit of an additional **\$1,550** for the Meet Your Student Representatives event, including promotional materials and associated costs.

Mover: Sina

Secunder: George

Neeve proposes to move a procedural motion to keep speaking time to two minutes.

Mover: Amelia Ireland

Secunder: Eamonn

Cam speaks for the motion, recalling the last SRC a motion was passed regarding website design with a smaller budget. Since we amended this motion to do an event, here is the budget for the agreed upon event.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.2. O'Day Merchandise

Preamble:

Cam met with Biljana to discuss outstanding merchandise orders that were intended to be placed at the beginning of the year but were not progressed.

In order to ensure adequate stock is available for distribution at O'Day in Semester 2 2026 and Semester 1 of 2027, it is necessary to proceed with a consolidated merchandise order. This procurement will support both Spring 2026 and Autumn 2027 orientation activities.

Following consultation with other Office Bearers, a selection of items has been agreed upon, as outlined in the attached table. These items are intended for general O'Day promotional use and student engagement.

Estimated quantities are approximately 2,000 units per item to ensure sufficient supply across both orientation periods.

Items include: hand fans, lanyards, scented candles, and restocking of existing staple merchandise such as water bottles and umbrellas.

Note: the prices listed below are pricing for less than 2000 units. Once going over 2000 the price per unit decreases.

Item	Link	Cost	Delivery time
Hand Fans	https://www.dexcollection.com.au/products/bamboo-paper-hand-fan/ .	\$4.11 + gst	5-6 weeks
Lanyards	https://www.products.wbnd.com.au/product/colour-max-lanyard-20mm .	\$2.12 + gst.	5 weeks
Scented Candles	https://www.products.wbnd.com.au/product/suite-travel-candle .	\$2.76 + gst	3 weeks
Umbrellas	https://www.products.wbnd.com.au/product/peros-tri-fold-umbrella .	\$14.67 + gst	

Water bottles	www.wbnd.com	\$9.63 + gst		
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Action:
That the UTSSA:

1. Choose which items to fund 2000 units each.
2. Define the upper spending limit accordingly.

Mover: Sina

Seconder: Amelia

Cam notes how she spoke to **Biljana**.

Neeve said water bottles and handfans.

George notes he wants scented candles.

Neeve and **George** get into a discussion regarding UTS Housing fire hazard logistics.

Cam and **Francesca** note lack of accessibility to scented candles due to sensory needs.

The UTSSA agreed on ordering 500 each of water bottles, handfans & umbrellas.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.3. Accessibility Collaboration

Preamble:

Chantel from the Accessibility team has proposed a collaboration with UTSSA to support their welcome pack initiative for incoming students.

This collaboration would involve contributing existing UTSSA merchandise to be included in approximately 200 Accessibility welcome packs. The initiative aims to enhance the welcome experience for students engaging with Accessibility services and ensure consistent support across orientation activities.

The items requested include pre-existing stock of postcards/flyers and hoodies currently held by UTSSA.

Action:

That the UTSSA:

1. Approve the provision of existing stock, specifically 200 UTSSA O'Day hand fans and 200 postcards/flyers, to be included in Accessibility welcome packs for incoming students.

Mover: Amelia Ireland

Seconder: Amelia WW

Francesca speaks to the motion, and notes the matters in this motion are important because the UTSSA carers and disability services are positive for students but still need changes as they do not serve every student equitably.

Cam proposes to amend action point 1 and replace "*scented candles*" to "*hand fans*."

This is amendable to the mover.

The motion passes unanimously.

8. Other Business Arising on Notice

Neeve moves a procedural to move 8.1, 8.2 & 8.3 on bloc.

Mover: George

Seconder: Amelia Ireland

8.1. Confirmation of Disabilities Collective Election

Preamble

The Disabilities Collective held a meeting to elect a Collective Convenor in April.

Action:

The UTSSA recognises Alanah Bowden as the 2026 Disabilities Collective Convenor.

8.2. Queer Convenor Election

Action

That Rohen Snowball be accepted as the Convenor for the UTSSA Queer Collective for the 2026 tenure period.

8.3. Acceptance of Postgraduate Collective Convenor

Preamble

The Postgraduate Collective has elected Pon Saranya Krishnan as Convenor-elect.

Action

That the UTS Students' Association Student Representative Council:

1. accepts and approves Pon Saranya Krishnan as Postgraduate Collective Convenor; and
2. confirms that Pon may exercise the responsibilities of the role in accordance with the UTSSA Constitution, By-Laws, Standing Orders and relevant policies.

Neeve reads the motions in full noting how important it is for the collectives to have appropriate internal leadership.

Mover: Sina

Seconder: Amelia Wilson Williams

The bloc passed unanimously.

8.4. Supporting Student-Led Scientific Innovation

Preamble

The UTSSA recognises that UTS students, particularly postgraduate and HDR students, are not only learners but researchers, workers, inventors and future builders of Australian industry.

The UTSSA recognises that Australia's future industrial capability depends on the people who build sovereign intellectual property, advanced

manufacturing capacity, clean energy systems, health technologies, engineering capability and other forms of public-interest scientific innovation.

The UTSSA believes that students and graduates who take early technical, research and employment risk in emerging companies should be supported as workers and builders of national capability, not treated as secondary to investors.

The UTSSA further recognises that universities have a responsibility to support postgraduate research, commercialisation pathways, collaboration between students, faculties, startups and industry, and the retention of domestic HDR talent.

Platform

The UTSSA supports policy settings that allow students and graduates to build scientific innovation in Australia rather than being pushed offshore by weak commercialisation pathways, insecure research conditions or tax settings that reward capital more than labour.

The UTSSA believes Australian Industry must include university-based scientific innovation, postgraduate research, sovereign manufacturing, climate and energy technology, health technology, advanced engineering and other public-interest sectors.

The UTSSA believes universities should be supported to innovate technically, not just technologically. This means backing the difficult work of scientific translation, engineering validation, prototyping, testing, regulation, production and deployment, not just software platforms, branding exercises or commercial partnerships without clear student benefit.

The UTSSA supports reforms that recognise founders, employees, researchers and technical workers as central to Australia's innovation system.

Action

That the UTSSA adopts in-principle support for reforms that:

1. Extend appropriate early-stage startup tax incentives such as Early Stage Innovation Company benefits to founders and employees, not only investors.
2. Protect long-cycle scientific innovation, including advanced manufacturing, clean energy, biotech, hardware and engineering companies, from arbitrary time limits that do not reflect real commercialisation timelines.
3. Preserve R&D Tax Incentive support for supporting R&D activities that are essential to technical development, prototyping, testing and field deployment.
4. Encourage Australian students, researchers and graduates to build sovereign intellectual property and productive industry in Australia.
5. Support universities, including UTS, to develop stronger student-facing pathways between postgraduate research, UTS Startups, faculties, industry and public-interest commercialisation.

That the Postgraduate Officer be authorised to advocate this position to relevant UTS stakeholders, student representatives, government representatives, unions and higher education bodies.

That the UTSSA write a statement expressing support for student-centred scientific innovation policy reform.

Mover: George

Secunder: Eamonn

George speaks to the motion noting the future of the country is built off the back of student innovation. The Federal budget should back this, to support Students & Graduates innovation. Not everything needs to be an LLM. Technical work is essential. Founders are workers themselves. We support tax incentives to start up founders.

Jono speaks against the motion, the UTSSA should not be the body to move this. The student unions are fighting for the interest of students and workers. We shouldn't be fighting for bosses or corporations.

George speaks to the motion noting those who oppose this motion, do not support this university conducting research.

Zack speaks against the motion. He notes that students in the Young Liberals would support this position. He argues that **George** is steering the UTSSA toward becoming a body that advocates for employers and is submitting motions that prioritise maximising industry profitability. He states that, in his view, a basic principle of unionism is that employers and workers have opposing interests. He adds that businesses attempt to use universities to reduce costs when students engage with them, and refers to Tallos as an example of this pathway. He concludes that the UTSSA should not be supporting these industries.

Votes in Favour:

1. Sina + 1
2. Eamonn + 1
3. Liyara + 1
4. Neeve

Votes Against:

1. Andrew
2. Ella
3. Jono
4. Ben + 1
5. Amelia

Abstentions:

1. Francesca
2. Amelia Ireland

The motion passes.

8.5. The UTSSA condemns Israel's kidnapping and torture of Gaza Sumud flotilla activists

Preamble

Israeli forces intercepted and kidnapped activists aboard the Gaza Sumud flotilla in international waters on 2 May and again on 19 May. Israeli authorities detained and tortured activists through beatings, restraint, sleep

deprivation, threats, strip-searches, degrading treatment, physical abuse, and sexual harassment, with 15 women reporting sexual assault by Israeli soldiers. Footage released by Israeli minister Itamar Ben-Gvir showed detainees zip-tied and forced into stress positions while he mocked them. Despite Australians being among those kidnapped and tortured by Israeli authorities, the Albanese Labor government and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade failed to intervene or support the detained activists. Families and detainees reported receiving little more than automated responses from DFAT while Australians remained in Israeli custody. Anthony Albanese has still failed to meaningfully acknowledge Israel's kidnapping of Australian citizens in international waters. After footage emerged showing the abuse of detainees, Foreign Minister Penny Wong described the footage as "concerning," but didn't take any meaningful action against Israel. Labor's silence and inaction demonstrates its continued political support for Israel and hostility toward the Palestine solidarity movement.

We demand that the Albanese Government sanctions Israel for their repeated breaches of international law, and that they end the ongoing two-way arms trade with Israel

Action:

- The UTSSA publishes a public statement expressing our solidarity with the flotilla activists, condemning Israel's torture of the activists, condemning the Labor government and DFAT for refusing to meaningfully support Australian activists, demanding that the Albanese Government sanctions Israel for their repeated breaches of international law, and that they end the ongoing two-way arms trade with Israel.

Mover: Ben

Seconder: Ella

Ben speaks to the motion and states that the flotilla was significant, noting that 11 Australians were involved. He claims that detainees were mistreated by the IDF, and that 15 female detainees have reported sexual assault. He further notes that there has been no significant response or announcement from the Australian Government.

Ella waives her speaking time.

Eamonn speaks to the motion, he notes how terrible the treatment of the activists on the flotilla. It was shameful to see our government did not come out to say anything. It was terrible. What kind of country are we if we let another country treat our citizens like that?

The motion passes unanimously.

8.6. One Nation must be fought, not accommodated to.

Preamble

One Nation is a thoroughly racist, pro-rich, anti-worker political party. Having won the Farrer by-election with a 32% swing in their favour compared with 2025, and now polling at 28% nationally, Pauline Hanson's party is a serious and major threat to workers, students and the oppressed. In response, Australian politics is shifting markedly to the right. Angus Taylor's plan to deport 65 000 people on expired visas and deny welfare payments to non-citizens has made clear that the Liberal Party wants to join One Nation on the far-right.

Much mainstream commentary argues that One Nation is growing through economic populism, winning uneducated working class voters squeezed by the cost of living. However, One Nation's base are not the urban working class, but older, wealthier voters who have traditionally preferred climate denying, pro-business Coalition candidates. Nor is the party a grassroots rebellion against the establishment, but is heavily backed by important elites: from Australia's wealthiest billionaire Gina Rinehart to former deputy prime minister Barnaby Joyce. Shielding our harshest criticisms to avoid "alienating" these people will do nothing to confront the confidence of the far-right, nor give confidence to those on the left who are looking for a lead in opposing them.

One Nation has been made more palatable by years of normalisation from the mainstream media. Decades of neoliberalist attacks by the political centre on refugees, Muslims and Aboriginal people, welfare recipients and workers have only entrenched their dehumanisation. Rallying behind neoliberal candidates, whether Labor or independent, is therefore not a solution to challenging the far-right.

One Nation must be pushed back on every front. That means calling out their politics for what it is: pro-rich, racist, and anti-working class. It also means building confident left wing movements against racism, war and inequality, and strident opposition to any and all attacks on our rights.

Action

- The UTSSA will post a graphic on its social media titled "The UTSSA stands against One Nation"

Mover: Ella

Seconder: Ben

Ella waives her speaking time to **Ellisa**

Ellisa speaks to the motion, saying OneNation is racist, anti-immigrant & one its first lower house seat. It is bringing the Liberals & Labor to the right.

Ben is waiving his speaking time to **Brandon**.

Brandon speaks to the motion asking what people in Labor have to say about how we stand up to Right-wing parties. **Brandon** notes how terrible racism and refugee bashing is especially from political leaders.

Sina speaks to the motion and his experience as a migrant. He has no qualms with calling OneNation a racist party as it is damaging to all migrants and people of colour to feel as though they don't belong. **Sina** says he is in the Labor Party because it forms government and stops OneNation from fully coming into power.

The motion passes unanimously.

8.7. The Budget - Neoliberalism Repackaged

Preamble

Labor's budget has now been announced and despite a freakout from the right wing media the UTSSA should acknowledge that what's in the budget is not worth the hype. By far the most attention has been on the changes made to trusts, negative gearing and the capital gains tax discount. It's obviously better that it'll be a bit harder for the wealthy to hide from paying taxes through family trusts but the main thing to say about these policies is that they do not even scratch the surface of what is needed to tackle the housing and cost of living crisis. The changes to negative gearing for

instance are designed to have minimal impact on the wealth of property developers who will grandfather in their current investments and retain access to negative gearing when building new developments. Labor's other promise to working people, a \$250 tax discount in 2027 is insultingly little, in the face of rising inflation and stagnating wages \$5 a week will hardly even be noticed.

But Labor is very willing to cut and spend big, just not on regular people. The main story of this budget should not be minor tax reforms but rather \$15 billion from the NDIS with 160,000 people being cut from the program over the next four years, meanwhile \$53 billion more will be poured into the military over the next decade. Money for war but not disability services, Labor's priorities are crystal clear.

The other main story of this budget isn't the minor tweaks which are in it but the major ones left out. Labor has refused to answer the calls for a very popular tax on gas exports and hasn't touched the corporate tax rate. The UTSSA should acknowledge that in the face of a historic cost of living crisis, tepid tax reform is not going to ease the burden on workers and nothing in this budget is going to bring about the intergenerational change Labor has promised. In fact while Labor is totally unwilling to seriously impact the wealth of the richest Australians and largest businesses, the biggest losers of every budget will be regular people and the NDIS won't be the last social service cut.

Action

1. That the UTSSA will publish this preamble to its website.

Mover: Andrew

Secunder: Ben

Andrew speaks to the motion, despite headlines, it is a neoliberal budget. It leaves big business untouched, refusing to tax gas exports. Quotes Jim Chambers on the cost of housing will increase, just slower. No rent freezes, no rent caps and notes the NDIS cuts are also negative.

Ben waives to **Ella**, **Ella** asks for what Labor Left will say. And how Labor goes to the polls with this.

Amelia replies to **Ella**, she says she thinks this motion is fine, she is please with Negative Gearing and CGT but it did not go far enough. **Amelia** says she believes the Labor movement is the only party for change in this country.

Neeve notes there are valid critiques to the budget but this motion is not student focused. She says our SRC should focus on what improves student lives.

Andrew thinks this is a deflection from what SAIt is arguing. Students overwhelmingly rent, students have more precarious jobs and need better rights at work. If you agree that the budget is inadequate, you should support the motion.

Neeve speaks to the irony regarding parallels between treasurer and motion forgetting to include students in their motions/budgets.

Votes in Favour:

1. Ella
2. Ben +1
3. Andrew
4. Jono

Votes Against:

5. Sina + 1
6. Eamonn + 1
7. George + 1
8. Amelia + 1
9. Francesca + 1

The motion fails.

9. General Business

The UTSSA gets into a discussion regarding PAF.

Brandon states that the group should have a detailed discussion about the issue. He argues that the current document functions as a permission form rather than a notification form, and expresses concern that this distinction is being downplayed. He adds that the statement 'it is not supposed to impose restriction' is, in his view, merely a superficial justification.

Amelia WW notes the timeframe requirement of 24 business hours, clarifying this as approximately 3 business days or 1 working day.

Amelia Ireland raises concerns about the inclusion of questions regarding 'other known people involved', suggesting this could enable the collection of information about known participants and potentially be used to monitor students.

Neeve notes that pamphlets have been removed, along with social media and media content, and references groups listed as being affected by these changes. **Neeve** suggested to Amy Persson that protest organisations may be required to tick a box indicating they do not consider their protest to be high risk, and raises discussion around potential employment law implications.

Neeve further states that individuals are being placed on notice, citing concerns about far-right individuals filming inside Cornerstone Cafe. They add that the venue's lease has reportedly been threatened.

Neeve moves a procedural to move in-camera.

Mover: Cam

Seconder: Ella

The UTSSA comes out of in-camera.

10. Close of Meeting at 8.07pm

Appendix 1: Office Bearer Reports

1. President

Neeve did not supply a report.

2. General Secretary

This reporting period was somewhat of a half-successful attempt at taking leave. As everyone is aware, Neeve and I have been responding to a Fair Work complaint, which has been a very taxing affair on both of us, particularly during assessment period, and took up a significant amount of time and capacity throughout the month.

Despite attempting to step back where possible, I still attended discussions and meetings relating to definitions concerning Antisemitism, as well as broader matters connected to the Royal Commission into Antisemitism and social cohesion that UTS management has expressed concern around in recent months.

Within these discussions, I raised the importance of ensuring conversations regarding racial harm and discrimination on campus are approached consistently across all communities, including Palestinian and First Nations students and staff. There are talks of a definition but nothing has been finalised as of yet.

Outside of this, I largely remained on leave for the reporting period while managing these ongoing matters. I'm keen to be back though!!

Finally, Eid Mubarak to all those celebrating.

3. Assistant General Secretary

Happy Wednesday everyone!

With Salma on leave I have been handling a bit more of the workload. I had a few meetings with Biljana and the Vertigo editors to begin drafting some socials for the upcoming event we will have and starting up prep for Spring O'Day.

This includes organising the pre-order for Spring O'Day merch.

I have been working alongside the spreadsheet to ensure actionables are followed through from each SRC meeting.

Alongside Meet the Reps the event I had a meeting with Kylie Readman's EA Hana Roch who is currently coordinating the update of the UTS Meet your Student Leaders website. I found out that

over the last two years UTS has been transitioning from website provider Drupple and Optimisely and of course the last of the websites to be updated/transferred is the SSAF webpage that includes this Meet your Student Leaders website. Classic Management! Culling jobs while dumping thousands of dollars into unnecessary, top-down random website shifts!

I have begun sorting through the archive of highlights of previous SRCs on our Instagram.

Goodluck for all end of sem exams and assignments!

4. Education Officer

This month started with a bang, featuring the second half of the UTS NTEU strike on May 1 in which workers attended a morning picket and rally before their 11am return to work. I commend the NTEU members for their action and look forward to seeing the union grow on this campus in future years. I then joined fellow UTS students in supporting the annual May Day rally, standing in solidarity with union members in commemoration of the day of the international working class.

May 15 featured the important annual commemoration of Al Nakba (the catastrophe), the invasion of Palestine and expulsion of 750,000 people from their homelands. It was encouraging to be in a crowd of a 1-2 thousand people who remain steadfast in their opposition to genocide.

I also attended the National Student Assembly for Palestine organised by Students For Palestine, an event whose keynote speaker could not zoom in at the last minute as he, alongside dozens of other humanitarian activists, was kidnapped by the Israeli Defence force from international waters. I strongly condemn the lack of action on part of the Albanese Government and the DFAT, and support the call for their sanctioning of Israel for their continued breaches of international law.

In between these important events I have received feedback from students and staff about the Stop the Cuts campaign and plan to hold further organising meetings over the winter break.

5. Welfare Officer

May was a pretty cathartic month for me, with quite a few developments happening for my projects

Clothes bins:

Implementing the clothes bins on campus has finally started!

I had been stuck going from meeting to meeting with Activate for the past little while, but we managed to speed things up by purchasing the bin, getting all of the labelling on it and getting a volunteer roster ready for the remainder of the semester and then going to Activate and essentially saying 'its ready to go could we just drop it off in building 2' and this time they were actually quite receptive.

The promotional material for the clothes bin program has been spread around by quite a few clubs and we have started getting donations even in the week or so of semester that the first bin was up and running. Our volunteers processed the donations and distributed them between Activate wellbeing who will give them to students and Red Cross Ultimo Branch. Over semester there will be another, larger bin in building 1 and a larger volunteer roster for the clothes donation program, with plans to continue expanding from there.

Food drive:

The food drive with Red Cross and Ausleap for the Blue Bird Pantry also happened near the start of the month. We had quite a few other societies get involved and everything went quite well with the different drop off locations and other potential logistical issues I had been thinking about last month.

I have also had the Centre for Social Justice reach about staff who were interested in getting involved with food future runs, and I will be discussing this with them, with this maybe being something that can happen on a regular basis so that we can support our pantry as much as we can.

Health Services Survey:

I had a meeting with Neeve about raising the findings from my health services survey at the next SCLG meeting in July. I am hoping to speak to Sarah Lok with the recommendations before taking them to the whole SCLG. I will continue to report to SRC about progress with this over the coming couple of months.

Going forward:

My goals over the next month are to look into the second clothes bin for semester 2, prepare for future food drives on campus with more UTS staff involvement and to work on an SCLG report about the health services survey.

6. Women's Officer

Since the April SRC meeting, the Women's Office has been progressing planning for the Women & Girls Emergency Centre Walkathon team, including communications and potential club partnerships for the event. The walkathon, which will be held on Sunday 13 September, is an important fundraising initiative supporting the Women & Girls Emergency Centre, a domestic violence shelter located in the inner-city area. Planning for a panel event proposed for the beginning of Semester Two has been progressing with consideration regarding speakers and points.

Work has continued on both the free period products initiative and the reproductive and sexual health campaign. Discussions are ongoing with DVC Academic, Kylie Readman, regarding the free period products service. This has involved some back and forth regarding potentially changing suppliers and the way up of the various potential suppliers as well as expanding the service and understanding how many dispenses are required in each building on campus.

Additionally, the coordinator of the design studio for Visual Communications Students in Building 5 has expressed interest in having the service made available in that location. We have met and I will be putting this forward to Kylie Readman as part of the proposed expansion. In the next month I am hoping to meet with the Library to map high traffic spaces against proposed locations.

Discussions regarding condom vending machines are continuing with the Underground. While a trial run may still proceed in the Underground, we are also considering alternative locations and adjacent campaign elements. We are hoping to have this prepared for Semester Two.

We are still trying to elect a convenor.

The previously missing parcel has also now been located.

7. International Students' Officer

1. Meeting with the Royal Thai Consulate – 11 May 2026

I conducted a meeting with Consul-General Ninnad of Thailand to gauge interest in a potential university–consulate-led job fair initiative. The discussion focused on exploring how consulates may support international student employability by facilitating access to companies and organisations that are open to hiring international students.

2. ISRC Work group meeting- 18th May, 2026

The International Student Representative Committee is currently working on an International Students Expo, scheduled to take place on 8 October 2026. The event is a joint collaboration between the University of Sydney and UNSW, with International Student Officers from different institutions participating in the working group to support its development and delivery. .

8. Indigenous Officer

Yarning Circle

Progress has continued in relation to the proposed yarning circle. Mandy Kalan, User Experience Manager, will be picking this up as a project to help ensure that planning continues to move forward.

The proposed location between Building 2 and Jones Street has been discussed as a possible site. The use of limestone has also been raised as a design consideration, particularly given the significance of recognising place and Country through the materials used. For reference, the Gadigal land on which this yarning circle would be located is saltwater country.

NAIDOC Week

Planning for NAIDOC Week is underway, with several possible events and collaborators being explored.

I am currently in talks with Brayden Dunbar, an Aboriginal mental health influencer, about the possibility of him giving a talk during NAIDOC Week. He has been responsive and is speaking with his manager about costs. Depending on the proposed fee, I will move forward with putting in a motion for his payment.

I am also in discussions with Amelia Ireland about organising a weaving event. This would provide students with an opportunity to engage in a cultural activity and connect with First Nations knowledge and practices in a hands-on way. As discussed in the prior report, the crafts made during this could possibly be sold at a market on a later date with proceeds going to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. This charity was chosen at the Indigenous Collective general meeting.

I have reached out to Deacon Streeting, a dancer with Wambuul Dancers, to ask whether he may be available to paint up or play the didgeridoo during NAIDOC Week. I have also submitted a booking inquiry to Wambuul Dancers to ask about the cost of having them perform a cultural dance.

I have contacted Matt Taylor at Jumbunna regarding the organisation of a smoking ceremony and have since been referred to the Jumbunna Research Institute. I plan to attend university after exams, at the beginning of June, to speak with someone in person about this.

I am also reaching out to Aunty Glendra to ask whether she would be willing to give a talk during NAIDOC Week.

I recently spoke with First Nations office bearers from universities around the country. Flinders University suggested organising a movie night for NAIDOC Week, which I think could be a strong addition to the program. Given the number of ideas currently being explored, I think it may be effective to plan for the events to take place on the same day where possible, creating a fuller NAIDOC Week program and encouraging stronger attendance.

Indigenous Collective General Meeting:

This month we held the Indigenous Collective general meeting, at which the following positions were elected:

Taya Morante	President
Ariele ('Ari') Segelov-Smith	Vice President
Nareika-Dee Cook	Treasurer
Kyeisha MacGregor-Taylor	Secretary
Amelia Ireland	Social Media Officer

9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

Since our last meeting, I have continued to advance practical outcomes for postgraduate students, with progress on both the Positive Masculinity program and stipend advocacy.

I met with Catharine Pruscino to work through what is needed to get the Positive Masculinity program over the line at UTS. I also met with Emma Dawson to discuss rolling the program out across other universities, a sign that the work is generating real interest beyond our campus.

On stipends and the OSI, I have been working with Rohen, who proposed an anonymous tip-off form for HDR students to document their experiences, lost supervisors, candidature uncertainty, funding threats, and a lack of transparency from management. I am supportive of the idea and we are working through the privacy and consent requirements before going live. We have also agreed to organise a postgraduate forum on stipends. UTS's 2026 RTP stipend is \$39,000, compared to \$42,754 at Sydney University, that gap matters for students living in this city. I am continuing to work with a graduate board representative on this campaign.

The postgraduate cohort will keep pushing for real outcomes on stipends and candidature security.

10. Ethnocultural Officer

Omar did not supply a report.

11. Disabilities Officer

1. Disabilities Collective Coffee Catch Up, The Terrace Cafe – Friday 27 March, 1 pm

The Disabilities Collective held its second Coffee Catch Up at The Terrace Café on Friday 27 March at 1 pm. Two attendees registered for the session, with five members attending on the day.

Neeve Nagle, President of the UTSSA held the election for Disabilities Collective Convenor and Alanah Bowden was unanimously voted for the position by those in attendance.



2. Consultation with University on Student Rules – Friday 10 April, 12 pm

I attended a UTSSA consultation on the Student Rules facilitated by lawyers from Thomas Geer, which provided an opportunity to engage directly with proposed changes and their practical impact on students. The session encouraged open discussion and critical feedback, allowing participants to raise concerns, seek clarification, and contribute to shaping a more transparent and equitable regulatory framework. It was a constructive forum that highlighted the importance of student voice in institutional decision-making and reinforced the value of collaborative policy development.

3. Leave – April 2026

Throughout April, I took a short period of leave from the role due to unforeseen circumstances. This was necessary to ensure I could return and continue contributing effectively.

4. Coffee Catch Up – Cancellation of May Event

I informed members that we were not going to have a Coffee Catch up for May due to Semester finishing, and the assessment period. I indicated that Coffee Catch Up's would recommence once Semester 2 starts.

5. Mid-Year Social Event

I distributed a form to seek feedback on what type of social event members would be interested in attending. I am focused on the Collective becoming more cohesive, and building throughout the year. Based on this feedback, I will be organising a social event for the mid-year break.

6. Consultation with Hannah from Disability Pride – NDIS Cuts Protest & Ongoing, Future Collaborations

Hannah from Disability Pride got in touch with me regarding the NDIS Cuts Protest on 9 May. I informed collective members regarding the protest via email and on Instagram. There was a student contingent who attended from the University of Sydney, University of New South Wales and Macquarie University with endorsement from the National Union of Student.

Furthermore, Hannah, who is a PhD student at UTS and previously was a Disabilities Officer within the UTSSA, has offered to collaborate with me in July for Disability Pride month, and deliver an event for collective members. I look forward to working with Hannah on this event.

7. Epilepsy Research Project – Survey Distribution

A team of researchers from the University of Queensland are trying to understand how adults with epilepsy are impacted by their condition at University. I distributed a link to their survey, which will directly impact their study via email to collective members, for completion if appropriate. Their responses will assist with reforming the approach tertiary institutions take to treating students with epilepsy.

8. Liz Penny – Communication

Due to how busy accessibility is, and then me having April off, had some difficulty getting in touch with Liz after our chat in March. I have sent a follow up email regarding organising a meeting with Student administration/services on the topic of MyTimetable reform to be more accessible.

I have also decided, that due to my ill health recently and still needing to balance studies and work, I am going to hone in and focus on MyTimetable reform as my key priority for this tenure, alongside increasing engagement within the Collective. If I am able to achieve the other two priorities I had aimed to work on this tenure, then that will be an added bonus! Those priorities were:

- Advocating for inclusive campus design guidelines & supporting improved assistive access across campus
- Exploring better centralisation of disability services across universities. ◦ This was identified as something that would be very difficult due to privacy laws by Liz during our March discussion and may not have been realistic to achieve anyway.

9. Convenor Chat – 22 May, 12:30 pm

I met with Alana to discuss the Convenor role, and future engagement strategies for the Disability Collective. We discussed improving social media presence through more consistent and engaging content, particularly short-form reels for Instagram. We came up

with some ideas including introducing ourselves as convenors, creating informational content about campus support services such as Accessibility, Counselling and the Welfare Collective and Bluebird Pantry, as well as producing educational content relating to particular conditions and member experiences through community spotlights.

10. Disabilities Collective Meeting, Zoom – Friday 22 May, 1 pm

The Disabilities Collective held another Collective meeting via Zoom on 22 May at 1 pm. We held the meeting solely via Zoom since it was during Stuvac.

2 people signed up to attend. Excluding Alanah and I, 1 person came. We did not hit quorum.

Despite the low attendance, the meeting still provided an opportunity to touch base, discuss current Collective priorities and identify areas for improving future engagement and participation.



11. Carer's Campaign

I am currently working with Assistant General Secretary, Cam Perez, on the early stages of a Carer's Campaign planned for August. We are scheduled to meet in early June to further discuss and flesh out the campaign's direction, objectives and potential initiatives.

12. Queer Officer

Grace did not supply a report.

13. Environment Officer

This month, in addition to my normal engagement with collective members about issues important to them, I have also been engaging with the National Union of students environment officer, and there make my degree a fossil fuel-free campaign.

I am also preparing for a meeting of the Sustainability Steering Committee for tomorrow (27/05), just before our SRC meeting, where i am hoping to secure further commitments for student involvement and focus in the rollout of the UTS Circular Economy Plan.

Overall, it has not been the most busy month, with many members to busy with exams, but important groundwork has been laid with our campaigns and event that i hope will ensure a very successful second semester.