

September 2025 SRC MINUTES

24/09/2025 | 6:30pm | CB10.03.490

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1. Opening of meeting at 6:33pm

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

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

1.2. Confirmation of Deputy Chair

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

1.3. Attendance, Apologies and Proxies

Name	Position (Councillor, Student Observer, Staff)
Mia Campbell	President
Januka Suraweera	General Secretary
Samiha Emran	Education Officer
Neeve Nagle	Welfare Officer
Olivia Lee	Women's Officer
Salma Elmubasher	Ethnocultural Officer
Amelia Ireland	Disabilities Officer
Daewah Thein	Queer Officer
Sina Afsharmehr	Environment Officer
Omar El-Sobihy	Councillor
Ella Haid	Councillor
Elliot Kameron	Councillor
Dirk Hoare	Councillor

Amelia Raptis	Councillor
Eamonn Ryan	Councillor
Bianca Drummond Costa	Vertigo
Biljana	Staff
El Potts	Queer Collective Convenor
Tyberious Sweeto	Observer
Thomas	Observer
Rohen	Observer
Kaitlyn	Observer
Annabelle	Observer
Macka	Observer
Ben	Observer

Apologies

No Apologies

Proxies

Name	Proxy Accepted By
Aryan	Januka
Chloe	Neeve
Daewah	Amelia

1.4. Declarations of Interest

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

Ella declares interest in 7.5 as it is a reimbursement motion for herself.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Mia asks if anyone has any issues with the previous meeting minutes.

Rohen: Raises clarification that in the previous meeting their full discussion included the statement that after representatives are elected they should consult with the Queer collective and other autonomous collectives for their plans in related to those collectives. Both for Repselect and once the Collective Officers are selected, those officers should consult with the Collective on their plans for the year.

Januka: Will review the minutes and recording to include more of the full discussion including the statement raised by Rohen.

With the expected minor change the minutes from August are otherwise confirmed as a true and accurate record.

2.1. Executive Business

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising from the minutes.

4. Correspondence

No correspondence received.

5. Office Bearers' Reports

5.1. President

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

Mentions the NSO have begun to do a systematic investigation, the academic change proposal and SSAF allocation.

The National Student Ombudsman informed her on the 2nd of September that they had begun an investigation into UTS after a report she had made. Since has been in regular communication with the NSO on the nature of the investigation, decided against doing an individual investigation and instead to do a systemic one which is one of the first they have done. Meaningul that it is a systemic review

because she has been working for several years to get people individual justice with great difficulty, with several reviews done by UTS which have been difficult and resulted in no real change.

Since the investigation has started she has been uninvited from workshops intended to reform the current system because of supposed conflict of interest, despite the interest being the same in wanting to fix the system. Tells SRC to watch the news for articles about the investigation to come out soon.

Mentions other work like the academic change proposal, the Senate inquiry, Stop the Cuts rally, continued questioning with Kylie on details around SSAF allocation and SSAF allocation workshop after.

Mia: Please asks questions if you want details on of her work this month.

Ty: What were you uninvited from?

Mia: UTS is running an end-to-end mapping process workshop, run by Kim Copeland who she ironically suggested. Overall, it's a 9am to 5pm meeting for 30 staff members to get together to work on how the process should look.

5.2. General Secretary

Januka takes report as read.

5.3. Assistant General Secretary

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

5.4. Education Officer

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

Overall, has been working on the Cuts Campaign, including actively liaising with students from various cohorts. Speaks to working with Nicole in the Honors Program on pushing forward feedback she's received. Also spoke at a Rally and has been doing interviews for Journalism students.

5.5. Welfare Officer

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

Mainly around UTS Housing, went to the final meeting on the results of the SCLG paper to change the license agreement. Was a really big win, really good changes with full list in her report but some include students now being provided with clean habitable properties, notice for room checks and notice periods for cleaning. Importantly removed their indemnity clauses for harm caused by themselves, previously if you died at housing UTS was completely not at fault alongside confidentiality for Student information. Very happy with the campaign, will aim to continue next year for a campaign around rent being set at market rate.

On going issue with reports of High School students behaving poorly in the library, will be speaking to Security as to the current processes, mentions anyone who has experience to reach out to add to the feedback. Will also be investigating the issues with UTS Wi-Fi, in communication with Jacquie Wise.

Will also be going to the Student Based Violence workshop in replacement for Mia after she supposedly had have a conflict of interest.

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 is absent and so their report is taken as read.

5.10. Ethnocultural Officer

Salma takes report as read.

5.11. Disabilities Officer

Amelia takes report as read.

5.12. Queer Officer

Daewah is absent at the time and so their report is taken as read.

5.13. Environment Officer

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

Gardening has been continuing with regular sessions, The Soul program has been great at getting people involved, looking to work with cornerstone cafe in future also doing more tree planting with Canada bay council. Hoping the relationship with Canada Bay council continues, otherwise is talking to Blacktown council. Has learnt that tree planting is quite useful in western Sydney as you have areas in summer with no trees making it a lot worse for people so it would be good and make more of a difference for more marginalised communities. Did not want to be involved in the global goals month in terms of it assisting the University with marketing considering the ongoing Course Cuts, however did go to some workshops to contribute.

Mia: Mentions that the University stopped involving the SRC in any of the SDG events this year because Mia mentioned Palestine when she was a Keynote speaker. Uni is currently uninviting the SRC from several things.

6. Other Reports

6.1. Vertigo Report

Bianca: Has been a good busy month, Release of Egg went well. Launch party will be next Tuesday, will be a free BBQ, will be looking forward to it. Otherwise working on the final edition alongside working on the simplification of its library collaboration and the UTSSA x Vertigo Tote Bag Collaboration.

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

No reports.

7. Operational and Procedural Business, Stipends and Reimbursements.

7.1. NUS DivCon Spending

Preamble:

The National Union of Students Diversity Conference is a national gathering bringing together students from diverse and marginalised communities, including women, First Nations, queer, ethnocultural, international, and disabled students. The conference will feature workshops, plenaries, and collaborative sessions developed in collaboration with NUS equity office bearers, with the aim of building skills, strengthening networks, and shaping the national student movement's equity agenda.

To facilitate UTSSA involvement and ensure that UTS students have the opportunity to engage with equity and diversity issues at a national level, this motion approves funding for representatives to attend the 2025 NUS Diversity Conference, aligning with the UTSSA Conference Attendance Policy.

Motion: That the SRC:

1. Approves funding for up to three UTSSA representatives to attend the 2025 NUS Diversity Conference, to be held at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia, from Monday 29th September to Thursday 2nd October 2025.
2. Approves the reimbursement of the following expenses per attendee:
 - a. Up to \$700 per person for transport costs to and from Adelaide (including petrol for carpooling, train fare, or flights);
 - b. Up to \$400 per person for accommodation, including the night prior to the start of the conference;
 - c. The \$80 conference ticket fee (or discounted ticket fee where applicable).
3. Notes that meals and other food costs are not covered and are the responsibility of individual attendees.
4. Requires that all reimbursed attendees:

- a. Are SRC members and approved to attend as official representatives by the UTSSA President, through nominating over email to the President by Friday 26th September 2025;
- b. Comply with the UTSSA Conference Attendance Policy, including:
 - i. Attending a minimum of 80% of conference sessions and activities;
 - ii. Upholding the UTSSA Code of Conduct;
 - iii. Submitting a post-conference report (200–500 words) to the October SRC meeting.

Mover: Salma

Seconder: Olivia

Salma: Omar and I are planning on going to Diversity Conference, if anyone else wants to go to DivCon feel free to let Mia know.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.2. Team-Building Activity

Preamble:

The UTSSA is committed to fostering collaboration, respect, and positive working relationships between the SRC, Vertigo, and other student representatives across UTS. The work of student representatives can often be challenging, and creating opportunities to build trust and familiarity is essential to ensuring a supportive and effective team environment.

A dedicated team-building activity will provide incoming and continuing representatives with the chance to connect outside of formal meetings, encourage collaboration across different parts of the Association, and help set a positive tone for the year ahead. To ensure inclusivity, this event will be alcohol-free and designed to be accessible, engaging, and fun for all participants.

The event is proposed to take place between November 2025 and January 2026, during the transition into the new term of student representatives. Options may include activities such as bowling, laser tag, mini golf, or other similar group activities.

Action: That the SRC:

1. Approve an upper spending limit of \$3,000 for a team-building activity for SRC, Vertigo, and other UTSSA representatives, to be held between November 2025 and January 2026.
2. Engage in a discussion during the September SRC meeting to determine the most suitable activity (e.g. bowling, laser tag, mini golf, or similar).
3. Ensure that the event is alcohol-free and designed to promote inclusivity, accessibility, and collaboration.

Mover: Neeve

Seconder: Olivia

Mia: Speaks to wanting next years teams to do a team building activity as good opportunity to build good working relationships between SRC members and Vertigo.

Bianca: Asks who would be expected to be involved in these Team Building activities

Mia: Clarifies that this would be for newly elected members and not the currently SRC or Vertigo Teams.

Mia: Mentions the need for discussion on possible activities during the meeting, noting that it will likely be covered by UTS's Insurance and would not involve alcohol.

Various ideas are mentioned.

Mia: Fully understands that SRC has many other important issues to go through but still sees the value in both building relationships between elected SRC and Vertigo members alongside other training sessions and the opportunity for the SRC members to have some less intense activities compared to the usual campaigns that are fought.

Samiha: States her opposition to the idea, believes the funds are better spent on the Marquee. Important to work together to build solidarity rather than through activities. Does see where Mia is coming from considering that she has faced difficulty in getting OB's to do their regular work but thinks that it is still a waste and will vote against.

Mia: Says Samiha is free to vote how she wishes but does want to respond, first they will still purchase the Marquee and other equipment, so this is not limiting the UTSSA. Does agree it is trivial but is definitely open to anyone who has a plan on an activist teambuilding event and she would be fully on board.

Salma: Thinks it's important to enjoy each other's company without it being just being about Activism, hopefully will help break across the factions even if it will not end factions.

Mia: Echo's that this is a very difficult environment, a lot of extreme issues and wants to set up next year's team to not burnout.

Bianca: Asks what is the marquee? Also mentions that Vertigo becoming friends this year really helped in how they operated.

Mia: Answers that the marquee will come up in a future motion and that they will get it anyway as this won't stop us from purchasing anything else.

Neeve: Echo's Salma, this may be trivial, but the UTSSA is not bad for spending money while UTS is cutting since it's a very much different level to compare the UTSSA budget's to UTS's.

Mia: This motion will leave it open to any suggestions for the new team on what they want to do.

Votes in Favour:

1. Mia Campbell
2. Januka Suraweera
3. Neeve Nagle
4. Olivia Lee
5. Salma Elmubasher
6. Sina Afsharmehr
7. Omar El-Sobihy
8. Ella Haid
9. Elliot Kameron
10. Dirk Hoare
11. Amelia Raptis
12. Eamonn Ryan
13. Aryan (Proxy)
14. Chloe (Proxy)

Votes Against:

1. Amelia Ireland
2. Daewah Thein (Proxy)
3. Samiha Emran

Abstentions:

None

The motion passes.

7.3. NUS 2026 Reaffiliation

Preamble:

The UTSSA seeks to reaffirm its support for the National Union of Students (NUS) through a \$35,000 + GST affiliation fee for 2026. This allocation reflects the same level of financial commitment as in the previous year and a substantially lower amount than the full affiliation fee calculated on EFTSL enrolment. This proposed reaffiliation amount aligns with our ongoing commitment to ensuring that the NUS remains accessible and accountable to its member unions, while we continue to address crucial concerns with the NUS around transparency, accountability, safety, and effectiveness.

By continuing our affiliation at the proposed amount, we contribute to the NUS's capacity to effect real change such as its recent lobbying for the change to minimum SSAF allocations and allow it to continue to champion student interests nationwide. This affiliation will allow UTSSA to remain an influential voice within the NUS while safeguarding student interests at a federal level.

Motion:

That the UTSSA approves \$35,000 + GST for affiliation to the National Union of Students for 2026.

Mover: Sina

Seconder: Olivia

Neeve: Is important that despite the NUS's issues we still prop up the NUS as long as we can. Is still an important element involved in student unionism and one day we might be able to reform it.

Salma: Asks about including requests for the NUS to do Audits.

Mia: They do an annual report every year with an audit that gets read out at Natcon. Although has been trying to get them to publish the report, currently a few years behind.

Salma: Asks about the policy book.

Mia: Says they did eventually publish it after 5 months.

Amelia Ireland: Asks about the audit report for details as at times it only mentions large costs like "conference expenses"

Ella: Supports reaffiliation on the basis of student unionism, the NUS is important because it is the vehicle for national campaigns, such as the inquiry into Palestine, which was important to push on the narrative that is it was Palestine activists silencing others. Alongside historical campaigns like those against the Liberal's education sector changes.

Mia: Agrees that the money was worth it for just the inquiry and the referendum this year.

Ty: Asks about why the 2024 NUS financial report has not been uploaded.

Mia: Does believe it's possibly that the 2024 report is the one read out at the end of 2025 as it's for that financial year however will look into if that is the actual reason.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.4. Promotional Tote Bags and Design Competition

Preamble:

O-Day is regularly one of the most important opportunities each year to engage new students, showcase our Collectives, and build UTSSA's presence on campus. In previous year's we have utilised handing out Power banks to draw students to the main UTSSA stall. Going into 2026 after discussion at previous SRC meetings the use of Tote Bags as an alternative has been suggested. These Tote bags would not only be the draw that gets students to the stall but also allow UTSSA information, flyers, and other promotional material to be placed inside the Bag to streamline how the stall informs students about the UTSSA. This will also serve as a long-term brand recognition tool as students use it on campus while Collectives and Vertigo will also have allocations to hand out with to help engagement with their stalls.

To further engage students to both act as promotional opportunity and create a unique design, we will run a design competition for the Tote bag's artwork in collaboration with Vertigo. This will involve students submitting designs which incorporate all of the UTSSA logos including Collectives and Vertigo although with creative freedom on how this is done, with a \$200 Prize for the winning design.

Motion:

That the UTSSA approves:

1. An upper limit of \$16,000 for the purchase of Tote Bags
2. A \$200 prize gift card for the winner of the Tote Bag Design Competition

Mover: Olivia

Seconder: Amelia

Januka: Speaks to the Tote Bags having been discussed at a couple SRC meetings, overall, it is a solution to improve Oday outreach in terms of getting UTSSA material into the hands of students as currently students might sign up for the power bank but won't read the flyers. The aim of the Tote Bags is to include the flyers inside the bags, so students are guaranteed to take them and more likely to read them. Collaboration with Vertigo on it has been going well and is looking forward to the result of the design competition.

Mia: Mentions she believes the Tote bags will also likely be cheaper than the power bank and better for the environment.

Elliot: Asks about the quality of the bags.

Mia: Says it should be a design via Vertigo and it should be high quality bag.

Bianca: Speaks to the bags Vertigo looked at including one that they had seen that was high quality.

Biljana: Confirms that the bags were going to be ones Bianca mentioned.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.5. Reimbursement for Stop The Cuts printing

Preamble:

On 18 September, the Stop The Cuts and the UTSSA campaign held a successful rally on the Alumni Greens to protest the ongoing Operational Sustainability plan, including its most recent announcements in the Academic Change Proposal.

To spread the news of this rally to students, Ella Haid had 200 A3 colour posters and 100 A4 colour posters printed. An invoice has been provided to the General Secretary.

Action:

That the UTSSA reimburses Ella Haid \$270 for these printing expenses

Mover: Ella

Seconder: Elliot

Ella: Speaks to printing posters, to help support the rally which went well had resulted in several staff members reaching out.

Mia: Agrees it went well and also saw more general students engaging which was great to see

Mia: One thing to note is that you can just print from UTS printers and it will be cheaper. Although if you run out of paper you have to submit with IT to get your money back so print in a couple of lots.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.6. Bluebird Pantry and UTSSA Food Welfare Services Additional Trolley

Preamble:

We currently have one trolley for the Bluebird Pantry, but it's often not enough to meet our needs, especially during busy delivery times. To better serve the Bluebird Pantry, we'd like to request an additional trolley. This extra trolley would not only help the Bluebird Pantry but could also be shared with our other food welfare services (Bluebird Brekkie and Night Owl Noodles) and other UTSSA events when needed.

By having a second trolley, we can ensure smoother and more efficient deliveries, making sure that trolleys are not overloaded supporting volunteer safety and also avoid clashes where more than one of our food welfare services needs multiple trolleys at the same time.

Action:

That the SRC approve an **upper spending limit of \$900** to purchase of a new trolley for the Bluebird Pantry.

Mover: Sina

Seconder: Eamonn

Mia: Says it's pretty self-explanatory, just that a new trolley would make services more efficient.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.7. Issue 04: EGG Launch

Preamble:

Following the successes of our Conspiracy and Technicolour launch parties, Vertigo would like to host another event to promote the launch of our fourth volume: Egg.

The event is different from previous Vertigo launch parties, as we are proposing to host a free barbecue in collaboration with Bluebird on the Alumni Green. This is to bring awareness to students who may not be familiar with Vertigo, and may not interact with the spaces the magazine usually operates in. By having an event on the Alumni Green, we are able to reach more students and get them curious about their student publication.

Funding would be used for the purchase of barbecue ingredients and hiring of barbecue equipment from Activate UTS, as there is no venue cost.

Budget spreadsheet can be found [here](#).

Action:

That the UTSSA approve a total \$1239.18 to be spent on the Egg launch barbecue. On:

No.	Item	Payee	Description/Comments		Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
1	Eggs	UTSSA	A box – 15 cartons – 180eggs (free range 600g)	Supplier: UTSSA Contact	2	\$ 145.00	\$ 290.00
2	Bread	Bianca	Costco -- 12pk buns		25	\$ 9.30	\$ 232.00
3	Gluten Free Bread	Bianca	Woolworths Gluten Free Burger Buns -- 4pk		5	\$ 5.50	\$ 27.50

4	Beef Sausages	Emanie	\$1.07 per unit	Supplier: Abu Ahmed Butcher	150	\$ 160.00	\$ 160.00	
5	Beef Rashes	Emanie	\$1.27 per unit	Supplier: Abu Ahmed Butcher	150	\$ 190.00	\$ 190.00	
6	Onions	Emanie	10kg		1	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	
7	Ketchup	Bianca	Woolworths -- Fountain Tomato Sauce 2L		1	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	
8	BBQ Sauce	Bianca	Woolworths -- Fountain BBQ Sauce 2L		1	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	
9	BBQ Rental	UTSSA	Renting from Activate		2	\$ 95.00	\$ 190.00	
10	BBQ Set Up + Pack down	UTSSA	Non-negotiable Activate Fee		1	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	
11	Badges	Bianca	100 badges		1	\$ 57.68	\$ 57.68	
Sum of Event Expenses							\$ 1,239.18	

Mover: Salma

Seconder: Olivia

Bianca: Speaks to the budget for the event, will be a BBQ instead of a party and will be on campus to get more students involved who are just generally around campus.

Mia: Suggests amendment to include upper spending limit of 1500 to account for potential increases in costs.

Amenable to the Mover and motion is amended to be:

"That the UTSSA approves a upper spending limit of \$1500 to be spent on the Egg launch barbecue. On:"

The motion as amended passes unanimously.

7.8. Activist Spending

Preamble:

The UTS Students' Association SRC regularly organises and participates in campaigns and activism to defend student rights and advance social justice causes. To ensure campaigns are visible, effective, and accessible, it is important that the SRC has high-quality materials and equipment that can be re-used across multiple campaigns.

Such materials can enhance student engagement, build SRC visibility on campus, and provide a consistent and professional image for the Association. Examples of materials that could be purchased include:

- Branded banners (large and small)
- Flags with UTSSA or campaign logos
- Marquees/gazeboes for campus stalls and demonstrations
- Megaphones and portable sound equipment
- Reusable placards and corflutes
- Campaign T-shirts or vests for visibility
- Stalls equipment (folding tables, chairs, display boards)
- Printed outreach materials (stickers, posters, flyers, zines)
- Badge-making or screen-printing supplies for campaign engagement

Some example products have been pasted below to demonstrate the type of materials/products we could purchase for things that the UTSSA doesn't purchase frequently:

Item	Quotes	Price

		a n g e
UT SS A Fla gs	https://www.vividads.com.au/products/custom-landscape-flags https://www.imprintnow.com.au/product/flags/hand-flag https://flagbanner.com.au/flag-banners/fabric-flag-fabric-banner-printing/custom-fabric-flag-printing.html	\$49-\$80
Br and ed Ma rq ue es	https://flagbanner.com.au/all-products/custom-printed-marquee-gazebo-tent-canopy.html https://www.extreme-marquees.com.au/folding-marquees/40mm-summit-classic-range/# https://www.easysigns.com.au/products/details/pop-up-gazebo?srsltid=AfmBOooQgsIzFohE1thqnjfsDcrTD97ILpGgeFcbSjPF0VOU4KYEK7ZT	\$50-\$2500
Me ga ph on es	https://www.jaycar.com.au/digitech-25w-personal-megaphone-with-siren/p/AM4042?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=21876842869&gbraid=0AAAAAD0dvLah1Lcs86Ki_NIX3dg3EDL-r&gclid=Cj0KCQjwxL7GBhDXARIIsAGOcmIMFzCC3Vb5sHpQ70AoOkwfgEqOXmQx1SUX7HIEG-OgtZNBNO-2I1vQaAuMfEALw_wcB https://soundgearaustralia.com.au/collections/megaphones/products/toa-er1215 https://megaphonesplus.com.au/product/25-watt-indesign-pistol-grip-megaphone-incl-shipping-to-non-nsw/	\$90-\$200
Spe a ker s	https://www.jaycar.com.au/12-inch-rechargeable-pa-speaker-with-wireless-microphone/p/CS2497	\$250

	https://djcity.com.au/product/max-mx700-2-1-active-loudspeaker-system-with-12-subwoofer/	\$ - 6 0 0
	https://www.manicmusic.com.au/products/15-inch-pa-speaker-system-1000w-2x-cordless-mic-mixer-battery-bluetooth-mp3-usb?variant=44535113679168&country=AU&currency=AUD&utm_medium=product_sync&utm_source=google&utm_content=sag_organic&utm_campaign=sag_organic&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=22861913438&gbraid=0AAAAAClyu6h3C_yRNwzx_xopbsb_RLUIWb&gclid=Cj0KCQjwxL7GBhDXARIsAGOcmIOiPpzsyhZ9jQVR83i6ow-WRCdVhM2msBoWWsgj1v7IxZ9kcNximBIaAls5EALw_wcB	
Folding tables	https://www.eliteofficefurniture.com.au/products/steel-frame-folding-table?currency=AUD&variant=42741426716846&utm_source=google&utm_medium=pc&utm_campaign=Google%20Shopping&stkn=65c244616ea3&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=17108951994&gbraid=0AAAAACfFuJ8hPqqTsn7TZAGz5qmhneysa&gclid=Cj0KCQjwxL7GBhDXARIsAGOcmIOXXiXWYfX1AylXpgTVL1PPvbMgRJhMNxF0ga7ZFNfsiLLINKgUaHEaAiO1EALw_wcB https://www.wholesalecateringsupplies.com.au/bolero-centre-folding-utility-table-white-rectangle https://www.apex.com.au/trestle-folding-table.html	\$ 1 5 0 - 3 0 0
BBQs	https://www.thebbqking.com.au/heatlie-1150-stainless-steel-mobile-bbq-hb1150ss/ https://www.thegoodguys.com.au/beefeater-clubman-black-4-burner-bbq-and-trolley-w-cast-iron-burners-and-hotplate-bd16640 https://bbqbazaar.com.au/collections/trolley-bbqs/products/heatlie-flat-plate-bbq-1150pc	\$ 1 , 0 0 - 2 , 5 0 0
Camera	https://www.jbhifi.com.au/products/sony-zv-1-ii-18-50mm-vlogging-camera-black	\$ 1 , 2 0

	<p>https://www.jbhifi.com.au/products/dji-osmo-pocket-3-4k-3-axis-gimbal-camera-combo?store=178</p>	<p>0 0</p>
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Action: That the SRC:

1. Approves an upper spending limit of \$10,000 for the purchase of activist materials to support current and ongoing SRC campaigns.
2. Authorises the President and General Secretary to oversee the process of obtaining quotes and ensuring that purchases fall within budget.
3. Requires that items purchased should be reusable, durable, and accessible for use by future SRC campaigns wherever possible.

Mover: Ella

Seconder: Salma

Mia: Here is some equipment the UTSSA needs which she has had to borrow in the past and difficulties can happen if none are available to be borrowed.

If people have ideas for anything else we would need just let her know.

Ella: Supports the motion, positive that the UTSSA, is taking more action towards activism.

Macka: How would we suggest stuff, who would they reach out.

Mia: Message me.

Amelia Ireland: Is this a big approval of funds?

Mia: Yes, it is written with possible purchases so she can give understanding of what might be purchased so there can be accountability so she can't use the money for whatever she wants. Writes the table so people can understand what they generally would spend the money on.

Rohen: Asks about whether this will be on top of funds available to collectives such as upcoming donation to Pride and Protest to run an event.

Mia: To confirm, that if the collective meets and spends money it is separate, the SRC cannot refuse unless is violating one of the rules in the constitution or by-laws. The donation however will likely run into problems, because directly using SSAF for donations is outside of legislated allowed use of

SSAF but could be fundraised and donated from there. Says they can send the list to Rohen if they wanted to see it

Rohen: Asks for the legislation to be sent to him.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.9. Approve Spending for Stop the Cuts Campaign

Preamble:

Last Wednesday, the University released the Academic Change Proposal which includes the discontinuation of multiple degrees, including 167 courses and 1,101 subjects. Included in these changes are subject portfolio reductions of 50% in Science and 46% in Health, as well as a merger of the UTS Business School, Faculty of Law, and the Transdisciplinary School into a new “Faculty of Business and Law.”

UTS’s risk assessments within the proposal explicitly acknowledge likely negative impacts on student experience, wellbeing, engagement, and enrolments. These documents highlight that students may face larger class sizes, fewer opportunities for interaction and support within classrooms and reduced practical and emotional support during course teach-outs.

The proposal also makes clear that students in combined International Studies degrees and in Education degrees will be *encouraged to undertake a full-time study load*, or else be forced to transfer into another course at UTS or to another institution. These measures will cause significant harm to students, disproportionately impacting working students, disabled students, and students with caring responsibilities, who cannot take on full-time study loads.

It is essential that the UTS Students’ Association runs a strong campaign against these cuts. This requires accessible campaign materials, outreach, and mobilisation activities to ensure student voices are heard.

Action: that the UTSSA SRC:

1. Condemns UTS' Academic Change Proposal to discontinue courses and subjects, cut jobs and force students into full-time study or transfers.
2. Approves up to \$2,000 to be spent for the production of campaign materials (including posters, flyers, social media graphics, banners) and for student outreach activities.
3. Authorises the President and Education Officer to oversee and authorise expenditure on this campaign.
4. Commits to working with staff, the NTEU, other student representatives, and affected students to resist course cuts.

Mover: Ella

Seconder: Olivia

Ella: Cuts have been the biggest attack, as they are cutting 400 jobs, the uphill battle on the campaign has been difficult. Says there has not been enough effort from the SRC and that the campaign has fallen on her, her comrades and Mia.

Still they built up of the 800 follows on the Instagram and was disappointing to see that unity make a joke ticket called stop the cuts. That shows that unity in general is not actually moving to the left and not actually activist.

Neeve: Responds, doesn't think it's a joke ticket and definitely doesn't think the campaign is a joke, wasn't meant to be imitating and that's why they immediately give up the name when it was raised. Would never joke about the Cuts Campaign, and not appropriate to name a faction that Mia heads as not taking the Cuts seriously.

Ella: The ticket is one thing, Mia has been working on it but alone not unity. Socialists on campus have been doing most of the work and Unity has not been involved.

Mia: It is true Ella has been working on a large amount and effectively running the Education Collective.

Ella: To clarify she was most concerned about no one attending rallies.

Salma: Echo's it is disappointing when people don't show up.

Mia: Notes people have multiple jobs but agrees people should take this seriously enough to dedicate time to it.

Salma: Doesn't need to be a day every week just to show up.

Amelia Raptis: She takes accountability as being someone who often has work but asks if there more remote things she can help out with.

Ella: DMs are always open, welcome to provide opinion on events to put on graphics, important for general councillors to be across information.

Mia: Definitely good point to shift work to other members of SRC where possible. Also to feel empowered to reach out.

Rohen: Mentions since you tried to say you were stop the cuts, you can't sit on your hands, agrees with Ella.

The motion passes unanimously.

Procedural to take a break at 7:48pm for 5 mins.

Procedural Passes

Meeting Resumes at 7:53pm

7.10. IT Systems Project

Preamble:

UTSSA's current internal systems are spread across multiple platforms including Google Drive, Microsoft Office, One Drive, Mailchimp, Filemaker Pro, MYOB, SharePoint, Zoom, and Outlook. This patchwork setup creates inefficiencies, makes it difficult to onboard and offboard students, and limits secure document management and collaboration. With the scale of staff, volunteers, contractors, and student representatives who need to work together, a more integrated and sustainable system is essential.

The aim of this project is to reduce these inefficiencies by centralising documents, creating clear access and permission structures, improving collaboration between staff and student teams, and establishing processes that make student turnover more manageable. The project will also explore opportunities for automation, such as caseworker booking systems, and solutions that align with platforms UTS IT can support, such as SharePoint or Microsoft 365.

To achieve this, UTSSA briefed providers to deliver a phased project, beginning with discovery and consultation, moving to tailored recommendations, and culminating in implementation and ongoing support. This approach ensures the final solution is not only technically effective but also fit for purpose for a student-led organisation with diverse and changing participants.

UTSSA staff obtained four quotes for this project. The quote from Waterstons was selected as it was significantly cheaper than the other options and came from a smaller organisation that appeared more appropriate for the scale of work UTSSA wished to undertake. This balance of affordability and tailored service made it the preferred option. The Waterstons quote includes:

- Phase 1: Discovery (\$6,000)
- Phase 2: Options & Recommendations (No charge)
- Phase 3: Implementation (\$10,000–\$25,000 depending on chosen option)

Given the scope of the work and the potential for costs to vary depending on the final implementation, an upper spending limit is required to allow the project to move forward while ensuring financial oversight.

Action: That the SRC:

1. Approves an upper spending limit of \$60,000 for the UTSSA Systems Project for work as outlined in the Waterstons quote attached.
2. Notes that this covers the discovery phase, options and recommendations, and potential implementation costs depending on the chosen option.
3. Authorises the Executive Officer, President and General Secretary to manage the project and expenditure in consultation with relevant staff, students and UTS IT.

Mover: Eamonn

Seconder: Sina

Mia: We use too many systems, in conversations with staff has been hearing feedback that we could use our own IT systems.

Kaityln: As an IT student, asks about the where the potential blowout could be.

Mia: Mentions there is potential for scope creep but will have to see results of review.

Samiha: Can we get Canva premium.

Mia: We do but can expand access to more of the SRC.

Macka: Asks if we can get Cap Cut.

Mia: If there is interest it can be done. Encourages submitting motions that would improve our ability to do our job.

The motion passes unanimously.

7.11. Internal Ticketing Policy Update

Preamble:

Section 7.4.2 of the UTSSA internal ticketing policy currently requires ticketing for events to close four days prior to the scheduled date. While this rule was introduced to provide certainty for organisers and ensure smooth administration. For several events ticket sales occur within the final days leading up to the event. Closing sales prematurely reduces the ability for the UTSSA and Vertigo to run events with less reliable attendance. Allowing ticketing to remain open until the event date would allow more flexibility for event organisers.

Action:

Amend the current internal policy documents section. 7. UTSSA Policy on Event Ticketing. To:

1. Remove 7.4.2

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

2. Renumber 7.4.3 to 7.4.2

Mover: Januka

Seconder: Olivia

Januka: Speaks to it being a change raised by Vertigo to allow ticket sales for longer

Mia: Still won't allow abuse of the ticket sale system but provides more flexibility.

The motion passes unanimously.

8. Other Business Arising on Notice

8.1. Submission to the NSW Legislative Council Inquiry into the University Sector

Preamble:

The NSW Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Social Issues is currently conducting an inquiry into the crisis in the NSW university sector. The terms of reference focus on governance, accountability, public benefit, and transparency across all universities in the state.

At UTS, students have faced significant course, subject staff cuts, alongside a lack of transparency and accountability from university management. These cuts have undermined the quality of education, created uncertainty for staff and students, and highlighted structural problems with how universities are governed. The UTSSA must use this inquiry to highlight the impact of these governance failures on students and to argue for reforms that put education before profit.

Action:

That the UTSSA:

1. Makes a submission to the NSW Legislative Council Inquiry into the University Sector.
2. Task all UTSSA officebearers and any other members of the SRC who would like to contribute, with drafting the submission, ensuring it reflects student concerns as they relate to the inquiry's terms of reference, including:
 - a. The impact of UTS course and staff cuts on student learning and wellbeing, as a failure of governance to protect the public mission of universities;
 - b. The lack of transparency and consultation by UTS management with students and staff, particularly in relation to council accountability, public access to decisions, and financial management;

- c. The over-reliance on insecure and casualised staffing, undermining quality of life for staff and student support;
- d. Student housing and food insecurity, and the need for universities to better support accessibility, equity, and public benefit;
- e. The importance of safeguarding academic freedom, student welfare, and the role of universities in advancing civic responsibility and community partnerships;
- f. Opportunities for legislative reform to strengthen governance, transparency, and accountability.

3. Circulate the draft submission to the SRC for review prior to lodgement.
4. Authorise the President to lodge the submission on behalf of the UTSSA before the closing date of 17 October 2025.

Mover: Olivia

Seconder: Sina

Mia: Speaks to the motion itself, will go through legislative assembly. Anyone who wants to be heavily involved please let her know as it would be good to help build pressure.

Olivia, Eamonn and Sina. Want to be involved in.

The motion passes unanimously.

8.2. Albanese's New Climate Target, National Climate Risk Assessment and Woodeside Extension

Platform:

The Albanese government has introduced a new climate emissions target, pushing the current target back from 2030 to 2035. This has come with much commentary about the need to take the climate crisis seriously and act, with Labor Climate Minister Chris Bowen encouraging us to all be 'realistic about the threats but optimistic about the future'.

However Australia's first National Climate Risk Assessment has given us very little to feel optimistic about. The report, released last week, estimates that more than 1.5 million people in Australia are at risk of rising sea levels by 2050. We can expect to see more

floods, cyclones and heatwaves, and an alarming 400% rise in heatwave deaths in Sydney alone. We are already on the doorstep of climate catastrophe, with this report coming just months after Cyclone Alfred ripped right through Queensland and Northern NSW.

At the same time as they are waxing lyrical about their climate targets and investments into the clean energy finance corporation, the Albanese government has overseen a 31% increase in direct handouts to fossil fuel companies, and have also approved an extension to Woodside's North West Shelf gas project in Western Australia. This is the most polluting fossil fuel project in the Southern Hemisphere, which produces 20% of Australia's total carbon footprint, and the Labor government has just green lit its continued expansion until 2070.

Action:

1. The UTSSA will publish this motion to its website.

Mover: Ella**Seconder: Elliot**

Ben: Explains the climate target and its effects, it is predicted that heat related deaths will rise be 400% predicated major damage to the environment. No Australian community will be immune from this attack. potentially 2.5-3% degree warming.

Unfortunately, at the same time Labor has approved the woodside mining, damaging aboriginal art and the coral reef. Extended to 2070. Just after the predicted net zero.

Macka: Says there is outrage, that Albo saying he wanted to end climate wars at the start was not that he's going to solve climate charge but instead to depoliticize it and keep Australia polluting.

One of Labor's first policies was just to not count export pollution. Labor does say better things than the Liberals, but it isn't better and it actually nullifies the movement and allows them to do things like keep Woodside.

The motion passes unanimously.

8.3. The UTSSA stands against Australia's racist far-right

Preamble:

On Sunday 31 August, we witnessed the largest explicitly racist rallies in decades. Tens of thousands of people marched across the country for the far-right's anti-migrant

“March For Australia” protests. Attendees were draped in Australian flags, carried despicable anti-migrant signs reading “fuck off, we’re full” and spewed racist, anti-left conspiracies like the “great replacement theory”. In most cities, the neo-nazi National Socialist Network played a role in organising and leading these rallies. In Melbourne, the march resulted in a dozen black-clad neonazis ransacking the Indigenous protest site Camp Sovereignty, including beating an Aboriginal woman who was present.

This should be a wakeup call for the left. Far-right politics is on the rise across the West, these events have proven that Australia is not immune to this trend. Trump has wasted no time in attacking migrants, trans rights and welfare since coming back to power. Meanwhile, Nigel Farage’s Reform UK party currently boasts over 240 000 members. This same party spurred on the vile race riots of August 2024 in which far-right thugs beat migrants in the streets. Just a fortnight ago, famed neonazi Tommy Robinson held a march of over 130 000 in London to “Unite the Kingdom” and avenge the recent killing of the American far-right activist Charlie Kirk, who has quickly become a martyr for neo-nazis and the far-right globally.

The numbers on 31 August would not have been possible without the enthusiastic support of the Murdoch and Stokes press. These outlets clearly want Australia to look more like Trump’s America, so they spent weeks advertising these racist rallies.

It should be beyond clear that this was not a housing or renters rights rally. The typical attendees of these protests were white men over the age of fifty who owned their own homes and businesses. One of the key organisers, Hugo Lennon, is the son of a property mogul worth hundreds of millions of dollars. No attendees carried signs blaming landlords, negative gearing or demanding rent caps. While some of the far-right have claimed that they were marching against the housing crisis, the left should not follow the mainstream media in repeating this line uncritically.

The fact that the far-right feels confident to cloak their bigotry in a link between housing and migration is instead the result of a much more mainstream form of racism. For years we have been subject to the twin lies from both Labor and Liberal leaders that the housing crisis is a) a problem of supply, and b) that greedy migrants such as international students are to blame for domestic Australians’ inability to access affordable housing.

The left, including student unions, should take the far-right threat seriously by rejecting the claim of the political and media mainstream that these were just ordinary civilians misguided by neonazis.

We should reject the politics of compromise with the far-right, and that of ignoring them in hopes that they will go away. Student Unions should be left-wing, anti-racist institutions who take a lead in mobilising students to fight the growth of anti-migrant, anti-left politics. We should see it as our responsibility to rapidly grow a confident anti-racist, pro-migrant movement amongst young people.

Action:

1. As a left-wing, anti-racist student union, the UTSSA condemns the recent “March For Australia” rallies held across the country as racist, anti-migrant, far-right events.
2. The UTSSA will create a reel on its instagram in which the far-right’s marches are condemned, and the UTSSA is asserted as an anti-racist, pro-migrant, left wing institution.

Mover: Ella**Seconder: Elliot**

Ella: Is important to stop the far right. It matters that while the far right is small we should be ready to fight them. Someone like Bob Katter should be treated seriously not as a joke. Important for student councillors and student leaders to oppose the far right.

Elliot: Important that we take a stand to say that there are people who have legitimate concerns, but it is not those people aged 20 -30 years who are the ones struggling with rental housing who were protesting. It was middle aged guys who all own multiple properties at the protest. This is the cutting edge of the far right in Australia, important to stop them and people with dangerous racist bigoted policy. Push back against appeasement and saying they have legitimate concerns.

Mia: Asks how they draw the line, between getting politically disaffected students on their side then just saying stuff that is morally true to us but might not convince them.

Ella: Mainstream says that maybe they are confused, wants to make it clear that these are the people most motivated to come to these far right rallies. It is not historically that you deradicalize the right but instead build the left. People are blaming people, those who would join the left movement are those who are already progressive people and not yet mobilized so no point in going to the right and deradicalizing.

Rohen: Important to work towards engaging those in your workplaces.

Mia: Amendment making action point 1. Platform point 1 instead.

Amendable to mover and so reading:

Platform:

1. *As a left-wing, anti-racist student union, the UTSSA condemns the recent “March For Australia” rallies held across the country as racist, anti-migrant, far-right events.*

The motion as amended passes unanimously.

9. General Business

Mia: Raises what can we be done for stop the cuts now that we have funding,

The university is consistently failing to change and to support the women who have bravely come out about it.

Mia: starts discussion on potential purchases with Activist spending fund.

Ella: Megaphone, and battery charger.

Ella: NTEU. Rally soon, stop the cuts protest fair day coming up where everyone who has something to protest set up stalls, Expression of interest for stalls on going.

Mia: Will currently be Booking Wednesday the 22th of October.

10. Close of Meeting at 8:36pm

Appendix 1: Office Bearer Reports

1. President

This month has been an especially significant and demanding one for the UTSSA's work. I want to provide an update on key matters I have been engaged in on behalf of students.

National Student Ombudsman Investigation

On 2 September, UTS was formally informed that it is under investigation by the National Student Ombudsman (NSO). This investigation arose from a complaint I submitted regarding the timeliness of UTS' actions to improve its systems for responding to reports of sexual harm and gender-based violence. The NSO notice, addressed to the Vice-Chancellor and Head of Complaints, makes clear that the matter raises issues relating to UTS' governance and handling of gender-based violence.

Following this, I met with Jacqui Wise (Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students)) to discuss student engagement in upcoming meetings intended to map out the future process for responding to GBV. The meeting was difficult: she disclosed confidential information to me about a case, stated that she had personally met with an alleged perpetrator to offer him "counselling," and informed me that I was uninvited from a forthcoming 26 September workshop with around 30 staff on "end-to-end" process mapping for the new GBV system. In subsequent correspondence, she wrote that my complaint to the NSO created a "conflict of interest" for me, and suggested that students might be excluded from this workshop altogether. I found these responses deeply concerning and reflective of broader governance and cultural failings.

Since then, I have been in regular contact with the ABC, who are preparing a story on this issue. I hope that media attention will highlight once again the failures in UTS management and governance on this matter.

UTS Cuts and Academic Change Proposal

The second major focus of this month has been the university's Academic Change Proposal, released last week. The proposal outlines sweeping course and faculty changes with severe consequences for students and staff. I have continued to speak out against these cuts at every opportunity.

Earlier in September, I represented UTS students at the Federal Senate Inquiry into University Governance alongside the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations. This was widely covered in the media, including the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Guardian*, and *The Australian*. Following the release

of the Academic Change Proposal, I gave multiple media interviews, spoke on ABC radio, and spoke at the Stop the Cuts rally, which saw a strong student turnout. I am planning further activities in conjunction with staff in the coming weeks.

On Friday, I met with DVC Education Kylie Readman to raise concerns about the proposal. I asked questions including:

- How can UTS reconcile repeated public statements that current students would not be affected with risk assessments predicting larger class sizes, reduced interaction opportunities, and negative wellbeing impacts?
 - Response: the assurances only referred to the suspension of courses.
- How is it fair to “encourage” students in discontinued courses (e.g. International Studies, Education) to study full-time or transfer, given the disproportionate impact on carers, disabled students, and those working through the cost-of-living crisis?
 - Response: “These are all things UTS is allowed to do. Every student will be able to finish the degree they signed up to do.”
- What is the academic justification for merging Law with Business and TD, when UTS’ own March 2025 position opposed mergers due to risks?
 - Response: the intent is to “simplify” and flatten administrative layers.
- Why is UTS treating enrolments under 50 as evidence of “low student interest,” when in many faculties (e.g. Law), course caps and scheduling mean electives are consistently full but under-resourced? Further, how can students give informed feedback to UTS on the change proposal without the list of subjects being released?
 - Response: DVC Readman stated she would release the subject list to students, and if not, I made clear I would share it with students directly.

These responses further highlight the lack of transparency and accountability in UTS’ approach to the cuts. I will continue to press for the release of subject lists and data, and to challenge the misleading narrative that current students will not be affected.

SSAF Allocation and Transparency

Following the paper I submitted at the last Student/Council Liaison Group meeting regarding SSAF, I attended a workshop this month with students and management staff to discuss issues with the current allocation process and ways it could be improved to better support student-led organisations while ensuring transparency and accountability. The outcomes of this workshop are still to be seen.

I am particularly concerned recently about the appointment of a new Manager in the Student Safety Caseworkers team, as it is unclear how this position was accounted for in the September 2024 SSAF allocation of \$1.653 million for “promoting the health or welfare of students.” That allocation was approved with only a broad description, providing no specific breakdown of staff roles. By comparison, the UTSSA’s \$1.25 million SSAF allocation this year required a far greater level of detail and justification.

This raises important questions about consistency, accountability, and oversight in the SSAF process, and I have sought clarification from the university on how such large sums can be allocated with limited transparency. The university has not responded to my email on this point in three weeks despite multiple follow-ups.

2. General Secretary

Outside of regular administrative duties, the announcement of the change proposal has been of keen interest to me as I'm sure for most of us. I'm focused on producing an email campaign and general graphic with a focus on what students in general can do in response to the cuts which will hopefully be on the UTTSA's Instagram soon. In the course of my other role as Academic Board Rep for FEIT, the response to us there as we asked about the feedback process for the cuts were that they were currently limited to the email only. There are no current plans to make that process anonymous although this may change after Wednesday's Academic Board meeting but I'm not hopeful. As a result I believe it's important that as many students as possible respond to this feedback email with negative feedback so the University cannot pretend it received no negative feedback from Students especially since the Staff Feedback is being kept intentionally separate as if we are both not impacted by these Cuts. Previous SRC Discussions have indicated that the University does place high importance on the Email's it receives so I am hopeful to have some impact.

In terms of work with Vertigo, I recently approved their Full run document for Oddity which I believe was well reflective of the SRC's intentions in passing article Quotas and am hopefully this understanding can continue to next year's teams. The next working group will be on Wednesday where further discussion with Vertigo will occur on several points but relevant to council is the updates on the Tote Bag design Competition alongside a potential idea further collaboration for future teams on next year's Handbook.

3. Assistant General Secretary

Internal Policy & Documentation

This month I contributed to internal governance work by assisting with policy updates and reviewing procedures to ensure they remain relevant and accessible for both exec and SRC members. I also worked on updating expenditure documentation to keep financial records accurate and transparent. These tasks were important for accountability and for providing clearer information to the broader student community about how UTSSA resources are allocated.

Campaigns & Communications

September has been a significant month for student advocacy. I assisted with preparing and publishing a post addressing the concerns of Public Health students, ensuring the message was both professional and accessible. The aim was to directly engage with affected students, update them on our stance, and amplify their voices through our platforms.

In addition, I supported the press release on the Academic Change Proposal, which outlined UTSSA's condemnation of the cuts to courses and subjects. My role focused on adapting the release into an Instagram format and ensuring the key points were highlighted clearly for social media engagement, while linking back to the full statement on the UTSSA website.

General Duties & Support

Beyond campaign-specific work, I continued to assist with routine communication and social media responsibilities, responding to requests from the President and coordinating with exec members to meet campaign deadlines.

Reflections

Balancing UTSSA responsibilities alongside university commitments has been challenging at times, but the work completed this month has reinforced the importance of consistency and responsiveness. The Public Health and Academic Change campaigns have highlighted the Association's role as a voice for students in times of uncertainty, and I am glad to have played a role in communicating these messages. Looking ahead, I plan to continue streamlining the process of preparing posts and statements so that important updates can be shared more efficiently with students.

4. Welfare Officer

This month has been long and productive, with several notable achievements in student advocacy, particularly regarding reforms to the UTS Housing license agreement.

UTS Housing Reforms

Significant progress has been made in updating the license agreement for UTS Housing. UTS Housing

has agreed to most of the terms proposed in our rules document, delivering real wins for students. Key outcomes include:

- Relocation procedures for students have been agreed to, ensuring clarity and fairness.
- UTS Housing has committed to distinguishing minor rules breaks with serious ones ensuring students are not heavily punished for minor breaches.
- Students will now be provided with clear housing rules and guidelines.
- Rooms will be provided in a clean and habitable condition.
- Students' privacy will be respected, limiting unreasonable interference.
- Locks and audits will now be conducted with notice.
- Notice periods for entering rooms for repairs or absence are now formalised.
- UTS has agreed to remove indemnity clauses, taking ownership for harm caused on housing property.
- Confidentiality measures have been agreed to around student information.

The proposals that were not agreed to, were early termination and certain changes regarding fines.

These reforms represent a significant success for student advocacy. Both of our submissions the Student Council Liaison Group, have been acted upon by management, resulting in tangible outcomes. UTS Housing expressed satisfaction with the results and agreed to nearly all of our proposals.

Library Safety Concerns

I have raised concerns with management regarding high school students in the UTS Library and certain inappropriate behaviours affecting the safety and study environment for UTS students. These issues are being monitored, and I'm hoping further action will be taken as required to ensure the library remains a safe and productive space, if anyone has any further stories regarding this, please contact me.

UTS Wi-Fi Access Issues

Ongoing issues with UTS Wi-Fi restrictions have also been raised. Certain sites are being blocked, and students' ability to perform essential day-to-day academic and personal activities on their devices has been hindered. I have contacted management in order to establish why certain sites are being blocked by IT and I will update.

Upcoming Engagements

At the end of this week, I will be assisting with a gender-based violence holistic process workshop alongside Francesca Harrison. The workshop aims to help UTS articulate challenges around violence, evaluate current practices, and identify gaps. This initiative will contribute to improving student safety and wellbeing on campus. I'm looking forward to this being a productive step for UTS in taking accountability.

5. Women's Officer

This month, we've sent off the Period Product Survey report to the student services union for review. The key report recommendations given were:

1. Implement a Consistent Restocking Schedule
2. Expand Distribution Across All Buildings and to Moore Park Campus
3. Broaden the Range of Products Offered
4. Improve Accessibility Through Alternative Distribution Points
5. Increase Communication and Visibility of the Program

I am also working with the Public Speaking Society again on collaborating for their 'Stories from the Motherland' event coming up in week 12, a similar event to the one I held for International Women's Day last semester, this time with a focus on multiculturalism.

6. Ethnocultural Officer

Over the past month, I have continued working on key priorities within the Ethnocultural collective. I am currently drafting an email to the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and Pro-Vice-Chancellors addressing the recognition of the ongoing genocide in Palestine. The email will ask whether the university intends to posture itself above the United Nations, the International Court of Justice, and other international bodies in refusing to acknowledge the reality on the ground. This is not only a matter of political clarity but of safeguarding our Palestinian students who are deeply impacted.

Alongside this, I have been engaging directly with students to ensure they are aware of how to report incidents of racism and discrimination. Many students have expressed frustration and uncertainty with the reporting process, and it is clear that further clarity and accessible guidance are urgently required.

I am also raising concerns about the complaints system more broadly, as it remains deeply flawed. Students consistently report a lack of transparency, accountability, and trauma-

informed processes. These issues risk silencing victims rather than protecting them. Moving forward, I will continue to press the university for structural reforms and collaborate with students to build safer, more accountable reporting pathways.

7. Disabilities Officer

Earlier in the month, I attended the UTS Accessibility Meet and Greet on behalf of the disabilities collective, where I got to speak with staff and students about the Students Association and the Disabilities Collective. We have also been continuing to have our fortnightly Coffee Catchups, although turnout has not been as good as it has been in previous months due to the assessment and exam period.

I have also been working with students on the ‘Paint out your Neurodivergent Minds’ Project, which is a painting workshop for neurodivergent students at UTS. This initiative has been a work in progress and will have our first workshop in October.

In part of working more closely with Accessibility, we have been participating in Access’ ‘Connected Minds’ support program for autistic students and assisting UTS Accessibility where possible in fostering the disability community at UTS. We have continued to work on the Assistive Technology Database campaign, and responses are slowly coming in from the survey

8. Environment and Technology Officer

August has been yet another busy month for the collective. This month, in addition to the usual social and volunteering events I have also spent more time engaging with my university board positions.

Community Gardening:

We have organised new gardening sessions with Ultimo Community Garden this semester. The first one was two weeks ago and in spite of the rain, we still had pretty good turnout. We will be working continuing to maintain people’s engagement over the next few months of this year.

Tree planting day 3:

We are in talks with Canada Bay Council for another tree planting day next month. This will be similar to our first tree planting in April where we will source native trees ourselves and the council doesn't help apart from giving us permission to do it.

Music Bingo Night with SASS:

I have organised a social night with SASS on the 26th. I am hoping that this will be an opportunity for members of the collective to socialise and for us to continue building a community within the collective

AI operations board:

There was a special meeting this week of the board. There was discussion about implementing AI for certain assessments such as clinical practice assessments. There was some discussion about how this may lead to job cuts for casual employees which I expressed concern about.

Sustainability Steering Committee:

I attended the third sustainability steering committee meeting of the year last week and quite a few topics were raised

There was some discussion about certain sustainability courses and majors that may be discontinued. As the student representative, I was asked about my thoughts and I talked about how I did not support what was happening.

There was also a lot of time spent on implementing a 'circular economy' at UTS and I will be catching up with Alexandra Fransen, the Sustainability Coordinator, to discuss this further.