
An illustration of a student union building. On the left, a man in a blue and white checkered sweater and a light cap stands with a blue bicycle. In the center, a poster with the letters 'UTS' is displayed. To the right, two women are looking at a smartphone together; one has a tattoo on her arm. The building's facade is brick, and several posters are pinned to the wall. One poster shows a building, and another shows a landscape. The overall style is a vibrant, stylized illustration with a color palette of purples, blues, yellows, and reds.

UTS STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION
HANDBOOK
2019

A GUIDE TO UTS

Written by students
for students



Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Technology Sydney acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora nation, upon whose ancestral lands UTS now stands. We pay our respects to the Elders both past and present, acknowledging them as the traditional custodians of knowledge for this place.

UTS Students' Association

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Welcome to UTS

Mehmet Musa
President

Maddie Lucre
*Education Vice
President*

Starting at UTS is a great feeling. For many it is their first real taste of independence after high school. For others it is a fresh start. The vibe at UTS is one of energy and innovation but that does not erode the down-to-earth culture that is apparent early on. UTS, like other universities, also provides many opportunities to expand your worldview, experience new things and meet many new people. Yet this unfamiliar territory could be daunting for many newcomers. Whilst it is relatively easy to enrol in your subjects and attend classes, many students do not have information about key services available and often do not know what to do when something does go wrong.

The 2019 Students' Association Handbook provides information about services offered by the UTS Students' Association (UTSSA). The UTSSA provides case work services for students that have academic misconduct allegations against them, with dedicated staff willing to help. Furthermore, it facilitates peer tutoring and pays for the free Bluebird Breakfast and Night Owl Noodles two times a week. The UTSSA also funds the publication of the Vertigo student magazine which produces quality content from UTS student's and often accepts submissions from students not on the current editorial team.

The UTSSA is an organisation run by students for students. The decisions made by the UTSSA are voted on during Student Representative Council (SRC) meetings. These councillors are directly elected by the student body once a year. The UTSSA aims to stand up for student interests and be the student voice on campus.

The UTSSA also facilitates many interesting Collectives and PERC clubs that will be explored further within this handbook.

This handbook also aims to provide students with the fun side of uni giving you lowdown of places to go between classes, the most frequented student watering holes and how to have a fun and safe night out drinking with your friends. However, university can be a big step up whether you are first year or fifth year so it is important to take care of your mental health. In this handbook authors speak openly and honestly about their struggles with their mental health at uni.

Despite the flack we cop for our brutalist 'ugly' uni, UTS is a great university but it is what you make of it. The greatest piece of advice we can give to students old and new is get involved be it in sports, collectives, political clubs, gaming clubs, or the UTS students' Association. This is how you make your years here at university some of the best of your life. Sure, you can sleep through your lectures and come in just for your tutorials but do that and you will miss out on meeting your life long UTS friends. So take it from us—UTS is what you make of it.

From Maddie and Mehmet,
Your Education Vice President and President



**UTS
STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

Our voice. Our way. Our SA.



Need a lawyer?

.....

The UTS Student
Legal Service
provides free and
confidential legal
advice for students.



- ✔ **Contact us to make an appointment.**
(02) 9514 2484 | studentlegalservice@uts.edu.au
utsstudentsassociation.org.au/legal

Your SRC

Who are we?

Emily Watt
Assistant Secretary

Tyler Whitlam
NUS Campus Representative, UTS

WHAT IS THE UTSSA?

The UTS Students' Association (UTSSA) is here to represent, support and advocate for the UTS student body. Run by students, for students, we run a number of free services to make sure that your time at uni is as enjoyable, rewarding and stress-free as possible.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Adjusting to the demands of uni can be challenging, so if you find yourself struggling with coursework, we offer to connect students through paid Peer Tutoring. Our Advice and Advocacy Service is also available for students faced with more serious problems concerning allegations of misconduct, querying results, applying for special consideration, appeals for exclusion and other academic issues. We also offer a legal service where UTS students can access free legal advice.

For those passionate about activism and the student movement, there are several opportunities to get involved. There are specific departments in place to represent and advocate for various groups and issues including Women's, Queer, Indigenous, Ethnocultural, Environmental and Welfare. We also assist in running the Political, Educational, Religious and Cultural (PERC) clubs.

Everyone knows breakfast is the most important meal of the day. However, between student budgets, 9am lectures and Sydney public

transport, it's easy for it to be overlooked. That's why we have the Bluebird Brekkie Bar. You can get a free breakfast Tuesdays 8:30–11am in the Haymarket Courtyard, or on Wednesdays 8:30–11am in the Tower Building Foyer. We also offer free dinners with the Night Owl Noodle Bar in the Tower Building Foyer every Tuesday and Thursday from 5–7:30pm.

Our acclaimed student publication also publishes student work both written or visual. So, for our passionate writers and artists, our team at Vertigo would love to receive your submissions!

To find out more, visit our website:
utsstudentsassociation.org.au

We encourage all students to get involved. So if you wish to get in touch, email students.association@uts.edu.au or call 9514 1155

WHAT IS THE SRC?

The SRC is a team of students elected each year by the student body to represent all UTS students and act as the peak governing body for the UTSSA. Its role is to represent student issues, run campaigns on student initiatives, participate in national education campaigns, support safer spaces on campus, lobby for the reduction of course fees, provide a strategic direction for the UTSSA and ensure that students are represented at all decision-making levels at UTS. These are all discussed and voted on at its monthly meetings.



WHAT DO WE DO?

The SRC, through the UTSSA, also runs several campaigns around student issues, both campus-specific-such as the Know Your Union campaign-and national- such as those run by the National Union of Students (NUS) which target the quality of our education, safety on campus, unfair course costs and decreasing HECS.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Elections for the SRC are held annually in October, giving all UTS students a say when it comes to who will represent them and their values. Students are able to nominate to run for a position, and all UTS students are eligible to vote.

Any UTS students are welcome to attend an SRC meeting and participate in our campaigns. Check out our website for more information.

WHAT IS THE NUS?

The National Union of Students is an organisation run by students, for students, and is your primary representative body as a tertiary student in Australia. The NUS uses the affiliation fee paid by Universities (your SSAF) to enable student-elected National Office Bearers to campaign for issues that affect Universities nationwide. These campaigns range from sexual assault on campus, to attacks on university fees and HECS repayment thresholds by the current Liberal Government.

As well as lobbying and protesting, the NUS holds an annual National Conference where passionate student activists (this could be you!) advocate for policies on topics including Queer, Disabilities, Student Welfare, Aboriginal and Torres-Strait Islander, and Women/Non-Binary Folk to name a handful.

OK, BUT WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Why should you care? Because the NUS cares! The NUS operates for the sole purpose of making your life as a student more enjoyable, with a focus on ensuring that there is adequate representation of ALL students' needs regardless of who you are.

The NUS has tirelessly campaigned for the rights of students, and successfully played a major role in shutting down the Liberal Government's plans to create \$100 000 University degrees back in 2015. In 2017 and 2018 NUS following the release of the Australian Human Rights Commission 'Change the Course' report into sexual violence and harassment at Australian universities, led mass student protests in Australia's major cities calling for an end to sexual assault on campus and demanding comprehensive University policies that assist survivors and punish perpetrators.

Get involved. Find an issue you care about. Talk to your Student Representative Council to find out what the NUS is planning to campaign on this year and how you can get involved.

Your SRC



Mehmet Musa
President



Maddie Lucre
Education Vice President



Aiden More
Treasurer



Llywelyn Parry
Secretary



Emily Watt
Assistant Secretary

Your SRC



Jared Turkington
General Councillor



Samuel Tiberi
General Councillor



Erin Graves
General Councillor



Tyler Whitlam
General Councillor



Jessica Respass
General Councillor



Ginette Villasmil
General Councillor



Zahead Rashidi
General Councillor



Robert Brady
General Councillor

History of the UTSSA

Early 1990s	Students fought against inadequate library resources and financial mismanagement of the university resulting in students occupying management offices.
1992	Students successfully lobbied for housing for UTS students.
1994	UTS Legal service was founded.
1996	UTS Students' Association was founded.
1997	5-day occupation by over 500 students of management's offices in protest against the implementation of full-fee paying undergraduate places.
2004	Street protest against the 25% increase to HECs resulting in many students getting pepper sprayed by police.
2005	Students hung a banner from the UTS Tower opposing the Howard Government's anti-student union VSU legislation.
2014	Students across the country took to the streets to protest the Liberal Government's proposed \$100,000 degrees and fee deregulation. Mass student protest led to the senate voting against the government fee deregulation proposal.
2017	Mass student protest following the Change the Course report by the Australian Human Rights Commission into the prevalence of sexual assault and harassment at Australian Universities.
2019	Make history with us at the UTSSA, get involved in campaigns important to you.



Passionate about change?

Get involved with
your UTS Students'
Association.



Photographer: FJ Gaylor

UTSSA Services

UTSSA Peer Tutoring

Studying at university can be hard no matter how many times you read over the lecture slides or follow up with your tutor, sometimes you just need some one on one help to learn this new information. That's why the UTS Students' Association provides the Peer Tutoring Service.

Peer Tutors are UTS students who have already completed a subject and have scored a great result. These Peer Tutors share their information with you and help you learn through a one on one tutoring service.

Prices for Peer Tutors start at \$25 per hour and you pay it directly to your tutor.

WANT TO FIND A PEER TUTOR?

To request a Peer Tutor all you need to do is complete a 'Request Peer Tutor Form' on our website and then bring your form to the Students' Association Reception or you can email it to us at: students.association@uts.edu.au

WANT TO BE A PEER TUTOR?

To Become a Peer Tutor complete a 'Become a Peer Tutor Form' on our website and bring it, your student ID and evidence of your grades (these can be found through My Student Admin or your academic transcript) to the Students' Association Reception. We require our peer tutors to have achieved a grade of Credit or higher in a subject to be registered as a Peer Tutor.

You'll be added to our system and will be contacted directly by students as requests arise.

UTSSA Student Advocacy Service

As students we know how difficult uni life can be. We know that things can go wrong and there are times when students need assistance in addressing academic matters. The UTSSA Student Advocacy Service provides a free, independent and confidential service to UTS students needing academic advice and support.

WHAT ARE STUDENT ADVOCATES?

The UTSSA employs professional and experienced Student Advocates (caseworkers) to provide advice, assistance and support to students with a range of academic concerns. Student Advocates are committed to providing a high quality service and are available to accompany students to Misconduct and Appeals hearings—providing step-by-step advice and support throughout the entire process.

Anything you speak to our Student Advocate caseworkers about is completely confidential and none of your information or the content of your sessions with a caseworker will ever be shared without your permission.

HOW CAN STUDENT ADVOCATES HELP YOU?

Student Advocates can help you with:

- appealing an exclusion notice
- appealing an allegation of misconduct
- querying an assessment or exam result
- applying for special consideration
- withdrawing after census date

HOW CAN I ACCESS THE UTSSA STUDENT ADVOCACY SERVICE?

Please contact the Students' Association to make an appointment with a Student Advocacy Officer by:

- Calling us—(02) 9514 1155
- Attend a drop in session from 10:00 am–2:00 pm, Tuesdays
- Visiting the Students' Association office—we are located in the UTS Tower Building on Level 3 near the Food Court (CB01.03.22)
- The UTSSA Student Advocacy Service is open throughout the year, and can be accessed Monday to Friday, 9am–4.30pm.

Bluebird Brekkie Bar

Free brekkie for students



Everyone knows that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, especially when it comes to concentration and academic performance. But between student budgets and super early starts to make those 9am lectures, sometimes brekkie can fall by the wayside. Which is why we created Bluebird Brekkie Bar.

Made by students for students, the UTS Students' Association's sustainable pop-up cafe is the place to meet your friends for free muesli, fresh fruit, croissants and coffee—all in a chilled out student-designed space, right in the heart of UTS. Experience the best cafe on campus—a free cafe.

Find us on:

Tuesdays 8:30am–11am
Haymarket Moot Courtyard

Wednesdays 8:30am–11am
Tower Foyer

Night Owl Noodle Bar

Free dinner for students



Following the success and popularity of Bluebird Brekkie Bar, our student representatives realised that there were still a lot of people missing out.

Those who study part-time, post-grad or students with mostly afternoon and night classes were hangry and deserved to be fed too. So we established The Night Owl Noodle Bar, a place to come for free noodle soup topped off with fresh veggies and tofu. All our soups are prepared by recently settled asylum seekers and refugees through our social enterprise catering friends at Parliament on King.

Whether it's Vietnamese Pho or Burmese coconut chicken, you're in for a healthy, delicious and neuron-firing treat.

Find us on:

Tuesday 5pm–7:30pm
Tower Building Foyer

Thursday 5pm–7:30pm
Tower Building Foyer

Student Legal Service

All students currently enrolled at UTS have access to free legal advice. The Student Legal Service is located at the **UTS Tower Building 1, level 5, room 12.**

Legal advice is provided on a range of matters including tenancy, employment, traffic and criminal offences, civil matters, consumer claims, debts, family issues, business, and many other areas. The Student Legal Service can also certify documents as true copies and witness statutory declarations and other formal documents.

The service is run by a solicitor who is assisted by two trainee lawyers. All legal advice is provided by the solicitor and all matters are dealt with in strict confidence.

There are a very small number of cases wherein they will not give advice, such as matters being raised against or involving UTS, and matters relating to migration.

Overleaf, we've outlined some legal tips to help you know your legal rights in employment and renting.

(Please note: that the Student Legal Service does not provide advice on visa or migration matters, or on any issues that you may have involving or against UTS.)

Employment Tips for International Students

You have rights

International students have the same work rights as anyone else working in Australia. You have a right to be paid no less than the minimum wage and to have a safe place to work. You also should be paid superannuation and other benefits.

Minimum wage

You should be paid at no less than the minimum wage, which from 1 July 2018 is \$18.93/hour, and you might be entitled to be paid more. This is true, even if you agreed to be paid less than the minimum wage.

It is not illegal to be paid cash

You are not doing anything wrong if you are being paid in cash by your employer. But keep good records of when you are paid, and how much you are paid. If you can, send your employer a text/wechat/whatsapp message to confirm the amounts that you are paid, and when.

Find out who you work for

Make sure that you know or find out the full name and address of the person or company that you are working for. All employers should have an Australian Business Number – an ABN. Try to find this out.

Keep records

Try to keep records of the days and hours that you work, including meal breaks. This will make it far easier to check if you have been paid the right amount, and, if not, to get your employer to pay you properly.

Cash back schemes are illegal

Your employer cannot ask you to pay any of your wages back to them in cash. This is illegal.

If I complain will I be sacked?

If an employer is not paying you the right amount, then you shouldn't be sacked if you complain—that would be illegal. But if you prefer, you can chase underpayments of wages after you stop working for an employer.

Worried about visa breaches?

Even if you are on a student visa and you have been working more than 40 hours per fortnight, you can complain about not being paid the right amount, and you should not be in trouble with your visa. The Fair Work Ombudsman says "We've come to an agreement with the Department of Home Affairs that a person's temporary visa will not be cancelled if they had an entitlement to work as part of their visa, believe they have been exploited at work, have reported their circumstances to us, and are actively assisting us in an investigation." see <https://www.fairwork.gov.au/find-helpfor/vi-sa-holders-and-migrants>

How long will it take to get paid properly?

Sometimes we can get you paid properly within a few weeks, but it can take up to 6 months. Talk to us to find out.

If you think you are being underpaid or you are not being treated properly at work, then we can help you. Email the UTS Student Legal Service at studentlegalservice@uts.edu.au to make an appointment, or call us on 02 9514 2484, or drop in to see us. Our service is totally free and confidential.

Tips for Renting

Before you pay any money, make sure that you:

Go and see the place in person

Make sure it exists, and it is what you want. DON'T pay money if you haven't gone and inspected the house or unit. Is it clean enough? Not too noisy? Working WiFi? Don't be rushed into paying. If you miss out on one place, others will come up.

Work out who else will live there

Are you sharing a room? If so, who with? What happens if you don't like them? How many people in total will live in the house or apartment? Find these things out.

Work out who you are dealing with

Get the full name and home address of your landlord. Ask to see current photographic ID (e.g. driver's licence or passport) and take a photo of that with your phone.

Ask for a written agreement

if they won't give you this then there might be a problem. If you get an agreement and you are not totally sure what it means, or think it unfair, come and see us for advice before you sign it.

Work out how long you must stay

Make sure you are happy with how long you agree to stay under the agreement. If you try to leave before the end of the agreement then the landlord will try to keep all of your bond.

When you move in:

Don't pay more than 2 weeks' rent in advance.

Don't pay more than 4 weeks' rent as bond—pay less if you can—2 weeks. And try to pay the bond to the Rental Bond Board, not direct to your

landlord—see <https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/housing-and-property/renting/starting-a-tenancy/taking-a-bond>

Get written receipts for any money you pay. Make sure the receipts have details of the property, who you are paying to, your details, the date, the amount, and what it is for.

Complete any condition report, and take photos as a record of the condition of the property when you first move in. The more the better. If there are problems, tell the landlord about the problems straight away.

If you want to leave a place, or have problems or questions come see us at the UTS Student Legal Service for FREE LEGAL ADVICE. Telephone 9514 2484 or email studentlegalservice@uts.edu.au for an appointment. We are on level 5 of the UTS Tower Building, 15 Broadway, Ultimo.

All students currently enrolled at UTS have access to free legal advice. The Student Legal Service is located at the UTS Tower Building 1, level 5, room 12.

UTS Student Legal Service is open on:

Tuesday	10am to 4pm
Wednesday	10am to 4pm
Thursday	11am to 8pm

To make an appointment call 02 9514 2484 or email studentlegalservice@uts.edu.au

When emailing for an appointment, please provide:

Your name;
Your Student ID;
The nature of your legal problem (e.g. tenancy/employment/family law/traffic charge etc);
3 different times when you could come and see us, when we are open.

UTSSA Programs: A Handy Guide

BLUEBIRD AND NIGHT OWL

The UTSSA runs Bluebird Brekkie Bar and Night Owl Noodle Bar, right in the heart of UTS. The sustainable pop-up cafe and noodle bar is the place to meet your friends and grab a healthy, delicious, and neuron firing treat.

Bluebird

Tuesdays 8:30am–11:00am
Haymarket Moot Courtyard
Wednesdays 8:30–11:00 am
Tower Building Foyer

Night Owl

Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:00pm–7:30pm
Tower Building Foyer

Follow us on Facebook for regular updates
www.facebook.com/BluebirdBrekkie

STUDENT SURVIVAL CENTRE

Forgot your calculator or lab goggles for an exam, assessment, or practical? Come and visit us! The UTS Students' Association supports UTS students in times of need with short-term equipment loans of calculators or lab goggles, free stationery and emergency sanitary products.

Simply visit the UTSSA Office in the UTS Tower Building—CB01.03.22 (near the Food Court).

VERTIGO

Vertigo Magazine is UTS' student publication curated by a hearty team of student editors. Released six times throughout the year, Vertigo is comprised of both written and visual works enriched by the abundance of the lived experiences of our academic community. We stand for fresh perspectives and new ideas.

Every student voice is valuable and encouraged to contribute, regardless of faculty or expertise. Our content lives with a social conscience, both online and offline, as we bring you an experimental, edgy and innovative take to your student life.

Supported by the UTS Students' Association, Vertigo shines a spotlight on talent and aims to stimulate the curiosity of all its readers. The publication is free to pick up on stands all over campus, all year 'round.

Find us on utsvertigo.com.au, [facebook.com/utsvertigo](https://www.facebook.com/utsvertigo) or Instagram @utsvertigo for more.

PERC CLUBS

Llywelyn Parry, Secretary

A Political, Education, Religious, or Cultural (PERC) Club is a grouping that can be created and affiliated to the UTS Students' Association. While these clubs are affiliated to the UTS Students' Association, they are their own private body and do not express the opinions or views of the UTSSA. PERC Clubs can hold meetings, organise events, and promote themselves and their cause. The UTSSA provides PERC Clubs as a means of allowing students to explore different viewpoints in a safe space.

These Clubs are separate from the ActivateUTS clubs/societies, and will most likely have their roots in an activist or political circle.

If you're interested in starting a PERC Club, be sure to visit the UTS Students' Association office located at CB01.03.022, or by emailing students.association@uts.edu.au. Be sure to ask for the PERC Club creation form/s, and a friendly member of staff can assist.



**UTS
STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

Our voice. Our way. Our SA.

Brekkie & Dinner On Us!

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The UTSSA runs Bluebird brekkie and Night Owl noodles right in the heart of UTS.



Photographer: FJ Gaylor

Follow us on Facebook for regular updates
www.facebook.com/BluebirdBrekkie

UTS Housing and Services

Aiden More
Treasurer

Living in UTS Housing can foster a great sense of community and is an awesome opportunity to make lots of new friends.

Applying for UTS housing can be a daunting process especially if you're going through an emergency or financial difficulty. I've broken down applying for housing into some easy steps to help you apply, and I've included some helpful information at the bottom, if you're experiencing financial difficulty or find yourself in need of emergency housing.

ASKING QUESTIONS AND RESEARCH

First up check the UTS housing website. You can look up the eligibility requirements and basic details through there. They also have videos which show what the rooms are like in all the UTS housing buildings, and you can see the pricing and specifications for each building.

If you have any questions that aren't being answered through the website you can call up UTS Housing on 9514 1529 or send them an email and they will get back to you with all the answers.

GETTING YOUR APPLICATION IN

Make sure you find out what the application opening and closing deadline dates are, so you can make sure you're fully prepared to apply. Write yourself a list of what documents and information you'll need to have and make sure they're all ready to go before the applications open so you're prepared.

Once you're ready to apply there is a centralised application portal where you go through the steps of uploading your details and any relevant documents.

CHECKING IN

You've been accepted into housing and the date is approaching. Your rent will be deducted through the process you've nominated on your application. You will also need to pay your bond (which you'll get back at the end of your lease).

You can get ready to check in by heading into UTS Housing and grabbing your key.

SEEKING HELP IF YOU NEED EMERGENCY HOUSING

If you are in a domestic emergency or need emergency housing you can talk to a counsellor or doctor about your situation. They are able to refer you to the welfare officer for UTS housing, who is then able to see what they can do to offer accommodation - or at the very least help get you in contact with other accommodation.

SEEKING HELP IF YOU ARE FINANCIALLY DISADVANTAGED

There are lots of options for you if you're experiencing financial difficulty and you shouldn't be afraid to ask if you need a hand. The UTS Financial Assistance Centre can help you organise a housing subsidy which will be deducted from the amount of rent you would pay. It also offers access to grocery gift vouchers and equity grants to help you get by. You can also get in contact with Centrelink who can offer financial assistance, access to social workings and references to services for people experiencing financial distress.

Services for Students whilst at UTS

Samuel Tiberi

WELCOME TO UTS!

The UTS Students' Association (UTSSA) team, wants to see your time here at UTS be the best experience it can be! As the UTSSA is run by students, for students, we understand the needs you may experience whilst attending UTS. This may include financial pressures, health related issues and more. UTS has several internal services, but external agencies may also provide services which can mediate additional problems you be facing.

CENTRELINK

Australian Government social security

For full-time, students who are 25+ years old, we would recommend you look into the Austudy. It's worth noting, that these social security payments are dependent on income, and will vary depending on this.

If you're under the age of 25, the Youth Allowance scheme, with similar eligibility requirements may be worth looking into.

These schemes do have caps on the amount payable to individuals. For those who live away from home, the cap is \$435 per fortnight, plus a rental assistance payment of \$88-\$130. A rental assistance payment will not apply if you live with your parents.

Additional qualifications that you must meet in order to claim these financial assistance programmes via Centrelink:

- Be an "Australian Resident" for 2+ years, and be in Australia when you claim;
- Studying an "Approved Course", which many at UTS are;

- Studying a full time study load, normally 18 credit points per semester; AND
- Making "satisfactory progress" (you have not expired the minimum time taken to complete the current course being studied, plus 1 semester).

For additional information, about these schemes, eligibility and any additional questions you may have about Centrelink programmes offered by the Australian Government, please give them a call on 132 490.

MEDICARE

Australian Government

Another great social security mechanism in Australia is Medicare. Medicare allows Australians and those living in Australia who meet the eligibility requirements to enrol onto the scheme, free health care, including the ability to bulk-bill many of the doctor visits you may make (including for many appointments made with the UTS Health Service).

If you are an Australian Citizen, you are eligible to enrol to the Medicare scheme. We would suggest double checking with your parents, as you are most likely listed on their Medicare card. Details to enrol can be found on the Department of Human Services website, or give them a call on 132 011. If you are a visitor to Australia, including International Students, you may be eligible to enrol onto the Medicare scheme. You will need to check to see if your home country has a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement with Australia, as to whether or not Medicare is an available option to you. You can check this online, or over the telephone with Medicare.

UTS MEDICAL SERVICE University of Technology, Sydney

The UTS Medical Service is a service run by the university.

The medical centre is able to provide:

- Treatments on a selection of medical conditions, illnesses and other physical problems.
- Consultations for a vast selection of health, sexuality and lifestyle issues.
- Travel advice and inoculations.
- Women's health issues, including advice on contraception, pregnancy testing and antenatal care.
- Inoculations for nursing students (to satisfy clinical placement requirements).
- Advice or assistance for students with examination difficulties, or in need of special considerations because of a medical or disability condition.

If you are a domestic student, there are no costs associated for most consultations, provided you have a Medicare card. They may charge a fee though for consultations not covered by Medicare, such as travel inoculations.

If you are an international student, you will need to pay for the consultations, unless you have Medibank Private Overseas Student Health Cover (some consultations may not be covered by Medibank, and will be charged a fee, such as for travel inoculations).

Other Services

Below are some recommended contacts that you may like to jot down whilst you enjoy your stay at UTS!

BEYOND BLUE

Beyond Blue provides information and support to help people in Australia regarding mental health, no matter age or where they live.

If you want to contact the Beyond Blue team, be sure to Live Chat on their website or call them on the number listed below.

Facebook: @beyondblue

Website: www.beyondblue.org.au

Telephone: 1300 22 4636

HEADSPACE

Headspace is another incredible support services for youth in Australia! They provide assistance relating to mental health, sexuality and gender, alcohol and drugs, work and study. They also provide additional programmes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

If you need to have a chat with their friendly team members, you can pop into a Headspace centre, use their Live Chat system online or give them a call. We have included the details below:

Facebook: @headspaceAustralia

Website: www.headspace.org.au

Telephone: 1800 650 890

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

The Australian Red Cross works to provide youth support services through the period of change in a person's life. They assist in most current, and emerging health issues, especially those related to alcohol, drug use and mental health.

Take a note of the Red Cross' contact details below, if you need to seek assistance.

Facebook: @AustralianRedCross

Website: www.redcross.org.au

Telephone: 1800 733 276

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The St. Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) are a social justice, not-for-profit organisation which provides services for homelessness, disabilities, financial aid, addiction, domestic & family violence, food support, resettlement services and youth aid.

Vinnies is a one stop shop for a wide range of services, and should be a contact to add into your diary whilst we have you at UTS, and in Australia!

Facebook: @VinniesNSW

Website: www.vinnies.org.au

Telephone: 02 9568 0262



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Photographer: FJ Gaylor

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UTS Tower Building, Level 3, Room 22 | (02) 9514 1155
utsstudentsassociation.org.au/peertutoring

Student Life

Drinking at University

Emily Watt
Assistant Secretary

University is a great opportunity to meet new people, learn new things and enjoy your newfound freedom. Socialising over a drink should be a fun addition and way to relax from busy uni life. However, there are still some things we must all be aware of.

THE GOLDEN RULES FOR DRINKING ALCOHOL

When it comes to drinking and safety, we've all heard the basic procedures:

1. Make sure you've eaten enough before consuming alcohol,
2. Alternate each alcoholic drink with a drink of water
3. Don't drive while under the influence.

But we all need to be conscious of the drinking culture that is pervasive on campuses.

BINGE DRINKING

Binge drinking is often glorified as part of Australian culture—I'm sure many of us have heard of 'Australian icon', Corey Worthington and his famous yellow sunglasses. The memory blanks, getting sick, passing out and causing others trouble are frequently brushed off as usual, normal young adult behaviour.

DON'T BE A DICKHEAD

However, alcohol consumption is never an excuse for inexcusable actions. No one should ever make you feel uncomfortable or force any decision on you. If, for whatever reason, you have concerns, make sure you voice it with someone you trust and work out an appropriate solution.

Don't drink and drive. Simple. And if your friend is about to, take away their keys and find an alternative.

BE AWARE

Be aware of what you're drinking. Particularly at house parties with all those concoctions of goon and juice and spirits and who knows what, it can be hard to keep track, many of them easily 2 standard drinks per cup or over. Know your limits and be wary of drug spiking. Keep an eye on your drink and don't accept anything you're unsure of.

ALWAYS LOOK OUT FOR YOUR FRIENDS

While spontaneity may be fun, having a plan for your night is essential. Stick with friends that you trust, have plenty of battery on your phone and have a guaranteed way home.

LOOK OUT FOR YOUR FRIENDS

Recognise if they are uncomfortable, need help or have drunk too much. If you're unsure about what to do, find someone you trust to help. If your friend isn't responding, is confused, breathing irregularly or has passed out, they may have alcohol poisoning and seek help immediately. You can learn more about these symptoms at drinkwise.org.au.

Drinking can be fun, but it can also be dangerous. The most important thing is that you make wise decisions and stay safe.

Sexual Consent

Brigida Johns

CONTENT AND TRIGGER WARNINGS:

This piece includes mentions and non-graphic descriptions of sexual and indecent assault in the context of NSW law and everyday sexual practice.

WHAT IS CONSENT?

Consent, in the context of sexual intimacy, is an active (verbal or otherwise) agreement to engage in particular sexual and/or non-sexual practices.

Sexual contact (of any kind) without consent is assault. People often think of sexual coercion as violent or physically restraining—which it can be—but in reality sexual coercion is often far more subtle, and usually occurs between people who already know and potentially trust each other.

LEGALITIES IN NSW

The table below gives you an idea of what consent is in NSW law and where the line between sex and sexual assault is crossed under the law.

ACTUS REUS (THE ACT)	MENS REA (THE INTENTION)
Sexual intercourse	Intention to have non-consensual intercourse (intentionally raping someone)
Absence of consent	Reckless non-consensual intercourse ("I don't care they say yes or no, I'm going to have sex with them anyway") OR No reasonable grounds for believing the other person consented to sexual intercourse ("I haven't asked them if they want to, but I'm just going to assume because...")

It's worth noting, however, that consent is not always this straight forward in real life. Often people will agree to sexual acts out of a sense of obligation; because they do not feel safe saying no, and/or because they have been socialised to believe they should want to do something even if they aren't actually into it. It's also true that people often change their mind during intercourse or sometimes even disassociate.

Knowing what to do or how to respond in these situations can be hard, but it's very important to think about.

Having sex with someone who has agreed to it under pressure (from you or anywhere else) is still rape. Sexual assault is wrong even if it isn't reported and/or no conviction is made.

HOW DO YOU ASK FOR CONSENT?

Good consent involves discussing interests, preferences and boundaries, and checking in regularly. It's paying attention to someone's body language. It's keeping lines of communication open, which makes everyone feel safe and comfortable.

So, what do you ask?

What are you in to?
Are you enjoying yourself?
How does that feel?
Do you like that?
Do you want me to keep going?
Do you want me to stop?
How far do you want to go?
You look uncomfortable, are you okay?

HOW NOT TO ASK FOR CONSENT (PREDATOR ALERT)

I thought you liked me
I promise you'll like it
Just do it for me
Why are you being so frigid?
What's the big deal, we've had sex before?
But I'm so horny right now!
But I bought you a drink!
But you said we would this morning

WHAT DOES CONSENT SOUND LIKE?

No means no. This is a good initiative as it teaches people that when they hear the words no, they have to stop. However, this also leaves out a lot;

'no means no' also needs to include unconscious means no, unable to walk straight means no, crying means no, unresponsiveness means no, shying away means no, forced smiles or laughter means no, pushing you away means no, an agreed upon safeword or signal means no. Anything that is not a clear ENTHUSIASTIC yes, MEANS NO!

You know someone is consenting when you ask them. Consent is a clear YES. It's enthusiastic and active. Remember consent can always be retracted, which is why it's always important to check in with your partner.

So, what does it sound and look like?

Ooh yes please
Mmmhmmmm
That feels so good
Keep going
I'm happy with anything in these areas, but not with these areas
Yes, right there
Why yes, I would like that
Meeting your movements

WHAT DOES CONSENT NOT SOUND LIKE?

Just because someone doesn't say or indicate no, doesn't mean they're saying yes. They might feel uncomfortable, guilty, not know how to say no or be unable to say no, hence the importance of receiving an enthusiastic yes. If they are quiet or their behaviour seems weird, then check up on them and ask them.

So, how can you say no? When is your partner telling you no?

I don't like that
Can you stop?
I don't think I'm ready for this
Can we slow down?
I'm not into this
I guess, if you want me to
Um, I don't know
silence
non-verbal

SOME SITUATIONS WHEN CONSENT CANNOT BE GIVEN (EVEN WITH A VERBAL YES)

When they're drunk or on drugs

A little bit of alcohol can be fine, but if they're too drunk to drive, they're too drunk to give

consent. Getting sexual with someone who is wasted, slurring their words, whose body is limp, can't communicate clearly or is throwing up, that is absolutely sexual assault. So what if you're both drunk? Alcohol does not serve as a defence to assault.

If someone is taking a drug that impairs their decision making capacity (eg. MDMA, acid etc.) or in a quantity that impairs their decision making capacity, they cannot consent.

When they're underage

The age of consent is 16. Sexual intercourse between a person over the age of 16 and a child under 16 is a criminal offence in NSW (s 66C Crimes Act) and a child under the age of 10 is incapable of giving consent under any circumstance.

When a partner is in a position of authority

You can't get consent from someone you have power over. Which means teachers, doctors, therapists, care-givers, coaches, priests or (potentially) celebrities cannot have a consenting relationship with someone they have the capacity to exploit materially, emotionally or in any other way. Even large age gaps can produce asymmetrical power dynamics.

THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION TO SEXUAL ASSAULT: NSW CRIMES ACT S61L

When consent is negated (under no circumstances can they consent):

Section 61HA(4) states that a person does not consent to sexual intercourse

1. If the person does not have the capacity to consent, including because age or cognitive capacity, or
2. If the person does not have the opportunity to consent because the person is unconscious or asleep, or
3. If the person consents because of threats of force or terror (whether the threats are against, or the terror is instilled in that person or any other person).

Section 61HA(5) states that a person did not consent if the person consented

1. Under a mistaken belief as to the identity of the other person, or

2. Under a mistaken belief that the other person is married to the person, or
3. Under a mistaken belief that the sexual intercourse is for medical or hygienic purposes (or under any other mistaken belief about the nature of the act induced by fraudulent means).

WHEN CONSENT MAY BE NEGATED:

Section 61HA(6) states consent may be negated if the following grounds can be established

1. If a person has sexual intercourse while substantially intoxicated by alcohol or any drug, or
2. If the person has sexual intercourse because of intimidating or coercive conduct, or other threat, that does not involve a threat of force, or
3. If the person has sexual intercourse because of the abuse of a position of authority or trust.

WHERE CAN YOU GO IF YOU HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED?

University of Technology provides information and contacts and can provide counselling.

UTS has a number of options for support if you have experienced sexual assault.

<https://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/when-things-go-wrong/sexual-assault-indecent-assault-sexual-harassment>

NSW Rape Crisis Centre

24 hour service that provides phone counselling, information and referrals
(02) 9819 6565 or 1800 454 017
www.nswrapecrisis.com.au

Child and Adolescent Sexual Assault Counsellors

Offer counselling and support
(02) 9601 3790
www.casac.org.au

^[1] The only exception being during clearly negotiated, respectful and agreed upon role play.

If issues discussed in this article or in the handbook have upset anyone please contact a mental health professional at UTS Counselling.

Student Life: Best Spots around Campus

Maddie Lucre,
Education Vice President

Welcome to UTS, here are the best perks about being the inner city uni and not a bougie sandstone university.

Coffee Addicts Best 5 coffee shops near campus:

1. Soma

Near the paper bag building (Building 8) This a great spot for a early morning breakfast with your group assignment or to rub shoulders with ABC journalists as they grab their morning coffee. Grab a coffee during their happy hour from 2-4pm for a nice discount of \$2.50 for a coffee. Coffee score 5/5

2. Something for Jess

Located down on Abercrombie street, the street running next to the cheese grater (Building 11) Something for Jess has a certain something, cute decor, instagrammable breakfasts. Coffee score 4/5

3. Brainwave

Yes I've included this cafe twice but what can I say it's my version of Central Perk. Try and find it down the alleyway next to Building 6 walk down past Toby Estate and enjoy some free Wi-Fi. Coffee score 3.5/5

4. 12 squares

Located outside on the green in Central Park, you are there for the people watching more than for the food. While UTS barely has any grass, we claim Central Park as part of our campus. Coffee score 3/5

5. The Caffeine Project

The Caffeine project, located opposite Building 11 and on the outside of Central Park tower. It is a nice and quick little hit me up

spot for a great coffee and a free little biscuit. Bring your UTSSA Keep-Cup and get that bad boy take away and go and enjoy the sunshine of Sydney—mind the bin chickens though.
Coffee rating 5/5

Student Eats

1. Chinese Noodle House (on Thomas Street)
This is one of the best kept secrets of the Haymarket campus, try the special eggplant- your life won't be the same.
Try: 12 pan-fried pork and chive dumplings \$6.80
2. Brainwave Cafe
Probably one of my best finds last year was Brainwave. This funky cafe decked out with animal paper masks on the walls and watercolours of Chance the Rapper offers you amazing coffee and plush leather couches.
Try: The Thai Milk tea \$4 and Crispy Chicken Burger \$14
3. Pho Mumum
Pho Mumum's offers everything from \$12 pho to fish and chips (admittedly I have never tried the fish and chips). Located opposite the tower. This place is one of the great little eateries that stays open after your 9pm tutorial.
Try: Rare Beef Noodle Pho \$12
4. Spice Alley
Spice Alley takes the concept of tap and go to a whole new level with this card only, lane of asian inspired eateries tucked away down a little alley way. Spice alley is a great option for when you all can't agree where to go.
Try: Bang Luck, Pork Belly with stir fried Chinese broccoli \$14.50
5. Bread Rolls on Harris
This little hole in the wall serves up amazing Banh Mi (Vietnamese sandwiches) and rice paper rolls located across from NSW Tafe and next to Soma, blink and you would miss it. Probably one of the cheapest eats you will find in all of Chinatown.
Try: Pork rice paper rolls \$5.00

Drink (Responsibly)

1. The Lansdowne
Great gigs, fun disco music and trivia nights on Wednesdays, great pizza
2. The Chippo
\$9 steak dinner, beer garden, local comedy nights
3. The Underground/Loft
Play some pool, eat some sweet potato fries and sink a drink or two before a tutorial

4. The Lord Gladstone
Easy walk from UTS, known for its wings and it's chill vibe that amps up to a crowded outdoor dance floor on a Friday night.
5. The Newtown Hotel.
\$4 pizzas for students, trivia night on Mondays, fun Newtown vibe

Going out: Lockout Laws can't kill our party spirit

1. Girl Thing
Sydney's biggest queer femme night hosted monthly with female DJ's often hosted by the Lansdowne
2. Stonewall
Probably the most iconic venues in Sydney, and a staple of the oxford street gay clubbing scene
3. Waywards
Head out to Gonzos Funk and Soul night and dance the night away to funky tunes like its the Age of Aquaria, practice your dagggy dance moves like your mum and dad did when they were your age.
4. Heaps Gay
One of the biggest queer nights of the year keep your eyes peeled for their Mardi Gras party
5. Frankie's Pizza
Great live music venue for emerging bands, feels half like an Italian American pizza parlor and half like a grunge venue with peeling band posters on the walls.

JAFFY—(Just another f**king first year) sites

1. Home Bar
Dingy underground bar with pop tunes
2. The Ivy
Enjoy paying for overpriced drinks and spilling your vodka cranberry on your white dress
3. O-week parties/university bar crawls
Fun your first year and maybe your second year, try not to get too offended when Usyd starts chanting about UTS. They are just jealous.
4. Shewendays /Greenwood Thursdays- (Shudder)
If you haven't got it out of your system in Year 12 then you really need to be looking at yourself. Newsflash- No one at uni want to go to SHEWENDSDAYS!!
5. First year camps
First year camps are exactly what they say in the title for first years, enjoy meeting people in your course and forgetting their name the next day

Best things to do between classes

1. Palace Cinemas
Check out the flicks across the road at the Palace cinema in Central. Grab a \$9.00 student ticket with your UTS student ID
2. White Rabbit Gallery
Checkout some contemporary Chinese art in Chippendale.
3. Dasio
A Japanese market with all the weirdest and wonderful nic nacks you never knew you wanted. Slippers that double as a mop to help you clean your house? Take my money now please.
4. Go and be in the live Audience for Q and A
Put your name down online to sit in as part of the live audience of QandA or the Weekly.
5. Go for a swim at the Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre
Bring your swimmers and pop over for a dip at the Ian Thorpe pool after a heated tutorial debate.

Student discounts

1. Student Opal cards
If you are enrolled as a full time domestic student you are entitled to a concession Opal card. Apply for your Opal card in Building 10 at the students centre.
2. Tuesday night movies at Palace Cinema in Central
Enjoy \$9 tickets if you show your UTS student card.
3. Health Care Card
Students on low incomes may be eligible for a Health Care Card (HCC) through Centrelink. You do not have to be on a Centrelink benefit to be eligible. HCC card holders are entitled to Commonwealth health concessions such as lower cost of medicines.
4. Spotify & Apple Music student discount
Spotify offers students 50% off spotify premium for students. Apple Music also has student pricing, via UniDays.

Remember to always ask if there is a student discount, you never know who might have one.

Finding Cheap Textbooks at University

Aiden More
Treasurer

Sometimes textbooks can be a budget death sentence for students, compulsory textbooks making it even tougher. Here are 3 handy tips that I use to get cheaper textbooks.

1. Student VIP

On studentVIP there are lots of different textbooks available from every course, as well as students selling textbooks at all different price ranges. There is also a handy list of retailers and their prices so you can compare the costs of second hand vs buying new. Usually students will be listing at a much cheaper price, and when you're finished with your textbook you can list it there too to try and recoup some of the cost.

2. UTS Financial Assistance Centre Co-op book voucher program

If you are a local student struggling financially or from a low-SES background, you may be able to get financial support with textbooks. The Financial Assistance Centre offers book vouchers to use at the Co-Op to help relieve the cost of buying textbooks.

These vouchers can be accessed every semester. The Financial Assistance Centre office is located in Building 1 Level 6, and if you ask, you can book to see a financial assistance counsellor, who can help assess your situation and help you in many other ways.

3. Co-Op Shop

Although the Co-op shop lists textbooks at quite high prices, they often have 50% off second hand textbook deals. You can check the Co-Op website out for more details. These books can still be ordered online and delivered to you if you aren't able to get to your local Co-Op bookshop. Also, remember to shop around for the best prices as other retailers may have the same book, for a reduced price point.

Pronouns, what are they and why are they important?

Erin Graves

If you're coming to university directly from school, you've probably heard heaps of things about how different it is, and that's definitely true. Universities are giant melting-pots, where diverse groups of students are put into close proximity to each other, in a way that often doesn't really happen at school. This article is about respecting that diversity and helping you be more accepting, or at least understanding, of transgender people.

Hey, my name is Erin, and I use they/them as my pronouns. I'd guess that for most of you, this sentence is pretty unfamiliar.

So, I'll unpack it for you a bit, introduce you to pronouns 101, and provide some helpful tips for being inclusive of trans people within and outside of the classroom.

First: let's start with the easy bit. My name is Erin. Not that tricky, and I'm sure everyone can understand what this means, so I'll move on.

Second: I use they/them pronouns. More complicated, but not by much. A pronoun is a word that stands in for the participant in a discourse, or someone or something mentioned elsewhere. They exist to save time and space in conversations, and you'll be familiar with pronouns such as I, me, you, they, she, he and so on. By stating which pronouns I use, I'm conveying a message to people. I'm saying, "Please understand that I would like for you to use they/

them as the pronouns you use to refer to me". It can definitely be a little tricky at first, and trans people understand that but our pronouns are not optional.

This last bit is really important. If someone tells you that they use a specific set of pronouns, you should try your hardest to use them. If you don't quite understand what using those specific pronouns entails, ask. Noticing your use of pronouns in speech is something that doesn't really happen for most people. You'll make mistakes. Everybody makes mistakes. The key is to correct the mistake then move on. Don't make a big fuss about it. Just keep going with the conversation.

Here is a list of some common pronouns that people use. It's not complete, but it should be a good indicator of the pronouns you encounter.

- He/him-This is often used by men.
- She/her-Often used by women.
- They/them-A really common pronoun amongst non-binary people. Some of the issues people have is that they consider they/them pronouns to be inherently plural. The trick is to use it in the exact same way as you would use they when referring to a group of people. The pronouns only really differ from the plural they in that they use themselves as opposed to themselves.
- Ze/zir-A neutral pronoun that provides an alternative to they/them. This can be really

tricky to get used to, but it works like this. Ze is reading. I asked zir/zem. Zir book is blue. That is zirs. Ze wrote it zirself/zemself.

There are many more pronouns than these, and although these are the most common, you might encounter somebody who uses a different set of pronouns or doesn't use pronouns at all. As a trans person, I'm asking for understanding and respect. Being misgendered is really bad, and if someone is telling you their pronouns, they are doing it for a reason. Please respect them, and use the pronouns that they indicate.

I did promise some tips, so here goes:

1. If you're unfamiliar with using some of these pronouns, practice. You can read a passage of text and replace one set of pronouns with another. It might feel odd at first, but it builds up familiarity with other pronouns and helps you use them more fluently.
2. Read articles or websites. There are so many different resources available online, and checking them out is probably a good idea.
3. When you introduce yourself, state your own pronouns. It seems really simple, and a tad unnecessary, but it helps other people become more familiar with pronouns in general, and opens the conversation up for someone else to introduce their pronouns too.

There you go. I've done an explanation of what pronouns are, some common ones, including usage, and some tips for using what you've learned. Thank you so much for reading this article, and I hope you have an amazing time at university. It can be truly amazing, and I hope that you'll be able to help trans people feel safe and included so that they get the best out of it too.

Thank you.

Mental Health & Student Wellbeing:

How UTS Services can help inside and outside the classroom

Jared Turkington

University life can be stressful and lethargic at the best of times, but even more so for those of us who have sensitivities and trigger points that can push us over the edge. Whether it's setting overly-ambitious goals or workload management, pressure to succeed at university can often do more damage than people realise. The university has a plethora of services in place to assist students struggling with mental health, and in addition to the university provided services, the UTSSA strives to foster greater student wellbeing through the Welfare Collective which is free for anyone to join!

As someone who has struggled with mental health in the past, I made use of the UTS mental health services through a variety of ways. Here is an outline of some of the services at UTS which offer support.

COUNSELLING

Support for students through counselling sessions is free for students and appointments can be arranged at student services on level 6.

The UTS psychology clinic offer recurring clinical services, often times from 5th and 6th year students who are supervised by a clinical psychologist. As someone who has made use of both services, I can assure you that both services are professional, credible and completely confidential.

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

UTS' Accessibility Services are designed for students whose disabilities, mental health or medical conditions may impact upon their performance whilst studying at university.

Accessibility Services can arrange support mechanisms that are tailored to the individual. Extra time or rest pauses in examinations, extended deadlines for assignments* as well as in-classroom support suited to the student. It's a very flexible service that I highly recommend.

NOTE: *Accessibility services are for long-term support for students and can't be used to grant a one-off extension on an overdue assignment. Please speak to your faculty coordinator or tutor about other ways the uni can support you if this is the case.

ENCOURAGING GREATER STUDENT WELLBEING, MY STORY:

For me, it was hard to come to terms with accepting that I needed help. I'm a person known for being both independent and a little bit proud. So, when challenges at home intensified and assignments started to pile up, I was at first dismissive of seeking help. It wasn't until it was too late, and I had missed three assignments and virtually failed two courses that I dragged my feet into the Student Services office. Beleaguered and burnt out, I received invaluable support through

counselling and accessibility provisions. It's hard to imagine how I would have coped with the workload had I not sought help from the university.

MY TIPS

- There is no shame in seeking help. The university is here to help you. UTS has fully qualified counsellors and staff that assist you in returning to a productive frame of mind. They have to meet you halfway though. Don't be afraid to seek help, it can do you a world of good!
- Don't leave it to the last minute! Receiving this level of support required a fair amount of paperwork and medical/psychological assessment. I was extraordinarily lucky to receive the support I did considering the deadlines I'd breached.
- On the contrary, if you are having mental health issues that have already impacted your curricular results, UTS can still provide you with extensive support.
- Try not to set overly-ambitious goals. Aiming for three HD's per semester can be a bit much for someone trying to balance work and health. The counsellors offer a variety of learning schedules that can help you set reasonable & realistic goals. Also consider speaking to your faculty coordinators about healthy ways to achieve success in your courses!

Mental Health is no laughing matter. Your personal welfare is far more important than a degree or qualification you could ever receive. Please consider speaking to Student Services or Accessibility Services if you require ANY form of assistance related to mental health. It can make a world of a difference!

If issues surrounding your mental health can be categorized as an EMERGENCY, please seek help as soon as possible.

LIFELINE AUSTRALIA

<https://www.lifeline.org.au/>
13 11 14

BEYOND BLUE

<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>
1300 22 4636

EMERGENCY NUMBER

000

If issues discussed in this article or in the handbook have upset anyone please contact a mental health professional at UTS Counselling.

Failing first year, it's not the end of the world—Take it from someone who did

Maddie Lucre,
Education Vice President

I was 19 years old when I decided to up and leave and move 800km away from my family to Melbourne 2 weeks before uni started. I wish I could tell you that this story was a successful story in which I thrived and got HD's across the board, but it's not. Living far away from home and struggling to find a job in the supposed café capital of Australia, I struggled. I struggled with my mental health, my bills and with uni. I spent almost five months with no internet in my apartment and relying on the free internet at uni. I lived almost an hour and half away from uni and had to catch three different forms of transport to get to uni, sometimes for only an hour of class. Due to the fact I lived far away from uni and because of the nature and environments of certain classes I struggled to make friends. I began to feel no connection to my university and to my peers. As a result, my grades and mental health began to suffer as things began to spiral. I began to not be able to get up and out of bed, which resulted in missing classes and deadlines for assignments. My uni tried to reach out to me, but I was too far gone into my Netflix binge watching to be able to handle the guilt of failing so many classes. I ended up flunking out and failing my first year of uni. By the end of the year I had moved back to Sydney and began working full time before going on a gap year.

What I learn from my first year of uni is that:

- It's okay to not be okay.
- It's okay to not be ready for uni straight out of highschool and to unknowingly be exhausted from the strain of studying so much during Year 12 .
- It's okay to drop out or to defer and to take a gap year if needed.

One thing that I realised after my year off from studying and after my time abroad is that you should be excited to go to uni. When I enrolled for my course at UTS to study Communications I was exactly that, excited. I had learnt from my mistakes and grown a lot since I was 19. I had a plan of how I was going to make my time at UTS the best it could be and that meant throwing myself into uni.

It meant:

- Speaking to that person in class and asking them for coffee afterwards.
- It means signing up to clubs on O-Day and actually going to the events and getting involved in the clubs.
- It's about finding that thing at uni that you're passionate about, be it drama, politics, sport or the UTS Students' Association.
- Don't just come in for your classes and go home- if you do this you won't make a friend in the world I can promise you that and you will graduate after 3-4 years having never spoken to a soul.

Finally reach out to your uni, talk to counselling, talk to your tutors and come in and talk to us at the UTS Students' Association with one of our case workers if you are struggling. Remember, UTS is here for you so if you need help, ask.

If issues discussed in this article or in the handbook have upset anyone please contact a mental health professional at UTS Counselling.

Are you looking for a partner in crime?

Lily Velez

I'm not suggesting you scour the campus for a partner to assist you in any crazy murder plots, but if you were... I might have some tips on finding and maintaining friendships in Uni.*

UTS has a wide campus, with buildings spread across Sydney, from Haymarket to Moore Park, covering students from Journalism to Engineering. There is definitely a woman here with coding skills, or a nursing student who's probably across CPR, in case you need a guy.

One of the best things about studying at UTS is feeling amongst the movement of Sydney. Exiting a lecture and walking past the ABC offices, being close to fantastic food and coffee options, the UTS campus always feels like it's in the centre of the action. Perfect for blending in while you plot world domination. Moving between classes, you can move across most of the Ultimo campus without hitting street level. The unique urban landscape lights up in the evening. Sitting in the library next to the wide windows as the light fades, it's pretty beautiful. You could probably send a bat signal off a UTS roof. That's all I'm saying.

Having a campus so dispersed can present a challenge for new-comers, whether it's your first year at University or simply studying at UTS. For a lot of students, it can take a bit longer to solidify new 'friendships'. Unlike other campuses, UTS has great public transport options and is accessible from many areas in Sydney. For this reason, UTS students typically spend less time on campus. It can feel isolating if you haven't found your people yet.

Creating friendships at University might feel a little ridiculous in the beginning. It has to be so much more intentional than high school. You're not stuck

in one area every day of the week. With classes across buildings, you might never run into people outside of class. Seize those opportunities when you have them! What if Aaron in your tute was secretly a pick-pocket who spoke 10 languages, and you were too nervous to see if he wanted to have coffee after class!

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved at UTS, through clubs, sports, or music. These activities aren't for everyone. But you might show up one time and find your perfect UTS partner in crime. Check out the Activate Facebook and Website for some ways to get involved.

Don't overlook the people you spent time with before University. They might have some unique skills to assist you on your journey to uncovering the real mystery behind the disappearance of Harold Holt. Shoot them a message (not literally), and introduce them to your new group of highly qualified friends. Who knows what you could conquer together?

*I take no responsibility for inciting any crimes by readers of this material.

Why young people still need Unions

Maddie Lucre,
Education Vice President

Unions what are they? and why the hell should you, a young person care?

As young people we work often in hospitality and retail throughout our time at uni. The concept of unions can often feel like a far off or irrelevant concept. Union membership is often portrayed as being for industries such as mining or nursing or for old white men. But here is why it is important for young people to join their union.

1. WAGE THEFT

Wage theft is rampant in today's working culture and especially in industries which are dominated by young unskilled workers. Wage theft is exactly what it says in the title—theft, and is a way for bosses to undercut workers entitlements and basic minimum award wages. Huge multimillion dollar companies like 7-Eleven, Dominos, Red Rooster are gaming the system and underpaying workers. For example, it is estimated that 7-Eleven stole around \$110 million dollars of workers' wages through underhanded and illegal practices of paying cash in hand. Wage theft happens at every level, from your local café to billion-dollar companies lining their already overflowing pockets.

- 25% of international students get paid less than \$12 an hour (ACTU, 2018)
- 79% of hospitality employers in Victoria do not comply with the national award wages system from 2013-2016 (ACTU 2018)

2. HARASSMENT

Young workers are often beholden to the whims of their bosses, bullying and harassment for workers can be an unfortunate reality. From customers to managers a survey of hospitality workers

nationwide found that 89% of young women working in hospitality have been sexually harassed at work. When you are being bullied and harassed at work it can often feel like you are powerless and have no one to turn to. This is where you can contact your union for industrial advice and help.

3. CASUALISATION

While working your way through your degree, the idea of having a casual job can feel great, it allows you to have the flexibility you need for your degree. But what does being a casual really mean? What are you entitled to and what aren't you entitled to? One of the major issues that has arisen of late is the creation of the 'permanent casual', people who have the same hours every week and yet are classed as casual. The issue with that if you call in sick or want to go away on holiday for a week you have no job guarantee, irrespective of the fact that you have been working at your job for 3 years. Technically you should be classified as part-time given that you work regular and consistently the same hours every week.

4. PERKS OF PART-TIME *Brought to you by unions*

The benefits of being part time are more entitlements such as paid sick leave, guaranteed hours in your contract and annual leave. Unlike when you are a casual and are told at the last hour that your shift has been cancelled and you wonder how you will make rent this week? Part-time employees get guaranteed hours. Workers are now entitled to request to be made part-time after 12 months with an employer.

To find out who your union is for your industry go to: www.australianunions.org.au/join

Why should bus drivers pay for lawyers' degrees?

Countering a popular anti-Free Ed narrative

Aiden More
Treasurer

Why should bus drivers pay for lawyers' degrees? Seems like a reasonable question. This is in fact a significant rallying cry for those who are against proposals to make Higher Education free or make Tertiary/College Education free.

But behind this rallying cry for greater equity lies a fundamental misunderstanding of those who support free education. In this short piece I will present 3 points to counter the idea behind this retort to free education.

It does not have to be the poor paying for middle class degrees. The thrust behind the question is that, why should working class people pay taxes, which go toward funding free degrees for the middle class. This simple 1-1 reframing of the problem is misguided. Because those who support higher education invariably support the working class and see free higher ed as enabling the working class to attend university. As crippling debt (and taxes in general, considering HECS is a graduate tax) can be seen as a strong disincentive to attending university (economics 101). Not only that but it is a strawman to suppose that those supporting such a progressive goal as free higher ed would support a regressive taxation system which would lead to the working class paying for free higher ed. For example: Bernie Sanders in the USA proposes free College education, funded primarily by a tax on speculation in wall street / financial markets. This would not count as bus drivers paying for lawyers' degrees. But bankers paying for degrees undertaken by invariably working-class people. Indeed, Free Ed should be funded progressively, and not by bus drivers and the wider working class.

It does not have to be free Ed first/only. Often the retort will be that "why do you support free

education when what would really help rural / poorer students, would be free accommodation under a HECS program". When again this presupposes that those in favour of Free Ed are opposed to free student housing. When again, invariably, Free Ed supporters support free student housing or housing subsidies, seeing it, just as free tuition, enabling for poorer students who may feel burdened by taking on an expensive education. And it need not be in that order, surely all those who support social justice but have reservations about free education, will find allies in the free Ed movement when pursuing programs such as accommodation support for rural students, or other targeted programs. But the main reason many see this as insufficient, goes to the heart of why many support free Higher Ed...

We support Free Higher Education, because Education is a human right not a privilege or a business. Education is a necessity, a public good, or a positive externality in Economics terms, and a human right according to the UN. Fundamentally the reason many support education free at the point of access, is for the same reason that we support free healthcare, because all human beings have the right to attain education and healthcare in the pursuit of their happiness and self-actualisation. The mere fact that you are at university as well shows that we both hold education as valuable and necessary. There should be no barriers to attaining whatever level of education you desire, or which is needed to have make a valuable contribution to society. If you agree, get out there let it be known. And counter narratives pushed by the question that started this article with reason and with patience, because as we are learning in the USA and the UK, that the free education debate is not over and actually...is just getting started.

Collectives

What is a collective?

Kirra Jackson

2018 Education Vice President

WHAT IS A COLLECTIVE?

A collective is a group of people that share identity, background, belief or concern for a specific issue. At UTS, we have a variety of collectives that work together to bring positive change to both the university and wider community.

WHAT IS AN AUTONOMOUS COLLECTIVE?

An autonomous collective is a group which is based around an identity and is only available for those who have that identity to join. So, if you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, you can join the Indigenous Collective, if you're LGBTQI+ identifying, you can join the Queer Collective.

The only collectives that aren't autonomous (which means anyone can join, regardless of identity) is the Welfare Collective, the Education Action Group, and the Environment Collective.

WHY IS AUTONOMY IMPORTANT?

In our society, certain groups of people are still systematically oppressed. This means they statistically have higher unemployment rates, experience economic disadvantage, are more likely to have health issues, and lower life expectancy to those that don't have that identity. Autonomous collectives allow people who face these things to come together and feel comfortable discussing

these issues without outing themselves, and work together to fight against these issues.

BUT I'M AN ALLY OF _____, WHY CAN'T I BE INVOLVED?

First of all, it's great that you identify as an ally! But in order to be a good ally, it's important to realise that you don't experience what other people are going through. You might think you can see it, but watching things from afar is very different to having first-hand knowledge. Autonomous collectives allow for those with these identities to discuss and come up with what they think is the best plan to approach an issue. If you're an ally, let them do this themselves, and then follow their lead.

That way you're reducing the mass disenfranchisement that is already current, and empowering people to fight against what affects them.

Postgraduate Committee

Emily Maker
Postgraduate Officer

WHO ARE WE?

My name is Emily Maker and I am the Postgraduate Officer for 2019. I am currently entering my final year of a postgraduate Juris Doctor degree. Whilst I have enjoyed my studies at UTS, I want to help ensure those postgraduate students after me also enjoy their Postgraduate experience, as I have. This is why I have gotten involved within the UTS Postgraduate Committee.

The UTS Postgraduate Committee is comprised of a group of students who aim to make a positive contribution to the educational experience of Postgraduate students. The Committee is chaired by the Post graduate Officer of the UTS Students' Association.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED:

We have contributed to the national debate around education policy on campus. For example, in 2017, feedback from UTS Juris Doctor students formed part of the Council of Australia Postgraduate Associations (CAPA) submission to the Senate inquiry into 'innovation and creativity: workforce for the new economy'. CAPA is the peak national body for postgraduate students.

PLANS FOR THIS YEAR

I aim to significantly grow the Postgraduate Committee in 2019. With a Federal election looming, it is imperative as many UTS

postgraduate members have their voices heard on matters that directly affect them. Already, the HECS repayment threshold has been reduced to \$40,000—a policy which negatively impacts many postgraduate students who often need to balance work and study. Furthermore, the introduction of a lifetime cap HECS loans of \$104,440 (or \$150,000 for medicine, veterinary and dentistry student) (Buzzfeed 2018). Ultimately, such legislation makes it more difficult for postgraduate students from lower socio-economic backgrounds to gain further qualifications in hopes of advancing their careers. All of these changes to higher education were opposed by CAPA and the UTS Postgraduate Committee. We aim to keep fighting these but need your help.

If this sort of work sounds appealing, there are a number of different ways you can get involved. We will hold meetings subject to the interest and availability of our members. For those with busier schedules, you can choose to send your contributions online through email. For those who want to stay informed but don't have the time to make a contribution, you can sign up to our mailing list.

To register your interest for any of the above, Please send an email to:
postgraduate@utsstudentsassociation.org

Queer Collective

Beth Williams and Rhiannon Soliman
Queer Officers



WHO ARE WE?

The Queer Collective is a place for any UTS students, staff, and alumni who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, non-binary, or who are questioning their sexuality or gender identity. It's a safe space to forge friendships and build community, and we host regular events, including weekly meetings, as well as advocating for the welfare of queer students. We have an autonomous space (meaning only accessible to queer identifying or questioning students) as well as a private Facebook group which aim to ensure the autonomy, anonymity and security of all members.

WHAT WE DO?

In 2019 we want to continue to foster a sense of queer community, running events such as our 'You can't ask that' panel discussion, musical nights and bar tab events, a drag performance night and queer careers fair. This year we're also aiming to put more of a focus on accessible and daytime events such as collective picnics, movie viewings, and many more! We're also looking forward to celebrating pride week, as well as hopefully the first queer collective pride ball!

Additionally, we will continue providing support and resources regarding queer issues such as sexual health, youth homelessness, and coming out, and carry out campaigns, such as our gender neutral bathroom campaign, or protests advocating for the welfare and rights of queer students.

If you have any queries, or for more information about the collective, feel free to reach out to the 2019 Queer officers at:
queer@utsstudentsassociation.org



Gender Neutral Bathrooms

Beth Williams and Rhiannon Soliman
Queer Officers

We all need to pee. But for some people, this is easier said than done.

According to the Human Rights Commission's Report on Sexual Assault on Campus, 45% of trans and gender diverse students had been sexually harassed in a university setting, which is much higher than their cisgender counterparts.

A lot of this harassment occurs in gendered spaces like bathrooms, which is why gender-neutral bathrooms are such an important resource for students who need them.

Gender-neutral bathrooms are bathrooms that can be used by all genders. Rather than being labelled as "male" or "female", they may say "all gender" or "unisex". Think of the toilet in your house—people of all genders use it. Behold, your very own gender-neutral bathroom!

Outside of the home, these are extremely important for trans and non-binary students, who could otherwise be harassed, intimidated, or even assaulted if someone believes they are using the "wrong" bathroom.

They can also greatly improve the mental wellbeing of trans and gender diverse students as it can help to alleviate anxiety or dysphoria that may arise from being forced to use a bathroom that may not match their gender identity or gender expression.

Of course, gendered spaces are incredibly important and validating for some, and nobody wishes to remove all existing bathrooms. But for every person who feels safe in a gendered restroom, there is someone else who does not.

In 2017, the UTS Queer Collective wrote an open letter to the university, recommending that at least one bathroom in every building be labelled an "all-gender" facility, as well as adding gender-neutral bathrooms on every floor to any new buildings at UTS.

Since then, members of the collective have petitioned and fought for gender neutral bathrooms on campus. A petition that gained over 650 signatures was presented to the Vice-Chancellor late last year.

Because of this, the accessible toilets on the lower floors in all our city campus buildings have been re-labelled as "all-gender" restrooms. Although we acknowledge that separate bathrooms would be a better solution (rather than taking away from much-needed accessible toilets), it's still a step in the right direction. You may start seeing some more changes around campus this year, as some other bathrooms are set to be remodelled into gender-neutral facilities.

It's extremely important to protect and support your trans and gender diverse classmates. If you see someone being harassed in a bathroom, speak up if it is safe to do so, or report it to campus security. If you hear your friends making transphobic remarks, let them know it's not okay, and use it as a chance to educate them. And if someone enters a bathroom, and you're not quite sure if they are in the "right" one, let them be. We all just want to pee in peace, after all.

The Education Action Group

Maddie Lucre,
Education Vice President

WHO ARE WE?

The Education Action group is a collective of passionate students who care about your education and want you to get the best one possible at this university. In the past the EAG has run campaigns about improving trimesters, classes being more accessible, such as having slides online, more appropriate times for classes and angling for lecture recordings. We work with a belief that universities primarily need to be places of learning and education, rather than a business that is out to make money. Education doesn't deserve a price tag.

Over the past several years we have seen an ongoing attack on the quality of the higher education sector, under the Abbott government we saw attempts to charge university students \$100,000 for a degree—this can be seen as an attempt to Americanise our education system and price students out of a civil right—the right to an education. University students and activists all around the country organised and lobbied and the bad press of the campaign soon led to the government backing away from this plan. However,

its systematic attacks on higher education has seen, in the last year alone, \$2.1 billion dollars ripped out our education system.

THE RESULTS OF THESE CUTS?

Universities have been increasingly finding new ways to cut corners and increase profits from casualising their workforce, to the creation of trimesters with little to no consultation of students or staff.

WHAT DO WE DO?

As the Education Action Group, we also work closely with the NTEU—the teacher's union, in order to get results that are positive for professors as well as students. A university that looks after its staff in turn improves the teaching quality of our university and thus your education.

The UTS Education Action Group also works closely with NUS—the National Union of Students, on a variety of campaigns, but in particular the National Day of Action (NDA), where students across the country gather to show the Australian government and society that students care about their education and are willing to fight for it.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

The Education Action Group gives you, the student, an opportunity to make change within the university and be consulted on how your degree is being changed or tailored. One issue which faced by many university students in the shift from semesters to trimesters, is the lack of core subjects in the summer session. Another issue is the lack of consideration for regional students in timetable scheduling of classes. If these are issues you feel passionately about, please get in contact by email education@utsstudentsassociation.org, and attend some of our meetings! There will be a NDA, and there will be advertising throughout the university, so make sure to attend that too, and show the university management and the government that your quality of education matters to you.

Enviro Collective

Jessica Respall

“With environmental issues as one of the most pressing and detrimental problems facing our generation we hope to ignite student passion for activism and use our collective power to problem solve and deliver environmental solutions where possible and practicable.” — Jessica Respall

WHO ARE WE?

The UTSSA Enviro Collective is a collection of students endorsed by the independent student union body (UTS Students Association) that uses its power and privileges to facilitate environmental activism and action as well as student engagement with environmental issues and discourse. As students of UTS we use our voice to run campaigns that hold our university accountable and demand action regarding our own environmental footprint. Moreover, as a collective of empowered students and global citizens we also use our voice to take action for and against environmental issues more broadly, impacting our country and our planet.

The collective also acknowledges that we meet and work on land belonging to first nations peoples and that sovereignty was never seeded. As an organisation we always try to be mindful and respectful of this in everything we do and furthermore develop our collective solidarity in and amplification of student voices regarding indigenous struggles. We also acknowledge that despite such efforts we should never feel satisfied or passive in our involvement regarding such

issues. The agenda of the collective is only limited to the environmental issues of interest to students involved. As such we encourage all students to get involved and utilise the collective power to make positive change in this world.

WHAT DO WE DO?

The UTSSA Enviro Collective has been vocal in many environmental issues over the years. More recently we have been active contributors to the #FOSSIL FREE campaign, a collective campaign across universities, demanding university divestment from coal. In 2018 representatives from our collective met with representatives from university management and TCORP (managers of UTS' investment fund) to discuss potential divestment pathways.

During 2018 the collective also engaged in activism regarding animal liberation hosting UTS's first University Cupcake Challenge to spark conversation and action from UTS students regarding Australia's animal harming industries. The collective also facilitated student participation in a chicken vigil, where students joined other



activists outside a slaughterhouse in Penrith to document and bare witness to the animals in the trucks entering the facility. Moreover the enviro collective continued to engage with and support the Australian Student Environment Network and the Australian Youth Climate Coalition attending various skill ups and events.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2019?

In 2019 the collective aims to increase student engagement with environmental issues and participation in environmental activism. We hope to achieve this through new innovative and interactive forms of activism on campus. We also aim to increase our presence in the greater community attending protests and sending more of our students to conferences and skill ups. Be sure to register with the Students' Association and in particular with the UTSSA Enviro Collective to make sure your apart of the proud and loud growing student movement on our campus.

Contact the Collective:
environment@utsstudentsassociation.org
Attend our weekly meetings!

Indigenous Collective

Christine Saunders
Indigenous Officer 2018

The UTS Indigenous Collective is an autonomous group for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The Indigenous collective is made up of a diverse group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Ethnocultural Collective

Adrian Lal
Ethnocultural Committee Officer

My name is Adrian. I started off my studies doing a Diploma (2015) at UTS: Insearch and have progressed on to a bachelor's in biomedical science (UTS) and have finally landing on Masters here at UTS. I am the 2019 Ethnocultural committee Officer.

Australia is one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world with;

- 1 in 2 Australian children having an overseas born parent,
- 1 in 4 Australians being born overseas and;
- 20% of Australians speaking a language other than English at home.

The Ethnocultural Collective is a one of many collectives within the UTS Students Association that comprises of students from across many ethnic backgrounds, races, religions and beliefs. It is a diverse collective that aims to promote harmony

and peace through the collective experience of cultural diversity. Our meetings are a space of inclusion and respect and does not possess a hierarchy system. Instead we have an elected SRC (Student Representative to the Council) that proactively makes sure that day to day activities run efficiently.

As Committee officer this year, I would like to help run more ethnocultural events that celebrates our strength in diversity. I also want to work with my colleagues within the collective and the SRC to run anti-racism campaigns.

I hope 2019 is a year of greater diversity and inclusion but I need your help. If you want to support the mission of the ethnocultural collective, please get involved.

For more information and enquiries, please contact: ethnocultural@utsstudentsassociation.org

Wom*n's Collective

Mia Dabelstein
Women's Officer



WHO ARE WE?

We're shaved head, hairy legged feminist killjoys burning bras and aprons, a cult sisterhood of the travelling pink dildo and bare-chested fem-bots ready to storm the citadel!

Okay not exactly, but while there's some good ideas in there, the UTS Women's Collective is a place of education and support for women and non-binary students passionate about social change. In a general sense, collectives are for people who share a common interest or common oppression to come together to organise and fight for justice and social change. In this case, UTS Women's Collective is for all students who experience sexism, misogyny and oppression from the patriarchy as women or as non-binary persons. While the world has made some decent strides, gender-based discrimination and oppression remain woven into the fabric of our society.

At the core of the Women's Collective is a Feminism by the brand of 'Intersectional Feminism'. Kimberle Crenshaw, a law professor and a scholar on critical race theory, coined the term 'intersectionality'

as a way to explain the oppression of African-American women. We all have multiple social identities, but intersectionality is a tool specifically for understanding the experiences of those with multiple marginalised social identities. It allows us to conceptualise how power collides and intersects in ways a singular analysis is unable to do.

WHAT WE DO?

Whether it's gender pay gaps, unrealistic beauty standards or bodily autonomy, these issues are fundamentally rooted in our society's white, Western, male dominated power structure. The weekly meetings operate as the space in which we discuss how these issues affect us and organise and build campaigns to combat them. The meetings are also where we get to know and share with one another in a judgement free space. Throughout this year, we also plan to host regular informal events and gatherings, like movie nights, crafternoons, and drop in chat sessions. All of the above are integral to our development as strong and capable collective agents for change. If you're passionate about feminism and social justice, the UTS Women's Collective is the perfect







place to start, with a group of likeminded, equally passionate people ready and waiting.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

Maybe you want a Women's Collective where we reject the bonds of our oppression through setting ablaze uncomfortable feminine clothing, or a place for sisterly love, hair braiding and emotional support. All of those elements of those are possible, but beyond the guiding principles, it's members who decide the campaigns, actions and issues. The Women's Collective is what you make of it by your involvement.

Join our Facebook group for the latest updates on how to get involved: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/utswom.nscollective/>

The State of Abortion, Against All Reason

Mia Dabelstein
Women's Officer

Until last year, I was part of the three quarters of people in New South Wales unaware that abortion remains a criminal offence in this state. This revelation hit me hard as over the years I've watched, with disgust, the ugly and dangerous battleground of reproductive rights in the American political arena. As the news came through that the bill to establish exclusion zones around abortion clinics in NSW had been passed, so too did this shock realisation. A community survey commissioned by The Greens and published in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, found that not only were 76% of people unaware of the criminal status of abortion in NSW, but 73% supported its decriminalisation and regulation as a healthcare service. The 150-metre safe access exclusion zones were established in response to the anti-abortion protesters that commonly picket abortion clinics, engaging in harassment and intimidation that is recognised as gender-based violence by international human rights law

While there are circumstances in which a pregnancy may be lawfully terminated, abortion is not available upon demand. Family Planning NSW, the leading provider of reproductive and sexual health services in the state, explains that abortion is lawful if the doctor honestly, and on reasonable grounds, believes the procedure to be necessary to avoid serious mental and/or physical health harm to the patient. Dangers to mental health have come to include the economic and/

or social stress that may be inflicted on a person by pregnancy. While these exemptions allow safe access to abortion for many, there remains complicated barriers in criminalisation, with impacts unevenly felt. An analysis of the survey results mentioned earlier identified those who are poor or live rurally are particularly affected by certain barriers. These include lack of certainty surrounding legal ramifications for both the doctor and patient, inability to pay for fee-for-service private clinics, and doctors' personal views influencing the information they share. While it is not assumed that decriminalisation will immediately and totally resolve these inequities of access, it is highly likely these barriers will be addressed.

Despite overwhelming community support, and the expert advice of medical practitioners, public health professionals and lawyers, NSW remains the only state where an informed decision on reproductive health made between a person and their doctor risks criminal charges.

Safe access zones are an important step for reproductive justice and the right to privacy and dignity for those accessing abortion clinics, as they may do so free of harassment, intimidation and violence. However, safe access to abortion lies not in being shepherd over the threshold, but in being supported in an informed healthcare decision with one's own personal values, without fear of criminal conviction.

Welfare Collective

Lily Linnert
Welfare Officer

My name is Lily Linnert and I am the 2019 Welfare Collective Officer for the University of Technology Students' Association. I am in my fourth year of my Bachelor of Business and Bachelor of Creative Intelligence and Innovation degree at UTS. I live in greater western Sydney and student welfare is an area that I am very passionate about and an area at UTS that I wish to grow in 2019. It is only within the last 18 months that I really found out what it is the students' association does and the value that it along with its collectives offer to UTS students. This lack of knowledge and awareness around the incredible services available to be used by students at UTS shocked me and drove me to become involved in the UTSSA.

The Welfare Collective by name focuses on the collective welfare of UTS students. It aims to hold regular collective meetings to discuss initiatives that would help us achieve this outcome and action those initiatives with the support of the UTS Students' Association and Student Representative Council (SRC). It is the job of the welfare collective to organise projects and initiatives that encourage access to affordable food, transport and housing, mental health support, academic support, financial assistance and free legal services to UTS students both on and off university campus.

In 2019 the welfare collective aims to make real change in the support offered to those students struggling at UTS. Core issues we hope to tackle over the coming months are centered around students currently in low socioeconomic positions who face many obstacles and need to work often multiple jobs in order to cover the cost of their accommodation, study supplies, and other basic living expenses such as power, water and food. My goal for this year is to ensure wider marketing and

communication of the services that are available to us in order to ensure not only the availability of crucial resources, but also their accessibility.

It is essential that we as students are aware of how to utilise the services that we are paying for. This year I aim to build a strong collective to speak up for the often-forgotten students who are constantly fighting to stay in university. Student's needs are often unmet, under-met or simply overlooked. I am determined to provide a voice to students and representation for the wider student body, particularly to those from lower socio-economic backgrounds, to ensure that the services needed by them are delivered.

It is the job of the welfare collective to organise projects and initiatives that encourage access to affordable food, transport and housing, mental health support, academic support, financial assistance and free legal services to UTS students both on and off university campus.

The collective aspires to complete projects that benefit all UTS students and welcomes anyone who is interested in being a part of this vision. Anybody who shares this passion, is interested in helping out, or has any further questions about the collective or any questions about welfare issues should contact the Welfare Officer via email at: welfare@utsstudentsassociation.org

The Closure of the Co-op Bookshop at UTS

Lily Linnert
Welfare Officer

During semester 2 of 2018 both the physical Co-op book shops on campus at UTS closed their doors forever. The limited number of physical textbook stores in close proximity to UTS has placed many students in strife when it comes to accessing these integral learning resources.

The co-op bookshop was of value to UTS students not only because of the books they provided but also its incomparable accessibility. The shop gave students immediate and reliable access to resources when needed.

Without these physical distribution outlets students are now in a position where they need to purchase their resources online. With this comes the risk associated with purchasing from non-reputable sites and the added cost associated with delivery fees, in addition to the long wait times for often late deliveries and the tendency of these retailers to sell out of popular books.

The UTS Students' Association understands the importance of this matter and finding and implementing initiatives to combat this issue is a goal of the organisation for the 2019 academic year.

Many students particularly those of a low socio-economic background rely on the UTS library for access to their compulsory materials, however many find that availability of these resources is lacking. An objective of the association is to ensure that the UTS library increases its availability of prescribed textbooks to ensure that student demand can be met.

The Welfare Collective will also investigate the implementation of a university wide UTSSA Official Used Textbook Page in order to replace the previously closed used textbook store on campus and assist students in obtaining low cost compulsory study materials.

Disability and Carers Collective

Chantelle Christine Cardona
Disabilities and Carers Collective Officer

The Disability and Carers Collective is for UTS students who identify as having a disability and/or medical condition, or for those who are carers.

WHAT IS A DISABILITY/ MEDICAL CONDITION?

Having a disability and/or medical condition includes but is not limited to:

- Auditory or visual impairment
- Physical disability
- Mental Illness
- Chronic Pain or illness
- Autoimmune Diseases and more

WHO ARE CARERS?

A carer provides care for dependent children, someone with a disability and/or medical condition, or someone who is of old age.

Students who identify as either of the above are more likely to have lower participation and success at university and fewer employment opportunities available to them, and face difficulty balancing work, university and/or caring commitments while they study.

Our aim is to advance access and inclusion at university and to have a presence in student representation to help improve students' experience at UTS.

The UTS Accessibility Service assists students with a disability/medical condition for study or assessment adjustments.

There are various support mechanisms in place for student carers, as well as students who are pregnant, who may need support and/or adjustments due to care commitments. Contact your Faculty Academic Liaison Officer for academic arrangements before the census date.

If you would like to participate in the Disability & Carers Collective, please email: disability@utsstudentsassociation.org
Sign up to our facebook group: www.facebook.com/utsdccollective

UTS You're far from Perfect: Areas that need Improvement

Chantelle Christine Cardona
Disability & Carers Collective Officer

Issues with UTS Accessibility services at the moment:

1. STUDY ADJUSTMENTS

Even though accessibility inform subject coordinators and administrators before teaching session commences about a student's study adjustments, they don't always remember this and, students go through the hassle of reminding their subject administrators and coordinators that they need adjustments for a particular assessment. It shouldn't be the responsibility of students to chase this up with the subject coordinator to make adjustments before every assessment task. This is an area that needs improvement to avoid student experiencing setbacks and anxiety.

2. PSYCHOLOGY CONSULTATIONS

While UTS Psychology clinic services are accessible, they are not fully covered by Medicare and require a payment of \$12.50 per session. Not all students can afford this. The \$12.50 gap should be removed so that it does not create a barrier to students who need to consult a psychologist while studying at UTS.

3. SLEEP CAPSULES (ONLY ONE...FAR AWAY)

UTS Library was provided with one energypod for students with fatigue or who are simply tired and want a break, to take a short nap between classes. However, students might find it difficult to walk 5 to 10 minutes all the way to the library on Quay

street just to take a 20 minute nap and make time to walk back to class. Since UTS has campuses in several locations, more energy pods should be placed in other accessible locations around the campuses such as Level 6 in the tower building outside the student centre and other computer/study areas in Building 4 and 5 are some examples.

4. UTS HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS (NOT FOR EVERYONE)

The UTS Equity and Diversity department manages the UTS Human Rights awards. The purpose of the award acknowledges the contribution of staff and students at UTS who demonstrate a commitment in creating a more equitable university and society at UTS. Among other awards, they have designated awards for staff and students who identify as Indigenous, a woman or LGBTI+ however they do not have a designated award for students and staff who identify as having a disability/ medical condition and/or are carers.

International Collective

Rista Shankar B K
International Officer

WHO ARE WE?

My name's Rista Shankar B K and I am the international officer. I am from Nepal and I am pursuing my bachelors degree in Nursing at UTS. Being the international officer to me means being a student representative for the international student community at UTS. Prior to being elected as the UTS international officer, I have also been volunteering as a research assistant within the education portfolio for Council of International Student Australia (CISA). CISA is the peak body for international students in Australia and they have been actively campaigning for opal card concessions in the NSW.

WHAT WE DO?

Thousands of international students from all around the world come to Australia as their study destination because of its attractive beaches, world-class education, and diverse culture. It is a wonderful opportunity to study abroad both for personal and professional development; however, it can also lead to some considerable personal challenges. In the collective we talk a lot about the struggles international students face with regards to their mental health issues. Comparatively international students are at risk of psychological problems leading to depression, anxiety & frustration which is likely to occur because of the different culture, different country, and different expectations.

Coming to a new country and new university it can be challenging to balance between studies and work with your personal wellbeing. Therefore, it is crucial to form a network of friends around you and a support system.

That is where we the international collective comes in.

The International collective, is a group run by the students and for the students in order to make their life here at UTS much easier by helping them in every aspect. We encourage student engagement and networking with the diverse cultures, making new friends and having a platform to campaign and talk about issues you care about. So welcome to 2019, I am so excited to have been elected as your Overseas Student Officer of the University of Technology Sydney. It is going to be an amazing year and I can't wait to be embarking on my journey as the international student representative. I hope to see you at one of our social events soon.

Get in contact with us on:
overseas@utsstudentsassociation.org

Opal Card Concession

Rista Shankar B K
International Officer

Opal card concession has been a topic of much debate here in NSW for close to five years now. There are approximately 300,000 international students in NSW which is about 40% of the total international student population in Australia. NSW benefits culturally, educationally and financially from having international students study here. In 2016–17, international education added \$7.2 billion to the Australian economy. It is now NSW biggest service export.

Besides NSW, all other states provide travel concessions to international students. It's all about providing us the access for international students after paying a huge amount of money in our tuition fees. As the overseas student collective we are disheartened by the lack of action by the NSW government to implement concession opal cards for international students. However, we have been continuing to protest and campaign continuously regardless of the government failure to implement our demands.

The campaign outside of NSW Parliament organised by domestic and international students with the proactive participation of UTS international collective and from across the several universities has been the great platform for international students to raise their voice in favour of the opal card concession campaign.

We consider the government's policy to be openly discriminating against international

students. Therefore, we have been campaigning and signing petitions. We were able to sign more than 2000 petitions last year which we have handed to members of the NSW parliament. We are privileged to have such support for our cause from members of NSW parliament and for all their help on the campaign.

Travel concession for the international students is one of the biggest political issues on the radar in the student movement at the moment and also with politicians going into state elections on March 23rd.

Therefore, International students are calling on the New South Wales governments to stop this discriminatory act of not offering us concessions to use the public transport system. I myself as the UTS overseas student officer has been the part of this campaign throughout. I myself signed more than 300 petitions which were handed collectively to Greens MP Mehreen Faruqi, on her last day as state MP. She supported us and promised to forward this issue in her new position as the senator for New South Wales.

We have been paying GST and income taxes in the same way as the domestic student and two times the tuition fees to get access of the same study load, yet opal card concessions have not been offered to us.



I spend more than \$10 per day in the process of going to University and coming back home which would probably have been spent on other amenities.

It has been said that international students should be rich enough to pay the transportation fare citing that the immigration department requiring international students to demonstrate having money in their bank accounts before coming to Australia.

However, this does not mean we should be treated differently to our domestic counterparts or to international students in other states.

If you are keen to get involved in the campaign please contact the collective:
overseas@utsstudentsassociation.org

UTS Services

*The content in this section has been provided by external sources.
The UTSSA is not liable for this information.*

Respect.Now.Always. and Consent Matters

UTS is a part of Respect.Now.Always., a national campaign that aims to eliminate sexual assault and harassment on university campuses. Since the start of the campaign in 2016, UTS has launched a number of initiatives to prevent and respond to sexual assault and sexual harassment.

We believe that everyone has the right to live and study safely without prejudice. By joining our community, you value the same.

We're diverse—in background, in thought and in beliefs. But that's what makes us stronger.

It is really important to us that we have a community that looks out for one another, that is respectful, kind and inclusive. Being a part of UTS means you will need to complete online training about healthy relationships, appropriate behaviour and being an active bystander. All members of the community completing the online Consent Matters module is another step UTS is taking towards making our future safe and free of sexual violence.

Each member of our community—both students and staff—will complete it once during their time at UTS. It will ensure that all members of our community have a shared understanding of consent, and importantly, can help if they see unacceptable behaviour.

This training is one part of our program to reduce unwanted sexual behaviour and encourage healthy relationships.

Complete your Consent Matters training in UTSONline before results release date to ensure that you get your results on time.

If you or someone you know has been affected by Sexual Assault or Sexual Harassment, please seek professional support from a UTS or community service. You can also report sexual assault to the Police.

It takes courage to reach out, and there are a number of UTS and community services that can help you.

If you are in immediate danger or need urgent medical attention, please call emergency services on 000 or UTS Security on 1800 249 559.

As a UTS student or staff member experiencing sexual assault, or if you are concerned about someone in our UTS community, please contact the UTS Sexual Assault Support line on 1800 531 626. The UTS Sexual Assault Support Line is staffed by professionally trained, trauma-informed counsellors 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). UTS Security will respond to calls on this number out of office hours.

More info: uts.ac/consent-matters

#WannaSpoonAskFirst

*Respect.
At Now.
Always.*



WHATEVER YOUR PREFERENCE, CONSENT MATTERS.

UTS is committed to zero-tolerance for sexual assault and sexual harassment in our community.

We are keen to understand student perspectives to ensure that we introduce the right kind of preventative actions and support.

Now that **you are part of our community**, we want to hear from you!

STUDENT VOICE PROJECT

The UTS Design Innovation Research Centre has been speaking with current students to understand their **perspectives** in relation to sexual assault and sexual harassment.

This stall contains **insights from the research**. It does not contain any details about actual incidents. Please **talk to our staff if you would like support**.

Please note that we will be taking some videos and photos today to inform the Student Voice research and to support this ongoing conversation within our UTS community. Please **talk to our staff if you do not want to be included in any images**.

For more information, please talk to our staff supporting at UTS.



Supporting at UTS





Jumbunna

The Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning supports the academic, social, cultural and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UTS. It seeks to create a place where all Indigenous Australians can access education and be supported to succeed.

WHAT CAN JUMBUNNA DO FOR YOU?

Students are the heart of Jumbunna. When you study with us, you'll become a part of the Jumbunna family. Our team will support you through every step of your UTS journey, from application to graduation. Jumbunna provides services for:

- High School Students who are thinking about university
- Pathway students who are seeking alternative entry to UTS
- Indigenous students currently studying at UTS

INDIGENOUS COMMITMENT

Jumbunna is committed to raising the status of Indigenous people at UTS and driving UTS's commitment to indigenous issues, education and employment outcomes. UTS and Jumbunna recognise the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the Traditional Owners and holders of knowledge of the places where our campus stands. We acknowledge elders both past and present and recognise the contribution that Indigenous people make to the academic and cultural life of the university.

SERVICES

Jumbunna's Student Service Officers engage in one-on-one discussion and liaise with students in relation to:

- Coursework
- Assignments and exams
- Adjusting to the challenges of uni life
- Issues with on-campus residential housing
- ITAS—one on one tutorial program

They can provide advice or assist, refer, advocate and liaise with faculties or other units within the university on your behalf.

JUMBUDDIES

- Peer to Peer mentoring program
- Where current students mentor new students

LEARNING DEVELOPMENT

- Jumbunna includes a group of academics that work as part of our Learning Development Team.
- Their role is to provide you with study and learning assistance. They are able to cover the 2 main areas of Academic Communication (including writing) and Mathematics.

There's no shame in asking for help, so contact Jumbunna before it's too late to resolve the issue. All issues are important. No question is too simple. You can ring, email or even pop in to meet the

people behind Jumbunna. Even if there's nothing on your mind, pop in and introduce yourself!

STUDENT SPACES

Jumbunna provides a friendly and professional environment where you can come to study, seek advice or just relax.

The purpose-built facilities include:

- A computer room featuring both Macs and PCs
- Free printing, binding and colour photocopying facilities
- Bookable space for private tutorial sessions
- A common kitchen with fruit, bread, cheese, milk and basics like noodles, muesli bars and cereal, as well as tea, coffee and juice for student use

AFTER HOURS ACCESS

As an Indigenous student at UTS, you will be able to apply for an after-hours pass that enables 24 hour access, 7 days a week to the Jumbunna study spaces.

All the information was taken from the Jumbunna Page on the UTS website <https://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/indigenous>

UTS Library

Retreat from the hustle of city life into the relaxing spaces available at UTS Library.

UTS Library, located behind the Markets Building in Haymarket, is home to our collection of books, digital readings, databases, journals and specialty equipment. Light filled group study spaces on the lower levels have comfortable lounges and desks. Bookable group study rooms are located on each level perfect for collaborative work or studying with friends.

A Games Room equipped with video games and board games, is located on Level 3 and is a great place to take a break and hang out with friends. Wi-Fi is available throughout all four floors. Upper Levels 4 & 5 are suited to individual study and focused research, as noise is kept to a minimum, ensuring you can concentrate on your work in peace. Level 5 is a silent space and is also fitted out with lockers that can be rented for your convenience, whilst the quiet space on Level 4 houses a bookable Editing Suite.

Throughout the year UTS Library also hosts workshops, orientation events, exhibitions, forums and symposiums showcasing important research coming out of UTS. A recent artist-in-residence project has created an installation equipped with comfortable beanbags, located in the secret 'sleep zone' under the rear stairwell. Throughout the Library there are Rovers in orange t-shirts that can help you locate what you are looking for, many computers you can use, power points and recharge stations to charge your devices.

The whole building is completely accessible; Level 2 has two Assistive Technology rooms for students with additional requirements, or students requiring

visual and hearing assistance technologies. Online resources are available via the library website such as the popular HeadsUp modules, step by step video tutorials, free online learning resources and a live chat service which allows you to ask a Librarian questions without having to leave the comfort of your home. Extended hours prior to and during exam periods are planned each session to ensure you have a comfortable and quiet place to study during the busiest times of the year.

Events are also held throughout session to assist you in your studies. Don't miss out on:

LIBRARY ORIENTATION TOURS & QUICK START WORKSHOPS

Learn about all the study help services the Library offers and the variety of ways it can help you succeed while at university (available in English and Mandarin). Essential for first year students, Quick Start workshops cover how to find the required readings for your subjects and how to use the Library to find journal articles and books for your assignments (also available in English and Mandarin).

ACADEMIC AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE WORKSHOPS

Workshops designed to improve your grammar, writing, and vocabulary. Gain access to online tools whilst improving your study and critical thinking skills.

REFERENCING AND RESEARCH SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Workshops also cover best practice in referencing correctly, tips with using referencing software such as Endnote. Workshops are also available for

researchers and HDR students such as advanced database searching, best practice for literature searching, publishing and data management.

STUDY HELP

One-on-one drop-in sessions are available in the Library providing assistance with writing, referencing, research and completing your assignments. Librarians are available to provide faculty specific support for your information needs, specialty Information Services Librarians are available in Arts & Social Sciences, Business & Law and Science & Technology divisions

THE RESEARCHER'S CENTRE

UTS postgraduate research students have access to this quiet space and range of Library resources, power points, a meeting room and long-term lockers. UTS researchers should consult their faculty, institute or unit to ensure they have access.

PLAY DAY

Tuesday 5 March 2019, 10am to 2pm

A day of games, craft, technology, prizes and free food. Meet new friends and get to know UTS life at the UTS Library. Designed for new students.

EXHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM

The Library hosts regular exhibition openings in the Library foyer, guest speaker forums and film screenings throughout the year. Follow UTS Library on social media: Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to keep informed throughout the year of these special events.

UTS Counselling Service

UTS offers a confidential counselling service to help with a wide range of personal, psychological, study-related and administrative difficulties. Our services include individual and couples counselling, group work and workshops.

Counsellors can help in situations where you:

- think you may have chosen the wrong course
- have stressful circumstances or psychological or emotional issues which interfere with your studies
- need help managing administrative problems or complaints
- want to develop better learning skills
- need help as you are on Academic Caution

Counselling services are available to:

- current UTS students
- international students
- couples, if both are students

In most situations the service is free of charge; a few services carry a charge that can be bulk billed to Medicare or Medibank Private (for students with Overseas Student Health Cover).

For information about the Counselling Service's privacy and confidentiality policy please visit: <https://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/health-and-wellbeing/counselling-service-and-self-help/confidentiality-and>

The Counselling Service is open throughout the year, and can be accessed five days a week:

8.30am–8.30pm, Monday–Wednesday
8.30am–8pm, every Thursday
9am–5pm, Friday

To make an appointment, please phone 9514 1177 during office hours and request an appointment with a counsellor. We are located in the Student Services Unit on Level 6 of Building 1 (CB01.06).

For urgent situations after-hours, please use the following numbers:

Emergency services: call triple zero, 000 or present at your nearest Hospital Emergency Department

Campus security: dial 6 (internal telephones) or free call 1800 249 559

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Mental Health Access Line: 1800 011 511

Additional emergency contacts can be found here: <https://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/contacts/emergency-contacts>

UTS Health Service

The UTS Health Service provides a friendly and confidential service to UTS students, alumni and their families.

Services include:

- Women's and men's health
- Mental health assessments and support
- Indigenous health
- Drug and alcohol support
- Sexual health checks
- Management of chronic health conditions
- Travel health advice and immunisations
- Treatment and management of work-related injuries
- Blood tests and other health assessments
- Clinical requirements for nursing students

DOCTORS

The UTS Health Service has both male and female doctors. All doctors are on the Vocational Register of General Practitioners and are members of the Royal College of Australian General Practitioners (RACGP).

APPOINTMENTS

Appointments are required to see a doctor and may be made by telephone (ph 95141177) or visiting the reception desk. The medical practice is located on Level 6, Building 1 (UTS Tower).

COSTS

Australian residents who hold a current Medicare card will be bulked billed for most consultations.

Overseas students who are covered by Overseas Students Health Cover may be direct billed (depending on selection of insurance provider).

Consultation for workers compensation or insurance or employment medicals are not covered by Medicare and patients will be required to pay for the consultation at the time of their visit.

Vaccinations are not covered by Medicare and must be paid for at the time of the visit. Payments are accepted by credit card and EFTPOS. Cash payments are not accepted.

It is requested patients bring their Medicare or health insurance card when attending their appointment.

OUR WEBSITE

Further details are available at our website www.uts.edu.au/medical-service

Accessibility Service

The Accessibility Service is the University's central contact point for all students living with one or more disabilities, medical or mental health conditions. The Accessibility Service provides assistance and support to access services, and to make requests for assessment arrangements and reasonable adjustments.

The main purpose of the Accessibility Service is enabling student's participation in their learning and coursework. Reasonable adjustments aim to minimise the impacts of disability/health conditions upon study as far as possible, whilst maintaining academic integrity.

While the main focus remains on a student's course progression, the Accessibility Service encourages students to take up opportunities for:

- building upon their individual strengths and strategies
- learning how to manage their disabilities/health conditions in the study environment
- preparing for transition following university.

The Accessibility Service assists students to develop their independence, self-determination and self-advocacy skills to enable participation in a productive and concerted way.

WHY UPDATE MY ACCESSIBILITY DETAILS?

Updating your Accessibility details on My Student Admin helps to ensure UTS is providing accurate

data to the government. Following a Federal Budget review, there are proposed changes to the funding of University Accessibility Services. The new funding model will be based upon the number of students who share their accessibility information on My Student Admin (MSA), rather than the number of students who are registered with the Accessibility Service (a student may wish to share their Accessibility details on MSA but decide not to register with the Service, or vice versa). The data collected on MSA is the mechanism the government uses to determine the number of students with a disability across universities.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I UPDATE MY DETAILS ON MSA?

The information sent to the government is de-identified so the specific details of your accessibility needs are confidential to UTS. The information you share is not available to UTS general administrative staff e.g. the Student Centre; UTS students; Faculty staff; or general Academic Staff. The information is not available or shown on your UTS transcript or UTS Online.

REGISTERING WITH ACCESSIBILITY:

To receive support from the Accessibility Service, you will need to register with us.

Registering with Accessibility Service gives you the chance to discuss your learning, assessment

and related requirements and plan any support you might need. As some of the supports and services we can provide need early planning, we encourage you to register as soon as possible e.g. as soon as you receive an offer.

CONTACT:

To contact the Accessibility or Financial Assistance service please call 02 9514 1177 during office hours to make an appointment

USEFUL WEB PAGES

Accessibility Service
www.accessibility.uts.edu.au

Accessibility contacts page
www.uts.edu.au/accessibility-contact

ABOUT THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE

Need some help on how to survive on a student income! The UTS Financial Assistance Service can help provide guidance on typical student expenses; Student Support payments from Centrelink; help with tax returns; and advice when you are experiencing financial stress. We may also provide financial support to help meet essential study-related costs and course textbooks and devices. Details on how and who we can help is on our Financial help page:

Financial Assistance
<https://uts.edu.au/financial-assistance>

CONTACT:

To contact the Accessibility or Financial Assistance service please call 02 9514 1177 during office hours to make an appointment

Multi-faith Chaplaincy

Being at university can mean that students encounter a range of ideas: some stimulating, some challenging, some overwhelming. Questions may arise in the university context that may not have been considered previously. These can impact students' faith in a myriad of ways and encourage new ways of thinking. University life can also include the search for personal meaning and support for dealing with the occasional pressures of academia, such as anxiety and stress. Since the challenges/motives for students can be cultural, social or academic they can play a part in students seeking out faith based activities or social events that enhance their time at university.

At UTS most of the major faith groups are represented: Islam, Christianity, Catholicism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Seventh Day Adventists and Judaism. We offer regular Catholic Masses, Multi-Faith Prayer rooms that various faith groups can book and Friday prayers for Muslims in the Sports Hall during the semester.

We offer regular weekly meditations for those of any faith or no faith. These are usually conducted by the Hindu or Buddhist chaplain or by the coordinator.

UTS Multi-Faith Chaplaincy aims to support all students regardless of faith. As well as offering one on one pastoral support (emotional and spiritual support) for students, it promotes the university directive of commitment to diversity

and dialogue by having open forums such as discussion groups, themed events on important social or ethical issues, multi-faith participation, inter-faith dialogue and so on throughout the year. These avenues are promoted in order for students to interact with each other by intellectually stimulating and growing their understanding of spirituality and how their values interact with the wider world and might impact on their careers. Students may seek support from the spiritual and educational resources that chaplains and chaplaincy has to offer and this can help them become more integrated and engage with the wider world in healthier ways, as well as enhance their understanding of important social ideas that impact on personal development.

Students may seek to join a faith based group to discuss sacred texts such as the Bible or the Quran, or they may seek social support, one on one pastoral support (emotional and spiritual) from a chaplain of a particular faith, or be wishing to discern what support and services are available.

To contact a chaplain or enquire about Chaplaincy contact the Multi-Faith co-ordinator Joanna Thyer on Joanna.thyer@uts.edu.au or uts.chaplaincy@uts.edu.au.

Or phone 02 9514 2523 or visit the chaplaincy office in the Multi-Faith area 03.05.019

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SPECIAL THANKS

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Samuel Tiberi
Zaheed Rashidi
Fran, Biljana, Christina
Coffee
And free Tic-Tacs at reception

FINAL WORD

A special thank you to everyone who helped me make this handbook a reality. If the UTS Students' Association is any reflection on UTS it is that you can't do anything without your friends. Always remember that diamonds are made under pressure. Special thank you to EVP matriarchs, Gabby and Kirra. I am incredibly proud of this year's handbook and all the amazing contributions and design work done by our fabulous artists, Joy, Megan and Joyce. To all the 45,000+ students at UTS, I hope you have found the 2019 handbook helpful. I have so many plans for this year, and so I promise this won't be the last you hear from me.

Love,
Maddie



**UTS
STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

Our voice. Our way. Our SA.



Having academic issues?

.....

Speak to our
Student Advocacy
Officers for
independent and
confidential advice.

▶ **Book an appointment
OR drop in,**

Tuesday, 10am – 2pm

▶ **UTTSA Office**

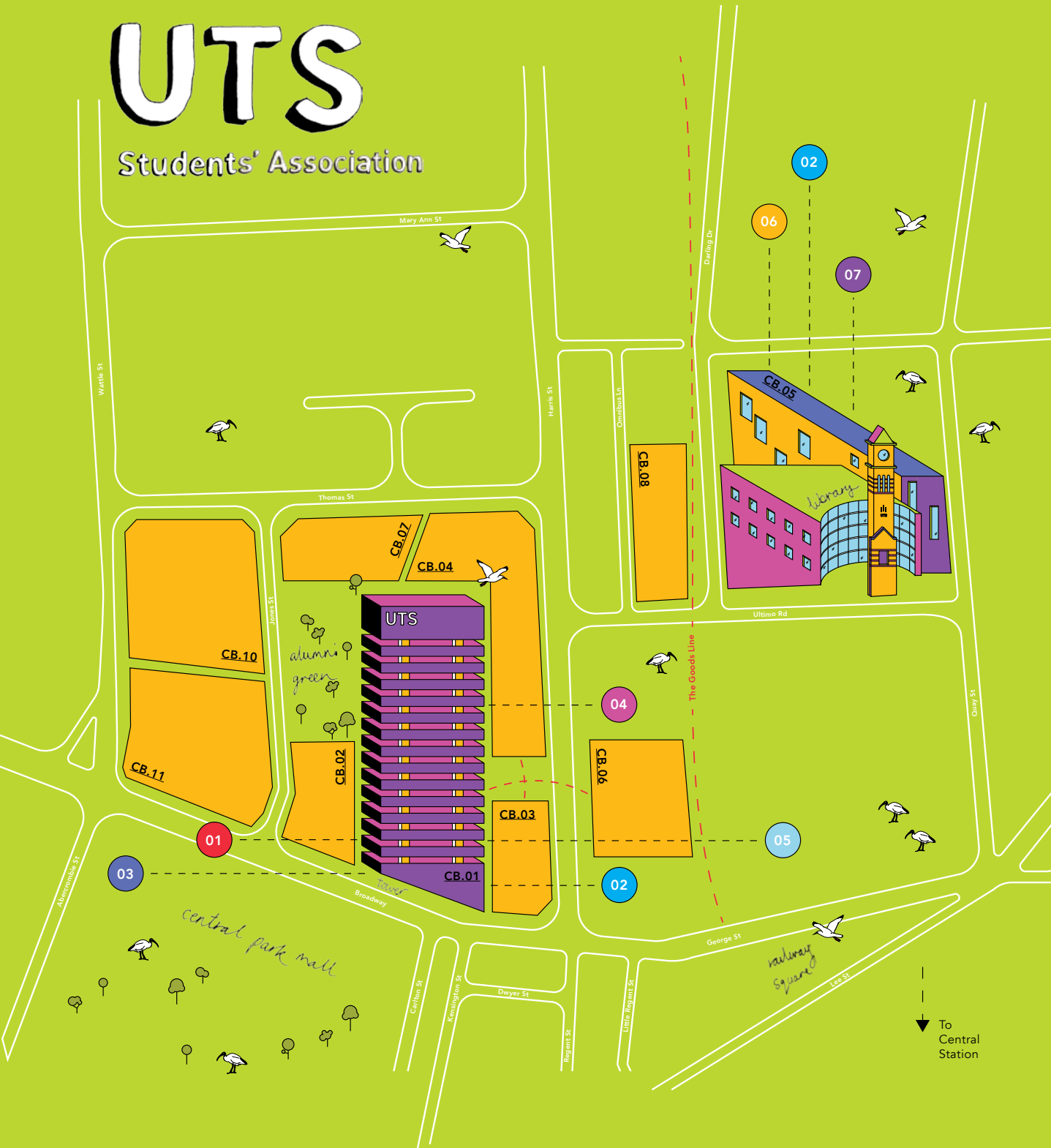
UTS Tower Building, Level 3, Room 22
(02) 9514 1155

utsstudentsassociation.org.au/advocacy



UTS

Students' Association



01 UTS Activist Space
CB01.03.18

02 Bluebird Brekkie Bar
Haymarkets Moot Courtyard (Tue)/
Tower Building Foyer (Wed)

03 Night Owl Noodle Bar
Tower Building Foyer

04 UTS Student Legal Service
CB01.05.12

05 UTS Students' Association
Peer Tutoring, Advocacy
CB01.03.22

06 UTS Women's Collective
CB5D.01.26

07 UTS Queer Collective
CB5C.01

CB UTS City Campus Buildings

--- Pedestrian Footbridges

