

# Auckland University of Technology Student Association

## Student Representative Council 2025

### Open Meeting Agenda

|                   |                                          |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Date, time</b> | Friday 29 August, 13:00-15:00            |
| <b>Location</b>   | WA505, AUT City Campus   Microsoft Teams |
| <b>Chair</b>      | Alicia Lemmer - President                |

| #   | OPEN AGENDA ITEM                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | DURATION         |                    |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1   | <b>SRC Karakia</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1 min            |                    |
| 2   | <b>Attendance, Quorum</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1 min            |                    |
| 3   | <b>Ratify 1 August Open Meeting Minutes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1 min            |                    |
| 4   | <b>UPDATES FROM 1 AUGUST MEETING</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 10 min           |                    |
|     | <b>ACTION POINT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>DUE</b>       | <b>STATUS</b>      |
| 4.1 | <b>Transport Advocacy:</b><br>Vice President Community to update SRC on campaign                                                                                                                                                               | <b>December</b>  | <b>Ongoing</b>     |
| 4.2 | <b>Study Spaces:</b><br>President and Wellbeing Representative to meet with AUT Estates                                                                                                                                                        | <b>October</b>   | <b>Ongoing</b>     |
| 4.3 | <b>Disability and Advocacy Support:</b><br>Disability Representative to reach out to Advocacy                                                                                                                                                  | <b>September</b> | <b>Ongoing</b>     |
| 4.4 | <b>Project Navigator Follow-Up:</b><br>President to arrange for Ki Uta Ki Tai's Katy Thomas and Project Navigator's Bree Verity to return to SRC                                                                                               | <b>October</b>   | <b>Ongoing</b>     |
| 4.5 | <b>Byelections, Votes of No Confidence:</b><br>President to talk to Head of Advocacy                                                                                                                                                           | <b>September</b> | <b>Not started</b> |
|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                  |                    |
| 5   | <b>President Report</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 5 min            |                    |
| 6   | <b>Vice President Academic Report</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 5 min            |                    |
| 7   | <b>Vice President Community Report</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 5 min            |                    |
| 8   | <b>Feedback on AUTSA Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is AUTSA doing well?</li> <li>Where should AUTSA do better?</li> <li>Where is investment needed in AUTSA?</li> <li>How should student funds be spent?</li> </ul> | 20 min           |                    |
| 9   | <b>Student Job Search</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 10 min           |                    |
| 10  | <b>Elections Update</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 3 min            |                    |
| 11  | <b>Reporting Roundup</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 20 min           |                    |

**Resolution to Move into Closed Agenda**

## AUTSA Student Representative Council Karakia

### Beginning Karakia

Whāia rawatia te mōhiotanga  
me te mārama ki ngā kōrero a tēnā, a tēnā.  
Kia kaha, kia māia e tutuki ai ngā wawata me ngā tūmanakotanga  
Kia ngākau māhaki, kia aronui ki ngā whakatau a ētahi atu,  
Kia manawanui, kia manawaroa, kia aroha tētahi ki tētahi  
Mā te mahi tahi i raro i ngā kaupapa o te tika me te pono  
e ora ai tātou katoa o Te Wānanga Aronui o Tāmaki-makau-rau.

We seek wisdom, understanding,  
insights into the views and circumstances of others,  
strength to seek what we believe in,  
humility to accept the combined decisions of others,  
patience, good humour at all times, tolerance and courtesy,  
while working in the best interests,  
of our community at the Auckland University of Technology.

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### Ending Karakia

Kia whakairia te tapu  
Kia wātea ai te ara  
Kia turuki whakataha ai K  
ia turuki whakataha ai  
Haumi e. Hui e. Tāiki e!

Restrictions are moved aside  
So the pathways are clear  
To return to everyday activities

# Auckland University of Technology Student Association

## Student Representative Council 2025

### Open Meeting Minutes

**THESE DRAFTED MINUTES WILL GO TO SRC IN THE NEXT SRC MEETING**

Held on: Friday 1 August from 13:13–15:03 in WA505, AUT City Campus

**Chair:** Vyshakh Rajendran – Vice President Academic

#### Attendees:

Alicia Lemmer – President  
 James Portegys – Vice President Community (left 13:28)  
 Shushi Paul – Design and Creative Technologies Faculty Representative  
 Natalia Pere – Rainbow Representative (left 14:00)  
 Māhaki Mihaere Neha - Māori Affairs Representative  
 Ishani Mathur – Health and Environmental Sciences Faculty Representative  
 Isara Paramore – South Campus Representative  
 Georgia Rouse – Disability Affairs Representative (arrived 13:40)  
 Kelsey Moleu – Diversity Affairs Representative  
 Daniel Vanalau – Pasifika Affairs Representative (arrived 13:26)  
 Marthie Kilian – Mature Affairs Representative (online)  
 PeiLin Huang – Wellbeing Representative (online)  
 Rohan Patel – City Campus Representative (online)

#### Apologies:

Yash Kattan – Business, Economics and Law Faculty Representative

**Minutes:** Willy Leiataua – AUTSA Student Representation Coordinator

| #   | Minutes                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1   | <b>13:13 - SRC Karakia</b><br>Māhaki recited the karakia.                                                                                                  |
| 2   | <b>13:14 - Attendance and Quorum</b><br>The list of attendees is above, and is above the quorum of seven.                                                  |
| 3   | <b>13:14 - Ratify 1 August Meeting Minutes</b><br>Moved by Shushi<br>Seconded by Ishani<br>The minutes were accepted with no questions.                    |
| 4.1 | <b>13:17 - Transport Advocacy</b><br>James spoke on the Fair Fares for Tertiary Students petition gaining traction on signatures. The campaign is ongoing. |
| 4.2 | <b>13:18 - Study Spaces</b>                                                                                                                                |

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | It was reported by Alicia and PeiLin that work is ongoing for dealing with study spaces at AUT.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>4.3</b> | <p><b>13:19: ASR Training and Feedback</b></p> <p>Shushi provided a positive update from within the DCT faculty. Ishani noted that the HES faculty has been highly critical of the ASR programme, opting to keep feedback systems internal.</p> <p><i>NB: the ASR programme provides independent student voice and is open to aligning with existing faculty feedback systems.</i></p>             |
| <b>4.5</b> | <p><b>13:28: Project Navigator Follow-Up</b></p> <p>Alicia is looking to have the Project Navigator team back in a future SRC meeting for a further feedback session with members.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>4.6</b> | <p><b>13:28: Student Communications Policy Follow-Up</b></p> <p>Alicia received feedback from two SRC members and forwarded it to Head of AUT Student Communications Rebecca Shrigley.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>5</b>   | <p><b>13:28: President Report</b></p> <p>Alicia highlighted two proposed entities for national student body associations – the Aotearoa Tertiary Student Association, and the Aotearoa Tertiary Action Group.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>6</b>   | <p><b>13:37: Vice President Academic Report</b></p> <p>Vyshakh highlighted a meeting with the AUT Academic Quality Office, discussing feedback on proposed policies.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>7</b>   | <p><b>13:39: Vice President Community Report</b></p> <p>This item was skipped.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>4.4</b> | <p><b>13:40: Disability and Advocacy Support</b></p> <p>Georgia reported that AUT Disability Student Support was looking into issues from students with accommodations in faculties, and how to better equip lecturers on students with accommodations.</p> <p><i>AP: an update at the next SRC meeting.</i></p>                                                                                   |
| <b>8</b>   | <p><b>13:41: Reporting Roundup</b></p> <p>This item was skipped.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>9</b>   | <p><b>13:41: AGM Debrief</b></p> <p>SRC gave constructive feedback regarding the the AUTSA Annual General Meeting. Feedback areas included the use and placement of audio and visual equipment as well as attendee registration.</p>                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>10</b>  | <p><b>13:52: Elections</b></p> <p>Alicia outlined all roles had at least one nomination except for the North Campus, South Campus, Pasifika, and Accommodation Representative positions. Much discussion within the SRC surrounded eligibility to run for SRC positions and whether an option for AUT students to place a vote of no confidence in candidates who are elected with no contest.</p> |
|            | <p><b>14:03: Resignations</b></p> <p>The International Affairs Representative, Accommodation Representative, Postgraduate Representative, and Culture and Society Faculty Representative have resigned.</p> <p>Motioned by Kelsey</p>                                                                                                                                                              |

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <p>Seconded by Shushi</p> <p>The resignations were accepted without question. A discussion followed covering the idea of by-elections, and the resignation clauses in the AUTSA Constitution.</p> <p><i>AP: Alicia to speak with Head of Advocacy Tom Vasey about including votes of no confidence in elections and idea of byelections to follow resignations.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                     |
| 11 | <p><b>14:13: Tech Central Proposal</b></p> <p>Alicia noted that the SRC were receptive to the proposal for Tech Central spaces being converted into study spaces for students, as well as AUT.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 12 | <p><b>14:14: Event Proposal: Diversity Affairs Representative</b></p> <p>Alicia reiterated that event proposals are shared to SRC for feedback and a thumbs up, before being sent to AUTSA Events for funding approval. Kelsey centred the event proposal around uniting student communities around food and music. It would be held in either Week 8 or Week 9 to best capture student interest without clashing with the final classes of semester.</p> <p>The SRC gave a unanimous thumbs up for the event proposal.</p> |
| 13 | <p><b>14:20: Academic Pressure</b></p> <p>PeiLin wanted to address whether AUTSA could do more to support students as the semester heads into the first assessment wave. Shushi noted DCT is undergoing a stressful period assessment-wise. Ishani noted the HES faculty lacks paid mentors, and will focus on resolving matters with and through the ASR programme first.</p>                                                                                                                                              |



**autsa**  
YOUR VOICE AT AUT

# **MONTHLY PRESIDENT REPORT**

JULY 2025

Prepared by:  
Alicia Lemmer

[president@autsa.org.nz](mailto:president@autsa.org.nz)

55 Wellesley St, Auckland, New Zealand

[www.autsa.org.nz](http://www.autsa.org.nz)



## Key Points & Activities

Focus areas this month:

- AUTSA Elections
- Auckland Transport Campaign
- City Centre Advisory Panel – Student Experience Action Plan
- SRC Mid-Year Workshop
- Big Sleep Out
- Semester 2 Orientation
- AUTSA Annual General Meeting
- Committee for University Approval of Programmes (CUAP)
- Preparing for student fees increase at AUT Council

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## Highlights

Key highlights this month:

- Semester 2 Orientation Speech
- Launching the AT Campaign
- AUTSA's AGM
- Big Sleep Out

## Challenges

The key challenges faced this month:

### Critical Matters

No critical matters this month

### Ongoing

|                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Funding for students on Work Integrated Learning (WIL)/ Placements | Update: The weekly stipend of \$100 is confirmed and PR Release has been published.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Cost of transport                                                  | Update: Campaign has been launched, and the petition has over 2,500 signatures in a week. We aim to push this further and reach 10,000 signatures. Working closely with AUSA.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Elections                                                          | International Students being unable to run for Vice-President roles due to Visa and law requirements. AUTSA sits with the problem of not allowing all AUT students the opportunity to run for representative roles. Discussions with AUT to take place to find a potential solution. The idea of a scholarship has been raised. |
| Increased cost of tertiary education for students                  | AUT has confirmed 6% fees increase for students in 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |



|                  |                                                                            |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AUTSA Membership | AUTSA CRM progress to be rolled out to ensure we are capturing membership. |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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## Student Representative Council

### Update:

On 9 July, members participated in a mid-year workshop designed to re-energise the team, identify student community challenges, and brainstorm ideas for the remainder of the year. The day included interactive activities, meaningful discussions, and concluded with team bonding at an escape room, which received very positive feedback for fostering connections beyond the formal meeting space. The SRC also played a major role in the AGM, splitting into three themed teams for a friendly competition to bring the most attendees through referrals—congratulations to the Blue Team, “AGM Avengers,” for the win. Alongside these events, the SRC held its monthly meeting to discuss ongoing advocacy and initiatives, including transport issues, study spaces, ASR training, disability advocacy support, the Project Navigator follow-up, and student communications policy. Additional agenda items included an AGM debrief, upcoming elections, a Tech Central proposal, event planning, and addressing academic pressure concerns. Overall, July was a month of strong engagement, collaboration, and tangible progress toward enhancing the student experience.

### **SRC Report Feedback:**

- Positive engagement from the SRC mid-year workshop and AGM challenge, fostering strong team spirit.
- Some reps experiencing burnout and needing guidance on balancing commitments.
- Delayed academic feedback raised as a concern by students.
- Unwelcoming treatment for City Campus students accessing facilities after hours.
- South Campus facing unfair UbiPark ticketing issues.
- DSS cancellations and lack of leadership impacting student support.
- Minimal engagement from Māori students with AUTSA events; need targeted outreach.
- Wellbeing Week campaign in development with scope for wider SRC promotion and collaboration.

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## AUTSA Board

### Update:

- Work through Market Research from AUT Surveys.
- AGM: The AUTSA 2025 AGM was a huge success, with strong engagement and vibrant energy throughout the day. We had 68 students pre-register, 60 sign up on the day, 108 new members join, and representation from 28 clubs. Attendance stayed steady with at least 50 students present during the meeting, and we gave away 50 AUTSA bags before starting. Post-AGM, over 200 servings of kai were enjoyed, and we gathered 20+ valuable feedback submissions. Massive thanks to our sponsors, Student Representative Council, clubs, AV team, Board members, staff teams, and all volunteers who made this possible. This record-level turnout and engagement is a testament to everyone’s dedication—an incredible way to wrap up the year.



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## ATSA

### Update:

- Proposal for ATSA and ATAG developed – awaiting discussion and decisions from SRC & Board to then communicate back to ATSA on our decision to join or not.
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## Next month

### Goals & Objectives:

Next month, the focus will be on:

- Run a smooth AUTSA Elections process while tackling the challenge of international students being unable to run for VP roles, and explore solutions so all students have fair opportunities to stand.
- Keep the momentum on the Auckland Transport Campaign alongside AUSA, and work with the SRC and Board to finalise our decision on the ATSA/ATAG proposal so we can communicate a clear direction.
- Lock in a simple, effective way for students to sign up as AUTSA members, and follow up on key feedback from the SRC reports to improve how we support and represent our student communities.

Monthly report

## **Tāmaki Herenga Taura (AUTSA) | Academic Vice-President Report | Author: Vyshakh Rajendran**

Period Covered: Aug 2025

### **Summary**

August and late July has been quite eventful in terms of engagement as we had our AGM, VP and Presidential candidate debates as part of elections for SRC 2026. The response was very positive as many students turned up for both the events

#### **1. Discussions from National AI group**

- Different Approaches adopted by universities across NZ with respect to Generative AI
- Institutional-level policies standardizing practice, Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington that set baseline rules for safe, innovative use in teaching, learning and evaluation
- Clear rules on acknowledging AI and ensuring academic honesty to maintain Integrity & disclosure

#### **2. SRC Meeting**

- Advocate for stronger peer mentoring at SAC- to be taken to SAC meeting

#### **3. Collaboration between AUTSA x AUSA on working towards letter to Auckland Transport**

- Works on public statement
- Further Increasing the penetration across AUT and UOA
- Decrease fares for students during these times of hardship

#### **4. AUT librarians work on CAUL-Council of Australasian University Librarians**

- Updates from AUT library upon their ongoing work with CAUL regarding meetings with academic publishers
- CAUL progress towards negotiating landmark open access deals for students across the Australasia
- Universities are under pressure as budgets tighten and costs keep rising.
- Open access publishing has become increasingly expensive and creating concern across the sector.
- Institutions are now looking for publishing agreements that are fairer and easier to sustain in the long term.
- The goal is to make deals more transparent and equitable for everyone involved.
- Above all, the sector wants to ensure open access for academicians and universities that funds research.

## What have I been up to?

Meetings, events, trainings attended this month

A. Meetings:

- 1) AUTSA board meeting
- 2) AGM and SRC Elections
- 3) Fortnightly Weekly Catchups with AUT
- 4) SRC Academic subcommittee
- 5) SRC meeting
- 6) Learning and Teaching Committee
- 7) TKT x AUTSA meeting
- 8) Pres and VP weekly catch up
- 9) Meeting with AUT counterparts
- 10) ASR catch up with Student coordinator
- 11) Academic Board
- 12) AUTxUOA Transport campaign meeting
- 13) National AI group
- 14) ASR strategic meeting agenda catch up

## Highlighted feedback/issues gathered by you related to student issues

General feedback:

NA.

Specific feedback:

NA.

## Plans for next months to address the feedback/issues

- Continue working with the subcommittee and Student Coordinator for betterment for ASR
- Meeting with Candice and Heather Merrick over ASR incentivization.
- Meeting with Student coordinator over ASR incentivization.
- Follow up with advocacy over ASR TOR

## Do you need support with anything? If so, who? And have you reached out?

Not right now.

Notes or additional things:

NA.

## Auckland University of Technology Student Association Student Representative Council 2025 Meeting Agenda Item

|                       |                                                |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Author</b>         | AUTSA President                                |
| <b>Date</b>           | 25 August 2025                                 |
| <b>Subject</b>        | Review of funding for Student Job Search (SJS) |
| <b>Time Requested</b> | 10 minutes                                     |

### Purpose

What is this item about?

The purpose of this agenda item is to inform SRC members about AUTSA's current contribution to Student Job Search (SJS), now \$12,000 annually, reduced from \$20,000, and to facilitate discussion on whether to continue this level of funding or consider reallocating it to other AUTSA services.

### Student outreach

What specific student issue or opportunity does this item address? How is your represented student community impacted?

This item focuses on employability resources available to AUT students. SJS is a national service helping students find jobs, accessible regardless of AUTSA funding. The discussion centers on whether AUTSA's current financial support adds value or could be used more effectively elsewhere.

### Impact

Why is this relevant to the SRC and AUTSA?

This topic is relevant to AUTSA and the SRC for several reasons:

- AUTSA's contribution supports SJS, though students retain access without it.
- AUT has an employability Lab that we need to consider
- AUTSA also operates other services such as Tautoko (food pantry, breakfast, financial assistance), advocacy, clubs, and student media
- Redirecting funds may benefit services with greater student demand or urgency, enhancing overall student support.

### Proposed outcome

What outcome are you hoping to achieve with this item? Informing the SRC, discussion with the SRC, asking for approval, etc.

This agenda item aims to:

- Ensure SRC members are well-informed about the implications of continuing or discontinuing the \$12,000 annual contribution to SJS.
- Support a decision-making process, either to maintain current funding, adjust it, or allocate those funds differently.

## Your Agenda Item

### Background & Context

- SJS is a not-for-profit student employment service founded in 1982 and was independently operated by student associations across New Zealand. It's now a separate organisation with an independent board and student advisory committee. It receives over 90% of its funding from the government, with AUTSA contributing a minor portion.
- At AUTSA, SJS is one of several student services delivered through the compulsory student services fee, alongside advocacy, clubs, media, and Tautoko

### Current Funding Status

- AUTSA's contribution to SJS has decreased from \$20,000 to \$12,000 per annum starting in 2025. Students continue to have access to SJS regardless of this funding.

### Option A: Continue Funding at \$12,000

- Signals ongoing support for a nationally coordinated student employment service.
- Maintains relationship and goodwill with SJS.
- Supports student employability in a broader ecosystem.

### Option B: Redirect Funds

- Potentially boost other AUTSA services with higher direct student engagement, such as Tautoko, advocacy, clubs, or student media.
- And maintain transparency with students: access to SJS remains.

### Considerations

- Service Continuity: SJS continues to operate without AUTSA's full funding.
- Student Needs: Services like Tautoko directly address financial hardship and wellbeing
- Strategic Alignment: How AUTSA can best allocate limited resources to maximize student benefit.
- Transparency is key and will need to be done with students and SJS.