

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

<b>Date, time</b>	Wednesday 9 April, 1:00pm-3:00pm
<b>Location</b>	WA505, AUT City Campus   Microsoft Teams
<b>Chair</b>	James Portegys – Vice President Community

#	OPEN AGENDA ITEM	TIME
<b>1</b>	<p><b>SRC Karakia</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	1 minute
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Attendance, quorum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present</li> <li>• Apologies</li> <li>• Absent</li> <li>• In attendance</li> </ul>	1 minute
<b>3</b>	Ratify March 12 2025 Open Meeting Minutes	1 minute
<b>4</b>	<b>ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	President: Aotearoa Tertiary Student Association Subcommittees	2 minutes
<b>4.2</b>	Vice President Community: Wellesley Street Accommodation	2 minutes
<b>4.3</b>	International Affairs Representative: International Students Scholarships Issue	2 minutes
<b>4.4</b>	BEL Faculty Representative: SCAs and Referencing Proficiency	2 minutes
<b>4.5</b>	CSOC Faculty Representative: Transport-related Safety Issues	2 minutes
<b>5</b>	President Report	5 minutes
<b>6</b>	Vice President Academic Report	5 minutes
<b>7</b>	Vice President Community Report	5 minutes

<b>8</b>	Motion to Accept the North Campus Representative's Resignation	2 minutes
<b>9</b>	Reporting Roundup	20 minutes
<b>10</b>	Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Organisation	5 minutes
<b>11</b>	Advocacy with AUTSA Head of Advocacy	10 minutes
<b>12</b>	Wellbeing Representative	10 minutes
<b>13</b>	Discussion: Re-O Week with AUTSA Head of Events	30 minutes
<b>14</b>	Resolution to Move Into Closed Agenda	1 minute

# Auckland University of Technology Student Association Student Representative Council 2025 Open Meeting Minutes

THESE DRAFTED OPEN MINUTES MAY BE RATIFIED AT THE NEXT SRC MEETING

Held on Wednesday 12 March | WA505, AUT City Campus

**Chair:** Alicia Lemmer - President

**Present:**

- James Portegys – Vice President Community
- Vyshak Rajendran – Vice President Academic
- Yashkant Rattan – Business, Economics and Law Faculty Representative
- Xiayi Li – Culture and Society Faculty Representative (arrived 1:11pm)
- Shushmita Paul – Design and Creative Technology Faculty Representative
- Ishani Mathur – Health and Environmental Sciences Faculty Representative
- Rohan Patel – City Campus Representative
- Georgia Rouse – Disability Affairs Representative
- Kelsey Moleu – Diversity Affairs Representative
- Daniel Vanalau – Pasifika Affairs Representative
- PeiLin Huang – Wellbeing Representative
- Archana Rajan – International Affairs Representative (online)
- Shyam Sundar Sundararajan – Accommodation Representative (online)

**Apologies:**

- Mark Atkins – Postgraduate Affairs Representative
- Martha Kilian – Mature Student Affairs Representative

**Absent:**

- Cameron Gilmore – North Campus Representative

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

SRC KARAKIA, QUORUM, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS	
The meeting started at 1:02pm, with James reciting the SRC Karakia. Alicia expressed her thanks for everyone present and gave a rundown of the agenda.	
#	OPEN AGENDA ITEM
<b>3</b>	<b>1:04pm: Ratify meeting minutes from October 27 2024, November 14 2024</b> Only Kelsey and Rohan were SRC members at the time of the two meetings. They both accepted the minutes, provided the November 14 2024 meeting minutes were amended to show Kelsey as being present.

	<p>The minutes were accepted.</p> <p><b>Correction note:</b> further investigation into the November 14 2024 meeting minutes and attendance rundown from Microsoft Teams showed Kelsey was not present at the meeting.</p>
4	<p><b>1:07pm: President Report</b>  Alicia referred to her January Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two new independent directors were appointed to the AUTSA Governance Board.</li> <li>• Anticipation for AUTSA’s O Week</li> <li>• Plans and preparation for SRC training</li> <li>• Working alongside the Aotearoa Tertiary Students’ Association</li> </ul> <p>There were no questions and the report was accepted.</p>
5	<p><b>1:08pm: Vice President Academic Verbal Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enquired about postgraduate student programmes and fees at an AUT Learning and Teaching Committee meeting – this matter has been resolved.</li> <li>• Had a proposal regarding students in accommodation in collaboration with Shyam and James. Will present feedback on this at the next SRC meeting.</li> <li>• Reflected on SRC training in mid-February.</li> <li>• Reflected on O Week being a hectic period but took opportunities to meet with students and garner feedback. This feedback will be forward to AUT Pro-Vice-Chancellor Learning and Teaching Felicity Reid.</li> <li>• Met with the editor of Debate Magazine Liam Hansen and was asked for his (and the SRC’s) input for future magazine issues.</li> </ul> <p>There was a brief discussion about the former AUT-owned Wellesley Street Accomodation, now owned by UniLodge.</p>
6	<p><b>1:13pm: Vice President Community Verbal Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Met with AUT People and Culture Diversity &amp; Inclusion Manager Lian-Hong and Kelsey to discuss diversity at AUT. Noted an interest for AUTSA to get involved in the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative.</li> <li>• Met with the Office of Pacific Advancement and Daniel to begin building a relationship foundation for Daniel and future Pasifika Affairs Representatives – monthly meetings set up. Raised the topic of Vā Pasifika and its locations – Daniel noted having a space or advertisement of a space in central student locations would help foster the Vā further.</li> <li>• Noted it was lovely to attend a formal initiation ceremony for the incoming AUT Samoan Student Association executive team.</li> </ul> <p>There were no questions.</p>
7	<p><b>1:20pm: Reporting Roundup</b></p>

SRC members present were given an opportunity to verbally reflect on how their role is going currently. There was a collective reflection that SRC training was a positive experience.

- **Archana:** getting an understanding of their role, noted lots of international students connecting on an app specific to international students and scholarship issues.

**AP: Archana to approach Vyshak about scholarship issue; if the issue persists, approach AUTSA Advocacy**

- **Shyam:** reflected on a positive SRC training experience, as well as helping out with O Week activities. Attended student accommodation events as of late and will connect with Akoranga Student Village for monthly meetings.
- **Rohan:** feeling positive about O Week, hoping the buzz of activity continues for students. Reported little feedback to Student Job Search and if anyone had incentive ideas. Will meet with Matthew from AUT Estates soon.
- **Daniel:** volunteered during O Week and Orientation, connected with students at Pacific Lunches. Shout out to James for meeting with the Office of Pacific Advancement and beginning relationship building. Cautioned around managing energy levels.
- **PeiLin:** helped at Orientation and O Week, noted stock issues but otherwise a great time connecting with students. Met with Kelsey to plan an engagement activity – funding may be requested.
- **Yashkant:** highlighted Orientation and O Week, connecting with BEL clubs and noted eager incoming BEL students. Expressed concern for SCA structure in BEL and referencing proficiency among first years.

**AP: Yashkant to work with Vyshak to find SCA and reference proficiency resolutions.**

- **Xiayi:** spoke on community building efforts, potentially event planning, and student safety concerns.

**AP: Xiayi to approach the respective bus company if transport safety-related concerns persist, pass on AUT Security phone number for concerned students when on campus.**

- **Georgia:** getting out into the clubs space. Mentioned meeting with the Disabled Students Association, AUT Disability Support Services, and Student Hub, as well as the National Disabled Students' Association. Clarity in regard to Disability Support Services needed, as well as their picture published.
- **Kelsey:** noted volunteering in O Week, attending the Pasifika Festival, Pasifika student retention issues cited by ECMS Senior Lecturer Stephen Thorpe, and meeting a number of SRC members for collaboration opportunities. Clarified email response etiquette.
- **Shushmita:** assisted at Orientation, attended the Titahi Ki Tua Launch Night, met with faculty heads about upcoming AUT meetings. Talked on faculty-specific work going on with BComms and postgraduate students.
- **Ishani:** assisted at Orientation, received student enquiries via email, getting out there and informing faculty students and staff who to contact for student enquiries. Currently focused on paid placements campaign.

SUMMARY OF OPEN ACTION POINTS		
ACTION	WHO	DUE
Follow up on Wellesley Street Accommodation with Shyam	James	Wednesday 9 April
Approach Vyshak about scholarship issue; if the issue persists, approach AUTSA Advocacy	Archana	Wednesday 9 April
Work with Vyshak to find SCA and reference proficiency resolutions.	Yashkant	Wednesday 9 April
Approach the respective bus company if transport safety-related concerns persist, pass on AUT Security phone number for concerned students when on campus.	Xiayi	Wednesday 9 April



**autsa**  
YOUR VOICE AT AUT

# **MONTHLY PRESIDENT REPORT**

February 2025

Prepared by:  
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## Key Points & Activities

Focus areas this month:

- Vice-President Training
- Student Representative Council Training
- AUT Orientation week
- O'week

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## Highlights

Key highlights this month:

- Vice-President's training
- SRC training
- Orientation speeches
- 1<sup>st</sup> board meeting of 2025
- Dinner with Titahi Ki Tua (TKT)

## Challenges

The key challenges faced this month:

### Critical Matters

No critical matters this month

### Ongoing

University Advisory Group	Details are as mentioned in January monthly report. Universities across the country are still awaiting the Report to be released in a few months. The Science System Advisory Group Report was released earlier this year. More information can be found here on the results of the SSAG Report: <a href="https://ssag.org.nz/first-report/">https://ssag.org.nz/first-report/</a>
AUTSA Awareness	O'week promotion in Semester 1 this year was good. Growing student awareness on AUTSA is an ongoing challenge. A lack of awareness can be linked to many reasons such as changes in student behaviours post covid, cost-of-living crisis as well as due to our location in the city. Ongoing efforts and discussions are happening to improve AUTSA presence on social media to reach more students.
Funding for students on Work Integrated Learning (WIL)/ Placements	Details are as mentioned in January monthly report. The paid placements campaign is a focus for the Aotearoa Tertiary Students Associations. Unpaid placements remain a problem at universities across New Zealand, that deeply effect many of our AUT students. AUTSA Health and environmental sciences Rep, Ishani, is also working to get involved in the paid placements campaign.
AUTSA Te Tiriti journey	AUTSA signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Titahi Ki Tua (TKT) (AUT Māori student association) last year. AUTSA Te Tiriti journey continues to take place throughout 2025. Discussions with the university have taken place about how we can support AUTSA staff to





	better understand Māori culture, etc. The university is running a staff programme to train up AUT staff, however, this cannot be offer to AUTSA staff, however, AUT Te Tiriti Strategist Valence, shared some key resources that the uni was potentially looking at for AUTSA to potentially use as resources to develop our staff.
SJS	As the AUTSA President, Student Job Search (SJS) is currently reviewing their constitution to be in alignment with the new Incorporated Societies Act. They asked for Feedback from Presidents who have undergone the process before to help give feedback on their changes. There were a few concerns that I raised in the meeting and have requested for a second version of the constitution to come back to the committee to discuss the changes. The concerns I had were also raised to Eva. This is important for AUTSA as we are paying members to SJS and are voting members of the organisation.

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## Student Representative Council

### Update:

SRC had their first SRC meeting for 2025 on 12 March 2025. 11 members were present with 9 members attending in person and 2 attending online. Items that were discussed included, reports from each representative, AUTSA ball themes, SRC involvement with ATSA as well as an opportunity for SRC to write in Debate.

- Many students provided great feedback and said they enjoyed the SRC Training that took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025.
- Some SRC members raised concerns about the accommodation available to students and the significant cost of accommodation for our students staying at Mayoral Drive Student Accommodation.
- Many SRC are working with their AUT counterparts to establish relationships and hopefully set-up monthly meetings.

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## AUTSA Board

### Update:

- At the SRC training, a student director position was open for all SRC apply, students underwent “pitches” to the team. We had around 8-9 students do pitches to the SRC. The SRC votes in an online form and selected Shushmita Paul as the SRC student director.
- The 2025 Workplan has been uploaded to BoardPro. This includes more details compared to previous years to ensure AUTSA effectively addresses key dates, objectives, and strategic goals for 2025.
- O’week: AUTSA was present at Orientation week and O’week which helped to get 1<sup>st</sup> year students aware of us and the services we provide.



## AUT Council

Update:

“This year marks a significant milestone in AUT’s journey—our 25th anniversary as a university and our 130th year as a learning institution. As a young university with a strong future focus, we also embrace a rich history of applied knowledge and real-world impact—this unique blend defines AUT. I am proud of what we stand for as Aotearoa New Zealand’s university of technology and university of opportunity. As we reflect on and celebrate our journey over the past 25 years, it’s equally important to look ahead. The next 25 years will bring new challenges, innovations, and opportunities that will shape the future of education, research, and our role in society. With our commitment to excellence, equity, and impact, we will continue to push boundaries, embrace new technologies, and foster a learning environment that empowers future generations.” - Damon Salesea

### Year-end 2024 Student EFTS

**Summary Table**

	Domestic Funded		International Full Fee		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Year-to-date (YTD) EFTS	15,896	15,555	2,816	2,447	18,712	18,002

## VC Report Highlights

The report highlights several key developments at AUT. AUT Online has made substantial progress, with the launch of its external website and the development of technical systems to support a seamless student journey from enquiry to enrolment, positioning the university strongly in the online postgraduate market. From January 2025, AUT will welcome six new Professors and 23 new Associate Professors, reflecting academic growth. The University also hosted the Trouble In Paradise art exhibition at the Te Wai Ngutu Kākā Gallery in February. Additionally, AUT has formed a non-commercial partnership with Auckland FC, New Zealand’s newest A-League club, opening up various opportunities for students, staff, and players. AUT continues to rank in the top 500 universities globally across most subjects in the 2025 Times Higher Education Rankings by Subject. Furthermore, AUT remains a proud supporter of Big Gay Out, the only tertiary institution to partner with the event, showcasing its commitment to diversity and inclusion.

### Student Accommodation:

“As of 5 February 2025, Mayoral Drive student accommodation has 129 rooms available. Marketing continues as offers of place continue to be processed. There is a waitlist for the Akoranga Student Village (ASV) accommodation. Meanwhile, we are also receiving cancellations and expired offers, which are being replaced as they come in. ASV is expected to be at full capacity by the start of Semester 1, 2025.”



As of 31 January 2025:

Accommodation	Total Rooms	In Room	Total Applications	Live Offers	Confirmed	Rooms Available	% of rooms taken	% of rooms offered
ASV	198	0	339	24	168	30	85%	97%

## Cost of AUT Student Accommodation

### Te Āhuru Mayoral Drive Student Accommodation (City Campus)

#### 2025 room fees (AUT students only)

Other fees may apply. For example, there is a credit card surcharge fee – check the 'Other fees' section carefully.

#### Standard Studio Room: NZ\$468 per week

- > 40 weeks (full year): \$18,720.00
- > 20 weeks (one semester): \$9,360.00

### Akoranga Student Village (North Campus)

#### 2025 room fees

Other fees may apply. For example, there is a 'semester-only fee' if you only book for one semester – check the 'Other fees' section carefully.

#### Standard room: NZ\$ 337 per week

- > 40 weeks (full year): \$13,480
- > 19 weeks (one semester): \$6,403

<https://www.aut.ac.nz/student-life/accommodation/fees-for-aut-student-accommodation>

## Student Loan Living Cost amount students can claim:

### What you can get

You can get up to \$316.39 a week for living costs but you don't have to borrow the full amount.

<https://www.studylink.govt.nz/products/a-z-products/student-loan/living-costs.html>



## ATSA

### Update:

- The Aotearoa Tertiary Student Association is continuing to meet monthly with a national conference planned for May in Dunedin.
  - There are currently sub-committees being set-up to create the constitution for ATSA, develop a strategic plan and brand and marketing.
  - The key campaigns we're looking to focus on are paid Placements and the DAVID Campaign (advocate against VSM).
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## Next month

### Goals & Objectives:

Next month, the focus will be on:

- **Boost AUTSA Awareness:** Strengthen social media presence and student outreach to address engagement challenges post-COVID and due to the cost-of-living crisis.
- **Advocate for Paid Placements:** Support the national campaign, collaborate with AUTSA reps, and gather student experiences to push for financial support.
- **Advance AUTSA's Te Tiriti Journey:** Implement Māori cultural training resources for AUTSA staff and continue discussions with the university on enhancing Te Tiriti commitments.
- **Engage in the SJS Constitution Review:** Ensure AUTSA's concerns are addressed in the second draft, advocate for fair changes, and coordinate with the committee.
- **Monitor National University Report & Policy Changes:** Stay updated on the upcoming report, participate in relevant discussions, and assess potential impacts on AUT students.

Monthly report

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

Period Covered: March 2025

### Summary

My journey as the Vice President Academic (VPA) has been both enriching and rewarding. Over the last month, I have grown into my role and actively engaged in a range of initiatives aimed at enhancing the student experience at AUT. Below is an overview of my key engagements:

1. **Active Participation in Meetings:** I have attended numerous meetings, ensuring that the student perspective is consistently represented. I have made it a priority to voice student concerns and ideas in discussions that impact the academic community.
2. **Concerns Raised Regarding Amokura at the SAC Meeting:** I raised concerns related to Amokura during the Student Advisory Council (SAC) meeting. I pitched in for a competitive exam to expand the ambit of this program to all the students.
3. **Proposals to the Learning and Teaching Committee:** I presented a couple of initiatives to the Learning and Teaching Committee, which were intended to incentivize ASR and SRC and enhance faculty-student engagement.
  - a. **Collaborative Meetings Between SRC Faculty Representatives and AUT Counterparts:** I proposed the idea of facilitating meetings between the SRC Faculty Representatives and their AUT counterparts. This initiative was well-received and has since been taken up by Felicity Reid and Heather Merrick.
  - b. **Incentivizing Contributions from ASR and SRC:** I have put forward the idea of incentivizing the contributions of the ASR and SRC members through a collaboration between AUT and AUTSA. This proposal has been taken up by Joanna Scarbrough and is expected to enhance by acknowledging the valuable work these representatives do.
4. **Debate on Payment for Contributors in the Non-Executive SRC**

After conducting a census among the SRC executives, I approached the DEBATE to discuss the possibility of contributor's payment for the non-executive SRC. This initiative seeks to acknowledge the time and effort invested by non-executive members, ensuring their contributions are appropriately valued.

## What have I been up to?

Meetings, events, trainings attended this month

- A. Meetings:
  - 1) DEBATE x SRC
  - 2) AUTSA board meeting
  - 3) Fortnightly Weekly Catchups with AUT
  - 4) AUTSA staff meeting
  - 5) AUTSA video campaign
  - 6) FAR Meeting
  - 7) SRC Academic subcommittee
  - 8) SRC meeting
  - 9) Learning and Teaching Committee
  - 10) TKT x AUTSA meeting
  - 11) AUTSA board dinner
  - 12) Pres and VP weekly catch up
  - 13) Meeting with AUT counterparts
  - 14) Student Advisory Committee
  - 15) Academic Board

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

### General feedback:

- Feedback gathered during O-week was sent to respective Faculty and was followed up during the Learning and Teaching committee, I was assured that the concerns were being worked upon.
- Capturing student experience on campus with Pres and VPC.

### Specific feedback:

Was Approached by student seeking representation in a meeting with AUT, guided him to approach Advocacy.

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

- Continuing to attend meetings and getting student voice heard in these spaces.

- Continue working with subcommittee and Student Communities coordinator to revive ASR.
- Follow up with faculties regarding student feedback.
- Follow up with Joanna Scarbrough.
- Follow up with Felicity Reid and Heather Merrick.
- Follow up with Liam Hansen.

Do you need support with anything if so who? And have you reached out?

Not right now.

Notes or additional things:

NA.



# AUT Student Association | Tāmaki Herenga Taurira

## Student Representative Council

### Vice President Community Report

#### James Portegys

Month Covered:

#### Summary

The key highlights and issues

- Progress towards the Hidden Disability Sunflower Campaign.
- Advancing efforts to ensure all Community Subcommittee members have monthly meetings
- Preparation for a campaign addressing transport and parking issues around AUT City

#### Events and initiatives started and progressing -

- 1. Hidden Disability Sunflower Campaign(HDSC)** The Hidden Disability Sunflower Campaign has already been introduced at AUT to improve visibility and support for students with hidden disabilities. Autsa is not a member, but it is my intention that AUTsa becomes a member in the coming weeks and months. This initiative aims to foster a more inclusive environment by ensuring students with non-visible disabilities can access the support they need without undue barriers. Preliminary Work is underway to join the organisation and create advertising material to push this out to the wider student body
- 2. Parking and transport campaign.**
  - I would like to bring to the attention of of the SRC that on the 12 of April, parking will increase by **50 cents** an hour for all AT parking across the CBD
  - This will put increased cost pressures on our students and will need to be monitored to assess the impact on students
  - A survey is being created to gather data on how much students pay for parking per week to be distributed
  - This is just one example of rising consumer costs affecting directly impacting student life
- 3. Plans for Re-O-Week** presenting an opportunity to re-engage students with AUTSA services and events, particularly those who may have missed out during Orientation. This semester's Re-O-Week will include:



Discussions are ongoing to work with AUSA, Auckland University Student Association to implement joint events and initiatives to appeal to the widest student audience

**2. Increasing Campus Cohesion: Clubs Anti-Silo Event** One of the key challenges on campus is the limited collaboration between student clubs. To address this, we are organizing an Anti-Silo Event aimed at fostering cross-club interaction. This event could feature,

- A networking session for club leaders to establish meaningful connections.
- Joint club activities designed to promote collaboration and teamwork.
- Panel discussions on leadership and engagement within student organizations.
- A long-term strategy to encourage sustained interaction among clubs beyond the event.

**4. Community Subcommittee Meetings with AUT** To strengthen the relationship between AUT and the AUTSA SRC Community Subcommittee, I am gathering data on the frequency and effectiveness of these meetings. The goal is to ensure consistent and productive engagement between SRC representatives and key AUT departments. Key actions include:

- Surveying current SRC Community Subcommittee members regarding their meetings with AUT representatives.
- Identifying gaps in communication and areas where engagement can be improved.  
Establishing a framework for regular and effective discussions with AUT stakeholders

Next month's goals and aspirations

- Progress HDS campaign getting SRC and AUTSA marketing onboard
- Continue the conversation surrounding re-Oweek collaborations
- Progress and finalise the parking and transportation campaign for distribution to Aut student body

## **North Campus Representative Resignation Letter**

I am writing to inform you of my resignation from the position of North Campus Representative for AUT.

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the required meetings on Wednesday's due to work commitments.

Furthermore, due to co-op and placement commitments, I am only able to attend North Campus on Mondays for four hours (when I attend class)

Thank you for the opportunity to be student representative of North Campus and my sincere apologies for not being able to fulfil these commitments.

Kind regards,  
Cameron Gilmore

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

<b>Author</b>	Vic president community
<b>Date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025
<b>Subject</b>	Hidden Disabilities Sunflower organization
<b>Time Requested</b>	5 minutes

## Purpose

Please insert a small purpose as to what this item is outlining. No more than **2-3** sentences.

The purpose of this agenda item is to introduce the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower organization to the SRC and outline AUTSA's intention to become a member organization. This initiative aims to raise awareness and support for students with hidden disabilities at AUT.

## Student outreach

Yes or no? If yes, how many students have shared this feedback with you?

No

## What is the problem statement?

What is the problem you are trying to solve. **1-2** sentences.

Many students with hidden disabilities face challenges in receiving the support and understanding they need. The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative provides a simple yet effective way to raise awareness and create a more inclusive environment at AUT.

## Background

What is the background information we need to know. Recommended **3-4** sentences.

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower organization is an internationally recognized initiative that allows individuals with non-visible disabilities to discreetly signal that they may require additional support, patience, or understanding. By becoming a member organization, AUTSA can help promote the initiative at AUT, making it easier for students with hidden disabilities to navigate campus life with confidence.

This agenda item aims to inform the SRC about AUTSA's steps to join as a member and to push the initiative to the wider student body. This could include distributing Sunflower lanyards, raising awareness among staff and students, and working with AUT to integrate the program into campus support systems.

## Recommendation

What is the recommendation of the item you are making? **1-2** sentences. Is this to:

- Inform the SRC
- Ask for approval
- Have a discussion

**The outcome of this item is to inform the SRC about AUTSA's plans and to encourage discussion on how we can best implement and promote this initiative.**

Next steps:

- Finalize AUTSA's membership with the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower organization.
- Develop a plan to distribute lanyards and promote awareness.
- Engage with AUT's student support services to integrate the initiative into existing accessibility programs.

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

<b>Name</b>	Wellbeing officer
<b>Subject</b>	Query about complaint process (AUT)
<b>Time Requested</b>	...

## Problem statement

What is the student issue covered in this item?

This item aims to identify areas in AUT's complaint process for further improvements.

## Student outreach

Does this item stem from student feedback? If so, how many students gave this feedback?

1

## Impact

Why is this relevant to the SRC and AUTSA?

Present your item in detail below. Be sure to separate key points into headings, making your headings **bold**. Key points may cover consequences of actions/inaction, timelines, etc. The goal is to ensure SRC members come away from reading your agenda item **well-informed** in the leadup to the SRC meeting.

## Query about complaint process (AUT)

The reason this agenda item is here is because a student approached me and expressed concern that AUT was not providing clear communication and not clearly communicating complaint timelines or outcomes. Although filing a complaint is relatively easy, this student is not receiving a timely or transparent outcome. The university appears to be slow in responding and is not transparent about how student input is considered. Additionally, information about the complaint process can be difficult for a student to access. A student may find it difficult to locate complaints-related resources, which can act as a barrier to lodging a complaint. Ensuring the information is easy to find and understand will help support more equitable access to the process.

## Outcome

What outcome are you hoping to achieve with this item? Outcomes include but aren't limited to:

- Informing the SRC
- Discussion with the SRC, or
- Asking for approval

The outcome of this item is to inform the SRC and advocacy.

I have engaged with the AUTSA President and AUTSA advocacy to address these concerns. Next steps: I will continue to engage with the AUTSA President and AUTSA Advocacy to discuss areas for improvement for them to raise it to the university in the appropriate manner.