

AUTSA Student Representative Council Meeting

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES TO BE APPROVED OR AMENDED AT THE NEXT SRC MEETING

MINUTES

Held on Tuesday 5 March 2024 | 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm | WG517 or [Microsoft Teams](#)

Chair: Alicia Lemmer – President

ATTENDEES:

Tasfia Mahmood – Vice President Academic
 Regina Tao – Vice President Community
 Ayse Almila Kilic - Business, Economics, and Law Faculty Representative
 C Fonseca – Culture and Society Faculty Representative
 Louisa Marschner – Health and Environmental Sciences Faculty Representative
 Sophie Lei – Design and Creative Technologies Faculty Representative (online)
 Rao Naumaan Nasim Khan – Postgraduate Affairs Representative (late, left early)
 Rohan Patel – City Campus Representative (online)
 Sharmin Memon – North Campus Representative (online)
 Jie Yin – International Student Representative (online)
 Kelsey Moleu – Diversity Representative (online)
 Sione Langi – Pasifika Representative (online)
 Merlin Babu – Wellbeing Representative

APOLOGIES:

James McBain – South Campus Representative
 Chloe McDonald – Disability Representative
 Madz Crouth – AUTSA Student Communities Manager

In attendance:

Aaria Harrison-Sparke - Māori Student Representative applicant

Minutes: Willy Leiataua – Student Representative Coordinator

#	PRE-AGENDA ITEMS: QUORUM, KARAKIA, CALL FOR GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS
1	<p>The meeting began at 4:05pm. The quorum of seven (7) SRC members present has been reached. The President says the meeting karakia. Items to be talked about in general business included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confidentiality raised by the BEL Faculty Representative Gauging feedback/ideas regarding the A1 building in North Campus, raised by the HES Faculty Representative Clubs, raised by the Diversity Representative <p>General business items can alternatively be an agenda point, so as to allocate enough time for discussion.</p>
#	AGENDA ITEM
1	President’s Report (verbal)

	<p>The President provided a verbal report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Law graduands: the President updated the BEL Faculty Representative, saying while the date of graduating cannot change to align closer with AUT Graduation, graduands can still receive their parchment. <i>AP: find out whether Law students can access AUT services in interim period between completion of study and Law Student Graduation (separate to AUT Graduation)</i> • Governance Board: the South Campus Representative has been elected in as the third Student Director to sit on the AUTSA Governance Board. Congratulations to them. • Memorandum of Understanding between AUTSA and Tītahi Ki Tua: the document is undergoing changes, will address in a separate agenda item. • Lodge closure: unfortunately the AUTSA Lodge will be sold as the Governance Board concluded selling would be a more viable decision for AUTSA. <p>Other activities included overlooking academic policies and attending meetings with AUT Council and the Audit Committee.</p>
2	<p>Vice President Academic Report (verbal)</p> <p>The Vice President Academic provided a verbal report, noting that the next report will be written in extensive detail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Academic Student Representative (ASR) system: the ASR system is essentially an undergraduate student representative for each major in AUT. Rolling out soon, the ASR system is currently taking applications. The Faculty Representatives as well as the Vice President Academic will determine who the Academic Student Representatives are in each faculty. • Student Complaint Restructure Feedback: AUT is undergoing a student complaint system restructure, an email has been sent out to Faculty Representatives for feedback. <i>AP: Faculty Representatives to gauge feedback about complaints system from students</i> <p>The Vice President Academic had a brief conversation had around how to get AUT students pushed out into more employment opportunities to ensure future graduates are gaining experience outside of study. The President pointed out that future subcommittee meetings will cover updates and questions in detail outside of the meeting.</p>
3	<p>VP Community Report (verbal)</p> <p>The Vice President Community provided a verbal report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have been in touch with the AUT Community Advisory Committee • A roadmap pertaining to student wellbeing at AUT is currently underway • They have visited the Auckland University Student Association to discuss potential collaborations • They mentioned working with Tītahi Ki Tua alongside the President • They mentioned the Spaces platform, ensuring more clubs apply to use the platform to streamline bookings and grants from AUTSA <p>The Diversity Representative asked how to make the Space platform appealing for clubs. The Vice President Community noted an issue in the platform’s user-friendliness on the surface, and reiterated the purpose to streamline club formalities on one platform.</p> <p><i>AP: Vice President Community to talk to Madz regarding Spaces issues within clubs.</i></p>
4	<p>SRC Charter and Goals</p>

	<p>There were no questions or objections from SRC members before signing the SRC Charter. All members present in person signed, including the pending Māori Representative. The Charter will be available online for reference.</p> <p>The 'Community' and 'Engagement' sections stood out as goal areas. The Pasifika Representative points out a focus on student wellbeing in light of the semester starting.</p> <p>The Diversity Representative believed AUTSA was exclusive at times, citing some clubs being notified on updates, others not. The President acknowledged issues, however noted some issues could be traced back to AUT. The Culture and Society Faculty Representative referred to correspondence from AUTSA, and cited one club who received correspondence, and another club who did not.</p> <p>The Pasifika Representative posed a question about whether the AUTSA Marketing team was responsible. The Diversity Representative concurred. The President clarified the AUTSA Marketing team were not responsible for distributing emails, but the issue in general will be looked at.</p> <p>The Pasifika Representative sought further clarification regarding who is wholly responsible for clubs and communities. The President clarified that student clubs run under AUTSA unless agreed and noted otherwise. The Postgraduate Representative then recalled their involvement in a club that was run under AUT.</p> <p>The discussion then moved into where student clubs and communities fall under. The President's stance was student clubs and communities have to fall under AUTSA. The stance of the Pasifika Representative, Diversity Representative, and Postgraduate Representative was that a number of clubs did not reflect the aforementioned stance from the President.</p> <p><i>AP: President to clarify AUTSA CEO statement on clubs between AUT and AUTSA for the Diversity Representative.</i></p> <p><i>AP: Vice President Community to clarify clubs miscommunication with Madz, possibly calling on SRC members concerned.</i></p> <p><i>AP: Vice President Academic to follow up with academic-related clubs.</i></p> <p>The HES Faculty Representative suggested thematic goals rather than one overriding goals. The CSOC Faculty Representative agreed. The candidate for the Māori Representative position suggested communication and engagement looked important. The Vice President Academic suggested looking at the overarching goals for each subcommittee.</p> <p>The President concluded by outlining three main focus goal areas: 'Engagement', 'Wellbeing', and 'Community'.</p> <p><i>AP: Add agenda item: subcommittee update on what they will do in relation to focus goals area.</i></p>
5	Conduct

	<p>A statement was read on behalf of Madz, AUTSA Student Communities Manager:</p> <p><i>“Across campuses we have taken on a journey of representation, which means you all shine brighter and have access to specific information before anyone else does. Due to this, you have an added responsibility for ensuring that you do not disclose information outside of the SRC, you turn up and stay for trainings, and you make time to attend the meetings required and expected for your roles.</i></p> <p><i>We know you may represent in other spaces, both AUTSA and AUT-led, but your role as an SRC member is and should be your main priority as it is a role that does not turn off. In a club or other community, once you leave the confines of that space, you stop representing it. In your role as an SRC member, this continues both in and out of your classes, communities and services. If you see something, report it, if you hear sensitive information, do not share that outside of that space, and most importantly, respect the operations team and their workspaces.”</i></p> <p>The President stressed confidentiality meeting attendance – three consecutive missed meetings without apologies automatically deems a position vacant.</p> <p>The Postgraduate Representative expressed concern regarding student engagement and reporting. The President and Vice President Academic noted activity for each SRC member will range every month and is not a cause for concern.</p> <p><i>AP: discuss what student engagement looks like in relation to ‘what makes an active SRC member?’ discussion.</i></p> <p>The HES Faculty Representative pointed out the new ASR system is a new route of engagement with students.</p> <p>The President clarified that confidentiality is to be kept unless people involved are in danger. The BEL Faculty Representative expressed concern over distrust in the SRC because of a breach last year. The President reiterated that anything confidential, particularly within the disciplinary committee space, is to be kept within said space.</p> <p>The Pasifika Representative brought up the comfortability of a student concerning support persons in a disciplinary hearing. The HES Faculty Representative pointed out that an advocate from AUTSA Advocacy could be present alongside the student in the hearing. The Pasifika Representative then noted the student in question requested a Pacific person and cited a lack of a Pacific presence in AUTSA Advocacy. The President advised against the Pasifika Representative being the support person for the student in question, and will seek further advice from AUTSA Advocacy.</p> <p><i>AP: President to speak with Advocacy regarding SRC members acting as support persons for students in disciplinary hearing.</i></p>
6	<p>Discuss role in general, boundaries</p> <p>The President reminded the SRC about representing student voice, not doing work on behalf of students or existing AUTSA services. SRC are not to counsel but refer students to the appropriate services.</p>
7	<p>Media comments</p>

	<p>The President and Vice Presidents had media training recently. The only people who speak on behalf of AUTSA is the President and AUTSA CEO. SRC members were advised to refer to the President for any media enquiries and not to say “no comment” as it infers hiding something.</p>
8	<p>Student services – being aware for future referrals</p> <p>The Vice President Community met with the AUT Community Advisory Committee, and explained the slide attached was to be shown in the first week of classes university-wide. The Vice President Community hoped in future AUTSA services could be mentioned, as well.</p>
11	<p>Accept Māori Student Representative</p> <p>The President shifted to Agenda Item #11.</p> <p>The candidate for the Māori Representative position, Aaria, presented their vision for undertaking the role, highlighting existing networks with students to gauge feedback and engagement, as well as the continued work for Māori representation in the different spaces within AUT. The candidate noted an affinity to commit, and that their level of study workload for the semester made commitment to the position feasible. The candidate is also a Tumuaki Vice President for Tītahi Ki Tua.</p> <p>The SRC members unanimously voted in Aaria as the Māori Representative. An additional note was given by Aaria regarding weekly wānanga happening every Wednesday night throughout the semester. The President and Vice President attested that attending was a good time.</p>
12	<p>Accept the resignation of the Rainbow Representative and Mature Students Representative</p> <p>The President then moved to Agenda #12.</p> <p>The CSOC Faculty Representative queried about who Out@AUT could contact in the absence of the Rainbow Representative. The Vice President Community noted they were the person to speak to.</p> <p>The resignations were accepted unanimously by the SRC.</p>
10	<p>Progress in AUTSA x TKT Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)</p> <p>The President moved to Agenda Item #10.</p> <p>The President brought up a Memorandum of Understanding between AUTSA and Tītahi Ki Tua, which started last year but was not signed, and has now opened up discussions over how to navigate the document. The SRC were advised to send any feedback to the President by Wednesday 13 March.</p> <p><i>AP: President to take SRC feedback to fortnightly Tītahi Ki Tua meeting. Attach reporting and accompanying documents to next agenda.</i></p>
9	<p>Event reduction – pathway to collaborate with AUT with events</p> <p>The Vice President Community suggested to the SRC to plan events complementary to existing schedules – either clubs or AUT – as it will help to ease the load. SRC members may contact the Vice President Community via email for anything club-related. The</p>

	President noted that taking an event on solo is possible, however the suggestion by the Vice President Community helps to work smarter, not harder.
13	<p>Reporting</p> <p>The Student Representative Coordinator announced reports are due on Tuesday 26 March, 5pm. The upcoming report is to cover what the SRC have been doing throughout March. A progress report was given by the HES Faculty Representative regarding A1, the new building on North Campus: they are requesting any feedback or ideas for the building. Study rooms popped up as an idea.</p> <p><i>AP: SRC to submit reports by Tuesday 26 March, 5pm.</i></p> <p><i>AP: feedback/ideas for A1 to be sent to the HES Faculty Representative anytime before Tuesday 19 March.</i></p> <p>The Pasifika Representative noted they are working with the North Campus Representative and the HES Faculty Representative to make North Campus more accessible for students. The Pasifika Representative suggested having television screens installed on the campus for a possible ease of instant information distribution to students.</p>
14	<p>General business</p> <p>The Student Representative Coordinator will send reminders for meetings and report deadlines next week.</p> <p>The Pasifika Representative accused an unnamed AUT teaching staff member of racism.</p> <p><i>AP: provide progress update on accusation by the Pasifika Representative.</i></p>
15	<p>The President ended the meeting with a karakia.</p> <p>The meeting concluded at 6:04 pm.</p>

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS			
ACTION POINT	WHO	NOTED ON	DUE
Find out whether Law students can access AUT services in interim period between completion of study and Law Student Graduation (separate to AUT Graduation).	President	March 5	March 26
Faculty Representatives to gauge feedback about complaints system from students.	Faculty Representatives	March 5	March 14
Talk to Madz regarding Spaces issues within clubs.	Vice President Community	March 5	March 26
Clarify AUTSA CEO statement on clubs between AUT and AUTSA for the Diversity Representative.	President	March 5	March 26
Clarify clubs miscommunication with Madz, possibly calling on SRC members concerned.	Vice President Community	March 5	March 26
Follow up with academic-related clubs.	Vice President Academic	March 5	March 26
Subcommittee update on what they will do in relation to goal focus areas (Engagement, Wellbeing, Community).	All subcommittees	March 5	March 26

Speak with Advocacy regarding SRC members acting as support persons for students in disciplinary hearing.	President	March 5	March 26
Send feedback about AUTSA x TKT MoU to the President via email.	Everyone	March 5	March 13
Provide update on AUTSA x TKT MoU.	President	March 5	March 26
Submit March report	Everyone	March 5	March 26
Send feedback/ideas for A1 to the HES Faculty Representative.	Everyone	March 5	March 18
Provide progress update on accusation made by the Pasifika Representative.	President	March 5	March 26