

Auckland University of Technology Student Association Student Representative Council 2026 Open Meeting Agenda

Date, time	Friday 8 May 2026, 12:00-13:00
Location	WA505, WA Building, AUT City Campus
Chair	James Portegys - President

#	Item	Duration
1	SRC Karakia	1 min
2	Attendance, Quorum	1 min
3	Open Minutes From 10 April Meeting	2 min
4	Open Actions From 10 April SRC Meeting	5 min
	Action Point	Responsible
4.1	Meet with Campus Subcommittee in next couple weeks	President
4.2	Present an update on the Mature Students Survey	Mature Affairs Rep
4.3	Resolve campus property damage with AUT Estates	City Campus Rep
4.4	Update/reach out to SRC for event availability/attendance	Disability Affairs Rep
4.5	Update Fiona/SRC about resolving All Day Breakfast stock issue	President
4.6	Address consistent confusion with Pacific students	Vice President Community, President, Pasifika Affairs Rep
4.7	Ascertain any widespread issue of online resources not being posted up in the DCT faculty	DCT Faculty Rep
5	President Report	2 min
6	Vice President Academic Report	2 min
7	Vice President Community Report	2 min
8	Reporting Roundup	15 min
9	AUT Employability Lab	5 min



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Opening and Closing 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.

Kia whakairia te tapu
Kia wātea ai te ara
Kia turuki whakataha ai
Kia 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 2026 Open Meeting Minutes

Date, time	Friday 10 April 2026, 12:04-12:47
Location	WA505, WA Building, AUT City Campus
Chair	James Portegys - President

Attendees:

Peter (Yuan) Peng – Vice President Academic
 Ishani Mathur – Vice President Community
 Nithini Godawala – Design and Creative Technologies Faculty Representative
 Nandini Sivarathri – City Campus Representative
 Fiona Bhagat – North Campus Representative
 Monique Reid – Mature Affairs Representative
 Nova Tagi – Pasifika Affairs Representative
 PeiLin Huang – Wellbeing Affairs Representative

Apologies:

Chetali Dua – Health and Environmental Sciences Faculty Representative
 Jiya Ghandi – International Affairs Representative
 Isara Paramore – South Campus Representative
 Māhaki Mihaere-Neha - Māori Affairs Representative

Absent:

Raiyan Ferdous – Diversity Affairs Representative

In Attendance:

Minh Nguyen – Candidate for Culture and Society Faculty Representative
 Tobias Swanepoel – Candidate for Postgraduate Affairs Representative

Minutes: Willy Leiataua – Student Representative Coordinator / SRC Meeting Secretary

Action	Responsible
Meet with Campus Subcommittee in next couple weeks	President
Present an update on the Mature Students Survey	Mature Affairs Rep
Resolve campus property damage with AUT Estates	City Campus Rep
Update/reach out to SRC for event availability/attendance	Disability Affairs Rep
Update Fiona/SRC about resolving All Day Breakfast stock issue	President



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Address consistent confusion with Pacific students	Vice President Community, President, Pasifika Affairs Rep
Ascertain any widespread issue of online resources not being posted up in the DCT faculty	DCT Faculty Rep

#	Minutes
1	<p>12:04 SRC Karakia Everyone recited the SRC Karakia together in person, with James citing that the karakia was gifted to the 2020 Student Representative Council by the Māori Affairs Officer at the time.</p>
2	<p>12:06 Attendance, Quorum James confirmed the quorum of seven SRC members was met, and received apologies from Chetali, Jiya, Isara, and Māhaki.</p>
3	<p>12:06 Meeting Etiquette James noted that SRC accepting Executive reports was in the sense of acknowledging receipt of Executive reports. Confidentiality and mutual agreement was emphasised when it comes to sensitive matters discussed in closed sections of SRC meetings.</p>
4	<p>12:08 President Report Motion to accept the President Report: Moved by: PeiLin Seconded by: Nithini Outcome: Carried without opposition.</p> <p>James verbally noted from the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Aotearoa Tertiary Student Association (ATSA) is no longer a functioning body. Nothing changes functionally – NZ associations still activate and collaborate, just with no formal body. • An increasing student need for food hardship support, as reported on RNZ and Three News.
5	<p>12:10 Vice President Academic Report Motion to accept the Vice President Academic Report Moved by: Ishani Seconded by: Nandini Outcome: Carried without opposition.</p> <p>Peter noted having discussions with AUT about artificial intelligence (AI) use within university systems and hopes to have more student voice in this discussion.</p>



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	<p>Nithini updated Peter that a complaint within the DCT Faculty had been resolved.</p> <p>Nandini asked about whether AUT will implement AI workshops, and Peter noted that discussions regarding structural use of AI at AUT were still at the beginning stages.</p>
6	<p>12:15 Vice President Community Report Motion to accept the Vice President Community Report: Moved by: Nithini Seconded by: PeiLin Outcome: Carried without opposition.</p> <p>Ishani noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first Clubs Committee meeting of the year, overseeing club grants put for approval – 27 grant applications had come through for March, and most were accepted • Meeting with the Community Subcommittee and acknowledged the subcommittee’s passion • There were a lot of ideas regarding the SRC Social Media Subcommittee (of which Ishani is the lead), and social media presence will be a pleasant new undertaking • Speaking at the AUT International Student Connect, having a pleasant time meeting with newly enrolled international students <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nandini asked whether Campus Representatives will meet as a subcommittee. James heads the SRC Campus Subcommittee. • Does the Clubs Committee meet quarterly? Ishani clarified that the committee meets every month.
7	<p>12:19 Motion to Accept the BEL Faculty Rep Resignation Moved by: Peter Seconded by: Ishani Outcome: Carried without opposition.</p>
8	<p>12:19 Motion to Accept the Rainbow Affairs Rep Resignation Moved by: PeiLin Seconded by: Ishani. Outcome: Carried without opposition.</p>
9, 10	<p>12:20 Overview: SRC Vacancy Candidate Applications Candidates up for vacant SRC positions:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophia Berenato for Postgraduate Affairs Representative, Accommodation Representative • Stefan Argentiero for Rainbow Affairs Representative • Iqra Bashir for CSOC Faculty Representative, Postgraduate Affairs Representative • Tobias Swanepoel for Postgraduate Affairs Representative • Nia Uhila for CSOC Faculty Representative • Minh Nguyen for CSOC Faculty Representative • Sophie Hainsworth Clark for Rainbow Affairs Representative <p>All candidates' applications were made available to SRC for consideration.</p> <p>Candidates present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minh Nguyen for CSOC Faculty Representative • Tobias Swanepoel for Postgraduate Affairs Representative <p>Key points raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both candidates present expressed an interest in representing and supporting students within their respective communities. • Study space availability was raised by both candidates for their respective cohorts – Tobias raised ongoing advocacy for spaces, and Minh suggested an information campaign or resource to help first year students navigate the issue. • Tobias identified varying technical specifications of university-provided laptops were a limitation for postgraduate science students.
<p>11</p>	<p>12:40 Reporting Roundup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nova noted that there is consistent confusion where Pasifika students can get support. • Georgia has been setting up meetings with relevant counterparts for regular catchups and, separately, with the AUT Disability Support Services (DSS), the National Disabled Students' Association (NDSA), and Auckland Council regarding an event. Georgia will reach out to SRC in due course for event availability/attendance. • Fiona has had a smooth first half of the semester, interacting with students on North and speaking about SRC and its purpose during lectures. Fiona also highlighted All Day Breakfast stock issues in the North Campus AUTSA Lounge. James noted that work is ongoing to address All Day Breakfast stocks and the wider food hardship issue for students. • Monique has sought clarity on role activity, touching base with mature students on campus. A survey is being put together in collaboration with Nova with the hope that its insights can lead to ways to address issues with mature students.



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nithini noted an issue - online course materials not being posted. Nithini will meet with the DCT ASRs in Week 7 to ascertain, among other matters, whether this issue is persistent within schools.• PeiLin highlighted WQ activities and noted challenges in role visibility.• Nandini attended the Learning and Teaching Committee meeting, noted property damage around City Campus, and suggested a regular meeting with the Campus Subcommittee. |
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Vice President Academic Report

Peter Peng
April, 2026

Summary

April has been a month of consolidation, deeper engagement with AUT committees, and strengthening the Academic Student Representative (ASR) system. Student concerns continue to centre around cost-of-living pressures, academic workload, and clarity around AI usage in assessments. Engagement with AUT staff has remained positive, and several discussions this month have focused on improving AI literacy, assessment consistency, and student representation structures across faculties.

The academic subcommittee has begun to gain momentum, with more structured catch-ups and clearer expectations for ASRs. Faculty-specific issues, particularly around assessment design, teaching quality, and programme capacity have been raised consistently and escalated through the appropriate channels.

The academic subcommittee has made steady progress this month. Engagement has improved through regular ASR chats and two subcommittee catch-ups.

Key updates include:

- ASR recognition on transcripts has become a recurring topic, with ongoing discussions involving AUT staff, including Heather and Felicity.
- Faculty-specific concerns have been raised more consistently, particularly from HES and DCT, where issues around assessment weighting, teaching quality, and course delivery have been escalated.
- BEL ASR meeting was held with strong engagement, focusing on expectations, communication channels, and accountability.
- The subcommittee is working toward a more structured system for gathering student voice, with the long-term goal of ensuring the student rep system is student-led and aligned with AUTSA processes.

Academic Student Representatives

ASR engagement strengthened this month, with clearer and more consistent feedback coming through from both DCT and HES. From DCT, students raised concerns about rushed content delivery in ENME701, limited in-class practical time in TVSP710, and ongoing issues with workshop access and induction visibility. Positive feedback was also shared for ENNE707's teaching quality. The DCT rep additionally highlighted the recurring reliability problems with the WM elevators, which continue to affect student confidence and safety.



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From HES, ASRs reported ongoing challenges with high-stakes assessment structures (such as CHEM706’s 70% exam), unclear placement requirements, inconsistent communication, and gaps between practical labs and real placement expectations. Students also noted inequities in placement experiences and confusion around updated logbooks and competency requirements. Despite these issues, several programmes were praised for strong communication, inclusive teaching, and responsive lecturers.

Meetings	
Date	Meeting
1	CSOC Special BoS
1	Learning and Teaching committee
1	PARC R2 Proposals
2	CSOC Faculty Board
2	Meeting with tkt
7	AUTSA board meeting
10	SRC meeting
13	AUTSA FAR meeting
14	Academic subcommittee catch up
22	SAC meeting
24	Social media subcommittee meeting
24	BEL ASR meeting
28	Academic board
28	AUT & AUTSA counterpart catch up
29	Academic subcommittee catch up
29	Special SRC meeting
30	Meeting with tkt
Every week	ASR chats
Every week	Exec catch up

Events, Activities
City Campus Kai – Helping out operationally



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Highlights and Learnings

This month has been encouraging as all faculty representatives are now selected, and I'm starting to see consistent, meaningful feedback coming through from ASRs. Their insights have helped highlight faculty-specific issues more clearly and have shown the value of having a fully functioning representative system. Supporting ASRs to follow the right communication pathways has also been an important learning, ensuring concerns are raised constructively. Students still wanting clearer guidance on when and how AI can be used. While policy alignment is still in progress across faculties, the discussions so far have shown that students are keen to use AI responsibly when expectations are clear.

Challenges and Support Needed

Following are the areas I think I still need to work on:

- Managing the volume of meetings while maintaining high-quality student representation
- Navigating faculty-specific issues that require escalation and follow-up
- Ensuring consistent communication between AUTSA, ASRs, and AUT staff

Support from the Executive and SRC has been strong, and AUT staff continue to be approachable and collaborative.

Upcoming Month: Goals and Activities

In May, I aim to:

- Strengthen ASR engagement through structured subcommittee meetings
- Prepare for AGM
- Progress discussions on ASR transcript recognition
- Continue working with AUT on AI literacy and policy alignment
- Support faculty reps in addressing ongoing student concerns



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