



Auckland University of Technology Student Association Incorporated

Tāmaki Herenga Taurira

Student Representative Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes

Tuesday 25th of July 2023 at 12:00pm at
WG Building, AUT Campus City Room WG404
and online via Teams

Mematanga | Membership

Tiamana/Chairperson & President: Sara Youssef

Board Members: Zina Abu Ali, Alicia Lemmer, Tom Donaldson

Senior Staff: Jo-Hill Ismail (AUTSA General Manager), Alice Li (finance manager)

Minute Taker: Melinda Greshoff (ONZL)

Student members can be viewed at this link:

1 Karakia

The President opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 Welcome / Confirming Quorum

A quorum was established.

The meeting opened at 12.05 pm. The President welcomed all attendees, people online, and members of the Board.

3 Apologies

Apologies were noted from:



1. Hannah Creamer
2. Tasfia Mahmood
3. Emelda Pauga

4 Confirmation of Previous Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the 2022 AUTSA AGM held on 28th July 2022 have been circulated and taken as read.

Resolution:

That the Minutes of the 2022 AUTSA AGM held on 28th July 2022 be accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting.

MOVED: Zina Abu Ali; SECONDED: Madz Crouth

CARRIED

5 Appointment of Auditors for the current year

The financial reports are currently being reviewed by the Auditors and should be ready to be submitted in August.

The Board recommends that RSM again be appointed as Auditors for AUTSA's financial statements.

Resolution:

That RMS be appointed as AUTSA's Auditors for the current year as recommended by the Board.

MOVED: Sara Youssef SECONDED: Alicia Lemmer

CARRIED

6 Part E: President's Report

A copy of the President's Report has been circulated and was taken as read. The President highlighted the following:

- She acknowledged the enormous contribution of the support team.
- The key priorities of the five-year strategic plan are tracking well.
- The Board have been involved in a significant amount of work around Te Tiriti o Waitangi and reviewing the constitution.
- Alicia Lemmer is leading the Class Rep System project which is focussing on improving the structure of the student rep system to make it robust and ensure the student voice can be heard.
- AUTSA is not as visible as it should be with the student community, partly due to a lack of membership list.
- The Board are working with AUT to improve access to the network. Two years ago, AUTSA was separated out from the AUT network which has resulted in issues around emailing AUT staff and services such as room booking. Senior AUTSA management staff will now have access to book rooms.
- The AUTSA team and AUT are working on a co-designed framework to ensure AUTSA has proper access to team channels for comms.



- Results from the recent survey revealed that, in general, students are not aware they pay a mandatory student services levy and, do not know where the money is being spent. The student services levy is spent on student support, wellbeing, medical care and clubs,
- The student fee increase that is about to be implemented, will impact students in many ways. As the President sits on AUT Council, it is important that she is aware of the way it will impact students in order to be an effective advocate.
- A special general meeting will be held in next the next two months to review the AUTSA Constitution.
- Nominations for SRC elections will open on the 31 July and voting will take place on 28 August 2023.

The President opened the meeting to questions from the floor.

A question was asked about how fees get broken down and how the information will be shown. It was explained that the Student Services levy figure for each student will vary but is based on the credit system. The student levy is a government requirement. AUT needs to show where the money is being spent.

Resolution:

That the President's Report be accepted.

MOVED: Nanako SECONDED: Psalma

CARRIED

7 General Manager's Report and Audited Account Update

A copy of the General Manager's Report had been circulated and was taken as read. Jo-Hill gave an update and overview of operations and financials and highlighted the following points:

- Auditors are still reviewing the financials, and when completed the audited accounts will be uploaded to the website.
- Funding from levies to AUTSA covers a number of portfolios.
 - Advocacy and legal services: this year there are six advocates and there is dedicated support to south, city and north campuses.
 - Tautoko Services: students need more support this year. Levies (in terms of SLA funding) also covers period poverty and all-day breakfast.
 - Student community events: AUTSA supports and helps develop active student clubs and there has been a significant amount of growth. Last year the AUTSA ball was held and proved very popular, with 549 guests.
 - AUTSA Leadership Event: this amazing event helped to showcase leadership.
 - Marketing team does a good job of managing events.
 - Student Magazine – Debate: Content is 100% editorially independent and show cases the student voice. Serious topics are covered as well as lighter topics.

A question was asked about the promotion of Tautoko vouchers and how to apply. Madz advised that applications can be made through the website. The intention is to provide immediate financial assistance while waiting for further support from the AUT financial hardship team. The support is in the form of food parcels or vouchers, depending on the situation.

Jo-Hill gave a presentation that provided a broad overview of AUTSA income, expenses and budget.



The Accounts can only be published after they are audited.

Resolution:

That the General Managers' Report be accepted.

MOVED: Sara Youseff SECONDED: Michael Jones

CARRIED

8 Our Te Tiriti Journey

The SRC attended a two-day training workshop with the national Māori student association and drafted an action plan which is a step-by-step checklist.

AUTSA is partnering with Titahi Ki Tua in order to ensure planning is co-designed for the Te Tiriti journey. Currently a memorandum of understanding (MoU) is being developed to assist with partnering up properly and ensure that Māori student mana is upheld.

The MoU route has been undertaken to ensure both organisations adhere to the principles of Te Tiriti O Waitangi in the future and is a priority for the leadership.

9 Service Levy Agreement with AUT: Where would you like to see your money go with AUTSA

90% of AUTSA funding is through the service levy agreement. The General Manager's expenses presentation showed where money is currently going.

The attendees at the AGM participated in an activity to identify where they would like the money to be spent in the future.

The Board will collate the results and upload results on the website.

10 General Business

a) Elections for 2024

The President advised that nominations open on 31st July and will close on 18th August.

The election process is on track. The President encouraged people to put their names forward and be part of a fulfilling experience on student council.

b) Constitution Update

The Constitution is currently being legally reviewed as there are a number of key changes under the 2022 Act. In the review process, the content is being simplified.

c) SRC Change

As part of the Constitution review, the President is proposing a motion to include a Titahi Ki Tua representative on the SRC.

There will be a Special General Meeting to present the reviewed constitution.

Resolution:

That the Presidents motion to include a Titahi Ki Tua representative on SRC is accepted.

MOVED: Sara Youssef SECONDED: Grace

CARRIED with 2 Abstention



d) Other Business

Ski Lodge: The President advised that the ski lodge is not making money, or breaking even and there may have to be a decision about whether to sell it and, if sold, where to spend the money. Generally, there needs to be better visibility of the availability of the ski lodge.

AUTSA Visibility: The lack of access to the AUT network is challenging when it comes to engaging students.

e) Questions/comments:

There were questions around the timing of the financial and constitution reviews and why they were not finalised before the AGM. Tom Donaldson advised that an external firm is preparing financials for the Auditors. The Audit will be completed in time to submit to the Charities Commission. Next year, management will be attempting to get the financials done before the AGM.

11 Closing Karakia

The meeting closed at 1.06pm with a Karakia led by the President.