

**Auckland University of Technology Student Association | Tāmaki Herenga Taurira  
Student Representative Council Meeting**

AGENDA

Date: Tuesday 9 April  
 Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
 Venue: WG517, City Campus | [Microsoft Teams](#)  
 Chair: Alicia Lemmer - President  
 Attendees: Tasfia Mahmood - Vice President Academic  
 Regina Tao - Vice President Community  
 C Fonseca - Culture and Society Faculty Representative  
 Sophie Lei - Design and Creative Technologies Faculty Representative  
 Louisa Marschner - Health and Environmental Sciences Faculty Representative  
 Ayse Almila Kilic - Business, Economics, and Law Faculty Representative  
 Sharmin Memon - North Campus Representative  
 Rohan Patel - City Campus Representative  
 James McBain – South Campus Representative  
 Merlin Babu – Wellbeing Officer  
 Jie Yin – International Affairs Officer  
 Kelsey Moleu - Diversity Affairs Officer  
 Chloe Macdonald – Disability Affairs Officer  
 Āria Harrison-Sparke - Māori Affairs Officer  
 Rao Naumaan Nasim Khan – Postgraduate Affairs Officer  
 In attendance: Madz Crouth – AUTSA Student Communities Manager  
 Jo-Hill Ismail – AUTSA Chief Executive Officer  
 Guy Alexander – AUTSA Board Independent Director

**SRC 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.

#	PRE-AGENDA ITEM	TIME	
1	Attendance, quorum	1	
2	Conflicts of interest	2	
3	Call for general business items	1	
#	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD	TIME
1	Ratify March 5 Meeting minutes	Willy	5

2	Updates from March 5 Action Points		
2.1	AUT service access for Law graduands	Alicia	2
2.2	Complaint system feedback	Tasfia	2
2.3	Spaces platform issues	Regina/Madz	5
2.3a	AUTSA CEO statement clarification regarding clubs between AUT and AUTSA	Regina/Jo-Hill	2
2.3b	Clubs communications	Regina/Madz	4
2.3c	Academic-related club association to AUT or AUTSA	Tasfia	2
2.4	Subcommittee approaches to goal focus areas (Engagement, Wellbeing, Community)	All	5
2.5	AUTSA Advocacy and SRC acting as students support persons for students in disciplinary hearings	Alicia	2
2.6	Feedback for TKT MoU – refer to Agenda Item #7	Alicia	
2.7	Outstanding March reports	Willy	2
2.8	Feedback update on North Campus A1 building	Louisa	2
2.9	Update on former Pasifika Affairs Officer complaint	Alicia	2
3	President Report	Alicia	5
4	Vice President Academic Report	Tasfia	5
5	Vice President Community Report	Regina	5
6	Election of the Rainbow Affairs Officer	Alicia	5
7	AUTSA x TKT Memorandum of Understanding	Alicia	5
8	Referring students to AUTSA Advocacy	Alicia	2



**autsa**  
YOUR VOICE AT AUT

# **MONTHLY PRESIDENT REPORT**

MARCH 2024

Prepared by:  
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## Key Points & Activities

Focus areas this month:

- O-week
- Academic Student Representative System
- Student Representative Council
- NZUSA
- SLA

## Highlights

The key highlights from February and March 2024

February	March
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SRC Training</li><li>• Orientation</li><li>• Powhiri President's Speech (4/5 days) (<i>1,000's of students</i>)</li><li>• Library Hui speech about Te Aronui (AUT's Te Tiriti Framework) (<i>60 people</i>)</li><li>• UPFest (UniPrep)</li><li>• Media Training</li><li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Council Meeting</li><li>• TKT Noho Marae launch</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ASR Programme launch</li><li>• O-week</li><li>• Classes started</li><li>• 1<sup>st</sup> SRC meeting</li><li>• Speech on Generative AI to Business Faculty (<i>60 people</i>)</li><li>• SLA signing</li></ul>

## Challenges

The key challenges faced this month.

### Critical Matters

No current critical matter to report

### Ongoing

Tasks from 2023	Figuring out the ongoing tasks from 2023 that need to be continued into 2024. This includes but is not limited to: MOU with TiTahi Ki Tua, AUTSA's CRM System to gather Membership data, NZUSA, SLA negotiations. Has been difficult with very little information of big projects.
Student Issues	Student concerns regarding assignments – students in a marketing course have been given very little notice of assignments being due. Been delegated to VP Academic – discussions are currently happening with course coordinator from business faculty.
NZUSA	Disestablishing. AUTSA not a member. Not sure what will be happening to national student body movement at this point in time.



	All the university Presidents are looking to meet outside the capacity of NZUSA.
Elections form	Further discussion with Management required. Look at improving the way that students apply for vacant SRC roles during the semester – students are currently only required to send a blurb to the SRC Coordinator.

## Student Representative Council

### Update:

Resignations from the Mature representative, Rainbow representative and Pacifica representative. The resignation are due to personal reasons and lack of capacity to undergo role.

These roles will now be advertised as vacant on the AUTSA website to allow any other students to apply for the role. I have recommended that AUTSA also reach out to any of the other students who applied for the roles and didn't win in the elections to see if they are interested in applying. This is particularly relevant for the Pacifica representative role.

### Training:

Training took place on 7-9 February 2024. The average attendance was a little over half during the 3 days – noting that it fluctuated quite a bit with attendees coming in and out (not ideal).

What went well:

- Handbook
- Team building aspect – highly beneficial.
- Having Guy (Independent Director) present to lead the Team building aspects – learnt a lot
- Completed and set goals as well as established a charter

What we will work to improve for next time:

- More time for team building
- Timing of training (days and hours of training)
- Te Tiriti competence training (either done at training or focused on separately)
- SRC expectation for attendance/punctuality & communication on whether members can attend or not. (Can't necessarily control but can put more emphasis on this in the initial communications to SRC)

### Monthly meeting:

SRC signed charter – which we will abide from and keep each other accountable to.

Topics that were brought to my attention include:

- Duplication of clubs in AUT and AUTSA.
- Communication to student clubs during Orientation week was inconsistent and selective.
- Student in nursing are dropping out due to feeling underappreciated in classrooms.

Meeting 2:

- Discuss AUTSA's financials (& AUT?)
- Going to be declaring the conflicts of interest of SRC members.



Subcommittees		
Wellbeing	Academic	Community
<p>Chaired by the President and consists of the 3 Campus Representatives. Not caught up yet.</p>	<p>Chaired by the Vice-President Community. Caught up for the first time this month. Academic committee met up to discuss the ASR system and organise the candidates</p>	<p>Chaired by the Vice-President Community. Caught up for the first time this month. Discussed events and aligned with SRC goals.</p>

## AUTSA Board

### Update:

- 4<sup>th</sup> student director selected – South Campus Rep
- The President and both VP’s will be sitting on the Finance, Audit and Review Committee

### Meetings:

- Discussions around SLA.
- Workplan finalised.
- Lodge sale.

## AUT Council

### Update:

First Council Meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Insightful seeing how the university is governed.

### Meeting:

Things to bring to your attention from the Vice-Chancellors Report:

- There is a new AUT Strategy in development (Imagine AUT). The strategy is aimed to be bold, brave and concise.
- New Otago University VC
- 3,500 students (international) not able to get into New Zealand because of NZ immigration’s response rate to Visas. Which can put New Zealand’s & AUT’s reputation at risk for international students as it creates a barrier for students to come to NZ. AUS reportedly has a 48hr Visa turnover.
- In 2024, the university has lower domestic student numbers but higher international student numbers.
- AUT is naturally achieving KPI’s through growth.
- Reduction in AUT Staff (10.75%) however an uptick may be seen in the future in relation to increase in staff due to growth in some faculties.



## Next month

### Goals & Objectives

Next month, my goals and objectives are to focus on addressing the student issues that were raised this month. Also ensure that there remains to be progress with the TKT MOU and also get student engagement in the vacant SRC positions.

Aim to have more one-on-one catch-ups with SRC members and key stakeholders.

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**ENDS**





## AUT Student Association | Tāmaki Herenga Taurira

### Student Representative Council

### Academic Vice President Report

### Tasfia Mahmood

Month Covered: February and March

#### Summary

Overall, the past two months have been exceptionally busy as we welcomed students back on campus. This year is projected to be a very busy year, given the numerous changes in policies, the academic audit and the new Academic Student Rep model which is currently underway. It is a big time for change and reform in the university, and with welcoming students and enacting new initiatives, it has been an extremely busy yet fruitful experience thus far.

#### What have I been up to?

Meetings, events, trainings attended this month

1. Handover from Alicia. I'm lucky enough to be stepping into Alicia's shoes as Academic Vice President and carrying on initiatives she had planned and started. The handover consisted of understanding my place in the SRC, governance and all the relevant academic committees in which I have a seat and say as a student representative. This also meant getting used to the office space, admin work and introducing myself to the key contacts within each faculty, in AUTSA and at a governance level as well.
2. Media training. Media training took place with two members of the media team and with myself, Alicia as president and Regina as Community VP. Given we are the main and ONLY media contacts representing the SRC, it is essential for us to know how to form crafted answers and ensure both AUTSA and AUT maintain a respectful image in the media's eye.
3. Complaint policy reform. Heather Merrick is currently conducting a student complaint reform, aiming to simplify and streamline complaint structure and procedure. I have reviewed the policy and procedures documents and provided feedback both at a document level (such as requesting further clarification in definitions, implementation schemes, scope of the policy, inclusive wording and cross-referencing between this document and other policies and structures we may have in place). I have also received feedback from students and CSOC faculty rep regarding their awareness of such a process and their feedback, which have been reviewed and reported back to Heather.
4. SPEQ Working Group meeting. This is a working group surrounding the re-invention of SPEQ, redefining the scope and the kinds of questions that may be posed to students in order to simplify the process further. I have reviewed the past document and the current working



- document as well. Further work is being conducted on the document as it is currently a live document and further discussions regarding the implementation of a new SPEQ are in place.
5. Assessment policy reform. This is lead by Dr Felicity Reid and Heather Merrick. I have provided some feedback regarding the clarification of the definition of authenticity and the implementation plans of using GenAi in coursework and assessments as a part of a realistic shift in education. The reform is being conducted in four ways, by creating student- focussed guidelines, the actual policy document, the procedure document and a current implementation scheme which is in the works and is projected to be executed in late 2025-2026.
  6. ASR- Academic Student Rep model. The ASR has been my current big responsibility. Currently, we have sent out congratulatory emails to all the successful candidates. However, we have also heard that some schools and majors are still following their own student representative process. We have sent out reminders to the respective faculties regarding the ASR and emphasising that this is an AUTSA managed initiative and are currently resolving disagreements regarding the implementation of the model with specific areas of the university. We have arranged for training sessions to take place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April respectively and will also be introducing the AUT Edge Award as an incentive for ASRs to use their hours towards to earning the qualification. We have also identified various gaps in applications for ASRs and have sent reminder emails and ensured the application link remains active for further applications.
  7. Career fairs – I have visited the Business and Law career fairs and received feedback from the ICT and Engineering careers fair. A commonality I have found amongst all three career fairs suggest that employers aren't receiving many applications from AUT students. While this was a lower concern for ICT and Engineering given recent grads from the last 3 years now coming back as alumni to attract further AUT students, it is more of a concern for Business and Law employers. I have noted this as a goal and action point to further explore.
  8. Board meeting – I attended the first AUTSA board meeting and unfortunately was unwell for the second. I have been included as part of the Finance committee and have been exposed to governance documents within this meeting.
  9. Academic Board – I have attended both the February and March academic board meetings. The first meeting was an update and welcome back on campus, as well as acknowledging the unfortunate passing of Efeso Collins. The VC update allowed us to understand the overall enrolment and financial projection for the university for the year.
  10. Heather and Felicity meeting – I met with Heather personally prior to this meeting as an introduction to the PARC and Learning and Teaching committees, in order to understand what they do, their scope of the work and their involve with the academic audit. The meeting with Heather and Felicity revolved around the assessment policy and any feedback I personally had or on behalf of students.

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

#### General feedback:

General feedback has been positive as students are settling in at university with the expected buzz of energy that is present during this time. Issues we have faced currently is the confusion regarding the



ASR system as some schools are still attempting to execute their own structure and method of a student representative system. Also, as highlighted above, presidents of faculty based clubs have also shared their concern as they heard from employers regarding not receiving many AUT student applicants for internship and graduate roles. There was also an issue raised regarding the state of the Mosque on North Shore campus which is being taken care of Regina and the relevant property team

#### Plans for next month to address feedback/issues:

Roll out the ASR model after hosting the training sessions and ensuring this is the only student representative model that is in place.

Keeping up to date with the policy reform documents as there are many procedures undergoing review currently

Familiarising myself with the academic audit and my role in this initiative.

Designing and constructing a mentoring system across senior and junior students in faculties to ensure each 1<sup>st</sup> year has a senior student they can contact in order to make their first few steps at university easier.

#### Areas of support needed from SRC/AUTSA:

Not necessarily support but just to keep in mind that I am fasting and may be low energy and sleep-deprived on some occasions but am definitely doing my best. I appreciate all the patience and kindness!

#### Additional notes:



## Tāmaki Herenga Taurira (AUTSA) | Vice President Community Report |

Author: Regina Tao

Period Covered: February/ March 2024

### Summary

The key highlights and issues:

In summary the past two months of February and March have been focused on getting AUTSA well known amongst students and getting well aware of the club procedures on SPACES. Key highlights include selling the AUTSA Lodge, drafting up the MOU with Titahi Ki Tua and building a strong relationship with them. Students have also said that the Mosque room spaces are in need of improvement and has been an ongoing issue that is going to proceed into the next month. Within SRC I have made sure to help guide and figure out what goals my Community Sub-Committee have for the year. Especially with the resignation of Mature Students, Rainbow and Pasifika Officer it is important for us to communicate any issues our team are having earlier on so we can support them better.

### What have I been up to?

Meetings, events, trainings attended this month

1. SRC Training Planning
2. SRC Training 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> February
3. SRC Video Introduction Filmed
4. Manaaki Scholarship SRC Presentation 14<sup>th</sup> February
5. SAC Monthly Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> February
6. SRC Honoraria Discussion 15<sup>th</sup> February
7. Student Volunteer Army Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> February
8. TKT Meetings – Reoccurring every two weeks Mondays - MOU
9. Communications Advisory Committee 19<sup>th</sup> February
10. Orientation Week AUTSA Stalls 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> February
11. Media Training 20<sup>th</sup> February
12. AUTSA Board Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> February
13. O Week Events – Paint & Sip 26<sup>th</sup> February
14. Meeting with Zina, former VP 27<sup>th</sup> February
15. Meeting with Merlin, Wellbeing Officer 27<sup>th</sup> February
16. TKT Proud to Be Māori Launch 28<sup>th</sup> February and MFAT Info Session Night 6<sup>th</sup> March



- 17. Wellbeing Meeting with Peter Shimwell & Wellbeing Officer 4<sup>th</sup> March
- 18. AUSA Meeting Vice President Engagement 5<sup>th</sup> March
- 19. International Engagement - Education NZ Senior Advisor Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March
- 20. SRC Community Sub-Committee Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> March
- 21. Lodge Contract Signing Agreements 19<sup>th</sup> March
- 22. Mosque Improvements Call Sheikh Rafat 19<sup>th</sup> March
- 23. AUTSA Board Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> March

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

### General feedback:

Generally there has been feedback about the Mosque rooms needing improvements and student spaces such as the Student Lounge needing security card access. It needs to be clearer that students need to go to security or contact us for help to get into these spaces as it is for them.

### Specific feedback:

Student no.#	Feedback collected

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

In the next months I will be addressing the Mosque room issues and helping the Disabilities Affairs Officer set up their Disabilities Student Association Club at AUT. I will also be assisting with finding a new Independent Director on our AUTSA Board. Along with this I want to try get more feedback from SRC going forward on what we can do to improve how we function as a team. For our SRC meetings it is integral for attendees to stay for the whole meeting as they have made a commitment, and I will try to reinforce this next meeting.

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

I think I do need some more support from our Club Communities team as I am unsure when the Clubs Committee meetings will be held and how I can assist with this. I will be contacting them in the next week or so to get more updates on this.

## Notes or additional things: