

Equity President Report

Mark Warrington

Submitted 28 March 2024 for activities in the month of March 2024

Item	Measure	Target	Actual
TUSA Meetings	Attendance	N/A	7
UTAS Meetings	Attendance	N/A	3
UTAS Committees	Attendance	2	3
TUSA Events/Trainings	Attendance	N/A	4
Miscellaneous Meetings	Attendance	N/A	5
Media Communications	Participation	N/A	Nil
Conference	Attendance	N/A	Nil

Narrative update:

The month kicked off with a burst of energy at the TUSA C&S Day in Launceston. It was a bustling affair, filled with the vibrant energy of student clubs and societies. I spent the day primarily supporting the Disability Students Collective (DiSCo) stall but also took the time to walk around the Inveresk campus to get a feel for some of the accessibility issues that need addressing.

One of the highlights of the month was the Student Life Expo at the TUSA Ref steps in Sandy Bay. Students from all walks of life visited us at the TUSA State Council and National Union of Students (NUS) stall, eager to engage in conversations about diversity and accessibility but particularly to find out more about the NUS campaign to lower the age of independence to 18.

Amidst these larger events, there were many smaller meetings and catch-ups that fuelled our equity efforts. From DiSCo online catch-ups to the Gender Identifiers Working Groups, each gathering was a step forward in our journey towards a more inclusive campus community. These discussions weren't just about ticking boxes; they were about effecting real change, one conversation at a time.

Of course, advocacy doesn't stop at the borders of our university. Throughout the month, I engaged in correspondence with organizations such as the National Union of Students (NUS) Disability office and the Australian Disability Clearinghouse of Education and Training (ADCET), collaborating on initiatives that transcend individual campuses. In my other role as President of DiSCo I released a media statement admonishing the poor focus on disability in the University Accord final report. **Thank you to the TUSA State President for co-signing and the NUS Disability officer for endorsing the statement.** It's through these actions and partnerships that we can amplify our impact and drive systemic change on a broader scale.

On the ground, tangible actions were taking place. Pronoun badges were produced and distributed across campus locations, a small yet powerful symbol of our commitment to respecting every individual's gender identity. Additionally, working closely with UTAS staff, we are compiling comprehensive lists of Equity rooms, and by doing this aim to ensure that every student has access to the resources they need to thrive.

As the month drew to a close, I found myself energized by the progress we've made and inspired by the challenges that lie ahead. The road to equity is long and winding, but with each step we take together, we inch closer to our destination: a university where diversity is celebrated, and every student feels a sense of belonging.