

**TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
TUSA State Council
MINUTES**

For the meeting of the TUSA State Council to be held at
October 2nd 2024 at 4pm AEST
at the TUSA Building Boardroom, Sandy Bay TAS [with zoom access].

Chair: L McLaren

Meeting opened: 4:03pm

#	ITEM	APPENDIX	TIME EST
1.	INTRODUCTORY ITEMS		5 mins
	1.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY A Bisset Stewart I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting today. I would like to pay my respects to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community of lutruwita, and all elders, past and present, and thank them for their custodianship of the land and the seas. I would like to further extend my respects to the Wangal people whose land I was born and raised on in the suburb of Hurlstone Park in Sydney and the Pataway country where I live in Burnie.		
	1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LIVED EXPERIENCE M Warrington <i>We would also like to acknowledge that everyone in this meeting today, has their own personal lived experience they bring to discussion. We as a committee respect and value every individual member's lived experience and will take that into consideration during our discussions.</i>		
	1.2 WELCOME Chair – L McLaren		

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	1.3 ATTENDANCE L McLaren, M Warrington, J Oates Pryor, A Bisset Stewart, E Alsop, SY Yu		
	1.4 APOLOGIES K Lertsinpakdee, M Douglass		
	1.5 ABSENT		
	1.6 GUESTS & OBSERVERS Executive Assistant – C Harris TUSA Student Advocate – A Lamont University Council Student Representative – A Moore		
	1.7 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST State Council members are reminded of the requirements of clause 6 of the TUSA’s Conflict of Interest Policy (instituted on 28 November 2019) which requires members to identify and disclose any conflicts of interest including gifts.		
2.	MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING		5 mins
	2.1 AMENDMENTS		
	2.2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING <u>Motion:</u> that the minutes of the TUSA State Council meeting held on September 4th, 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting, and approved for upload to the TUSA website. MOVED: <i>L McLaren</i> SECONDED: <i>E Alsop</i>	APPENDIX A	
	2.3 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See action items table 		

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3.	CORRESPONDENCE		10 mins
	3.1 INWARDS 3.1.1 NUS Factsheet and Response to the Universities Accord (Student Support and Other Measures) Bill 2024	APPENDIX B	
	3.1.2 Results of NUS By-Election	APPENDIX C	
	3.2 OUTWARDS 3.1.1	N/A	
4.	INTERNAL UPDATES 4.1 Advocate Report September update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 69 cases. • 37 financial cases, 8 academic integrity, 4 assessment issues, 4 placement issues. • 42 domestic students & 27 international students. • 38 undergrad, 7 honours, 16 postgrad, and the rest were pre-degree qualification. • 36 cases came from the Newnham/ Launceston area – a large spike on previous months. A Lamont noted that there has been an upward trend in cases from Launceston. • Advocates have begun recording the number of interactions they have with students so they can represent how much time is spent with each student. • 106 recorded interactions with students in September – this was roughly 1.5 interactions with students. 	VERBAL ONLY	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is under-represented: not all cases have data put in for them yet. The Advocates are looking to have more data in October. ● The State Council asked if the Advocates track how students come across the Advocacy service, in particular asking about pre-degree students and how they came across TUSA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A lot of these pre-degree students (students studying diplomas or certificates) are online. The pathway for them is the same as most other students; staff or student referral and via the website. ○ These students may also be recorded as pre-degree when they are not. ● On October 2, a training session on Sexual Assault Disclosure was held for social work students at Cradle Coast by Laurel House – this was attended by 18 students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is another session coming up in November for nursing, pharmacy, psychology, and med students. This will be pushed out to students via lecturers. ○ If this is successful, there is hope to expand to other campuses (Launceston with Laurel House, and Hobart either via Laurel House or with another provider). ● The Advocates are looking to roll out the Student Experience Network (SEN) colouring competition for mental health month, as well as running a Bob Ross-style painting event online. ● A Lamont noted that he would be going to the Circular Head Study Centre to do some advocacy work with students that TUSA may not be engaging with as well as they could be. 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Council asked if there are any current trends they should be aware of. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There has been an increase in students presenting with financial cases. ○ Placements are also an ongoing issue: some students are not able to display what they have learnt on placement and deny that they are not paying attention in classes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Language barriers and cultural differences were identified as some issues, alongside not knowing why or how knowledge needs to be expressed on placement. ▪ L McLaren also noted that some workplaces that are new to placement may have unrealistic expectations and put undue pressure on or bully students on placement. He also noted that placement grades cannot be appealed. • The State Council requested an update about student homelessness, but an update could not be provided due to Advocate time constraints. 		
5.	COUNCIL REPORTS		10 mins
	5.1 PRESIDENT L McLaren Report accepted by State Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Report • Academic Round Table Report 	APPENDIX D	
	5.2 EQUITY PRESIDENT M Warrington Report accepted by State Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L McLaren noted that TUSA recently announced a Reconciliation Action Plan will be undertaken with 	APPENDIX E	

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	<p>Reconciliation Tasmania, and congratulated M Warrington and the Equity Committee on driving this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Warrington noted that he is concerned about the resilience of the structures he has created in future years and is considering governance options that mean future Equity Presidents are properly equipped to run the Equity Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An increase of budget for the Equity Committee was also noted as something to be discussed, to ensure the Committee is properly equipped to do the vital work they do into the future. 		
	<p>5.3 CAMPUS PRESIDENT – SOUTH J Oates Pryor Report accepted by State Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Council enquired as to the outcomes of meetings with M Farrelly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ J Oates Pryor explained that these meetings provide insight into what’s happening on the ground, as well as what will happen in the next 2 years, due to M Farrelly’s high-level view of things. ○ However, J Oates Pryor did note that getting things delivered through these meetings can be difficult, using a long-standing discussion around a tour of the Forestry building that has not yet occurred. • The State Council noted that J Oates Pryor’s report mentions complaints around student experience and asked what issues or concerns they had received. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ J Oates Pryor notes that he receives a lot of complaints, including complaints around parking, accessibility, and lack of campus life on satellite campuses 	APPENDIX F	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He also noted that the Southern Campus President role will continue to be a massive job for future representatives, with 11 campuses sitting within that President’s area to represent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ They noted that clubs and societies can help with this, but that some campuses do not have academic-focused clubs/societies. ● The State Council enquired as to progress on the potential formation of an academic club based at Hunter Street to represent Creative Arts students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ J Oates Pryor confirmed that this has disappeared, with no students available to take on the formation and operation of this club. 		
	<p>5.4 CAMPUS PRESIDENT – NORTH E Alsop Report accepted by State Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State Council enquired as to E Alsop’s thoughts around the Academic Round Table <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E Alsop said that it was positive, and that reassuring words were spoken, but that action needs to follow these words. ● The State Council enquired as to how State Council members were engaged with at the academic round table. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E Alsop noted that she was directly asked multiple times for her thoughts on issues being discussed, with a particular focus on student opinions. ○ L McLaren noted that the round table they attended was very much focused around information sharing, with limited time for questions and discussions. This allowed 	APPENDIX G	

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<p>student representatives to be as engaged as everyone else by asking questions related to different presentations.</p>		
<p>5.5 CAMPUS PRESIDENT – CRADLE COAST A Bisset Stewart Report accepted by State Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Bisset Stewart shared that 15-20 students attended the Democracy Sausage Sizzle – this was potentially due to only 2 classes being run that day, meaning only 30-40 students were on campus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ However, good conversations were had with students who did attend, and students who did not know about elections were informed at the event. • There have been complaints and enquiries from students regarding lack of social events and isolation on the Cradle Coast. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Bisset Stewart noted that the Statewide UTE was not well advertised on the Cradle Coast campus, so that by the time a couple of Cradle Coast students found out about it and signed up, it was too late to arrange necessary transport and accommodation. • The State Council enquired about the shut courtyard on Cradle Coast – have the revolving doors been fixed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They don't spin as fast as they did; however, with the cold weather and the rain, A Bisset Stewart noted that it might be best if they were closed. • C&S grants – L McLaren noted that encouraging the societies in the Cradle Coast to apply for grants. • L McLaren noted that it is important to encourage clubs & societies in the Northwest to put in grant 	<p>APPENDIX H</p>	

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	applications so that they can get items they need and run more events for students .		
	5.6 CAMPUS PRESIDENT – ROZELLE M Douglass No report provided.	APPENDIX I	
	5.7 EDUCATION PRESIDENT (UG) K Lertsinpakdee On medical leave.	N/A	
	5.8 EDUCATION PRESIDENT (PG) SY Yu Report accepted by State Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Council asked for SY Yu's thoughts on a proposed change to repeal work restrictions on HDR students who receive stipends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SY Yu noted that it would be positive for UTAS to remove the restriction – however, there may be concerns around tax and how that will be handled should this be repealed. • It was noted by the State Council that SY Yu has been doing great work on the HDR workshops online and on-campus, as well as continuing to run the Shut Up & Write sessions. 	APPENDIX J	
	5.9 Projects Register C Harris <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For discussion of items for update/creation in project register 	VERBAL ONLY	
6.	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION		40 mins
	6.1 Key Messaging Document L McLaren <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L McLaren raised that the 12-month anniversary of 7th October is upcoming – K Lertsinpakdee and L McLaren are currently working on updating key 	VERBAL ONLY	

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	<p>messaging around the Israel-Palestine conflict, noting that it has become a much larger issue than it was a year ago.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is planned to be approved via circular motion by the end of the week. ● L McLaren also asked if there are any other items the State Council feel have been missed. Nothing has been provided at this stage. 		
	<p>6.2 SC Strategy Update All State Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expand Student Representative Number – E Alsop 2. Improve Handover Process – L McLaren 3. Address Operational Inadequacies – L McLaren 4. Improve C&S Relationships – M Douglass 5. Implement a Volunteer Management System – S Yu 6. Influence TUSA Strategy 2025 & Beyond – K Lertsinpakdee 7. Engaging already established student representatives – J Oates Pryor 8. Implement Equity Committee – M Warrington 9. Make SC Appealing to Student Leaders – L McLaren 	<p>VERBAL INLINE WITH ATTACHED STRATEGY</p>	
	<p>6.3 University Council Report A Moore</p> <p>A Moore was invited to give an update as to what's happening in University Council (UC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Moore noted that the current focuses of UC are the financial review currently occurring in Parliament, and the implementation of the Walker report. ● There have also been lots of discussions in UC around implementing Indigenous knowledge into the entire University and to give it a significant presence in all courses. ● A Moore noted that a challenge throughout 2024 has been that there is a lot of focus on issues as they 	<p>VERBAL ONLY</p>	

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<p>arise, rather than being able to focus on strategic planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ However, A Moore did note that there would be a strategic planning session for UC later this month. ○ A Moore noted that it would be valuable for the State Council to raise anything they feel would be relevant to be discussed at the strategic planning session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State Council enquired about strategic planning and UC: does what is being discussed come from round tables & past strategy planning from UTAS executives? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Moore confirmed this and noted that the strategic planning session is a great opportunity to bring in new suggestions that look different to what has been done in the past. ○ It was also noted that the strategic planning session only occurs once a year. ● L McLaren noted that it is vital for UTAS strategy to see students as more than customers, and to recognise the relationship between students and UTAS as a two way one. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It was also noted that positive steps have been taken in this area. ○ The State Council discussed that communication of this sentiment by the University is an important step, as it will ensure students know they are valued as more than just customers. ● A Moore asked how the State Council felt about communication between UC as a strategy wing of leadership and students, noting that she felt there were improvements that could be made, despite 		
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	<p>there being arguments both for and against this in UC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ She also asked whether improving this could help students feel more valued. ○ State Council noted the corporate perspective where a Board of Management is a separate entity that therefore makes unbiased decisions. ○ However, they also noted that the University is not a corporate entity, and that it works well to have strong feedback flowing into UC from the student body – something which currently has limited channels and means that it is unlikely all students are being represented. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Moore and the State Council discussed the potential of having two student members on UC: one undergraduate student and one postgraduate student. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There have been no further plans to amend this, meaning it will not be done before the next representative is selected. ○ However, A Moore is planning to push for this process to be started before she leaves, so that it can be in place for the following round of recruitment. ● The State Council raised that it would be good to have a channel outside of UC minutes to allow students to see the top talking points of UC and have an idea of what's happening. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Moore noted that this has been discussed by UC, but that nothing came about from this discussion. ○ The State Council suggested that a potential issue seen by UC with social media is that the audience can't be restricted, so putting points 			
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	<p>out on social media might be seen as too public. Having something put out on the Student Portal was suggested as a step forward while being mindful of this potential concern.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Moore noted that a concern with this is that communication with students may be ticked off as completed, rather than this just being a step in the right direction. ● A Moore informed the State Council that the job listing for the student representative role she currently occupies should be released in the next couple of weeks. ● L McLaren stated that he has noticed within Academic Senate and academic round tables that people in the University talk a lot about strategies that lead to change, but do not seem to be eager to implement tangible changes (with timetabling and automatic extensions as some examples). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Moore agreed with this, as well as noting that some change is being made to an extent, but that this achievement is not being communicated. ○ L McLaren also mentioned that there may be some change fatigue being experienced by some staff, which is understandable, but does cause difficulties with the continued pursuit of change. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ However, L McLaren did note that it was frustrating when this leads to pushback against change that does not really affect staff, using the proposed pilot in one course of automatic 3-day extensions for students as an example. 		
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Council raised the issue of the different study modes – online, on-campus and hybrid – and instances of teachers offering multiple modes but not delivery the quality needed, or online units which are not properly processed to be online. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Moore confirmed that issues with hybrid learning are something UC is aware of, but that they need to figure out what the root of the problem is. ○ She noted that there is tension between academics who are willing to change and shift with these different study modes and those who are less willing. ○ The State Council also noted that issues with marketing not being able to go into the nuances of course delivery may be exacerbating this issue. More definitions of study modes were suggested as a way to make hybrid study easier to define so students have a clear idea of what they're enrolling in. • The State Council also raised consultation as an important consideration when talking about these kinds of changes, both with students and with academics. • The State Council enquired as to whether UC has been looking at industry connection and graduate capabilities frameworks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Moore noted that this is something that there is a strong appetite for, as UTAS has a great opportunity to have first access in making these strong connections due to being the only University in the state. ○ There has been discussion of internships and apprenticeships to give students work experience, as well as giving students the 		
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	<p>option to start out with very job-focused micro-credentials before moving up to study a degree.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The State Council asked about timelines for this being implemented. However, A Moore could not give a timeline, noting that things at a UC level can happen overnight, but can also involve a very long process. ○ The State Council also expressed some frustration that strong connections with the State Government around this kind of career ready delivery does not yet exist. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Moore invited the State Council to get in touch if they have anything they feel should be raised to UC when discussing strategy, stating that the TUSA perspective is a valuable one. 		
7. OTHER BUSINESS			5 mins
	<p>7.1 NUS Affiliation L McLaren</p> <p>MOTION: that the TUSA State Council approve NUS affiliation and payment for 2024. <i>MOVED:</i> L McLaren <i>SECONDED:</i> J Oates Pryor</p>	APPENDIX K	
	<p>7.2 Discussion around November meeting L McLaren</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● L McLaren informed the State Council that the November meeting has been pushed back toward the end of the month due to exams, and that it will also be the first State Council meeting for the incoming 2025 representatives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He noted here that, should there be a motion to vote on in the November meeting, the vote is still held by the outgoing State Council. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">L McLaren also noted that both usual representative reports and annual reports will be due at the November State Council meeting.		
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Meeting Closed: 5:38pm

Next Meeting: November 20th, 2024

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ACTION REGISTER
 as at September 4th 2024

#	Date of Meeting	Action Item	Responsible Party	Action	Progress to Date or Further Action Required	Status
1	10.07.24	Update SC Projects Register	Entire State Council	To update the Projects Register before the next State Council meeting.		Closed
2	07.08.24	Student Representative Map	All Reps	All reps to provide any additions to the student representative map before the next State Council meeting.		Ongoing

TUSA STATE COUNCIL
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST REGISTER
 as at August 7th 2024

#	Date of Meeting	Relevant Parties	Conflict of Interest	Comments	Status (Open/ongoing/ closed)

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1.	02.02.23	L McLaren	Former President; Ongoing committee member of Tasmanian University Environment Society		Ongoing – 2023.
2.	02.02.23	L McLaren	Former TUSA Experience Leader of the College of Science & Engineering	Role ended December 31 st 2022	Closed
3.	10.07.23	L McLaren	Member of Tasmanian Labor since 2023		Ongoing
4.	10.01.24	L McLaren	State Branch President NUS		Ongoing
5.	20.11.23	M Warrington	Current President of Disability Students Collective (DiSCo)	Aleah Clarke is the Vice President	Ongoing
6.	20.11.23	M Warrington	Member of the UTAS Disability Inclusion Campus Reference Group (DICRG)	Paid casual rate for attendance at meetings usually spaced six weeks a part for three hours at a time.	Ongoing
7.	01.12.23	M Warrington	Board Member of Disability Voices Tasmania		Ongoing
8.	01.01.23	M Warrington	Member of Blind Citizens Australia (BCA) and Committee member of the		Ongoing

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			BCA National Policy Committee		
9.	06.12.23	J Oates Pryor	Member of the Tasmanian University Law Society.		Ongoing
9A	5.3.24	J Oates Pryor	Associate Member of the Law Society of Tasmania		Ongoing
10.	06.12.23	J Oates Pryor	Paid Casual UTAS Staff Member	Including various roles: Student Ambassador; OSCE Role Player; Casual Staff Member for both Theatre department and Faculty of Law	Ongoing
11.	10.01.24	J Oates Pryor	University of Tasmania contact for NUS Change the Age campaign		Ongoing
12.	06.12.23	L Alsop	Former Social Media Officer/TUSA Rep for Tasmanian University Climate Action (TUCA).	Disbanded as of 31.12.2023.	Closed
13.	06.12.23	L Alsop	UTAS casual staff member.	Disability Inclusion Campus Working Group (DICWG).	Ongoing
14.	06.12.23	L Alsop	Committee member of Disability Students Collective (DiSCo).		Ongoing

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15.	06.12.23	L Alsop	Member of the Tasmanian University Environmental Society (TUES).		Ongoing
16.	06.12.23	L Alsop	Sustainability Committee.		Ongoing
17.	03.04.24	L Alsop	Member of Australian Maritime Engineering Student Association.		Ongoing
18.	06.12.23	K Lertsinpa kdee	UTAS casual staff member	UConnect student enquiries officer	Ongoing
19.	06.12.23	K Lertsinpa kdee	Member of the National Tertiary Education Union		Ongoing
20.	06.12.23	K Lertsinpa kdee	Member of the Tasmanian University Medical Research Students' Society	Former President, Vice President, and First Year Representative	Ongoing
21.	06.12.23	K lertsinpak dee	UTAS casual staff member	Former Student Ambassador	Closed as of 01.01.2024.
22.	10.01.24	K Lertsinpa kdee	State Branch Educational Vice President		Ongoing
23.	06.03.24	K Lertsinpa kdee	Member of the Tasmanian University Medical Students Society (TUMSS)		Ongoing
24.	06.03.24	K Lertsinpa kdee	Member of Tasmanian Labor	2024	Ongoing

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25.	06.12.23	S Yu	Member of the Student Living University Gardening Society (SLUGS)		Ongoing
26.	06.12.23	S Yu	Coordinator of TUSA Food Hub		Ongoing
27.	06.03.24	M. Douglass	Member of Student Paramedic Union Rozelle Society		Ongoing