

Undergraduate Education President Report

Siska-Lut Buelens

March 2025

Item	Measure	Target	Actual
TUSA Meetings	Attendance	6	6
TUSA Committees	Attendance	1	1
UTAS Meetings	Attendance	5	5
UTAS Committees	Attendance	4	4
TUSA Events/Trainings	Attendance	5	4
Miscellaneous Meetings	Attendance	0	0
Media Communications	Participation	0	0
Conferences	Attendance	0	0
UTAS Events/Orientation	Participation	5	5
Community Events/Rallies	Participation	0	0

Narrative update:

It was a busy month! After a well-deserved summer break, things have now well and truly picked up again. Orientation week kicked off the academic year well, with many great events. In week one, apart from attending my now third (!) Hobart C&S Day, I also made it up to Launceston for my very first time. I was lucky to meet many awesome students and Clubs and Societies, and I enjoyed listening to their stories. I am excited to get to know everyone more.

Orientation Week

In O-Week, you might have seen me at a TUSA stall on the New to Town Expo or the Sandy Bay O-Day. Otherwise, I was lucky to be able to speak about TUSA at the Nursing Orientation, College of Science and Engineering Orientation and Bachelor of Arts Orientation. It was exciting to see the Sandy Bay campus come to life again and welcome the new students to UTAS. I also got to speak with many non-first year students, and it was so valuable to hear about the different experiences in different cohorts. I hope to see the many new faces around!

Hobart and Launceston C&S Day

The biggest event of the year was on in week 1: Clubs and Societies Day. In Hobart, many stalls popped up on the rugby field which we got to enjoy in some nice summer sun. It was amazing to see so many C&S join in and organise their own cool activities for students to try out. Seeing everyone find their community with a C&S was wholesome.

C&S Day in Launceston was the best opportunity for me to get a better understanding of the student life up there, although I definitely got jealous of their beautiful fancy buildings... Meeting so many excited students was the highlight, and hearing from all the different C&S was super valuable. I hope to get to talk to them more soon!

Academic Round Tables

In week 2, I also met with some students from the Southern CoHM and CALE C&S to brainstorm what Academic Round Tables should look like. Should they be open to all or cohort specific? Should they be run per topic of conversation? How often and when would be the best? How should they be promoted? Feedback varied lots, but with very insightful comments. I will likely trial a couple of different set-ups and see what works best for all campuses and online. Please reach out to me with any comments/ideas!

UTAS Committee Meetings

As the year has properly started, many committees have met in the past month. I attended the University Course and Unit Proposals Committee, the Gender-Based Violence Oversight Committee, and Academic Senate. Within Academic Senate, the main topics of discussion regarded the reduction of the number of the teaching periods, a new credit framework to more easily credit prior learning, and a shift of the enrolment dates from October to mid-November such that this can hopefully coincide with timetabling. I was also able to attend a meeting regarding the Academic System Reform (which include the teaching period reductions) led by L Bereznicki as part of a student reference group, something I am very curious to see where it leads. I look forward to the future discussions and learn more about what this will mean for students.



State Council Representative Report

I am very excited about Academic Round Tables and hope to meet many more students there. Learning about everyone's concerns, experiences and ideas is very valuable, and I hope to create a space where everyone can be heard. If you have any academically related concerns, questions or stories, feel free to reach out to me at any time!

Siska-Lut Buelens

Undergrad.President@TUSA.utas.edu.au