

TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
TUSA Student Council
MINUTES

For the meeting of the TUSA Student Council to be held at
July 8th, 2026, at 4pm AEST
 held Online via Zoom.

Chair: J Oates Pryor

Meeting opened: 4:03pm

#	ITEM	APPENDIX	TIME EST
1.	INTRODUCTORY ITEMS		5 mins
	1.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY S Doyle I have always felt a slight discomfort with Acknowledgements of Country never of course, because I thought they were unimportant. So, when I learned that I would be delivering today's Acknowledgement, I decided to use that discomfort as a base to work out where it actually came from, and to bring what I found back into the Acknowledgement itself. And I discovered that that discomfort was never about the value of Acknowledgements of Country themselves. But it came from how easily they are relegated to symbolic or procedural practice and are recited in a way that often removes them from the historical substance they are meant to carry. That substance being the historical recognition of the reality of this islands past from when it was first colonised, to the eventuation of what we know of as Tasmania today, and the quintessential role of the brutal genocide which took place in forming that. Namely, how it cleared the way for the Tasmanian Aboriginal way of life to be replaced by the contemporary Tasmanian society we inhabit today, and by the dominant institutions that arose alongside it. Every one of those institutions is complicit in that history, some continue to actively entrench the oppression of Tasmanian Aboriginal people.		

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It is for this reason that the procedural use of Acknowledgements of Country, especially those divorced from Lutruwita's own history, can dangerously function as an ideological cover for a hollow commitment to truth-telling, one which inadvertently manufactures consent for the continuation of a system which exists as a replacement of, and materially undermines Aboriginal self-determination whilst dictating what is a permissible trajectory of past, present, and future notions of aboriginality. That is why, as an institution complicit in, and still a beneficiary of the historical crimes of colonisation, we must ensure that this history is never lost if our commitment to reconciliation is to mean anything at all. It is on that note that I want to share the story of Tongerlongeter. Tongerlongeter was born into the Poredareme clan of the Oyster Bay nation, whose Country spanned the coast and hinterland of southeast Lutruwita. As the Black War intensified through the 1820s, he rose to lead the remnant Oyster Bay clans and, allied with Montpelliat's Big River nation, they fought in what historians have called the largest and most sustained Aboriginal resistance campaign in the nation's colonial history: more than 700 attacks between 1823 and 1831, inflicting well over 350 casualties on colonists and soldiers, at a time when martial law meant Aboriginal people could be killed with impunity. The cost to his own people was catastrophic, a nation of up to two thousand people reduced to a remnant of around twenty-five. Tongerlongeter himself lost an arm in the fighting. In December 1831, with almost nothing left, he agreed to an armistice with the colonial government's so-called "conciliator," George Augustus Robinson, on the promise that his people could remain on their Country. Within days that promise was broken, and they were shipped into exile on Flinders Island, where he was later renamed "King		
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William" by his captors, and where, over five years, disease mainly influenza killed more than a hundred of his people. In March 1837, three months before he died, Desperate to save his people, Tongerlongeter demanded that Robinson allow them to leave the "place of sickness". When Robinson hesitated, Tongerlongeter challenged him: "What, do you mean to stay till all the black men are dead?" [1] He is buried in an unmarked grave at Wybalenna. We acknowledge the many nations of Tasmanian Aboriginal People across Lutruwita/Trouwerner (Tasmania), whose stories date back to time immemorial. Each had their own language, lore, lifestyle, and deep spiritual connection to land, sea, and sky. From Kanamaluka (Tamar River) to Tebrakunna (Cape Portland), from Takayna (the Tarkine) to Lunawuni/Lunawanna Alonnah (Bruny Island), from Truwana (Cape Barren Island), to Flinders Island on Tayaritja/Bass Strait Islands – this always was and always will be Aboriginal land. We recognise the Palawa People as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Lutruwita/Trouwerner. We also acknowledge the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, the Traditional Owners of the land on which our Rozelle campus in New South Wales stands. We honour the enduring cultural practices of First Nations peoples, which continue today with strength, pride, and resistance. We recognise that colonisation brought profound and ongoing harm, including dispossession, violence, and the suppression of cultures, languages and identities. The University sector, including student organisations like ours, has been complicit. The Tasmanian University Student Association now commits to truth-telling, listening, and action. We acknowledge that Tasmanian Aboriginal People have always been here, with vibrant identities, thriving cultures, and unbroken connections		
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to Country. We pay our deepest respects to Elders past and present and to emerging leaders who carry forward stories, connections, languages and renewal.		
1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LIVED EXPERIENCE K Azeem I would like to acknowledge that we are all coming from diverse and different backgrounds, having diverse cultures, diverse backgrounds, different languages, and balancing and juggling a lot of roles, wearing multiple hats while representing the student body. No matter where we're sitting, we should always acknowledge that the people around us come from different backgrounds, and to not only positively acknowledge that, but to accept and respect this when we are talking to people. We should remember to be cautious to treat people with respect, courtesy and understanding of one another, and give a space and opportunity for everyone to grow together so we can bring a lot of productive and positive energy to the table.		
1.2 WELCOME Chair – J Oates Pryor		
1.3 ATTENDANCE J Oates Pryor, M Doon, O Brancher, H Anderson, K Fajrianto, K Azeem, J van der Lee, S Doyle		
1.4 APOLOGIES L Street		
1.5 ABSENT		
1.6 GUESTS & OBSERVERS C Harris – Executive Support Administrator J Lenthall – Community Development & Advocacy Officer		
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		

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	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 May 6th, 2026 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting, and approved for upload to the TUSA website. <i>MOVED: M Doon SECONDED: O Brancher</i> <i>Passed with no abstentions.</i>	APPENDIX A	
	2.3 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES See action items table		
3.	CORRESPONDENCE		10 mins
	3.1 INWARDS 3.1.1. Letter re. Student Representation on University Council - The Student Council discussed additional correspondence received the day prior to the meeting. They noted the proposal within it as an acceptable interim step to strengthened student representation prior to a review of the UTAS Act, but that further steps would be expected following the Act review. - The Student Council discussed the potential of a firmer cut-off date for change, such as the end of 2027, to cover circumstances where the UTAS Act review may be delayed. - The Student Council discussed the importance of ensuring that Students as Partners is embedded across	APPENDIX B	

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	the University at all levels while this discussion is ongoing, to ensure representation for all students. The Student Council discussed potentially organising a Working Group of interested student representatives to progress this issue.		
	3.2 OUTWARDS	N/A	
4.	INTERNAL UPDATES 4.1 Advocates Update J Lenthall - J Lenthall provided an update on the Student Advocacy Service for April, May, and June. - The Student Council asked if data is kept regarding how long interactions take. J Lenthall and the Student Council also discussed the distinction between a case and an interaction. - The Student Council asked about the Advocacy caseload increasing, and how this has played out combined with the departure of a staff member earlier in the year. - It was noted that the Advocates are experiencing unusually high demand. - The Student Council discussed gender distribution of Advocacy cases, and wider trends around some students not feeling able or willing to ask for help.	APPENDIX C	
5.	COUNCIL REPORTS		15 mins
	5.1 PRESIDENT J Oates Pryor Report accepted as read by the Student Council.	APPENDIX D	
	5.2 GENERAL SECRETARY M Doon Report accepted as read by the Student Council.	APPENDIX E	
	5.3 EQUITY PRESIDENT K Azeem	APPENDIX F	

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The Student Council discussed monthly reporting and consistency with what dates are included within each report.		
5.4 CAMPUS PRESIDENT – SOUTH O Brancher - M Doon asked O Brancher about the NUS Education Conference in Sydney, which occurred across Orientation Week. - O Brancher gave a talk about the Vent Tent initiative, including how they are planned and the reports that come out of them. He noted he has had representatives from other states reach out for more information. - He highlighted workshops on Postgraduate student engagement and regional students. The Student Council discussed postgraduate student engagement in more detail. - O Brancher noted that all Southern-based Vent Tents for Semester 2 have been booked in, with Campus Services confirmation as the final step for some locations.	APPENDIX G	
5.5 CAMPUS PRESIDENT – NORTH L Street No report submitted.	N/A	
5.6 CAMPUS PRESIDENT – CRADLE COAST K Fajrianto Report accepted as read by the Student Council.	APPENDIX I	
5.7 CAMPUS PRESIDENT – ROZELLE H Anderson Report accepted as read by the Student Council.	APPENDIX J	
5.8 EDUCATION PRESIDENT (UG) S Doyle Report accepted as read by the Student Council.	APPENDIX K	
5.9 EDUCATION PRESIDENT (PG) J van der Lee Report accepted as read by the Student Council.	APPENDIX L	

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6.	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION	30 mins
	6.1 Key Messaging J Oates Pryor	VERBAL ONLY
	6.2 Online Education President Proposal M Doon & S Doyle - S Doyle raised the proposal of an Online Education President role, which had been approved by the Board pending Student Council consultation and approval. - The Student Council discussed the potential of changing the hours and honoraria to align with the Southern Campus President role, while keeping it as an Education-focused position, with scope to increase after the first year if required. - It was noted that Board feedback agreed with this being aligned to the Education Presidents, as it is an Education President role, but that this would be explored further outside of the meeting prior to finalisation. - The Student Council discussed there not being Clubs & Societies to support this role and making sure there are clear expectations about connecting with students outside of friendship groups. It was noted that this is an expectation of all roles and would be replicated here. MOTION: that the Student Council supports and endorses the 2027 Position Description for Education President – Online, subject to further review of comments and discussion with current Presidents. MOVED: H Anderson SECONDED: K Azeem <i>Passed with no abstentions.</i>	APPENDIX M
	6.3 Budget Approvals Process M Doon	VERBAL ONLY

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M Doon noted that she would like to add the General Secretary to provide budget approvals for the Student Council. The Student Council expressed support for this. MOTION: that the TUSA Student Council support the General Secretary being added to the Delegations Policy as an approved delegate to provide Student Council budget approvals. MOVED: J Oates Pryor SECONDED: H Anderson <i>Passed with no abstentions.</i>		
6.4 Media Release Timelines & Collaboration J Oates Pryor & M Doon - The Student Council discussed an article published in Togatus that was signed off by both the Student Council and Equity Committee, without broad Student Council review and approval. - J Oates Pryor apologised for this, stating it as an oversight of the due process of Student Council key messaging. - J Oates Pryor proposed that the key messaging update (Item 6.1) becomes a document that is discussed, written and amended within the Student Council meetings, to ensure consensus is reached by the Student Council. - The Student Council agreed on the importance of consensus when publishing articles endorsed by the entire Council, as well as supporting the idea of a key messaging document. - They also noted the importance of being transparent about whether a statement was endorsed by the entire Council or just a couple of student reps.	VERBAL ONLY	
6.5 Feedback on Student Council Training M Doon & C Harris To be discussed via email and within 1:1 meetings.	VERBAL ONLY	
6.6 University Antisemitism Definition	VERBAL ONLY	

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	K Azeem - The Student Council discussed the antisemitism definition likely to be adopted by UTAS. - The Student Council discussed ensuring that it is clear that antisemitism is not okay, but also that it should not be conflated with criticisms of the state of Israel's actions. - The Student Council discussed wanting more student input on the definition to be adopted by the University, to ensure students agree with the definition prior to adoption.		
7.	OTHER BUSINESS		5 mins
	7.1 Southern Campuses Vent Tent Report – Semester 1 O Brancher - For noting by the Student Council. - The Student Council congratulated O Brancher on the Vent Tents and the report, noting that he put together the entire report himself.	APPENDIX N	

Meeting Closed: 5:33pm

Next Meeting: 4pm, August 5, 2026

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ACTION REGISTER
 as at March 2026

#	Date of Meeting	Action Item	Responsible Party	Action	Progress to Date or Further Action Required	Status
1.	23.01.25	Project Register (linked)	All Reps	To update the Projects Register.	To be finalised for the launch of the new website launch as part of a refresh of State Council webpages.	Paused

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TUSA STATE COUNCIL
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST REGISTER
as at March 2026

#	Date of Meeting	Relevant Parties	Conflict of Interest	Comments	Status (Open/ongoing/closed)
1	06.12.23 Updated 19.08.25	J Oates Pryor	Member of the Tasmanian University Law Society. ; Member of the Tasmanian Students for Palestine. ; Member of the Tasmanian University Medical Students Society. ; Member of the Tasmanian University Environment Club.		Ongoing
2	06.12.23	J Oates Pryor	Paid Casual UTAS Staff Member	Including various roles: OSCE Role Player; Casual Staff Member for both Theatre department	Ongoing

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				t and Faculty of Law	
3	23.01.25	J Oates Pryor	NUS State Branch President (unpaid)		Ongoing
4		K Fajriant o	Past Honorary Secretary and Welfare Officer of Tasmanian University Medical Students' Society		Closed (November 2025)
5		K Fajriant o	Philanthropy Officer of Tasmanian University Medical Students' Society		Ongoing
6		Solomo n Doyle	Secretary of the Lutruwita Socialist Alliance		Ongoing
7		Solomo n Doyle	Member of Resistance Lutruwita		Ongoing
8	2/12/25 Updated 3/2/26	Molly Doon	Member of the Tasmanian University Student Association;		Ongoing; awaiting renewal for 2026 period.

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			Treasurer of the Tasmanian University Labor Society; Member of the Tasmanian University Environment Society; Member of the Bottom of the Earth Society; Secretary of the Tasmanian Students Science Communicators Network Society		
9	2/12/25	Molly Doon	Member of Tasmanian Labor		Ongoing
	2/12/25 Updated 3/2/26	Molly Doon	Part-time staff member for Senator Richard Dowling		Closed (Dec 2025)
	2/12/25	Molly Doon	NUS Tasmanian Delegate		Ongoing
		Jeppe van der Lee	General member of the Tasmanian University White Water Rafting Club,		ongoing

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			member of the tasmanian University Mountaineering Club, member of the Tasmanian University Bushwalking club		
		Oliver Brancher	Former president of christ college student club (2025)		No longer going
		Oliver Brancher	Member of UTAS rugby club		ongoing
10	16/12/25	Kashif Azeem	Member of Tasmania University Union Muslim society	Will be stepping down from the President Position by the end of January 2026.	Ongoing
11	16/12/25	Kashif Azeem	Graduate Teaching Fellow (Paid Part-time Staff Member)		Ongoing
12	16/12/25	Kashif Azeem	Higher Degree by Research (HDR) representative		Ongoing

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			for School of Engineering		
1 3	16/12/25	Kashif Azeem	Chair, IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) Tasmanian Subsection		Ongoing