TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Board of Management
MINUTES

For the meeting of the TUSA Board of Management held on
29 May 2026 at **2pm**
Online via Zoom.

Chair: R Baird
Purpose: To address matters of management, strategy and direction of the Association, and of property, income and funding.
Meeting opened: 2:02pm

	ITEM LISTING	APPENDIX
1	INTRODUCTORY ITEMS	
	1.1 In-Camera Session (as needed) N/A	
	1.2 Acknowledgement of Country *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*	

TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Board of Management
MINUTES

	have always been here, with vibrant identities, thriving cultures, and unbroken connections to Country. We pay our deepest respects to Elders past and present and to emerging leaders who carry forward stories, connections, languages and renewal.	
	1.3 Welcome Chair – R Baird	
	1.4 In attendance A Amore (left 3:44pm), R Baird, A Greenwood, L McLaren, J Oates Pryor, M Doon, S Doyle, K Azeem (joined 2:27pm), K Fajrianto, T Wienker	
	1.5 Apologies B Smith, P Leersen	
	1.6 Absent	
	1.7 Staff, guests & observers TUSA Staff: S Ward, C Harris Guests: Applicant A, Applicant B (Item 2.1)	
	1.8 Conflicts of interest **Nil declared**	
2	MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL	
	2.1 Board Chair Applications J Oates Pryor **Applicant A** • Applicant A joined the meeting, and presented his vision for the Chair role. • The Board discussed his capacity, noting his potential future increase in external workload. He confirmed flexibility through self-employment and that potential additional duties are primarily evenings/weekends. • He reflected on his experience working with a multicultural organisation, emphasising community consultation and responding to identified needs rather than assumptions. • He noted experience building relationships in new environments and confidence in establishing University connections. • Applicant A left the meeting.	**APPENDIX A1** **APPENDIX A2**

TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Board of Management
MINUTES

	Applicant B
	• Applicant B joined the meeting, and presented his vision for the Chair role.
	• He outlined his approach to difficult conversations with the University, emphasising preparation, clarity of TUSA's value, and willingness to find common ground.
	• He highlighted experience in commercially focused environments and the importance of maintaining a student-centred approach to commercial activity.
	• The Board discussed his interstate location. He confirmed regular travel to Tasmania, commitment to on-campus presence, and noted independence from existing University relationships as a potential strength.
	• He spoke to cultural safety, emphasising listening to communities, supporting diversity, and building on TUSA's RAP commitments.
	• Applicant B left the meeting.
	
	Board Discussion
	• The Board compared candidates, focusing on:
	    ○ Alignment with TUSA's strategic direction (in particular, student focus vs partnerships/commercial focus).
	    ○ Approach to engaging with the University, including managing difficult conversations.
	    ○ Reputational considerations (political affiliations vs interstate location).
	    ○ Practical considerations, including in-person presence and travel costs.
	• It was noted both candidates bring valuable strengths.
	• The Board agreed that R Baird as Interim Chair will contact referees for both candidates.
	• A final decision is expected following referee feedback, likely via circular resolution prior to the June Board meeting.
	• The potential for the unsuccessful candidate to be considered for an independent Board Member role was noted.
	• Board members were invited to provide any additional feedback via email.	

	2.2 Commercial Outgoings	**VERBAL ONLY**

TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Board of Management
MINUTES

	R Baird
	• The Interim Chair noted that the conflict of interests declared by a University nominated member (including this recent one involving the commercial outgoings) had been considered by both FRAC and the Governance Committee.
	• Both Committees agreed that the ongoing conflicts (both actual and perceived) cannot be effectively managed through ongoing recusal, as it extends broadly across financial matters. They also noted this places an unreasonable burden on the individual and limits their ability to fulfil directorial duties, particularly in overseeing financial sustainability.
	    o The Board unanimously agreed with this assessment.
	• The Board agreed the Interim Chair should meet with the University nominated member to discuss options in light of the Committee advice and Board assessment, with an emphasis on handling the discussion sensitively.
	• It was agreed that, if required, the matter would be escalated to the University, noting that the ongoing conflicts arise due to the role occupied by the University appointed member and that they have acted appropriately in raising conflicts with Agenda items.
	• S Ward provided an update on discussions with the University regarding commercial outgoings, noting different expectations around TUSA's use of space and its budgeting cycle.
	• It was proposed that TUSA:
	    o Continue to push back on 2026 outgoings, as they are not feasible within the current budget;
	    o Continue negotiations for 2027, positioning TUSA as a strategic partner of the University.
	• The Board expressed support for this approach.	

3	MATTERS FOR NOTING	
	3.1 Other Business R Baird	**VERBAL ONLY**
	3.2 Meeting Feedback R Baird	**VERBAL ONLY**

TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Board of Management
MINUTES

Meeting Closed: 3:46pm

Next Meeting: June 16th, 2026

TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Board of Management
MINUTES

TUSA BOM CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER (OPEN COIS ONLY)

as of May 2026

#	Date of Conflict	Name of person declaring conflict	Position	Meeting or event where conflict arose	Details of conflict	Action taken in response to conflict
1.	30.07.24	R Baird	Chair of the legal practice centre – that run legal practice course	Noted 30.07.24		Noted COI
2.	11.03.25	R Baird	UTAS Staff Member	Noted 30.07.24	Staff member at the University of Tasmania's Law School.	Noted COI
3.	14.10.25	P Leersen	UTAS Staff Member	Noted 14.10.25	Director of the Campus Services Team at the University of Tasmania.	Noted COI