# 2023 NUS Annual Activity Report

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# National President - Bailey Riley

2023 has been one of the biggest years for NUS in recent memory, successfully getting students invested in their education and the issues that affect their journey through tertiary education. We started off the year with our massive campaign against HECS indexation, a part of the HECS system that many students across the country had no clue was being applied to their already large HECS debts. This campaign became a national issue, with parents & grandparents calling up the NUS to show their support and sharing the hundreds of articles that talked about the issue.

While HECS Indexation was the largest issue we fought for this year, it was far from the only one. We fought for a range of issues and have won many big concessions that will greatly improve the lives of students in tertiary education, these battles include.

The Australian University Accord: Working together with many of our member unions, NUS has made 3 submissions and appeared at 3 Ministerial reference groups lobbying for drastic reform in the university sector. Our key wins already include the abolishment of the 50% pass rule and legislation that puts the onus on universities to support their struggling students. There is still

more to fight for, especially with the final report set to come out early next year. The NUS must hold the government accountable and organise to make sure all of our recommendations end up legislated by Labor.

Student Ombudsman and Response to Sexual Assault on Campus: Working alongside EROC, The Stop Campaign & Fair Agenda, NUS ran a large social media campaign that put sexual assault & harassment in our Universities at the forefront of Australian media. Through this, we got pledges from the Federal Education Minister that Legislation would be developed and co-designed with students, victim-survivors and experts in the field. This was an intense process that occurred over 3 months, with recommendations coming out including a federal Student Ombudsman and a National Code that would apply to all universities & students

Budget Protest: NUS organised with many of our member organisations to stage a protest outside of Parliament House calling on the government to listen to students, raise the rate of youth allowance & change the age of independence. We were joined by members of the

# General Secretary - Sheldon Gait



Comrades, Patriots and Regional Hero's - my name is Sheldon Gait and I have the extraordinary privilege of being your National Union of Students General Secretary for 2023.

Education is the driving force of social mobility in this country. It should be the right of every Australian to access the highest standard of education and the right of every student to be given the greatest chance to succeed in their studies.

### **Governance and Administration**

This year I have been your main point of contact with the NUS for 2023. My role has included communicating with member organisations, coordinating conferences, accreditation and providing administrative support.

During this term of office, we have seen new campuses accredit for the first time in many

years this includes the following campuses.

- University of Queensland,
- Victoria University,
- Western Sydney University,
- University of Tasmania and,
- Murdoch University



# **Lobbying and Campaigns**

As a team we have met with over 30 Federal MPs and Senators including the Education Minister Jason Clare. We have used these meetings to advocate for Minimum SSAF for student organisations, changing the age of Centrelink and HECS indexation.

With indexation at a rate of 7.1% the average debt will increase by \$1,700 meaning that individual HECS debts will increase even if a student or graduate doesn't earn enough to pay it down. We have gained a lot of media attention around this issue with NUS being cited in over 40 newspaper articles, 8 Television interviews and 20 radio interviews.

### **Submissions and Reports**

I have been involved with four reports this year. This has involved a substantial amount of research and reaching out to campuses and collating their issues and feedback. These have included the NUS submissions to:

- The University Accords
- The 23-24 Federal Budget
- The senate inquiry on international education sectors and,
- Post-budget analysis for campus leaders.

#### **Events**

In my role I am responsible for the logistics and coordination of conferences this includes catering, ticketing, room bookings, scheduling and booking travel for office bearers. In February we had a successful President's Summit. We had in attendance 80 student leaders from over 20 different campuses, including those who have not attended a National Union of Students event in several years.

I also planned and organised tendering and logistics for a successful Education Conference at the University of Queensland with 290 people in attendance where topics such as AUKUS and the University Accords were discussed.

The last 2 months of my year oversaw the planning of the National Conference with over 300 people in attendance including 120 overnight on campus. Thank you to Federation University for hosting us and I hope you have all enjoyed Ballarat.

### **Campus Visits**

So far this year I have had the privilege of visiting 21 member campuses. This includes: ANU, Newcastle University, UTS, University of Sydney, UNSW, Western Sydney University, QUT, University of Queensland, University of South Australia, Melbourne University, RMIT University, Deakin University, Swinburne University, Victoria University, Monash University, La Trobe University, University of Tasmania, UWA, Curtin University, Murdoch University and Edith Cowan University

# National Education Officer - Xavier Dupe

We're in the midst of a global movement against racism and war. Weekly Palestine rallies across Australia have drawn tens of thousands, including students. Over ten thousand Palestinians, including over 4000 children, have been killed in bombings and thousands more displaced by Israel's invasion of Gaza. Israel's crimes are fully backed by the Australian government. Australia refused to even vote for a ceasefire in the UN and are still bound to Israel and the US.

I've been organising students to oppose this historic atrocity. This is about being on the right side of history. When the media are justifying and apologising for this genocide, students are taking to the streets to challenge the status quo. We're not sitting by while children are bombed in our name.

This is a vindication of the approach I've taken in the Education Office this year. The role of student unions is to challenge the system, not to suck up to the rich and powerful who treat ordinary people like dirt.

That's why I joined striking university staff this year, including the historic strikes at Melbourne University. These staff have held multiple week-long strikes to demand above-inflation pay rises and secure jobs. They should be an inspiration to every unionist. And they were supported by a dynamic student solidarity campaign. I spoke to the media, including the Age, ABC and Guardian, to spotlight this historic strike, with ABC quoting my comments that "It's the largest university strike in memory... You could feel the anger in the air." I joined strikes at Deakin, RMIT and La Trobe and promoted NTEU actions across the country.

My Get A Room! Campaign, which made headlines after Sydney students targeted the Reserve Bank, put the blame for the housing crisis where it belongs - with the banks and investors ripping off students, and the ALP who've demolished public housing and refused to freeze rents. We also protested the universities who've sold off student accommodation to for-profit providers and left students paying hundreds for shoebox rooms. Students rallied around the country and the joint NUS-Greens rally in Sydney I spoke at drew hundreds demanding a rent freeze. The Guardian and Australian also quoted my comments that Labor's was a "budget for the rich" that left students drowning in HECS while the rich get tax cuts.

While letting students struggle in poverty, Labor's overseen the AUKUS deal. This has bound us closer to the US bloc that props up Israel's war crimes in Gaza, and is pushing us towards a disastrous US-China war. It's already cost \$313 billion on nuclear submarines that could have been spent on making education free, providing public housing or raising welfare above the poverty line. That's why I organised students around the country to demand welfare not warfare. We demanded our universities cut ties with AUKUS - education should be for people, not war.

This was also the theme of this year's Education Conference, which featured Greens MP Max Chandler-Mather among other guests. NUS debated issues that will continue to affect students, including the US alliance, the housing crisis and the role of the ALP. We also debated how to fight racism in this country. The defeat of the Voice referendum is a victory for the political right, and it makes it all the more urgent that anti-racists join the movement for Palestine - the biggest sustained movement against racism in years.

NUS has an opportunity to stand on the right side of history. To connect with the thousands of students who are sick of all of this - of the war crimes, the racism, the climate crisis and the poverty. I urge everyone in NUS to join that fight.







# Womens Officer - Emily Searle

Hi everyone,

What a big year it has been in the women's portfolio. I want to extend a huge thank you to the Women's collectives and student activism groups that have been at the forefront of fighting for change at your own campuses.

As we approach the end of the year, it is important to both assess the strides we've made and the challenges that lie ahead in our ongoing commitment to address the pervasive issue

of sexual assault and harassment (SASH) in university settings. Our commitment to holding universities accountable for their responses remains unwavering.

Our overarching campaign for 2023, in collaboration with End Rape on Campus, Fair Agenda and the Stop Campaign, was a resounding call for an independent federal Taskforce dedicated to overseeing and ensuring accountability in addressing SASH. The #IDESERVESAFETY campaign attracted attention from media and politicians alike and jump started a national conversation on the inadequacies of our current system.

We kept the pressure on the government through petitions and social media campaigns as recommendations were handed down from the Accords process and have seen some very promising results such as the government's draft action plan to address gender-based violence in higher education released on the 22nd November which contains potentially transformative recommendations.

Our campaign persists, and we urge more students to join us in this crucial effort. Our collaboration with Women's Officers across the country empowers them with the tools to form a collective national voice. Together, we advocate for campuses to be safe spaces and for those who perpetuate violence to be held accountable.

Throughout the year, I was honoured to participate in the broader NUS campaigns, including the 50% SSAF, Change the Age and HECS/HELP Indexation. I was part of the social media team during the Protest the Budget Rally during budget week in Canberra and engaged with MPs, Senators, and Ministers to explain the gravity of these issues.

Multiple appearances in the media provided platforms to discuss the inefficiencies of university consent training, the disproportionate impact of HECS indexation on women, and the initiatives student unions are implementing to address the cost-of-living crisis. We also made a submission to the Senate Consent Inquiry, advocating for federally mandated affirmative consent laws.



More projects undertaken this year were:

• Being part of the organising team for Edcon, liaising with the UQU Office Bearers

- Hosted a national meeting with Women's Officers from across that country that proved invaluable for fostering discussions that strengthened our collective efforts
- Participated in the "UN Youth Global Student Forum – On the Status of Women" as the Australian Youth Representative
- Captaining the UQ Students For Yes Campaign
- Contributing to and assisting with the development of the Accords Interim Report
- Encouraged members of the NUS
   National executive to show their
   support for the
   #IDESERVESAFETY campaign
   (pictured)
- Southern Cross University to understand and provide recommendations on consent education in the Australian tertiary context, with a particular focus on student accommodation settings.

As the year comes to an end, I want to express my gratitude for the collective efforts and dedication demonstrated by students, officers, and organizations involved in our initiatives. The journey continues, and I encourage everyone to stay engaged and reach out with any insights or concerns. Together, we are making strides toward safer and more accountable university environments.





# Indigenous Office - Patrick Taylor

This year we had a hard-fought referendum for the voice to parliament unfortunately, it did not pass, but as the student population, we were able to come together in support of the students for Yes where we saw events happening at universities all over the country.

I was not able to travel as much as I thought I would this year, but my travel for the year was to Adelaide, where myself and the University of Adelaide student union did a talk about the voice to parliament. While also in Adelaide, I was able to meet with the attorney general of South Australia Kyam Maher, to talk about issues facing First Nation students at the university

Also, had I had the opportunity to go up to Canberra earlier this year and talk to a few MPs about the Students for Yes campaign

Did a few talks at Edcon around the students for yes and the voice to parliament.

Throughout the year, I worked closely with the Victorian Trades Hall on their Voice to Parliament working group and the Young Workers Center, both doing a talk at their solidarity night and the Young Workers conference.

Was able to travel back to Adelaide to go to Ethnocon and hear from amazing POC students from around the country talking about things that are affecting them with their university life. I was also able to do a talk on how we need to make universities a culturally safe space for First Nations student

Just wanted to finish off by thanking everyone who had a hand in the Students for yes campaign this year or helped out with their local yes campaign group

Students for Yes will be transforming into a platform to fight for First Nations justice and reconciliation over the next few months









# Ethnocultural Officer - Ben Naiju

My name is Ben Naiju and I have had the honour of being yourr NUS National Ethnocultural Officer for 2023. This has been an amazing experience working with office bearers around the country of a range of POC issues. The highlight of my year defiently has been Ethnocon and all the amazing people who presented. In leaving this role I wish my successor all the best and am eagar to see all they accomplish.

# The Role of Student Unions in Combatting Racism A National Racism Report NUS NUS

### **Across the Nation**

I have had the pleasure of travelling to as many universities to meet with numerous NUS Student leaders. My first trip was the Victoria as part of the Presidents Summit where I got to meet a whole range of campus leaders alongside the NUS leadership team. During this oppuruntity I was fortunet to see the POC Safe Spaces provided by UMSU and the UMSU POC Collective. Hiba, Mohamad and Disha have done an amazing job alognisde their team in setting such a high standard for the country to follow.

While in Western Australia I was lucky enough to meet with campus leaders from all across the great State. I spent time meeting with other Guild leaders from ECU, UWA, Curtin and Muroch while talking about a whole range of Ethnoclurual issues and how we as a national union can support our friends in the west.

I was also fortunate to meet with the President and Equity Vice-Present at the University of Tasmania to speak on the amaziong work they do in supporting their students and how advocacy of minority groups need to better supported across every university. Across the year, through conferences and visits I was able to meet many more leaders and hear their concerns and what their unions and collecives have ahcived! It is amazing to see the hard work each of these student leaders achieve!



One of the highlights of my time in the NUS is running the Safe Spaces workshop alongside my two great friends and strong students' leaders Mohamed and Nour. Alongside Mohamed Hadi, the UMSU POC Officer and Nour Al Hammouri, the President of UTSSA, we spoke about the importance of POC spaces on campuses across the country. This presentation saw discussions about how different unions have built their space and connected student leaders who were eager to implement this on their campuses.





Following on, alongside Disha Zutshi, the Gen Sec of UMSU, we hosted a workshop in the important role student unions have in combatting racism. During this discussion we heard

from a range of POC voices on what questions needed to be asked. We explored the importance of Racism Reports taking the ANUSA BIPOC Department and UMSU POC Collectives work as an example of how student unions fight for the voices and experiences of POC students.

### **OUR VOICES | OUR SAPCES| OUR RIGHTS**

Ethnocon was hosted on Kaurna Land at Tandanya, the place of the red kangaroo. There has never been a more important time to talk about the importance in realising the Uluru Statement and its goals of Voice, Treaty and Truth in their entirety. During this conference, the NUS reaffirmed its position and fight in delivering the Uluru Statement in full!



Thanks to the help of NUS South Australian SBP and USASA President Issac Solomon, NUS Welfare Officer Grace Franko and their amazing South Australian team, students leaders across the country descended on the University of South Australia for Ethnocon.

The conference saw participants from across many universities come together to celebrate in our diversity, to hear the voices of our people of colour students, to ensure there is a safe and supportive platform for us to express what we want done and to commit to fighting for this movement not as merely a gesture, but as the unquestionable fight to deliver what is a right!

Ethnocon saw a whole range of discussion surrounding through; the Voice to Parliament YES23 Plenary, Cultural Safety for Indigenous students hosted by the NUS First Nations Officer, Patrick Taylor and a Yarning Circle hosted by the NUS President, Bailey Riley. Across the week, there were a range of workshops on; Lets talk Palestine, the Sudanese Crisis, POC Regional Students, Jewish Students in Activism, Ethnic Biases and Al and Global Student Forum. Plenaries were held on; Australian Youth Law – International Students and Union Leaders, Refugee Resettlement, Tertiary Refugee Student Network and UNHCR.

Throughout the conference panels were held with student leaders from all walks of life sharing their experience and guidance. These topics included Safe Spaces, More than a business: International Students Matter, Murdoch Guild: Are we doing enough, Culture & Cultural Appropriation, Racism Report Case Studies and a panel with the NUS 2023 Office Bearer team.

I hope to see the National Ethnocultural Conference run bigger and better in the years to follow! Hearing POC voices is important, fighting for what is right alongside them is even more so! I wish the next NUS Ethnocultural Officer and the 2024 NUS team the very best and look forward to seeing all that you achieve!

# National Disabilities Officer - Isabella Harding

What a year! This year has been a whirlwind for the disabilities portfolio with the Royal Commission into the Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of people with disabilities being handed down this year and the Australian University Accords both presenting an unprecedented opportunity for change.

This year I had several key goals:

- <u>Nothing with us, without us:</u> I wanted to bring a disabilities perspective to all the work the NUS does.
- <u>Bringing our community together:</u> I was very keen on creating a stronger disability office-bearer network and bringing us all together to share our stories and knowledge.
- <u>Translate reports into action:</u> Make the recommendations in the 2022 in the NUS-ALSA-AMSA Report 'Disability and Higher Education" a reality by creating a Disability Education Commissioner.
- <u>Duty of Care:</u> Making universities and TAFEs responsible for student safety and welfare, especially for their discriminatory and ableist attitudes and practices, through establishing a duty of care was so important to me.
- Dealing with Student Accommodation: I wanted to compile a report into inaccessibility in on-campus accommodations, which I unfortunately didn't get to do this year. (On a side note, check out the National Code and national action plan proposed by the government for sexual assualt and harassment which will also apply to residences and came about a result of strong student-centred advocacy from the NUS, the Stop Campaign and End Rape on Campus).

### We Need Both:

The first challenge presented itself before I even began the role with the return of in-person, on-campus learning with no virtual alternative for those of us who needed it. This had disproportionate impacts on immunocompromised people and wheelchair users as well as regional students and survivors of violence or sexual assault and harassment on campus. Myself and many disabled campus office bearers (OBs) launched the 'We Need Both' campaign to fight for learning to be accessible. Special shout out goes to Jordy and Sian at UQ for working super hard on this campaign.

We got some media work, including an article in the Age and an ABC radio interview. Shout out to the wonderful Alison for going on the record about their experience of being refused in in-person learning at Victorian University. Check the article out <a href="https://example.com/here-example.co

We had a small speak-out in front of Minister Jason Clare's office that, due to some freaks of nature, (including my bus to Sydney being cancelled at 1am the night before eek) had a small turnout. Protesting for people with disabilities can be exhausting and inaccessible, so having some other options for accessibility such as email writing and phone-banking was helpful. Thank you to the Disability Officers at University of Sydney, including SUPRA, University of New South Wales and University of Technology Sydney for being so supportive.

## Duty of Care: the Accords and the lot:

We realised that We Need Both didn't go far enough and we needed to campaign for the higher level legislative changes to ensure our learning was accessible for everyone. As such I proudly launched the "Duty to Care" campaign for a student-led duty of care model on universities for student safety, wellbeing and anti-discrimination. This was endorsed by the NUS and referenced in our submissions to the Accord. I also submitted personal submissions and worked with other high profile disabilities organisations such as All Means All: Australian Alliance for Inclusive Education to submit to the Department of Education's consultation paper on 'Guidelines for Supporting Students.'

A list of all my contribution to this year's submissions are below:

- Joint NUS Submission to the Australian Universities Accords Panel about the
   Discussion Paper: I developed the sections about Universal Design of Learning,
   Hybrid Learning and the Disability Standards for Education
- Private submission to the Australian Universities Accords Panel on the Duty of Care Outline.
- <u>Joint NUS Submission to the Australian Universities Accords Panel about the Interim</u>

  <u>Report:</u> I co-wrote the section 'Student Priorities for the National Student Charter.
- <u>Australian Medical Students Association's submission about the Interim Report:</u> referenced our Duty of Care recommendations.
- Submission to the Department of Education on the "Support for Students Policy"

Our submission was discussed in the Australian Accords Interim Report, compiled by the Accords Panel. The Duty of Care, and in particular, the recommendation to allow the Commonwealth Ombudsman to be able to receive complaints from students at public universities got some traction.

We were also invited to the Roundtable on Disability in Higher Education hosted by the Accords panel, where we made many arguments for a strong student ombudsman and Disability Education Commissioner. Many other organisations got on board which was wonderful to see.

We've managed to get tertiary education and accessibility on the agenda. We are now a part of All Means All: Alliance for Inclusive Education as the only tertiary education organisation. We have had extensive support this year on these issues from so many organisations, it's impossible to name them all but there are some people I'd particularly like to thank.

- Andrew from Australian Law Students Association
- Tisshapaa from Australian Medical Students Association
- Sharna from End Rape on Campus
- Catia from All Means All: Alliance for Inclusive Education
- Skye and Sue from Children and Young People with Disability
- Paul Harpur, the Representative for Disabilities on the Ministerial Reference Group for the Accords.
- Darlene from Australian Disability Clearinghouse for Education and Training
- Alistair from the Public Interest Advocacy Centre

- Cathy from Australian Tertiary Education Network on Disability
- Dr Deanna Grant-Smith

# The Disability Royal Commission (DRC):

The DRC was something that previous office-bearers had put lots of work in developing submissions for. The Commission handed its final report and recommendations down this year. It was very disappointing to see tertiary education, and some key student issues such as the rate of the Disability Support Pension (DSP) not discussed at all. However, some very positive recommendations have come out for the disabled community at large that we are very pleased to see. Some of the key ones are:

- 1. Create a Disability Rights Act in line with the CRPD (the CRPD has a right to access tertiary education so a new area to explore there)
- 2. Reform the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) to include:
  - a) a positive duty to prevent all forms of discrimination, harassment and victimisation against people with disability on duty holders defined in the DDA.
  - b) protections against vilification and offensive conduct on the basis of disability
  - c) a stand-alone duty to provide adjustments that do not incur unjustifiable hardship.
- 3. Establish a federal Minister for Disability Inclusion that is responsible for the Department of Disability Inclusion and Equality, transferred from the Department of Social Services

These changes start the shift of perspective that d/Disabled people are an autonomous community capable of agency but requiring a legislative push against entrenched ableist practices and attitudes.

# Wins this year:

Something I am very proud of this year was continuing my previous office-bearer, Georgie McDaid's efforts to put disabilities on the map. By collaborating with a variety of different NGOs and building off the amazing report Andy Shim and Georgie McDaid made together, we've begun to see a government shift to a pro-disabilities rights stance. But there have been some small wins along the way that I am happy to announce.

- After consultations with the Department of Social Services, the NUS and many other student organisations have expanded the eligibility of the DSP to include ADHD and fluctuating conditions. A GP is sufficient to give medical evidence too, so less expensive appointments with a specialist.
- 2. Our wonderful Accessible Activism resource has been updated to include pandemic protests, because our activism can't stop with a lockdown. Check it out and share it around!
- 3. After lots of hard political debate, ANUSA has decided to fully affiliate to the NUS! It's so important that our stronger student unions help out to take the burden off our more vulnerable ones. The university sector campaigns on the national level and so should we. ♥[heart emoji].
- 4. Protest attendance: Honestly, I really pushed myself to attend as many student-led protests as I could. As a working student who eventually wants to graduate, it can be

hard to fit everything in with balancing my health. From the stunt at the ANU Commencement Speech about the importance of climate action to attending and speaking at two Budget Day protests, it was a lot of work but I'm glad I did it.

## Some Thank you-s:

Firstly, I really want to thank the Office-Bearer team and National Executive this year. So many of you supported me and challenged me. Special thanks to Bailey and the other NLS OBs for supporting me this year and trying to make sure that the disabilities portfolio was included. Thank you Sheldon for making time to pick my calls about some administrative drama. I've really appreciated your insight this year. Love you Grace Franco, Ben Naiju and Cheyne for being the amazing forces of nature you are! Your kindness and good vibes kept me almost sane this year!!

Our Disabilities OB community really came together this year and there were some wonderful activists that I am excited to see go far. Big shout outs to those who came to our organising meetings, who were active in the NUS Disability Action Group page and helped with all the campaigns. You do the most and are the backbone of the NUS!

Thank you to my NLS disabled comrades, in particular Jordy, for supporting me and helping so much with the 'We Need Both' campaign. Your experience and your no-bullshit attitude has really kept everything in perspective! I'm so excited to see what you do next!

Thank you to previous office-bearer/ anti-ableist battler Georgie McDaid. Your incredible work last year helped me so much in developing our duty of care. The fact that you always picked my calls with a new perspective really kept me going through some of the fuckery this year.

The biggest thank you goes to the incredible Andrew Shim, the Australian Law Students' Association' Disability Officer. The work you put in this year and the passion you have is truly inspiring. Honestly, I don't think I could have done this role without you, your constant hype and depth of knowledge. Thank you!

# National VE Officer - Salwa Kilzi

Hey Everyone!

As we round off the year, I want to reflect on the highlights of my time as the Vocational Education Officer for the National Union of Students (NUS).

From the beginning, I focused on laying a solid foundation. This involved reaching out to TAFEs across Australia, creating a dedicated Facebook page for communication, and thoroughly researching student unions. These initial steps were crucial for fostering a more connected and informed approach to addressing the unique challenges faced by TAFE students.

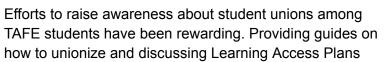


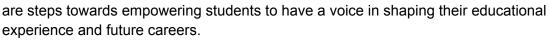
One notable highlight this year was my participation in EdCon and Pressummit, where I had

the opportunity to speak about the importance of TAFE. It was an enriching experience connecting with others, sharing insights, and contributing to the conversation about the future of education.

I also attended EthnoCon, where I discussed global injustices and discrimination within the TAFE system. Addressing these issues is essential for creating an inclusive and equitable educational environment. Through a thorough analysis of existing systems and proactive suggestions for improvement, we've taken meaningful steps toward creating an environment that supports the diverse needs of all students.

Another significant project revolved around addressing inconsistencies in the quality of education across different certificate and diploma programs. Our survey aimed to gather data on issues such as messy timetables and chaotic class schedules, emphasizing the importance of improvements for the benefit of all TAFE students. Link to survey <a href="https://forms.gle/5ZTj6BYQPFUF74d3A">https://forms.gle/5ZTj6BYQPFUF74d3A</a>









Active participation in meetings, collaboration with research companies, and contributing to a submission to the Standing

Committee on Employment, Education, and Training on the perceptions of vocational

education have enriched our understanding and enabled us to actively engage in conversations that drive positive change.

As the year concludes, I want to express my gratitude for everyone that remembered to include VET and TAFE students in the conversation. Let's remember that TAFE is not just an educational institution; it's a lifeline for many. It plays a pivotal role in providing accessible and practical education to a diverse range of students, empowering them with the skills and knowledge necessary for



success in the workforce. #UPTHETAFES #UNIONISETAFE

Wishing you a wonderful end of the year.

Salwa Kilzi (she/her) Vocational Education Officer, NUS