21 October 2026

Simon Neale
Chief Property Officer
University of Auckland
49 Symonds Street
Auckland 1010

Dear Simon,

The University of Auckland Student Centre and Library Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA) Substantive Application

The Auckland University Students' Association Incorporated (AUSA), also known in te reo Māori as *Te Rōpū Kahikatea*, is pleased to provide its formal support for the University of Auckland's (the University) substantive FTAA application for the proposed new Student Centre and Library development (the Project).

Since its establishment in 1891, AUSA has been the independent representative voice of students at the University. We advocate for the interests, success, and wellbeing of students, provide advice and support services, contribute to academic and welfare matters, and foster a vibrant and connected campus community through events, initiatives, and student-led activities. Our mission is to empower every student's journey through the University by supporting success, overcoming barriers, and strengthening the student experience.

AUSA currently occupies and manages a range of key student spaces within the existing Student Union Building, including Hineahuone, O Lagi Atea Moana (Cultural Space), Queerspace, Women's Space, Shadows Bar, Craccum, and associated student facilities. Throughout this year, we have been working with the University to secure alternative locations for these crucial spaces that support students' cultural and social needs. We also occupy the historic merchant house at 4 Alfred Street, immediately adjacent to the Project site (AUSA House).

As an organisation deeply and directly connected to the daily experience of students on campus, we strongly support the redevelopment of this area and the creation of a new integrated Student Centre and Library. We consider this Project to be one of the most significant investments in student life, wellbeing, learning, and community undertaken by the University in recent decades.

The Project will provide modern, inclusive, and accessible spaces that better reflect the needs and expectations of current and future students. By bringing together learning, study, collaboration, support services, social spaces, and student activities within a purpose-built facility, the development

will create a vibrant heart for campus life and significantly enhance the overall student experience at the University.

AUSA recognises that a project of this scale will require careful management during the construction phase, particularly in relation to noise and vibration effects. We understand that consent is being sought to exceed the applicable construction noise standards, including as received at AUSA House, and that appropriate management measures will be required to ensure compliance with the applicable vibration standards.

We are committed to working collaboratively with the University to minimise disruption to students and to ensure continuity of student services, support programmes, and campus activities throughout the delivery of the Project.

Having worked closely with the University throughout the planning and development of the Project, AUSA is satisfied that the new Student Centre and Library will provide substantial and enduring benefits for current and future generations of students.

In particular, AUSA strongly supports the high-quality and student-focused design of the proposed building, including the provision of dedicated AUSA spaces, purpose-built and bookable club facilities, and generous ground-floor student and community areas that will encourage cultural and social connection, student engagement, and overall campus activity. We also welcome the expanded plaza, which will provide a valuable gathering and hui space for students, and the careful consideration given to how the new building integrates with and complements the surrounding campus environment at the University. This includes its relationship with the Kate Edger Information Commons, where a number of existing AUSA functions and student spaces will soon be relocated, ensuring continued activation and connectivity across the wider student precinct. Collectively, these elements will strengthen the University's ability to deliver an exceptional educational environment, support student achievement and wellbeing, and create a world-class student precinct befitting New Zealand's leading university.

Accordingly, AUSA fully supports the Project and provides its written approval of the University's substantive application under the FTAA. We consider the redevelopment of this site to be of critical importance to the future of the University student experience and strongly support its progression.

Nāku noa, nā,



Nimish Milan Singh
President, Auckland University Students' Association Incorporated (AUSA)