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4th Quarter Report 2024  
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## **PART ONE: EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITION DESCRIPTION DUTIES**

### **12.1. Promote via publications, promotions and campaigns, an environment within the Association and on campus which is supportive of cultural diversity.**

I wrote a pair of Exec Columns on Critic about the importance of our Cultural Clubs in response to the Visa fee hikes early in this quarter, stressing the importance of our domestic students supporting them, and what they offer to campus life with vibrant events (Which is quite a lot, but often goes unnoticed!).

### **12.2. Organise and run events of specific interest and relevance to international Students.**

The Food Festival and the Cultural Expo are the two big events the ISR is in charge of, and with those done and dusted for the year, as well as event participation taking a hit with exam season creeping up, there were no major events this quarter.

In terms of smaller events, OISA organised a second round of exam care packs for International Students, after the first one had very positive feedback. Next time around, we are planning to expand it, and tie it in further with student welfare, potentially collaborating with existing student services international students may otherwise not know of, or not think to use.

OISA also had our AGM and elected a wonderful new exec for 2025, so the next person in my role will have a delightful time next year working with them.

### **12.3. Be a member of appropriate internal committees of the Association. Chair or co-chair weekly/bi-weekly meetings of the Otago International Students' Association (OISA), ensuring that all committee members are advised of meeting times, that the agenda is prepared and circulated beforehand and ensuring that the standing orders of the committee are adhered to.**

Done! Meetings have wrapped up for the year for our current exec now that the new exec is elected and there are no more new events for us. Once January comes, I will look at sorting out meeting times and starting our biweekly meetings for next year, and until then, coordinate with my new Co-President Kavya about the direction we want to take OISA, and the kinds of events/campaigns we want to run for the year.

### **12.4. Take direction from the Otago International Students' Association, on all**

**matters relevant to international student members.**

Mr. Nishida has been nothing short of an excellent coworker this whole year, and I will miss him dearly now that my term is up. I wish him nothing but great things whatever he ends up doing next year.

**12.5. Work on issues specific to international students at the University of Otago, including, but not limited to:**

**12.5.1. Academic issues within the University; and;**

Not much was done this quarter with lecture recordings unfortunately, due to us being on hold waiting for the policy to be drafted for most of it. However! It is here now and it is glorious, almost ready to go to University Senate I believe after more feedback and proofing. Thank you Stella for your work on this, and I can't wait to see what we can do next year to get it another step closer to implementation.

**12.5.2. Social and welfare related issues within the University and the wider Community.**

Exam packs was one way we tackled the exam stress of this time of year, but next year, I would like to borrow from Hanna and implement something like an imposter hour but for exam season in order to make sure people are not stuck in the library the

**12.6. Maintain a good working relationship to the Association Student Support Centre Manager and Advocates so that the opportunity to share information about academic and welfare issues of relevance to international students is available.**

I have still not had to meet with Dwaine this quarter, which is a good thing since we had no issues we needed to refer to him for. I hope this means that students are aware of these support avenues and utilise them on their own, and that is the reason we have not heard any cases of exam stress related incidents or similar, though I would like to do more to make sure SSC is more known amongst the international community. Next year, I'll meet up with him at the beginning of the year to see if there is any areas for more collaboration between Student Support and OISA regarding international students.

**12.7. Maintain a good working relationship with the International Office of the University, sharing information and ideas with them when appropriate.**

I continued to have a good relationship with Jason the Director International, and maintain a good relationship with Chelsea and Sam who are international student advisors as well. Because I am continuing the role, we are already getting ready to sort next year's welcome events and expos, which is great.

**12.8. Work in conjunction with the Finance and Strategy Officer and the Clubs Development Officer and the Clubs and Societies Representative to ensure the affiliation and support of international student groups.**

No new cultural club affiliations this quarter, but we have affiliated some great-sounding clubs this quarter and I, for one, am excited to see what they get up to. I also will continue to work with Emma regarding reaffiliation for Cultural Clubs, as I believe this is the time where we lose a lot of our cultural clubs due to them getting stuck in the re-affiliation process. I have reached out to our current Cultural Clubs network reminding them to, but will continue to monitor that as the deadline comes closer.

**12.9. Maintain a good working relationship with the Administrative Vice-President, proactively bringing issues relevant to international students to their attention, and meeting with them on a weekly basis.**

The weekly meetings have not really happened this quarter as exams kept us quite busy, and there was not much I needed help with this quarter, as a lot of it was internal OISA stuff getting ready for next year.

**12.10. Maintain a good working relationship with the Dunedin City Council**

With Akari going on maternal leave, I have yet to meet with Santashree who is taking over her role. There are two more SDAG's happening on Zoom, so I hope to establish a good relationship in those so we can hit the ground running next year.

**12.11. Sit on the New Zealand International Students' Association (NZISA) as a member and maintain and fulfil the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding held between Association and NZISA.**

Done!

**12.12. Perform the general duties of all Executive Officers.**

I have performed the general duties of all Executive Officers, details of which will be under "Part 2: General Duties of All Executive Members.

**12.13. Where practical, work not less than ten hours per week.**

Done!

**PART TWO: GENERAL DUTIES OF ALL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

**3. General Duties of all Executive Officers**

**3.1. The appointed term for all OUSA Executive Officers shall commence from the 1st of**

**January and will terminate on the 31st of December of that same year.**

Run it back.

**3.2. Where reasonable, all Executive Officers are expected to assist as volunteers for OUSA events and functions, including, but not limited to:**

**3.2.1. Assisting at the OUSA Tent City and other activities during Summer School, Orientation and Re-Orientation; and;**

I assisted at our AGM, but other than that there were not many events on this quarter.

**3.2.2. Assisting with elections and referenda where appropriate.**

Was inappropriate!

**3.3. Where reasonable, all Executive Officers attend Executive meetings.**

Done!

**3.4. Where reasonable, all Executive Officers are to be available for national conferences, national and local campaigns, Executive training sessions and Executive planning sessions.**

There haven't been any training sessions or local campaigns this semester.

**3.5. All Executive officers shall:**

**3.5.1. Keep up to date with the Finance and Strategy Officer's Executive budget, bringing to the Finance and Strategy Officer any spending proposals, keeping track of their spending and ensuring they do not exceed budgeted expenditure;**

Done. We've passed some hefty motions this quarter in terms of finance.

**3.5.2. Educate themselves on needs and experiences relevant to historically marginalised demographic groups including intersectionality and promote and encourage all demographics to participate, where relevant, in clubs, societies, committees and OUSA events;**

Yep. Trying to do the best I can in this space every day, and always encourage people to attend student-led movements for good.

**3.5.3. Act in accordance with and uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi while exercising their duties;**

Not much change here, I aim to uphold the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all of my work at OUSA because it is one of our core guiding principles in our current strategic plan, but also because I am a visitor/tangata Tiriti in this country and so of course my actions should reflect that.

I am keeping up to date about the Treaty Principles Bill discourse, and its consequences on our marginalised communities. I look forward to taking the Treaty Politics POLS paper next year to learn even more.

**3.5.4. Where reasonable, attend events hosted by clubs related to historically marginalised demographic groups;**

Same as 3.5.2, I have been attending events this semester as much as possible, though with exams most clubs winded down their events.

**3.5.5. Prioritise sustainability and minimization of environmental impacts in all aspects of their role and keep up to date with environmental issues;**

Yup. I'm always keeping up to date.

**3.5.6. Every quarter undertake five hours of voluntary service which contributes to the local community.**

Drop for Good was fantastic, it was great to be Daniel's passenger princess on a fine Saturday morning. Vans were driven, couches were lifted, and Emma's celebrity status in the community was reaffirmed.

**3.5.7. Regularly check and respond to all communications.**

Done!

**PART THREE: ATTENDANCE AND INVOLVEMENT IN OUSA AND UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

- OUSA Executive
- Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Trust
- Otago Internationalisation Committee
- Otago Health Science Internationalisation Committee
- Study Dunedin Advisory Board

**PART FOUR: GOALS AND YOUR PROGRESS**

**Establishing ongoing "Welcome" volunteering trips at the beginning of Semesters for international students**

This goal is something that I didn't end up pursuing this year, unfortunately. However I'm actually thinking about bringing it into next year, as I still think it has legs, but we faced logistics and funding, as well as me being stretched due to doing Food Festival for the first time. Now that I have one IFF under my belt, and perhaps with a change in willingness of the university to help assist with the funding now that it appears student numbers are recovering, it might be feasible this time around?. I will propose it to the next OISA exec and see if it is a goal worth pursuing for next year.

### **Lecture Recording Policy**

This is another goal that I will be bringing into next year, but the difference is that this one has had incredible progress this year! Us three mouseketeers have kept up the pressure and although one of us will be moving onto greener pastures next year, (though I don't know if it's possible to move to a greener office) this is a project that I am more passionate about than ever. Looking back to the first quarter report, where this policy was just a campaign promise, we've come really, really far.

### **PART FIVE: GENERAL**

I almost did not want to write this section as it would mean that I would finish writing one of these for the last time this year. This year has been incredible in the amount of personal growth, whether it be the broadening of horizons, understanding of institutions, free tickets to our events acquired, and friends made that we used them with.

I remember when Grant first hosted a lunch at the Staff Club to introduce himself and lay out some expectations for his VCing, and he said that although he learned good things in his degree, arguably he learned so much more in his time at OUSA. And that's really stuck with me. *Granted*, he did go on to become a politician, so being a student politician may have had some cross-pollinating skillsets there, but I think this role really allows you to try a little bit of everything in an incredibly safe and supportive environment, and I am so grateful to be able to be a part of it.

To the whole exec, I will miss this team so much. It was truly amazing getting to know you all this year. And although a disturbing number of you will be leaving for Europe soon, I hope we can all one day meet up, back in the place where it all started. Hanna's house. Or the Office too, I guess, but there are less cool chairs there, and Critic steals the good one. Many many great memories with everyone here, and many great quotes as well, that we'll no doubt occasionally remember and have a laugh about. Just hopefully not the meemaw one, at the wrong time.

To our great madam president (and one and only female American president turns out) Keegan, you have been nothing but incredible, juxtapositionally the most caring and most stoic leader I've ever seen, and it works so well. Your ski instuctees will have the most overqualified person to teach how to go up and over a huge mountain incredibly fast, while trying to maintain your

balance and not falling, or falling a bit and getting right back to it. (It's just like being on the exec for the first time). Thank you for everything you've done for us this year. 本当にお疲れ様でした。