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Tumuaki Takirua o Te Rōpū Māori
1st Quarter Report 2026
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Part One: Executive Officer Position Description Duties

1.1. The Te Rōpū Māori Tumuaki shall be a voting ex-officio member of the OUSA Executive.

We sit as voting ex-officio members on the OUSA Executive

1.2. The duties of the Te Rōpū Māori Tumuaki are outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Otago University Students' Association and Te Rōpū Māori.

We have signed our MoU with OUSA.

1.3. Where practical perform the general duties of all Executive Officers.

We have made our best attempt, despite a busy start to the year with our own Association, to carry out these duties.

1.4. Provide a verbal report on activities of Te Rōpū Māori at each OUSA Executive meeting.

We have provided verbal updates at each OUSA Executive meeting.

1.5. Work no less than five hours per week as ex-officio members of the OUSA Executive.

Any mahi carried out for OUSA can be found in our Te Rito Accountability trackers, which is available on request.

Part Additional: Ex-Officio Job Descriptions – Fulfill the duties of the Te Rōpū Māori Tumuaki Takirua (based on the Te Rōpū Māori Te Rito Policy)

Ensure Te Rōpū operates in accordance with the constitution;

Other than some issues with the bank, which led to us using alternative measures to facilitate and pay for Orientation Week (Wiki O), meant that we were misaligned with our Constitution. However, we were very transparent to our Student Body, and they had no qualms as Wiki O was a successful week. Additionally, we commissioned Liam Tawharu to rewrite our Constitution to ensure that it aligned with the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022 for our re-registration in April.

Act as Māngai for Te Rōpū at local, regional and national levels;

We represent Te Rōpū Māori (TRM) at many different levels, within the University, the wider Ōtepoti community and across the motu. We sit on Senate alongside Daniel Leamy

(University of Otago Students Association (OUSA) President) and Hansini Wijekoon (OUSA Academic Rep). The first hui was held 24/02 in Clocktower.

Represent Te Rōpū as a delegate at Te Mana Akonga Hui;

As above, we represent TRM at various levels, including being kaiārahi on Te Mana Ākonga (TMA). We have had two Zui Kaiārahi so far as well as a Hui with just Te Tari Whakahaere o TMA to discuss Hui Kaiārahi ki Ōtepoti.

Set policies with each other regarding matters of business, activities and all operations of Te Rōpū consistent with section 8 of the constitution.

Before the start of Semester, we updated most of our Policies to be passed at Hui ā Te Rito 05/02, including Kaihāpai Appointment Policy, Te Rito Accountability Policy and TRM Financial Policy. We also started a working document to restructure / update Te Rito Policy to be effective from 2027.

Carry out any duty that from time to time, may be defined by Te Rito and/or all operations of Te Rōpū;

We assist all Te Rito members with their roles and responsibilities to ensure the TRM runs smoothly. We also take on delegated responsibilities given to us by Te Rito members.

Be an ex-officio member of the OUSA executive and is responsible for Te Rōpū Māori adherence to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with OUSA.

Each semester, submit at least (2) report to OUSA in accordance with the OUSA Constitution.

We both sit as ex-officio members on the OUSA executive team. MoU has been signed by both parties. This is our first quarterly report.

Sit on any University committees appointed alongside OUSA.

We hold a seat on the Quality Advancement Committee (QAU) alongside Hansini, this Committee held its first and very efficient hui on the 03/03. The Tumuaki Takirua position also holds seats on the Committee for the Advancement of Learning and Teaching (CALT) and the Distance Learning Committee who are each waiting for their first hui. Jarna attends these hui.

Sit on the OUSA Blue and Gold's Committee.

We have been appointed to this committee at the OUSA Executive Hui held on the 23/02, the Committee is yet to hold a hui.

One Tumuaki Takirua will maintain a good working relationship with the University this will include but not limited to;

- OUSA

- **Senate**
- **Vice Chancellor**

The other Tumuaki Takirua will maintain a good working relationship with

- **Te Huka Matauraka**
- **Office of Māori Development**
- **DVC-Māori**

This was one of the clauses that most likely will be altered. We believe both Tumuaki Takirua should maintain good relationships with all parties that interact with TRM. We have our strengths in our areas but we believe creating meaningful hononga should be a priority for both of us.

We have attended all OUSA executive meetings and we are looking to run an event during Re:Ori with the support of the OUSA events team. We both attended the Senate hui in February. We have met the Vice Chancellor at various whakawhanaungatanga sessions but are yet to meet with him in a professional capacity. We have made contact re: some issues we were facing at the start of the year.

We are in good standing with Te Huka Mātauraka (THM), both of us having good relationships with them prior to us being Tumuaki Takirua our MoU has been signed by both parties. We met with Whaea Michelle (Tumuaki: THM) at the beginning of the year for whakawhanaungatanga and met with Jeremy Wara (Kaituitui o Kā Rikarika o Tane: THM) a few times as we assisted THM with the running of Tūraka Hou at Puketeraki Marae at the beginning of the year. We meet with DVC-Māori (DVC-M) on a weekly basis and are in the process of signing an Agreement to replace the MoU TRM previously had with the Office of Māori Development (OMD).

Chair all Hui a Te Rito and ensure that Tikanga Māori is upheld during these Hui.

We Co-Chair all Hui ā Te Rito ensuring that karakia is conducted at the start and end of all hui. When acting as decision makers we give primacy to tikanga Māori reasoning and prioritise kaupapa Māori ways of working in all possible facets of our mahi from internal executive dispute resolution to creating space for our mātauranga and reo across campus and whakawhanaungatanga.

Be the face of the rōpū in the absence of the other Co-Tumuaki

We both try to be as kanohi kitea as possible, however when one of us can not attend the other will.

Carry out any other duty that from time to time, may be defined by Te Rito and/or each other.

We assist all Te Rito members with their roles and responsibilities to ensure the TRM runs smoothly. We also take on delegated responsibilities given to us by Te Rito members.

We both have different strengths and utilise them accordingly. Jarna acts as the governance and advocacy Tumuaki while Sami manages the operational and administrative side of

things. Despite this, we work collaboratively on everything. This is working well helping us stay connected with all aspects of our mahi and sit across all mahi that is happening in and around our Association. As a reflection of us noticing the disconnect between divisions of the University and wider community, we prioritise kōrero and transparency within Te Rito and other relationships we hold. This looks like keeping all of these people, officers, OUSA, Otago University Pacific Islanders Students Association (UOPISA), TMA, DVC-M, and more in the loop.

Liaise with Ngā rōpū on campus, chair monthly Ngā Rōpū hui; (Set times and locations for meetings)

We have a group chat with all Ngā Rōpū Presidents and Vice-Presidents (or one other delegate) and another group chat with the Māori Health Professional Association Presidents. Additionally, each of our Te Rito executives is a delegate for one of our Ngā Rōpū on campus. We facilitated a Ngā Rōpū Quiz Night (06/03) with all on campus Ngā Rōpū and Te Rōpū Haumanu Iraruke (Radiation Therapy Māori Students' Association / TRHI) from our Wellington campus. We have yet to set a date for March's Ngā Rōpū hui.

Facilitate the running and organisation of the Te Huinga Tauira campaign with Te Rito

Both Zui had with TMA have indicated that Te Huinga Tauira (THT) may not go ahead this year.

Facilitate the running and organisation of events during Orientation Week and Re-Orientation week with support from the Events and Social Officer.

Throughout Wiki O, Te Rito facilitated or was heavily involved in over seven kaupapa.

Monday - Tūraka Hou pōwhiri

TRM was involved in both pōwhiri as kaikaranga (Jarna, Jacqueline and Tariana) and kaitautoko (Sami and Maioha). We ran a whakawhanaungatanga session at both pōwhiri where we gained over 250 new followers on our Instagram and gave away four tickets for our Wiki O events. We also facilitated Ngā Rōpū to be at the TRM whare while tauira where there and Te Rito could not be. Ngā Mōkai and NTKA were both present and received their tauira well.

Tuesday - ICC Sports day & SKUXX DELUXX

Unfortunately our plans to be involved in ICC sports day were rained off. However, we managed to host the biggest Wiki O event ever. Our event SKUXX DELUXX, in which we ran discounted tickets for TRM and UOPISA members, the night itself had over 120 attendees (including door sales) and an 85% total guest check in (81/95) for online sales. This is more than double what we had initially expected and planned for. We ended up increasing our capacity and doubling our security. This event was very well received by our tauira with many of them raving about it on social media and talking about how excited they are for Wiki Re:O's events.

Wednesday - Waiata Wednesday & Tent City

Our awesome Āpiha Hauora both went down to Tent City to give out the packs we had made up the previous weekend. Our Āpiha Ahurea facilitated our first Cultural hour of the year where we learnt 'Pao te Tōrea'. We assisted in writing words, ushering and pack up.

Thursday - Te Huka Mātauraka Hangi & RastaBus

THM ran their annual First year Hangi out of our two buildings and we attended alongside the rest of our Executive. This was our opportunity to have a free kai and get to know some of our new taura.

Alongside Dennis (Kaiwhakahaere Kaupapa), we facilitated our famous Mystery Bus. We had 78 attendees (excluding Te Rito and sober drivers) with a total of 87% (78/90) guests checked in at the event. Issues with the buses meant that we were over budget but we managed to make money on ticket sales throughout the week and redistribute pūtea after Hui Motuhake (09/03). Jarna was an MC on one of the buses and Sami was a Sober Driver for the other bus as well as in charge of ordering and picking up the pizzas for the end of the night. We received some very positive feedback from many taura and also some valuable constructive criticism from our tuakana which we will take into consideration for Wiki Re:O.

Friday - Hangover Hākari

This event was a collaboration between TRM and UOPISA, which we delegated to our Kaiwhakahaere Tari to organise alongside UOPISA's Event's coordinator. Both Executive teams worked together to cook and serve the kai as well as clean up, we had a good number of taura turn up to get a kai.

Saturday - Pool Day / Manu Comp

This event was organised and facilitated by Dennis. Unfortunately, hardly anyone showed up so it ended up being a Te Rito day out to the pools with Dennis' whānau. Despite it not going to plan, it was still a nice end to a busy Wiki O.

Facilitate the running of the Inter-Rōpū Shield with the support from the Communications Officer; (Keep an updated list of results available for all students)

We have delegated the first Shield event to Samuel (Āpiha Hauora) as he is wanting to run a Sports comp.

Facilitate the organisation of Te Haerenga with support from Te Rito.

N/A

Support the Āpiha Hauora with organising a charity event during the year.

N/A

Sit on the OUSA Policy Committee as a member.

We have been appointed to this committee at the OUSA Executive Hui held on the 23/02, the Committee is yet to hold a hui.

Set policies with each other regarding matters of business and activities and all operations of Te Rōpū;

As stated in clause 1.4

Where practical, will work no less than 15 hours per week, with a minimum of 5 hours designated to 'Office Hours';

Our office hours are:

Sami

- Tuesday 1-3pm @ TRM
- Wednesday 2-5pm @ Central Library
- Thursday 10-3pm @ TRM

Jarna

- Monday 9-11am @ Central Library
- Tuesday 12-3pm @ TRM
- Wednesday 10-12pm @ TRM

Our Weekly Breakdowns are available on request. On average since the 3rd week of January, we have both individually worked 29 hours per week.

Both Co-Tumuaki will be listed as a Mandatory signatory on the Te Rōpū Māori bank accounts

We are both signatories on TRM's bank accounts, we are yet to be added as users on the internet banking.

Attendance at Te Huinga Taurira is compulsory unless there are extenuating circumstances that are approved through a vote in a Te Rito Hui.

N/A

Facilitate check-ins with Te Rito members at least once a month.

Te Rito members are required to book a check-in with one of us every two weeks.

Must meet with a counsellor from Te Huka Matauraka once a month for a well-being check up

We met with Whaea Amber for a well-being check-in prior to our Te Rito wānanga. We have yet to see her since.

Part Two: General Duties of All Executive Members

2.1. 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.

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

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

We joined Daniel for some of the 'Summer in Dunners' sausage sizzles / ice cream days. Although we were both busy with our own WikiO kaupapa, we sent two of our Executives to assist with and promote Te Rōpū Māori at Tent City.

2.2.2. Assisting with elections and referendums where appropriate.

N/A

2.3. It is expected that Executive Officers attend Executive meetings.

We have both attended all OUSA Executive meetings and Board meetings, there have been some instances where Sami was late and / or had to leave early.

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

Sami attended the Executive training session with the OUSA Advisory Board prior to the start of Semester.

2.5. All Executive officers shall:

2.5.1. 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;

N/A

2.5.2. 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;

We are working towards building hononga with various groups across campus and maintain the inclusive environment of Te Rōpū Māori.

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

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is embedded into Te Rōpū Māori Constitution which we uphold in everything we do.

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

We host many events of our own and we try to attend as many other events as possible, particularly those run by our Pacific counterparts.

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

As tauira Māori, we do everything we can to protect and care for Papa and our taiao.

2.5.6. Every quarter undertake five hours of voluntary service which contributes to the local community; and;

N/A yet.

2.5.7. Regularly check and respond to all communications.

We check our emails every day (even weekends), and respond appropriately with a timely manner.

Part Three: Attendance and involvement in OUSA and University Committees

As mentioned above, we have been appointed to the following committees:

- University Senate
 - We attended first Senate hui 24/02
- University Quality Advancement Committee
- University Committee for the Advancement of Learning and Teaching (CALT) [delegated]
- University Distance Learning Committee [delegated]
- University Student Code of Conduct Reference Group
- Vice-Chancellors Student and Staff Advisory Group
- University Humanities Māori and Pacific Island Advisory Board
- OUSA Policy Committee
- OUSA Blues and Golds

We are also responsible with finding a Māori representative for the following committees:

- Health Sciences Divisional Academic Board
- University Humanities Māori and Pacific Island Advisory Board (Postgraduate)
- University Academic Committee (Postgraduate)

Part Four: Goals and your Progress

4.1 Fulfill the regular commitments and responsibilities of the Te Rōpū Māori Tumuaki Takirua, including support of Te Rito executive

We both aim to fulfill our regular commitments to the best of our abilities. We also go out of our way to awahi our Executive team.

4.2 Create and maintain meaningful hononga with other Student Executives both on and off campus and across the motu.

One of our goals as Tumuaki was to restore some of the relationships that had gone down the drain in previous years, particularly with our Pākehā and Pasifika counterparts. We have fortnightly catch ups with both Presidents and look forward to maintaining these hononga.

OUSA: Prior to the start of the year, we met with Daniel Leamy to establish a connection with our Pākehā counterpart. We met over lunch and discussed key issues and points of interest between our Associations. Sami attended the OUSA Executive training with the OUSA Advisory board and we continue to build working

friendships with the rest of the OUSA executive team. Additionally, we have created a solid relationship with Donna (OUSA Association Secretary), and are looking at collaborating with the OUSA events team during Wiki Re:O. We also went to Daniel for advice regarding the loss of our equity funding and the suggestion of a Student Services Agreement by DVC-Māori as well as any other issues that presented themselves.

UOPISA: At the beginning of the year, we met with UOPISA president, Adeleine Eli, over kai to discuss our ideas for collaboration this year. We are all keen to run the TRMxUOPISA Night Markets again and we collaborated with UOPISA on SKUX DELUXX and Hangover Hākari during Wiki O. On the 13th of February, prior to Wiki O, Te Rito also hosted the UOPISA executive team at the TRM where for kaitahi / potluck and some kēmu in order to facilitate whakawhanaungatanga early between our Executives.

Ngā Rōpū: Prior to the end of the year, we sent out a Google Forms to each Ngā Rōpū Instagram account to be sent out to all incoming Executives, once elected. We now have a register of all Ngā Rōpū Student Executive members. During January, we started adding all the Presidents and Vice-Presidents (or another delegated member) to a Messenger group chat in order to begin our year with good communication. We also wanted to create a stronger voice and foundation for our Ngā Rōpū across all our campuses. One idea was to form a Ngā Rōpū Kōmiti to act as another level of governance within TRM. This is still in the works. Another idea was to increase the amount of funding. The motion to increase the Ngā Rōpū funding line from the Reserves was passed at TRM Hui Motuhake held 09/03. This pool of funding is now available for Ngā Rōpū to apply for on a needs basis. Additionally, as mentioned above, we hosted all our Ngā Rōpū executives for Quiz Night and a pō whakangāhau while TRHI was visiting.

Te Mana Ākongā: Prior to the end of the year, we attended Hui Kaiārahi ki Rotoiti on behalf of TRM. While there, we met the incoming Tumuaki of Te Akatoki, Ngai Tauira, Te Waiora, Te Tira Ahu Pae and Titahi ki Tua. The incoming presidents of Ngā Tauira Māori and Te Awhioraki were not present, however, we have met briefly over Zui this year. During Hui Kaiārahi, we were able to create friendships with the other Tumuaki, share our issues and offer solutions to theirs. One hononga that came out of Hui Kaiārahi is with Te Waiora, who we usually don't have anything to do with other than Te Huinga Tauira. Both sets of Presidents are keen to do a Te Waiora x Te Rōpū Māori collaboration sometime during this year to strengthen the relationships between our tauira, as many of us are whanaunga. TRM is also hosting the first Hui Kaiārahi (10-12th April, during Mid-Semester break).

Other: At the start of the year, we worked hard to establish a relationship with the Student kaimahi at The Critic, particularly Hanna (Editor), in order to have more TRM representation in the weekly mag and our Kaipāpāho Matua had her first column published 9th of March. Sami and members of Te Rito also attended lunch with the University Councillors alongside Student Executives from OUSA and UOPISA on the 10th of March.

4.3 Strengthen and maintain meaningful hononga with other Māori groups within the University, the wider Ōtepoti community and Ngā Rūnanga (Ōtākou, Kāti Huirapa ki Puketeraki and Moeraki).

Another goal of ours is to increase TRM's visibility by forming hononga and working closely with other Māori groups both within the University and the wider Māori community in Ōtepoti and Ōtākou.

DVC-Māori: We have weekly meetings with Jacinta. Initially we weren't confident in our relationship with Jacinta herself, however over the last few weeks this has begun to improve and we feel that a very good working relationship is beginning to arise. We are in the process of going back and forth to determine what an Operational Manager to support Te Rito might look like in the future, facilitated through the DVC-M similar to our Kaiwhakahaere Tari (KT). We are also negotiating a new Agreement to replace our previous MOU with OMD, after their amalgamation into the DVC-M office. We hold strong relationships with the kaimahi in the DVC-M office, particularly those previously known as "OMD kaimahi". Maioha (Āpiha Ahurea) is working closely with Kiritea Smith (Kaiwhakahaere Kaupapa, DVC-M) for Māori Scholarship Dinner planned for 27th of March. Additionally, TRM is involved in updating the University's waiata website, with recording set for 17th April at Te Korokoro o te Tūi studio. This is at the request of Kare Tipa (Kaiwhakahaere Kaupapa: Toitū Te Reo, DVC-M) and Sami is working alongside Renee Brown (Āpiha Ahurea 2025) to do a call out and run practices for this kaupapa over the next month.

Te Huka Mātauraka: We both already have long-standing personal relationships with many kaimahi at THM; however, we are working towards more meaningful working collaborations with THM to strengthen this hononga, including co-promoting kaupapa together and encouraging Te Rito to engage with kaimahi for kaupapa collaboration and personal support. We had a hui with Whaea Michelle at the start of the year to discuss our MoU and our goals / vision as Tumuaki Takirua for the year.

Te Wānanga o Aotearoa (Ōtepoti campus): We received an invitation to the opening of Te Wānanga o Aotearoa (Ōtepoti campus), which we attended with Jonnee (Āpiha Hauora) and Maioha. During the hākari, we managed to make connections with many of the kaimahi that were there, and we are keen to maintain those relationships moving forward.

Otago Polytechnic: We want to be able to strengthen the relationship between our taura Māori cohort and theirs, as taura from both Institutes are often friends / flatmates. We also know that the Polytech does not have the same cultural support that TRM provides for our taura, including kapahaka. We want to be able to extend an invitation to taura Māori at the Polytech to engage with our kaupapa, if they want to.

Ngā Rūnanga: Te Rito attended and assisted with Tūraka Hou hosted by Puketeraki Marae. One of the tasks we gave our Executive was to not just talk to our new taura but also engage in conversation with mana whenua. During our thank you to the ringawera, one kaumātua gave us a rundown of TRM's previous relationship with mana whenua. We plan to engage with mana whenua throughout the year on a

variety of kaupapa, as well as engage with them through our Strategic plan. Te Rito attended the Hui Whakatau for the new Pou Tiriti, Dr Megan Pōtiki, a strategic lead for engagement with mana whenua for the University. Additionally, at lunch with the University councillors, Sami met and spoke with Suzanne Ellison (Kāti Huirapa ki Puketeraki). We are excited to see how our relationship with these key figures will flourish and how this can contribute to our future engagement and collaboration with Ngā Rūnanga.

External Engagement Division: We have been invited to be a part of the Māori Leadership Forum facilitated by DVC-M. As a part of this, we have formed a hononga with Matiu Workman (Senior Strategic Adviser Māori). Firstly, this was concerned with the Māori School Liaison Officer to offer TRMs assistance in connecting with Kura Kaupapa / Kura-ā-Iwi and other national kaupapa Māori (e.g Waka Ama comps, Secondary Schools Kapahaka). We saw this as an opportunity to re-center and re-cement Haerenga / or the concept of haerenga (to send TRM tauira to connect with our own hāpori) as a joint-partnership in the school's outreach opportunities. Additionally, we saw an opportunity to further our hononga with Griffith University by handing this kaupapa to this office to allow the creation of lasting relationships between kaimahi that stay in their roles longer than one year.

General National Election Candidates: We see politics and advocacy as an important part of TRM. This year we have sent a proposal for a whakawhanaungatanga / Q&A session with Te Tai Tonga candidate, Tākuta Ferris, and Labour nominee, Mananui Ramsden. No further correspondence has occurred at this point.

Tawera Nikau: Tawera got in touch with us through the Sports Marketing teaching team here at the University as he is travelling down to deliver a lecture in the Department on the 29th of April. He saw this as an opportunity to also engage with our Māori communities within Dunedin and we thought this would be awesome to facilitate and be a part of. Now being facilitated by Jonnee, we are now in the process of planning a Seminar, Q&A session and shared kai. This will be an open event for our wider Dunedin sports community, helping us further those hononga as well.

4.4 Re-incorporation under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022

At Hui Motuhake (09/03) we moved a motion to re-incorporate under the 2022 Act and other Constitutional changes (passed U);

- Re-registration under the ikoa
“Te Rōpū Māori o Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka Incorporated”
- Introduction of a formal membership consent process (required by law)
- A tikanga-led internal dispute resolution process (Rule 28)
- Appointment of up to three contact persons for registry compliance (Rule 29)

Next steps for this process include:

- Updating of current officers via the “Consent and certificate of officer” form

- Filing our current financial statements
- Filing our finalised re-registration under our new ikoa and submitting our Constitution

4.5 Policy and Constitution Updating

Another area of focus for us was reviewing and updating our Founding documents, including the Constitution and TRM policies such as Te Kaihāpai Appointment Policy, Te Rito Accountability Policy, and Financial Policy. These Policies were reviewed, updated and any changes were passed at Te Rito Wānanga / Hui ā Te Rito Tuatahi.

Te Rito Policy: Additionally, as a part of our observations last year, the Te Rito Executive does not have enough capacity to cover all of the kaupapa we need to stay across as a governance and operational body. We began work to review the Policy, in consultation with Dennis, Samuel and Jonnee. As a reflection, we are internally trialling the introduction of a new Executive role and redistribution of responsibilities among Te Rito members. This mahi has begun, but we are still in discussions as to what this role will specifically carry, but our Executive intends on trialling this after the first quarter.

Constitution Amendments: As part of ongoing mahi to re-incorporate TRM, and as mentioned above, we commissioned Liam Tawharu to amend TRM's Constitution to align with the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022. We allowed for a submission period following the announcement of these amendments to Te Rōpū on the first day of lectures. Although we had few submissions, this seemed to work well as we were able to take on the feedback before presenting the final document to Te Rōpū. Additionally, this meant that discussion was kept short as taura came to Hui Motuhake well informed, reasoning was able to be reiterated through the feedback system, meaning the proposed amendments were well supported at the Hui.

Substantive amendments that were passed (U) include:

- Rule 8 (Te Rito): Removal of the Kaiwhakahaere Tari as an ex-officio Te Rito member
- Rule 19 (Expenditure Authorisation): Updates reflecting best practice and alignment with the Financial Policy
- Rule 21 (Te Rito Honoraria): Wording updates embedding the Te Rito Accountability Policy

As well as these substantive changes, it was suggested at Hui Motuhake that all TRM documents adopt Kai Tahu spelling, which we both agree to. We have also started a working document to include a new role to be introduced at Hui ā Tau and be effective from 2027, should the trial and redistribution of responsibilities prove effective.

4.6 Project Pūtea - Strategic Planning

This quarter we initiated what we have termed "Project Pūtea", a strategic planning process intended to support the long-term sustainability and direction of TRM. The project responds to several factors including the size of TRM's reserve pūtea, changing institutional expectations, and the need to strengthen succession and governance continuity across succeeding Te Rito's. Rather than determining solutions internally, we have prioritised a collaborative approach that centres the whakaaro of past, present, and future taura.

Initial work has focused on establishing a framework for engagement and consultation. This included a Te Rito wānanga to trial a design-thinking facilitation model, early engagement with key stakeholders including OUSA, OUPISA, TMA, Mana Whenua, other University Departments, and the announcement of the project to all our members at the Hui Motuhake on the 9th March. The project has also begun rebuilding connections with Ngā Rōpū and alumni to ensure that the strategic direction of the Association reflects the wider ecosystem that TRM supports.

One key driver for this mahi, obviously attributing to the ingoa of the project, is the substantial reserve funds which TRM has accumulated through various avenues of funding over many years preceding our term. This resulted in the decline of our application for Equity Funding. The advice given to us by DVC-Māori is that there needs to be a plan for the money to be responsibly spent and that avenues for additional funding will be closed until our reserve funds are spent / have a plan to be spent all the way down. The Operational Manager covered at Hui Motuhake was one proposal for the spending of these funds by DVC-Māori.

Additionally, a few flags were raised, by us and Tia (Kaihāpai), around our budget which we also shared with DVC-Māori. Firstly, the declined Equity Funding left us around \$40,000 short in our budget. Secondly, many of our lines simply were not enough to appropriately compensate mahi completed by non-Te Rito members for TRM kaupapa in order to relieve the pressure on Te Rito (a reasoning for the proposed Operational Manager). Following these conversations, at Te Rito wānanga we facilitated an exercise which allowed us to set what we thought would be a more appropriate amount of pūtea for each of our budget lines. Passing this to be moved forward to Hui Motuhake to be held on the 09/03.

At Hui Motuhake we moved a motion for withdrawals from the "Investment Account" (reserves) and to take effect through these changes to Individual Budget Lines in our Budget 2026 (41 for, 1 abstain - motion carried)

- General Meetings: \$756 → \$1500 (\$744)
- Kai Time: \$2750 → \$11,500 (\$8750)
- Whare Supplies: \$1800 → \$3000 (\$1200)
- Individual Grants: \$12492 → \$20,000 (\$7508)
- Ngā Rōpū Grants: \$30,000 → \$60,000 (\$30,000)
- Wiki ReO: \$3000 → \$5000 (\$2000)
- Te Hōkai: \$13,000 → \$15,000 (\$2000)
- Awards Night: \$0 → \$5000 (\$5000)
- Study Wānanga: \$8000 → \$10,000 (\$2000)
- Study Nights: \$5000 → \$10,000 (\$5000)
 - Initial suggestion was an increase of \$3000, however the Te Rōpū decided to increase the line by \$5000
- Academic Achievement: \$500 → \$1000 (\$500)
- Other Education Initiatives: \$0 → \$3000 (\$3000)
- Other Hauora Initiatives: \$3300 → \$5000 (\$1700)
- Relay for Life: \$1300 → \$1500 (\$200)
- Total: **\$69,602**

- This differs from the amount that was passed at Hui Motuhake due to an error in calculation, the amount conveyed to our taura was **\$71,402**

We also passed another motion passed to withdraw on a needs basis: Other Social & Events: \$6600 → \$16,600 (\$10,000) (38 for, 3 abstentions, 1 opposed - motion carried)

There is additional mahi to be carried out in collaboration with Tia and our accountants about setting up the Investment Account as an actual investment. At this point in time this account is only a traditional savings account. While there was a push for us as an Executive to make decisions around the spending of our reserve pūtea based on DVC-M's advice, we decided our tikanga was to take this to our student body. Therefore, the next phase of the project will involve a series of wānanga and design sessions with Ngā Rōpū executives, current taura, and alumni. These sessions will focus on identifying shared challenges, future aspirations, and potential structural or financial priorities for the association. Insights gathered from this engagement will be synthesised into the foundations of a strategic plan that reflects kaupapa Māori values, protects TRM's autonomy, and supports the long-term wellbeing of our taura. This will ensure that any operational changes will directly reflect the desires and aspirations for the future of Te Rōpū Māori, directly from ngā taura Māori, ā muri, ā mua.

Part Five: General

N/A