



UOPISA

University of Otago Pacific Islands Students' Association

President of the University of Otago Pacific Islands Students' Association (UOPISA)

Adeleine Eli

1st Quarterly Report 2026

Submitted: Monday 9th March, 2026 at 5pm

Part One: Executive Officer position Description Duties

1.1 The University of Otago Pacific Islands Students Association President shall be a voting ex-officio member of the OUSA Executive.

When present at Association meetings, I have participated in voting on matters presented to the Executive, or have indicated when I am abstaining from voting.

1.2 The duties of the University of Otago Pacific Islands Students Association President are outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Otago University Students' Association and the University of Otago Pacific Islands Students' Association (UOPISA).

The MOU is still in progress to be approved, but has been confirmed VC has received it. This should be completed by the next quarter.

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

See Part 2.

PART ONE: EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITION DESCRIPTION DUTIES

The President is the primary elected representative of members of UOPISA. The President will lead UOPISA in fulfilling its core functions and achieving its goals. This includes:



1.1 Main spokesperson or representative for UOPISA.

I have represented UOPISA at events such as:

- Monthly meeting with DVC-P: Dianne Sika Paotonu
- UOPISA x TRM O-week BBQ Collaboration
- Meeting with Otago Communications office
 - Shared my story and the purpose behind joining UOPISA
- Meeting with PTO and Wellsouth about student engagement in their programs and support available for our students
- Meeting with Moana Nui coordinator about UOPISA facilitating volunteers for this event
- Attended OUSA Executive Induction hosted by VC
- Attended most OUSA Executive and Board meetings
- Senate
 - This committee advises the University Council on teaching, research, and student education
- Committee for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning
 - This committee assists the Senate and works towards mainly promoting policy and digital learning to reflect better learning and teaching
- Meet and greet with Division of Sciences Pacific
- Meeting with Pacific Island Centre Manager - Tagiilima Feleti
 - The purpose was to establish what support was available for UOPISA from the PIC, and to discuss the current state of a UOPISA space (of which PIC is paying for this year)
- Regular meetings with my mentor - Vika Piukala

Member Association Events

- Hosted a stall at OUSA Clubs Day
- Hosted the annual UOPISA Leadership Weekend
- My Executive and I attended the Pacific Welcome
- Attended SSPIA x DivSci Welcome
- Chairperson for OSSA SGM
- Attended OKISA SGM
- Meeting with the presidents of my mentee association (BOPSA and OSSA)
 - The purpose was to establish relationships and offer support

1.2 Chair and convener of executive and general meetings.

I have chaired all UOPISA Executive meetings and facilitated communication with the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee is scheduled to take place on Thursday 19th of March.



1.3 Chief representative and responsible for all internal and external relations.

There has not yet been a Pacific Leadership Group Meeting.

I have maintained contact with the member associations of UOPISA through online platforms (Eg. messenger), email, and in person meetings.

1.4 To establish and maintain our relationship with OUSA, Te Rōpū Māori and the University where appropriate.

I have attended most OUSA Executive Meetings.

I have maintained a good relationship with Te Roopu Māori (TRM) through monthly catch ups with TRM Tumuaki Jarna Flintoff and Sami Harrison. We've managed to host an O-week BBQ together at the TRM Whare and Exec bonding.

1.5 Establish and maintain relationship with external/internal stakeholders where appropriate

- I. Dr. Dianne Sika-Paotonu (DVC-P)
- II. Tagiilima Feleti (Manager of Pacific Islands Centre)
- III. Dr. Vanisha Mishra-Vakaoti (Pacific student support - Sciences)
- IV. Vika Piukala (Pacific student support - Humanities)
- V. PTO - Moana Nui & Mental Health Project
- VI. Ella Rooney (Well-South)

Member associations

- VII. Biomedical Otago Pacific Student Association
- VIII. Humanities Otago Pacific Island Student Association
- IX. Otago Cook Island Student Association
- X. Otago Fijian Student Association
- XI. Otago Kiribati Student Association
- XII. Otago Niuean Student Association
- XIII. Otago Samoan Student Association
- XIV. Otago Tongan Student Association
- XV. Pacific Island Health Professional Student Association
- XVI. Pacific Island Law Student Association
- XVII. Otago Pacific Island Commerce Student Association
- XVIII. Science Students' Pacific Island Association



Part Two: General Duties of All Executive Members

2.1 The appointed for all OUSA Executive officers shall commence from the 1st of January and will terminate on the 31st of December of that same year.

Still in progress.

2.2 Where reasonable, all Executive Officers are expected to assist as volunteers for OUSA events and functions, including, but not limited to: Assisting at the OUSA Tent City and other activities during Summer School, Orientation and Re-Orientation; and;

N/A

2.3 Assisting the elections and reference where appropriate

N/A

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

I have attended most OUSA Executive Meetings, and could not attend the training sessions due to overlapping UOPISA commitments.

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;



My priorities this quarter has been to get our equity funding approved and running for the year, which will significantly help with UOPISA events and provide financial support for our member associations. I also aim to increase visibility and be present within our student association events, to establish and maintain relationships with the student leaders in order to work closely together. I believe this will best support them in terms of effective planning and wellbeing.

We recently hosted the UOPISA Annual Leadership Weekend and the main goal was to create a space for our student leaders to connect with each other, and to be given a guideline of how to run an association (eg. role admin, AGMs etc.). This was important as the consensus was that student leaders felt under prepared. Overall, the leadership weekend was a success.

2.5.3 Prioritise of sustainability and minimize of environmental impacts in all aspects of their role and keep up to date with environmental issues;

With the upcoming welcome events, we have encouraged our member associations to use university supplies and move away from the use of plastic. We will continue to remind our associations of this issue throughout the year.

2.5.4 Every quarter undertake five hours of voluntary services which contributes to the local community;

UOPISA will be in charge of the volunteers at the Moana Nui Festival, and will be present on the day.

My voluntary service hours are currently with my Pacific community. I engage in being a yellow shirt for the Pacific Island Centre, attending the Sāmoan EFKS church and subtly educating the members about UOPISA, and at the Mercy Centre of Learning which takes place at First Church.

2.5.5 Regularly check and respond to all communications

I have checked my correspondence promptly and have responded to calls, messages, and emails at my earliest convenience.

Part Three: Attendance and involvement in OUSA and University Committees



1. Advancement of Teaching and Learning (CALT)
2. OUSA Executive
3. UOPISA Presidents' Standing Committee
4. Senate

Committees yet to begin

1. Pacific Leadership Group
2. OUSA Academic Committee
3. OUSA Welfare Committee

Part Four: Goals and your progress

1. To re-sign the MOU between University of Otago and UOPISA
 - a. The VC has confirmed his office have received it, and are now in the process of confirming the 2025 financial report is up to date
 - b. I plan to follow up with the VC's office through email and DVC-P, in hopes of having the funding approved by the end of this month
2. Establish close relationships/mentorship with UOPISA affiliated member associations
 - a. Each association has been delegated a mentor from the UOPISA executive
 - b. Each association has met at least once with their mentor to discuss goals and visions of their respective associations, and how they'd like UOPISA to support them
 - c. This was further strengthened at the Leadership Weekend where the associations could create strong relationships with each other, and equipped with the skills needed to run an association
 - d. I plan to support each association this month by collectively attending their welcome events with the rest of my team, and assisting in preparation
3. Creating UOPISA to be a space for all Pacific students
 - a. The goal behind this is not limiting support to only our amazing student associations, but cater to the Pacific students who do not engage in student associations.
 - b. My first step will be to effectively advertise the UOPISA welcome for all Pacific students, and to connect and talk about the support available from UOPISA.
 - c. This goal comes with visibility, and my engagement with first year students has helped advise the approach to this goal - to be more present.
4. Establish relationships with other Pacific Island Student Associations across the universities in New Zealand
 - a. Although not a priority, it is very important to stay connected to other Pacific leaders serving at the other universities in Aotearoa. Currently, UOPISA will try to gain a foundation to establish this relationship by looking into attending the AUPAC Conference at Griffith University.



5. Establish a sustainable space for UOPISA
 - a. UOPISA currently has an office space at the Student Development Learning Centre. We are looking into furniture for the room, and will officially open the space at our welcome (end of March).
 - b. The current office space will suffice for the time being, but it is only temporary. The Pacific Island Centre currently pays for this (shoutout to them).
 - c. Previous experiences about a permanent UOPISA space with the University have been unsuccessful, so I may have to look into renting a space/house externally for UOPISA.
 - d. I will get in touch with the University Spaces committee once again to get a gauge on our options.

Part Five: General

1. Re-evaluating the current UOPISA policies and constitution
2. Assisting associations with queries
3. Supporting Moana Nui with promo