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Welfare and Equity Representative
Second Quarter Report 2026
Submitted June 15th at 8:00am
2000 words

Part One: Executive Officer Position Description Duties

10.1. Assume all the powers and duties of the President in the absence of the President, the Administrative Vice-President, the Finance and Strategy Officer and the Academic Representative.

N/A

10.2. Work to address issues affecting marginalised communities of students at the University of Otago, in areas including but not limited to: 10.2.1. Academic issues at the University of Otago; and; 10.2.2. Social and welfare related issues within the University of Otago and the wider community.

10.2: Most of my work this quarter has been working alongside Medicine students in pathway groups (focusing on queer and refugee students) and trying to create campaigns for more inclusive hall experiences. I have also worked on relaunching ODSA and have found an executive and have filled out the application for the club, and held a casual event to kick off the year.

10.2.1: For academic issues, I have been looking into lectures trying to get around recording lectures through attendance requirements and giving questions in lectures that don't get posted. This is the first year that it has been required, and there is not a place for students to report when their papers don't record.

10.2.2: The above has been what most of my work throughout this quarter has looked like.

10.3. Be a member of appropriate internal committees of the Association, including, but not limited to: 10.3.1. Standing Committee of the Executive; 10.3.2. Residential Committee; and; 10.3.3. Welfare and Equity Committee.

I am on mentioned committees as well as Clinical Governance, Equity, Arora Learning System and the Chaplaincy committee.

10.4. Chair monthly meetings of the Welfare and Equity Committee, 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.

I held one Welfare and Equity committee this quarter, it went well, however action points or plans on outcomes of the committee were not clear. I will chair it more consistently in the third quarter with a more clear agenda.

10.5. Take direction from the Welfare and Equity Committee on all welfare matters relevant to the Association and its members. 10.6. As relevant, specifically consult with representative members of the Welfare and Equity Committee to provide feedback or information to the Association or the University of Otago, on issues.

I've explained to staff and students invited to the committee that this will be a very collaborative space to hear problems students are facing and come up with solutions. I have been consulting with many members on the committee quite consistently on welfare and equity issues, not directly connected to the committee. I have followed up on the issues discussed although they were not many/issues wider than just the University.

10.7. Where reasonable, ensure that as many different representatives of student welfare issues are present on the Welfare and Equity Committee as possible.

TIB, refugee, Māori, Pacific, Locals, International, Disabled and Queer student representatives were all welcome to attend and join the committee. Corresponding heads of staff/staff have all been invited as well as student health and student support services.

10.8. Where appropriate, brief the President on national and local tertiary sector welfare issues and representing the welfare interests of students on local body committees and boards.

I update both Daniel and Kamesha whenever I see them on the work that I'm doing and how it is going. They have been open ears to bounce ideas off of which I appreciate greatly.

10.8. Facilitate in conjunction with the relevant committee chair a variety of student representation across welfare and equity related University Committees and OUSA Subcommittees.

I am currently sitting on Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Trust, Hardship Fund Committee, Ethical Behaviour Committee, Clinical Governance Group, Equity Advisory Group, Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Consultative Body, and the Arora Learning System Group.

10.9. Maintain a good working relationship with the University, particularly with:

10.9.1. The Director of Student Services;

I have a good relationship with Clair and she has been an open ear, particularly in regards to the DEI proposal and the Anti-racist efforts starting at the University.

10.9.2. Student Health Representative;

I have a good relationship with them, although I haven't worked with them much outside of the Clinical Governance Group and the student focus group. I have given them my thoughts as a student representative and I feel that they have been quite respectful which I appreciate.

10.9.3. Disability Information Services;

I have what I would consider a good working relationship with the ladies in DIS and they have been a great support for relaunching ODSA.

10.9.5. Te Whare Tāwharau;

I have a good relationship with staff and they have helped me in trying to plan a student sexual harm response questionnaire for students. Consulting with them on this was particularly important and they have given me great resources.

10.9.6. Thursdays in Black;

I have a good working relationship with the co-presidents and plan on running some events alongside them. I am also working with them on the questionnaire previously mentioned.

10.9.7. Chaplaincy Board;

I have been to some committee meetings at the start of the year, however, I haven't been able to attend the last couple of ones. I have a good relationship with some of the members, although I have not been working alongside them for anything as of late.

10.9.8

I continue to have good relationships with many students who fall under equity groups that do not have other representation on campus.

10.10. Maintain a good working relationship with Clubs and Societies

I am friendly with the staff in clubs and socs and particularly with Elle, the Clubs and Societies OUSA Rep. We are trying to work on a recourse for clubs to use when there are not good working relations within the executive and looking forward to that being rolled out.

10.11. Be available via cell phone at all practical times

I am.

10.12. Perform the general duties of all Executive Officers.

Yes.

10.13. Where practical, work not less than twenty hours per week.

18 hours average

Part Two: General Duties of All Executive Officers 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.

I started my role in February when I picked up my keys and will continue my work until the end of the year.

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;

Yes

3.2.2. Assisting with elections and referendums where appropriate.

Yes

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

I've attended all of them in person or via teams.

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.

I went to Auckland for the National Disabled Student Hui and their executive training session. I also attended the Te Whare Tawhareu for the executive and the Governance workshop before the Deloitte Committee Executive meeting.

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;

I know generally about OUSAs finances.

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;

I have and will continue to do so, both in my personal life and for my OUSE position.

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

I will always support initiatives that uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi and try to act in accordance with it within my role.

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

I have and will continue to do so when I hear about them.

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

I will continue to educate myself and integrate it where possible.

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

I have completed my five hours through volunteering with the team and Unicrew and look forward to joining them more often!

3.5.7. Regularly check and respond to all communications.

I have been keeping up with communications regularly in a timely manner.

Part Three: Attendance and involvement in OUSA and University Committees

Part Three: Attendance and Involvement in OUSA and University Committees The list of committees I am involved in within the University is set out in 10.8. If there are any other committees I find out about or am invited to I will try my best to attend and represent students.

Part Four: Goals and your Progress

· First quarter report: provide a detailed outline of your goals.

Create a DEI workshop for first years in halls

Outline:

A proposal for a workshop, similar to CommUNITY 102, to promote a framework based on themes of cultural competency, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

- - This workshop would be aimed at first years in halls
- - Students found to have discriminated against another student or staff member in a significant manner

This also supports Otago University's commitment to supporting an *accessible, inclusive, respectful and welcoming environment*.

GOAL: To create a University campus where all students feel welcomed, respected, safe and supported to participate fully in the community.

For the DEI workshops, I have been meeting with members of staff consistently in trying to find a plan that would work. Through these meetings, I have come to terms that this is a multi-year plan and not likely that I will be able to get this through. I am still passionate about getting this through, and trying to set up systems in place that will continue to work on this while I'm gone. My current plan is to try and get the University to commit to this.

In quarter three I want to hold a Hui with students and staff to gain a better understanding of their experiences (although staff personal experiences is not what this project is targeting). I will also try to get the ball rolling on this detailed survey and study around equity students experiences especially in halls. This includes trying to find funding to hold this.

For more short-termed actionable work, I am working on a string of campaigns along the lines of the intentions of the DEI workshops that will happen in halls. This is with the support of the head warden.

Another goal that was successful was reintroducing ODSA. Alongside this, I have been working on getting a Disabled Students Reprehensive in the OUSA executive. I have completed jobs and descriptions for the roll, students have already shown interest in running for the role. The plans for the funding are still unclear, however, many of the executives support the roll being funded and I will be working more with Troy in finding funds for it. I plan to present the roll in the SGM happening at the start of semester two (this roll has already been voted on through a referendum in previous years) and have the roll open for the elections later this year.

Part Five: General

N/A

