



UOPISA

University of Otago Pacific Islands Students' Association

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

Adeleine Eli

2nd Quarterly Report 2026

Submitted: Monday 15th June 2026 - 11.05am

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 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).

We have signed our MOU with OUSA.

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

Despite the turnarounds and busy quarter for UOPISA, I have put my best effort forward in supporting OUSA.

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/initiatives such as:

- Facilitated Moana Nui Volunteer team



- Regular meetings with DVC-P Dianne Sika-Paotonu to discuss an Agreement between UOPISA and the University for funding
- Ensuring our cultural associations continue to have a platform on the Otago social media platforms to represent on their language weeks
- Working with Pūtea Tautoko Relief fund to ensure the incorporation of a Pacific perspective
- Worked with the team at Te Pou Whirinaki to discuss ways around Pacific students engaging with these services - now planning for a few collaborations around social media campaigns with TRM and OUSA
- Regular attendance at CALT, Senate, and OUSA Board Meetings
- Advising an upcoming Tuvalu Association who wishes to affiliate under UOPISA
- University welcoming of Dr. Nicole Yamase
- UOPISA x TRM Night Market
- Pasifika Tertiary Students Network
- Museum Opening of Tangata Moana Gallery
- UOPISA SGM

1.2 Chair and convener of executive and general meetings.

I have chaired all executive meetings and Standing Committee Meetings.

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

There is still no update of a Pacific Leadership Group.

However, I have continued to keep communication with associations consistent through the Standing Committee Platform and my mentee association contacts.

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

Attending OUSA executive meetings has been a bit more difficult this quarter due to the overlapping with UOPISA commitments, but I have been kept in the loop.

I have maintained a great relationship with Te Roopu Māori through regular monthly catchups with TRM Tumuaki (Sami & Jarna - shoutout to for the awesome mahi you both do). We managed to put on a successful and wholesome Night Market which takes place annually.



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

- I. Dr. Dianne Sika Paotonu (DVC-P)
- II. Lemalu Tagiilima Feleti (Manager of Pacific Islands Centre)
- III. Dr. Vanisha Mishra-Vakaoti (Pacific Student Support - Sciences)
- IV. Jo Oranje - Pastoral Care Team Lead
- V. Viena Faiva - Advisor Communications Pacific
- VI. All associations affiliated with UOPISA

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 as many OUSA Executive Meetings within my capacity.

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;



N/A

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;

We are still continuing to encourage our member associations to be more mindful of their choices, and switching to better alternatives such as recyclable tableware etc.

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

My volunteer hours still remain within my Pacific community. I regularly attend the Sāmoan Dunedin EFKS church, as well as the Mercy Centre of Learning which takes place at First Church Dunedin.

2.5.5 Regularly check and respond to all communications

Definitely a strength as I have consistently checked my correspondence and responded at my earliest convenience.

Part Three: Attendance and involvement in OUSA and University Committees

1. Advancement of Teaching and Learning
2. OUSA
3. Standing Committee UOPISA
4. Senate

Part Four: Goals and your progress

1. *To re-sign the MOU between University of Otago and UOPISA*
 - This goal has been more challenging than I thought as my executive team and I have been receiving many new bits of information required to move forward with our funding application.
 - Many follow ups have been sent to the organisations/parties we require information from. This includes UOPISA executive members from previous years who may still have access to our accounts etc.
 - Once this has all been sorted, our goal is to not only secure the funding this year, next year, and to provide a full handover document for this process so that our current issues do not happen again.
2. *Establish close relationships/mentorship with UOPISA affiliated member associations*
 - a. This goal has been one of my proudest achievements this quarter. I believe UOPISA has created a space that is transparent and safe enough for our member associations to speak up about their issues.
 - b. The Standing Committee has been a great avenue of what's been happening within each member associations. Most meetings have been successful in



terms of Presidents attending, as well as discussing internal/general issues within their associations.

- c. Moving forward, the goal is to strengthen our relationships with our affiliated member associations, and also the bonds with each other. A great example of this is bringing them together at events such as the UOPISA x TRM Night Market.

3. Creating UOPISA to be a safe space for all Pacific students

- a. This goal has been successful this quarter as I have tried to be visible within first-year environments such as the ICC Cultural Performance Evening or postgraduate events like the Public Health Quiz Night.
- b. The UOPISA Welcome last quarter was a great outcome, where we met students with a variety of different backgrounds - some had been heavily involved in UOPISA-related events, whereas for others it was their first exposure to Pacific student associations at Otago.

4. Establish relationships with other Pacific Island Student Associations across the universities in New Zealand

- a. I am now part of a Pasifika Tertiary Network, which consists of Presidents and Vice Presidents from all Pacific University Students Associations across New Zealand.
- b. This network is currently planning an MOU between the universities, as well as an annual conference for executive teams to come together and grow our leadership skills together.

Part Five: General

A massive thank you to my executive team who have shown true strength and resilience while we navigate this quarter's challenges. Despite most of our work being done behind the scenes, my team has continued to show up for their roles, each other, and most importantly our Pacific students. E tō lo'u pulou. Quarter 3 - we go again!