

# MINUTES OF THE AUSA EXECUTIVE MEETING · 8 DECEMBER 2021



Zoom | 13:00 - 14:00

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**PRESENT:** Alofa So'olefai (President), Steven Wijaya (Treasurer-Secretary), Alan Shaker (EVP), Makayla Muhundan (EnVP), Theo van de Klundert (QRO), Varsha Ravi (ISO), Kelly Misiti (PGO), Seini Maryanne (PISO)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Gareth Jones (General Manager)

**APOLOGIES:** Folau Tu'inukuafe (WRO), Anipātene Biddle (MSO), Piripi Gordon (MSO), Ishie Sharma (WVP)

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**MEETING COMMENCED AT 11:09**

## 1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

### 1.1. **Welcome and Karakia**

The Chair welcomed everyone and the PGO opened with a Karakia.

### 1.2. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest

### 1.3. **Approval of Leave**

#### **CHAIR**

*THAT the WRO, MSO(s) and the WVP be excused from this meeting.*

*Carried Unanimously*

**THE ENGAGEMENT VICE-PRESIDENT ENTERED THE MEETING AT 11:13**

### 1.4. **Check-ins**

Everyone to introduce their current state and affairs.

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### 2.1. *Confirm Previous Minutes*

#### **CHAIR/KLUNDERT (QRO)**

*THAT the minutes of the AUSA Executive meeting held on Tuesday, 30 November 2021, to be adopted as a true and accurate record.*

*Carried Unanimously*

### 2.2. *Confirm SLT Minutes*

#### **CHAIR/RAVI (ISO)**

*THAT the minutes of the Senior Leadership Team meeting held on Monday, 6 December 2021, to be adopted as a true and accurate record.*

*Carried Unanimously*

## 3. CRACCUM 2022

The Engagement Vice-President (EnVP) updates and debriefs the Executive for 2022 in appointing new Craccum co-editors to the Craccum Administrative Board (CAB), specifically Flora Xie and Naomii Seah. Candidates are interviewed and deemed fit by the EnVP.

The EnVP further points out that final decisions must be approved by the Executive although there is editorial independence. The PGO questions whether the liability falls on the executive which is further elaborated by the General Manager.

#### **EnVP/KLUNDERT (QRO)**

*THAT the AUSA Executive formally appoints Naomii Seah and Flora Xie as the new Craccum co-editors for 2022 and Johan Chang and Toni Bruce as the new Craccum Administrative Board (CAB) members for 2022.*

*Carried Unanimously*

**THE ENGAGEMENT VICE-PRESIDENT LEFT THE MEETING AT 11:29**

#### 4. STANDING AGENDA: ADVISORY BOARD

The Chair explains the organisational structure of the Advisory Board for the Executive to seek further and proper consultation in the near future. The Chair highlights the purpose of this standing agenda item is to ensure that any items that may need more advice can be taken to the Advisory Board.

#### 5. STANDING AGENDA: MONTHLY REPORTING

The General Manager proposes that reports being done by the managers will be shared with the Executive on a monthly basis. The General Manager highlights three reports the executive should be aware of, placing greater emphasis on the first two:

1. *Managerial Financial Report*
2. *Health & Safety Report*
3. *General Manager's Report*

The General Manager further proposes to get the relevant reports to be made available to the wider student population. The General Manager points out the intention is for the Executive to be aware of the overall current state and affairs happening within AUSA, provide governance and be able to mitigate any potential risk. The General Manager also notes that the Executive has not received any report for at least 18 months.

#### **CHAIR/KLUNDERT (QRO)**

*THAT the reports of Management Reports - October 2021 and Health & Safety - November 2021 are accepted by the Executive.*

*Carried Unanimously*

## 6. STANDING AGENDA: NZUSA

The Chair highlights that this will be a standing agenda item until AUSA decides whether to leave or rejoin NZUSA.

The Chair explains AUSA's decision to leave NZUSA in June, which gives AUSA 6 months before whether it officially leaves NZUSA. Before AUSA officially leaves, the Chair highlights the need for a Special General Meeting (SGM) regarding the matter.

The Chair informs the Executive about a follow-up meeting on Saturday, 11 December 2021, regarding the restructure of levies and other official make-up of NZUSA. An update on this meeting will be provided at the next Executive meeting.

The Queer Rights Officer questions the arguments for leaving NZUSA which the Chair highlights two main reasons:

1. Financially Inefficient: AUSA pays \$45,500 annually to NZUSA which AUSA feels is not worth the value from what NZUSA is currently offering.
2. Wellington-Centric Organisation: The Chair and the Education Vice President highlights the organisation to be Wellington-Centric, where the majority of the Executive seats are made up of students in Wellington which consequently leaves events and any agenda to take place in Wellington. This causes massive strains difficulties for non-wellington members and to our association.

In addition, the Education Vice President also notes that national committee meetings between NZUSA and their members are not constructive conversations but are rather a catch up with members current state and affairs.

The Chair further elaborates that if AUSA were to leave NZUSA, AUSA would not be supporting partner associations affiliated with NZUSA although plans to formalise and foster a direct relationship with Te Mana Ākonga (TMA) is currently underway. This relationship, pending the SGM decision, would be financial where necessary.

The Chair stresses the importance of having a good relationship with TMA as it greatly supports Ngā Tauira Māori (NTM). The General Manager emphasises the political power that TMA holds.

## 7. THE CONTINGENCY PLAN

The General Manager proposes drafting a contingency plan that takes into account different scenarios or potential risks. The General Manager notifies the Executive that surveys will be sent out over the next 1-2 months. Results of the survey will help draft the Contingency plan, which will take approximately 3 months (March-April 2022).

The General Manager further highlights the purpose of having something that is publishable, developing a good guideline that would help AUSA going forward.

## 8. STUDENT COUNCIL

The Education Vice President (EVP) updates the Executive regarding the Student Council training that will take place on 15-16 January 2022, taking into account 15-16 Faculty Associations (and 2-3 new associations).

The EVP highlights the primary goal is to train the new Presidents and to upskill them. The secondary goal of the training is to establish and build upon a strong connection with the leaders which helps develop a good representative of students in the University.

The EVP will share the run sheet with the Executive once it is finalised. The EVP further reminds the executive to fill out the RSVP form, highlighting the need to finalise numbers for bookings.

The Post-Graduate Officer (PGO) points out whether the agenda would accommodate the Post-Graduate Community. The PGO stresses the importance of including the PG students in the conversation and expresses that currently, things are geared towards undergraduates. The EVP specifies there will be no specific agenda for the PG community although there will be a student panel for PG, presenting an equal opportunity for each sub-community to share their thoughts.

## 9. OTHER BUSINESS

### 9.1. *Executive BYO/Picnic*

The Chair plans a get together for the whole executive in early January 2022. This will likely be on the 4-6 of January. The Treasurer-Secretary will reach out to the officers after the meeting.

### 9.2. *Executive Training II*

The Chair plans an Executive training (January 2022) specifically on legal responsibilities and governance. The training is being planned with the Advisory Board. Details regarding the training will be provided soon.

### 9.3. *AUSA Care Packages*

The General Manager notes that the University will be giving AUSA \$77,500 which would be used for approximately 1500 care packages. Care Packages would include sanitary products, non-perishables, countdown vouchers. A survey will be sent out to students and sub-communities to better understand students' needs to ensure that the care package contents are relevant and necessary.

## 10. NEXT MEETING

The next Executive meeting will be set by the Treasurer Secretary. Details of this meeting will be communicated to the group through the appropriate channels. Until further notice, meetings will be conducted via online platforms such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 12:29**

**SIGNED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alofa So'olefai', is written over a horizontal line.

**Alofa So'olefai, Chair of the AUSA Executive Meeting, 2022**