

# MINUTES OF THE AUSA EXECUTIVE MEETING · 7 MARCH 2022



Zoom | 14:00 - 15:00

---

**PRESENT:** Alan Shaker (EVP), Steven Wijaya (Treasurer-Secretary), Ishie Sharma (WVP), Varsha Ravi (ISO), Kelly Misiti (PGO), Folau Tu'inukuafe (WRO)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Gareth Jones (General Manager), Nick Withers (IT/Design Manager)

**LATE:** Theo van de Klundert (QRO), Makayla Muhundan (EnVP),

**ABSENT:** Seini Maryanne (PISO)

**APOLOGIES:** Alofa So'olefai (President), Anipātene Biddle (MSO), Piripi Gordon (MSO)

---

**MEETING COMMENCED AT 14:08**

**WITH THE PRESIDENT ON APOLOGY, THE PRESIDENT HAS DELEGATED THE EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT TO CHAIR THIS MEETING**

## 1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

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

The Chair welcomed everyone and the General Manager opened with a Karakia.

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

No declarations of interest

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

#### **EVP/ISO**

*THAT the President, Maori Students' Officers (Anipātene Biddle and Piripi Gordon) be excused from this meeting.*

*Carried Unanimously*

## 2. HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING - PART I

The Chair reminds the Executive that the Health & Safety Training is divided into two parts, the second being at the next Executive Meeting.

### THE QUEER RIGHTS OFFICER ENTERED THE MEETING AT 14:12

The IT/Design Manager (Health & Safety Representative) heads the training, specifically outlining the AUSA Executive are responsible for all Health & Safety matter related to the association which hold some legal obligations.

The General Manager further adds brief comments regarding the Health & Safety Committee and its purpose. The General Manager further outlines that the Health & Safety Committee makes certain decisions to prevent Health/Safety-related issues, regular fortnightly meetings and has further involved related committee members (Craccum) and further invites anyone who wants to sit in the committee.

### THE IT/DESIGN MANAGER LEFT THE MEETING AT 14:20

## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### CHAIR/QRO

*THAT the minutes of the AUSA Executive meeting held on Friday, 21 January 2022 and on Monday, 14 February 2022, to be adopted as a true and accurate record.*

*Carried Unanimously*

### CHAIR/PGO

*THAT the minutes of the Senior Leadership Team meeting held on Wednesday, 23 February 2022, to be adopted as a true and accurate record.*

*Carried Unanimously*

## 4. STANDING AGENDA: ADVISORY BOARD

This standing agenda item is to ensure that any items that may need more advice can be taken to the advisory board. The floor is open for discussion regarding any communication that needs to be addressed to the Advisory Board.

The Queer Rights Officer pointed out in regards to the lack of student disability representation within the Executive and University in which a lot of disability-related issues has not been addressed. The Queer Rights Officer further pointed out creating an officer for such matter would prove to be important. The Chair further noted that such conversations were raised last year and pointed out the outcome of such conversation is to invite the Auckland University Disables Students' Association President to sit in Student Council.

The Chair further notes that such matter, specifically in regards to how AUSA should approach in regards to equity considerations, will be raised in the next Advisory Board Meeting.

The Post-Graduate Student Officer stresses major issues with the Curriculum Framework Transformation project, specifically believing that the project is simply based on 'money-driven' motivations. She further states that a lot of organisation has contacted her and have the same train of thought. The Chair further noted that such matter will be brought to the attention of the Advisory Board, specifically on how AUSA could approach such matter. The Chair further advised the Post-Graduate Student Officer to bring such matter up on the Student Council Meeting, specifically to Peter Schand.

The International Student Officer further noted an upcoming meeting with the President, General Manager and Engagement Vice President regarding International Week. The International Student Officer proposes to collaborate with AUTSA regarding such matters in with could general mutual benefits from this partnership. The International Student Officer would seek advice from the Advisory Board in regards to network, sponsorship and ways on how to approach such a proposal.

The Chair further reminds the Executive to share any specific questions (rather than broad ideas) to bring to the board.

## 5. STANDING AGENDA: GENERAL MANAGER ADDRESS

### 5.1. *AUSA Cares*

The General Manager update the Executive in regards to AUSA Cares which he highlighted that \$20,000 have gone out to students over the last 6 weeks. The Welfare Vice President further updates the Executive regarding the AUSA Cares program going forward. The Welfare Vice President further highlighted matters regarding transferring a portion of AUSA Cares Budget to Period Poverty and Hardship Grants, which is still in discussion with the University. She further highlighted moving away from AUSA Cares and towards hardship grants as there are not much of a difference between giving food vouchers and direct monetary donations.

**THE WOMEN RIGHTS OFFICER LEFT THE MEETING AT 14:41. AT THIS STAGE, MEETING DOES NOT MEET QUORUM.**

The International Student Officer enquires whether such AUSA Cares budget could be allocated in supporting off-shore students as the University generally does not provide off-shore students support. The General Manager further noted that during his time with AUTSA, they came up with a potential AUTSA Scholarship program (10) with an award of \$3,000. It does not fully support students although the General Manager notes that it is the easiest way for associations to provide off-shore support as it is challenging to transact money across countries.

**5.2. *Property Trust***

The General Manager updates the Executive that the Property Trust has recently agreed in increasing the monthly income from \$27,000 to \$35,000 per month (In line with the budget). The General Manager further outlined the Statement of Intent previously drafted by the Trust to the Executive in which the association is entitled to 67% of its earnings.

The General Manager noted that the Property Trust portfolio is worth \$26,000,000.

Conversation between the Property Trust and General Manager is positive and will be working closely with the Property Trust to make the necessary arrangements for the association to be prepared for 2025 (Deed of Lease).

The General Manager further highlighted the healthy financials AUSA will have for 2022.

**6. STANDING AGENDA: NZUSA**

The Chair noted to contact the President or General Manager any issues regarding NZUSA.

The General Manager noted that the trip (along with the President) to Wellington, New Zealand is being postponed. Such business trip is to discuss further with the President of NZUSA on matters regarding whether AUSA should stay.

The Welfare further enquires whether NZUSA has updated and made any tangible changes in regards to such matter. The General Manager further noted the President of NZUSA has not directly answered AUSA enquiries and therefore decided to meet face-to-face.

The Welfare Vice President further enquired whether VUWSA will be leaving NZUSA. The General Manager affirmed that VUWSA is leaving NZUSA. Such information has been roaming around student associations all around New Zealand.

## 7. HR COMMITTEE

The General Manager previously proposed to set up a Human Resources Committee, further adding the importance of having a number of Executive members to sit on such committee. The purpose of this is for the Executive to know what is going on internally, staff planning, policies in place and solving internal issues.

Members sitting in the Human Resources Committee would be the Union Representative (Nick Withers), General Manager (Gareth Jones), an advisory board member and 3 Executive Members (The President, one officer and one portfolio).

Since the meeting currently did not meet quorum, no motions would be passed at this point. Such a motion to approve such a committee will be approved via email.

The Welfare Vice President enquires what happens if the HR Committee discusses someone that is also part of the HR Committee. The General Manager notes such cases will be dealt with accordingly (E.g., Problems arising in regards to the General Manager's performance will be raised in the GM Committee).

## 8. POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (PGSA) [STRICT]

### THE GENERAL MANAGER LEFT THE MEETING AT 14:58

The Chair updates the Executive regarding ongoing conversations between AUSA and Post-Graduation representation.

With the recent meeting between the Chair, Education Vice President, Post-Graduate Student Officer and Temi Adelekan, it was understood that there have been a lot of divisions between AUSA and PGSA and it was further agreed that there will be an MOU between AUSA and PGSA to outline the relationship. It is further noted that the newly elected PGSA President will also be the AUSA Post-graduate officer, working towards/on the same goal.

Such proposed changes effectively change the constitution as the Post-Graduate Student Officer would no longer be elected by the wider population of University Students.

The Education Vice President also expresses concerns the Post-Graduate Student Officer has in terms of work-load (PGO & PGSA responsibilities). The description of the role is best altered to a certain extent.

**THE ENGAGEMENT VICE PRESIDENT ENTERED THE MEETING AT 15:01. AT THIS STAGE, MEETING MEETS QUORUM.**

Members of the Executive further discuss such matter specifically making each portfolio member (Queer Rights Officer, International Students Officer) structured in a similar manner as the PGSA (MoU), specifically highlighting how AUSA students officers could be elected into office by students who sit in such equity group(s).

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **9.1. *Executive Matters***

Such agenda is deferred to the next executive meeting.

### **9.2. *Social Media***

The International Student Officer proposes that it would be good for the Executive to have more access to AUSA Social Media platforms in ensuring a consistent engagement (especially to off-shore students) and highlights that AUSA is currently not using our full potential. The International Student Officer further encourages the Executive to post more on the AUSA Social Media.

### **9.3. *Weeks Tender Model***

The Engagement Vice President encourages members of the Executive to share information regarding such matters.

### **9.4. *Executive Retreat***

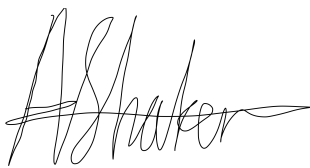
The Welfare Vice President shares an upcoming Executive Retreat that happens during the mid-sem break in April. The idea is still in its planning stages.

## **10. NEXT MEETING**

The next executive meeting will be a fortnightly meeting and will be pre-arranged by the Treasurer-Secretary. Such arrangements will typically fall on a Friday at around 12:30 PM and are subject to changes. Calendar invites have been set on the Google Calendar for the whole semester one. The Executive is reminded to update their Google Calendar to prevent any future clashes in ensuring all relevant members' attendance.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 15:28**

**SIGNED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Shaker", written over a horizontal line.

**Alan Shaker, Acting Chair of the AUSA Executive**