

# MINUTES OF THE AUSA STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING · 25 JULY 2022



303-G14 (Science) | 18:00 - 20:00

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## **PRESENT:**

*Alofa So'olefai (President, AUSA), Steven Wijaya (Treasurer-Secretary, AUSA), Alan Shaker (EVP, AUSA), Makayla Muhundan (EnVP, AUSA), Varsha Ravi (ISO, AUSA), Folau Tu'inukuafe (WRO, AUSA)*

*Hyunsang Lim (President, AULSS), Dania Shafiq (President, SciSA), Jessica Chun (President, SAMS), Samantha Samaniego (President, AUPHSA), Wilene Shen (President, MISA), Benjamin Elwood (President, DSA), Angela Wong (President, SUPA), Crystyn Pask (President, ALES), Danica Loulie-Wijtenburg (President, AUGSS), Nick (President, SOMSA), Rhea Colaabavala (President, APSA), Tom Swinburn (President, AUMSA), Eilish Wood (President, NASA)*

## **IN ATTENDANCE:**

*Temi Adelekan (AUSA Student Voice Manager), A/P Peter Shand (Curriculum Transformation Academic Lead), Jasper Poole (Disabled Students Representative), Kirsten Jones (Vice-President, ESSA)*

**ABSENT:** *Gareth Jones (AUSA General Manager), Johnnie Wang (UoA Council Rep), Olympia Robb (President, ASO), Theo van de Klundert (QRO, AUSA), Kelly Misiti (PGO, AUSA), Seini Pua (PISO, AUSA/AUPISA), Piripi Gordon (Co-Tumuaki/MSO, NTM/AUSA), Anipātene Biddle (Co-Tumuaki/MSO, NTM/AUSA), Anmol Ghuman (Co-President, AUCSA), Simran Wadhawan (Co-President, AUCSA)*

**APOLOGIES:** *George Perry (President, AUES), Sahan (President, PGSA), Ishie Sharma (WVP, AUSA), Georgia Cheng (President, OPTOM), Jennifer Lee (President, ESSA)*

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## 1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

### 1.1. *Karakia & Welcome*

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened with a Karakia.

### 1.2. *Apologies*

The chair noted the apologies.

### 1.3. *Declarations of Interest*

No declaration of interest.

### 1.4. *Approval of Previous Minutes & Matters Arising*

#### CHAIR/APSA PRESIDENT

*Agreed that the AUSA Student Council of the previous Student Council Meeting held on Monday, 27 June 2022, be adopted as a true and accurate record.*

Carried Unanimously

### 1.1. *Written Update About Sustainability Strategy*

The Chair gave a brief update regarding the sustainability strategy.

## 2. STANDING AGENDA ITEM: CURRICULUM TRANSFORMATION UPDATE (PETER SHAND)

Standing agenda item where Peter Shand (Academic Lead for the CFT) gave an update about what has been happening in the CFT space, more specifically:

- A suggestion from the review committee to combine the requirement for work-integrated learning with the capstone
- A suggestion from the review committee that recommendation 10, out-of-discipline studies, be made mandatory rather than optional.
- More discussions regarding such matters will be made in the near future.
- How the 45 points out-of-discipline studies could be structured:
  1. Open Choice - studies are independent/isolated courses (Unbadged)
  2. Vertical Core - Essentially an in-depth study of a certain course (Badged)
  3. Subject-based module - This could be fitting for language modules
  4. Thematic Module - Learning different yet *similar* subject areas
  5. Wicked Problem Challenge

## THE SCISA PRESIDENT LEFT THE MEETING AT 18:51

The AUGSS President suggested further consultation with global studies students specifically for the Thematic Module and Wicked Problem challenge, as these students are experienced in such transdisciplinary study.

More updates/consultations on how the 45 points out-of-discipline studies could be structured would be made.

### 3. SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY CONSULTATION

The Sustainability Strategy and Net-Zero Carbon Strategy are now out for consultation. AUSA is looking to coordinate a Group Submission on behalf of the AUSA Student Council. The floor was opened for discussion.

Out of the discussion, a number of points were raised

The Sustainability Strategy:

- Extra funds are required to sustain grass root networks
- There seems to be no obvious correlation between the targets and the priorities
- No specific plan of action was noted (i.e. how is this all going to be implemented?)
- The objectives set was generalised  
Best suggested to include a reference of idea and practices as part of the framework
- The strategic document was drafted in a way where there was no action plan and no end goal
- Important to note how the sustainability strategy will be tracked and measured
- Mātauranga Knowledge was only broadly implemented and implied that this factor was of low priority
- Is there a budget and resources allocated towards such large goals?

Net-Zero Carbon Strategy:

- Targets set and commitment are lacking
- Measurement of how commitments will be measured are not specifically outlined
- In terms of priority reduction targets, it was enquired whether such figure was based on post-covid or pre-covid
- Strategy seems to be vague
- Suggested that an expanded timeline and steps made at each point provide a clearer picture
- Te Tiriti was mentioned a few times but seemed to lack in priority

- Important to point out who are the key stakeholders and why
- These commitments are nice in principle, but we need to see more practicality to these commitments
- How will some of these be implemented? E.g. carbon literacy programme, lowering travel by 50%
- How will these commitments be measured? There's the overall goal of 2030, but we want to see smaller milestones along the way
- We like the commitment to engage with all aspects of the University's community, including iwi partnerships and alumni
- Some of these recommendations seem at odds with current largely-irreversible developments like the Rec Centre and Arts Building
- Concerns about the timeline - these are ambitious commitments, and we need to see more tangible milestones to give us confidence in delivery

#### 4. AUSA ELECTIONS

The Chair briefly spoke to the council regarding the upcoming AUSA Elections and the important timelines.

The Chair noted a few caveats when it comes to being elected:

- You need to be a student at the time of elections (not necessarily a student next year)
- You cannot nominate yourself
- Term would be from the 1st of December 2022 until 31 November 2022

#### 5. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

The Chair noted a few housekeeping matters regarding this agenda item. The Chair also pointed out important points regarding weeks:

Suffrage Week (Week starting 19th of September) - To reach out to each faculty and encourage them to hold an event or put a stall on the quad, submit an article for Kate Magazine, art submissions etc.

International week (Week starting 1st of August) - In collaboration with AUTSA, the AUSA ISO noted upcoming events happening during the week and encouraged everyone to write an article for Ubuntu Magazine, art submissions etc.

## 6. AUSA FREE EXAM SEMINARS

The Education Vice-President briefly spoke about the Semester Two Free-Exam Seminars run by AUSA. It was noted that AUSA EVP and EnVP will be reaching out to students to get an idea what major first-year papers students take and provide such students with academic service support. This event will be held in week 12.

## 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

## 8. NEXT MEETING

The next Student Council meeting will be held on **Monday, 22 August 2022 · 18:00 - 20:00**. Meeting format and venue will be confirmed at a later date. Our preference is for in-person meetings, however, we may need to meet via Zoom depending on the Covid situation.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 19:50**

**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 Student Council**