

MINUTES OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING · 25/06/2024



Location: 109-G07 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Present: Alan Shaker (President, AUSA) (Chair), Sarah White (Treasurer-Secretary, AUSA), Layba Zubair (EVP, AUSA), Ben Bonné (PGO, AUSA), Luna Lyra le Fay (QRO, AUSA), Jack Towers (President, AUES), Ayolabi Martins (President, AUDSA), Isabel Possenniskie (President, AUGSS), Will Dalzell (President, AULSS), Lachlan Markovina (President, AUMSA) via Zoom, Nicole Lay (Co-President, AUPHSA, on behalf of Co-President Celesti Tan), Ruchitha Narayan (Co-President AUCSA, on behalf of Co-President Thomas George), Emily McIntosh (Co-President, NASA) on behalf of Co-President Amelia Brown, Hector Leong (President, OPTOM), Jack Chen (Co-President, SCISA on behalf of Co-President Anotida Chitando), Ivan Zhang (President, SOMSA) till 7pm, Raewyn Wang (President, MISA), Jenny Lyu (President, AUPSS), Tiran Archary (President, APSA), June Jeong (President, SAMS).

Apologies: Andrea Vaai (PISO, AUSA), Jennifer Setefano (WVP, AUSA), Jade Butler (EnVP, AUSA), Yueyang Chen (ISO, AUSA), Mandy Peng and Carmen Tan (Co-President, SUPA).

In attendance: David Fulton (GM, AUSA), Mauricio Lozano (Student Voice Manager, AUSA), Bridget Kool (Pro Vice-Chancellor Education), Jamie King (CFT Lead, Faculty of Law), Tracey McGall (Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager), Ben Kao (Senior Academic Quality Analyst, Academic Quality Office), Peter Shand (CFT Lead), Alan Wu (Craccum News Editor).

Not Present: Anna Sue (WRO, AUSA), Te Tuhiwhakaura o te Rangi Wallace-Ihakara (MSO, AUSA), Jimah Ruland-Umata (MSO, AUSA), Louis Hewitson-Townley (President, ASA), Kirti Raju (President, ESSA), Julia Stjärnhage (President, PGSA), Hala Barakat (UOA Council Rep).

1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1.1. **Welcome and opening Karakia.**

1.2. **Apologies**

1.3. **Declarations of Interest.**

- None Declared.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

CHAIR/EVP:

THAT the minutes of the Student Council, Tuesday 21st May 2024, be adopted as a true and accurate record.

Carried unanimously.

3. PRESENTATION ON TRANSDISCIPLINARY COURSES

- Presented by Jamie King.

Peter Shand to leave as has a conflict of interest, having pitched one of the courses.

2024/2025 Courses.

- Teach skills and mindsets of complex societal issues.
- No single discipline can solve these issues: collective and collaborative co-design, innovative and inclusive disciplines.
- 2024: Environment and Futures (semester two).
- 2025: Tangata Moana Tangata Whenua, Migration Futures, Future of Food, AI and society
- 2026: 6 new courses to be confirmed.

2026 potential courses:

- Climate change and health
- Fashion futures
- Contemporary sexualities
- Culture for all
- On my mind: mental health focus.
- Lifestyle behaviours for health and wellbeing.
- Hazards: nature disaster events and focus on Aotearoa.
- Opening the circle: Inclusive Urban Societies.
- Renewable energy transition: equitable and sustainable energy sources.
- Our place in space: sustainable use of space, space politics.
- Sport, a social good. Is sport something good for society? ACC and head injuries.
- War and Peace: how to promote peace and foster peace. Engineering tools of weaponry, cyber war and the future of war.

The Student Council gave the following feedback:

Lifestyle - the complex issue of the pharmacy industry vs the overall issue of lifestyle choices would be interesting to study. Health literacy is really important.

Room for technical programs? Not really the purpose of the course, but more to inspire students to broaden their interests. No practical elements? Yes there is, and no exams in these courses.

War and peace, policy and history perspectives would be very topical.

Contemporary sexualities - risk of creating a space that is divided in opinions. Vulnerability. Cultural differences may create a challenge. People who might not agree probably just won't take it. Health focus and queer in health is a point of interest.

Financial wellbeing to be included. Setting up your own company, being your own boss, and being an entrepreneur. How to turn your interests into a business.

Culture for all - culture competency and inclusivity.

These ideas have gone to employers to ask about these skills.

Timeline:

2024: Still can enrol.

2025: Part of the gen ed schedule. Go live in semester two. Training of the GTA is starting. Email Jaime King if you are interested in this.

2026: broad marketing because will be a requirement.

4. BRIEFING ON THE PROPOSED UOA WELLBEING POLICY & STRATEGY

- Roles and responsibility for health safety and well-being at University.
- No current definition of what well-being means to staff and students. Maybe creating a well-being strategy. Already one for students.
- Student Council filled out the survey provided.

What does well-being mean to you? What does the university do well in terms of wellbeing? How could this be improved?

- The broad aspect of well-being affects everything else.
- Te Whare Tapa Whā.
- Student support advisors on Grafton - free breakfasts.
- Law school - support and career advisors
- Free counselling services.
- Support for clinical placements - separate from the person running it.
- Expensive food and accommodation on campus.
- Deadlines within faculties being tight - is this considered within wellbeing? Guidelines around course extensions is something that is being worked on.
- Is there a metric of stress or wellbeing of courses? How is this considered? 20 critical courses - Maori and non-Maori achievement, course design guide. Pace and check-ins, assessment considerations. Course evaluations make the list of "red flag courses".
- Staff and students a mirror of each other? Or should they have separate policies?

5. SURVEY ON GENERATIVE AI & ANNUAL LEARNING AND TEACHING SURVEY

- Presented by Ben Kao from the Academic Integrity Office.

Learning and teaching survey

- 2 Weeks instead of 3 weeks.
- Email reminders

AI survey

- Varying staff opinions on Gen AI.
- Open for 2 weeks
- Gen AI usage.
- How to use to support your learning
- Opinion on support and teaching of AI.
- The prize draw is separate from the survey results.

Response rate to be improved with incentives.

Census approach rather than a random 10,000 chosen to participate. Choosing what voucher you want at the end of the survey. Fuel vouchers perhaps.

- Prize go back into the draw after one month.
- Careful it doesn't look like a scam.

Information goes to the academic integrity community on future of AI.

Assessment futures project - Gayle Morris' team.

6. CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK TRANSFORMATION

Presented by Peter Shand.

- Student partnership will be part of the communication with faculties.
- Student Voice Policy is live next week!

Flexi Choice and Expanded Learning:

- Flexi choice: 45 pts undesignated study for undergraduate degrees. A couple of degrees with accredited courses will have no space. No risk to achieving employability for any graduate, while still increasing choice.
- Courses can be within a major or outside of it. Assisting students with making these decisions.
- Workload and system viability is the main issue.

Clusters is now called expanded learning.

- Completely optional.
- Unlikely to have all of this available in 2026.
- Phased implementation.
- Not pulling away from the benefits of this.
- Communicate and promote the offers amongst students. Not at this point guaranteeing the badging. Badging is easier to do than recording on the transcript.
- CDES conversations on their perceptions.

- Enrolling in the expanded course at the end rather than the beginning may create complications for the system for transcripts. Time to do this, other areas could become delayed and might not be able to do the transcript retrospectively.
- Communication of badging and the outcome to be discussed.
- Online information for employers to see that this new badge is legitimate.

7. PORTFOLIO UPDATES

The Postgraduate sub-committee now has every faculty represented.

Queer Student Council expressed a need for more Grafton events.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Property Student Association asked about whether other associations have an 'Advisory Board' as they are thinking about creating their own.

- AULSS has support from NZLS and equity officers who advise to some capacity.
- AUSA has an Advisory Board, willing to help support on this as AUSA just appointed four new AB members.

Faculty roadshow:

- The Vice Chancellor goes and listens to each faculty and hears from the staff about their concerns.
- Student leaders should be present - faculty-student leaders to ask the Deans when and where it is happening—the autonomy of each Dean.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Tuesday 23rd July at 6pm.

SIGNED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD



Alan Shaker, Chair of the AUSA Executive.