

MINUTES OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING · 31/05/2024



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

Present: Alan Shaker (President, AUSA) (Chair), Sarah White (Treasurer-Secretary, AUSA), Layba Zubair (EVP, AUSA), Jade Butler (EnVP, AUSA), Yueyang Chen (ISO, AUSA), Te Tuhiwhakaura o te Rangi Wallace-Ihakara (MSO, AUSA), Jimah Ruland-Umata (MSO, AUSA), Anna Sue (WRO, AUSA), Jenny Lyu (President, AUPSS), 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), Thomas George (Co-President AUCSA, on behalf of Co-President Ruchitha Narayan), Kirti Raju (President, ESSA), Raewyn Wang (President, MISA), Emily McIntosh (Co-President, NASA) on behalf of Co-President Amelia Brown, Hector Leong (President, OPTOM), June Jeong (President, SAMS), Ivan Zhang (President, SOMSA), Raewyn Wang (President, MISA), Mandy Peng (Co-President, SUPA on behalf of Co-president Carmen Tan).

Apologies: Ben Bonné (PGO, AUSA).

In attendance: David Fulton (GM, AUSA), Mauricio Lozano (Student Voice Manager, AUSA), Valerie Linton (Provost), Peter Shand (Academic Lead, CFT), Trevor Pronos (Craccum News Editor).

Late: Hala Barakat (UoA Council Rep), at 6:17 pm, Jennifer Setefano (WVP, AUSA), Andrea Vaai (PISO, AUSA).

Not Present: Luna Lyra le Fay (QRO, AUSA), Louis Hewitson-Townley (President, ASA), Jack Chen and Anotida Chitando (Co-Presidents, SCISA), Julia Stjärnhage (President, PGSA).

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/ZUBAIR (AUSA EVP):

THAT the minutes of the Student Council on 16th April be adopted as a true and accurate record.

Carried unanimously.

3. CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK TRANSFORMATION

- Presented by Peter Shand.

PG Graduate Profile - Peter to come back to the Student Council on this.

Conjoint degrees:

- Logistic issues and non-completion of conjoint degrees has led to the need for change.
- 37 retaining conjoins.
- Phasing out 45 conjoins: no taking new applications. Existing students can continue.
- Honouring offers for S2 2024 and S1 2025.
- Processing active applicants for S2025. Seeing if there are alternatives for them.
- Work is needed for students who drop below GPA requirements.

Postponing students who return to study after a long time: circumstantial. Potential for Provost's Special Powers to be used in this instance.

Naming conventions. Principles and rules for how CFT changes are communicated.

How we name it, adds credibility. Establishing a connection is part of the additional element of study.

Transdisciplinary course from 2026: Transdisciplinary Futures.

- Compulsory from 2026
- Confirmed six pilots for 2025.
- Shortlisted 12 further for 2026.

Open Space:

- 45 points.
- There is no name yet. Possible names are self-curated learning space, opening learning space, and flexi space.
- Conjoint degrees likely won't have the full 45 points of open space.
- Clinical programs likely won't have open space in the first year. This would affect selection into clinical programs.
- Students could do three more courses in the major if chosen.
- Stage progression is possible in the requirements.
- Student Council agreed that **Flexi space** seemed to be the better naming option.

Clusters:

- Curated selections of courses, three courses - can be recognised as expanded or enriched study.
- Badged on the transcript e.g. “Focus area in sustainability”.
- Not mandated but encouraged.

Names proposed:

- Expansive learning focus
- Expansive learning
- Curated learning enrichment
- Learning expansion elective.

Distinction with using the word elective comparative to course electives.

Introductory session for program directors. Peter and Alan are co-presenting. Hearing from students about the student benefit and raising awareness about the opportunities.

Steering Committee - student representation on this.

- Amend
- Phasing
- Ideation.

Employers thoughts:

- Included in the communication plan
- Part of the focus group
- Preferred that on the transcript to create a conversation rather being direct.

4. STUDENT VOICE CONFERENCE

- Presented by Mauricio Lozano, Student Voice Manager.

Class reps E-Voice:

- E voice diaries: weeks 4, 8 and 12. Identifying urgent issues.
- Collects feedback to improve the learning experience.
- Suggestion to decrease the number of e voice diaries.
- 1200 engage in submissions.
- Google forms currently used
- Challenges: not very accurate responses. “Boring”

Changes:

- Migrate to qualtrics - same platform as SET. Work with Uni to use the platform but confidentiality/data will remain with AUSA
- Faculties receive reports privately (through the Associate Deans).
- Process integrated into Canvas.

Concerns/Risks:

- Feedback owned by the Uni. We have confirmed it belongs to AUSA.
- Feedback is shared separately per faculty.

Student asked if week 8 can be optional as it can often seem redundant if there are no issues to flag in the class. Student Voice Manager will look into this.

Targeted invitations for people to fill it out if they had an issue.

AUSA Student Voice Conference:

- Thursday 5th September
- Opportunity to network with other student leaders.
- Identifying projects that are student voice-driven. SC to let SV know. What projects are going on?
- Session on grade bump, student-led. Maori student voices.
- Please attend!

Faculty associations proposal:

- Proposal for EVP on all faculty associations.
- Point of contact for academic matters for faculty and faculty associations.
- Aids the president's workload.
- Lack of student representation when struggling to train students.
- Limited student involvement in academic matters

EVP Role:

- Contact for academic matters
- All 8 faculties are on board.
- Co-chair FSSCC
- Covered by new student voice policy, will be compensated.
- Support from AUSA in creation, training, and networking.
- Opportunities to network with university staff and increased involvement with the faculty and student experience.
- The proposal needs to be passed in each Faculty Association's AGM.

Overlap responsibilities with the President role.

- Property: small faculty. Business School suggested a shared position with the Commerce faculty.
- Law: Currently has two EVPs, and they work really well. Faculty dependant - some faculties have higher academic matters than others.
- Engineering: EVP position, comms going to president, then all around. Good to have them trained.

- Nursing School: rigid program. Education matters go through class reps. EVP would step on to the class reps. Education reps just currently do tutorials.
- FMHS: VP and class reps and site reps on team. VP collects the trends.

5. INCORPORATED SOCIETIES ACT CHANGES

- Presented by Blake Monk, AUSA Advocacy Manager.

Updating your Society's Constitution.

- Replacing Act 1908
- Must re-register between 5 October 2023 and 31 March 2026
- S26 all the mandatory components of a new constitution.
- Most will be mostly compliant.

Main changes:

- Consent explicitly to membership
- Must have a committee of 3+ all who are eligible officers.
- 6 broadly expressed duties for officers.
- Must have a contact person 1-3 people.
- AGM, file returns at least 6 months from balance date.
- Small societies except from XRB. Tiers of reporting standards. <50,000 minimum standards. Recommend an accountant if out of the small society requirements.
- Dispute resolution.
- Conflicts of interest
- English, Te Reo more scope for Tikanga.

If a Charity: don't qualify for small society exemption. XRB Tier 1 at least standards.

Dispute resolution:

- Ss38-44 and Schedule 2 - draft resolution.
- Compliance with natural justice; element bias, right to a fair hearing.
- Tikanga-based or determinative dispute resolution.
- Act less clear on faculty handling the disputes. It is better to have it handled internally between members and the society itself.

Contact person:

- 1-3 contact people
- s112 -116.

Conflict of interest:

- Financial interests. Ss62-63.
- Cannot vote sign or discuss in such matter.
- SGM - if half or more of the committee is conflicted on a particular matter.

6. FACULTY MERGER (PRESENTED AS ITEM 3)

- Presented by Valerie Linton (ProVost)
- There were 444 submissions by staff and students.
- There was student representation on the Faculty Merger Committee: Sarah White (AUSA Treasurer-Secretary), Layba Zubair (AUSA EVP), Louis Hewitson-Townley (President, Arts Students Association), and Theodore Baker-Jones (Māori Student Representative). The students felt as though their concerns were heard, and overall are happy with the recommendation.
- Vice-Chancellor is now to consider the recommendation, this then goes to University Council.
- 12th June final discussion Council meeting.

7. AUSA PORTFOLIO UPDATES

- Mana Wahine Sub-committee.
 - Introduction meeting.
 - Grafton has lower engagement. Further event by clubs should be done to better this.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- AUSA Study sessions 5-8pm at Grafton tomorrow. Next week at OGGB and Engineering building.

The meeting closed at 7:51 pm.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 25th June. Location TBC.

SIGNED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD



Alan Shaker, Chair of the AUSA Executive.