#### **President 2024**

### **Semester One Report**

**To:** The Student Body

From: Alan Shaker, President 2024

**Date:** 30th July 2024

Contact: <a href="mailto:president@ausa.org.nz">president@ausa.org.nz</a>

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your President for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

This Semester Report covers:

- 1. An introduction from this year's President;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. Miscellaneous work of the President; and
- 4. What's ahead for next Term.

#### **ROLE OF THE President**

The President of AUSA is the Chair of the AUSA Executive, responsible for leading the Executive in its governance of the Association and in the development of the Executive's goals. Every day as President is different, but ultimately, it's about bringing out the best in the Executive, supporting and working alongside the AUSA General Manager to run AUSA and representing our students.



#### 1 Introduction from Alan Shaker

Kia ora koutou katoa,

My name is Alan Shaker and I have had the absolute privilege of being your student body President, the President of AUSA. 2024 has been my second term as the President, having served as the President in 2023 as well.

Semester one, as always, has been an incredibly busy time, but it has flown by! Reflecting back, this semester has been full of planning for the year, Orientation 2024 and ALFRED's Street Party, regular University meetings, a brand new Constitution for AUSA, progressing a merger between PGSA & AUSA, and progressing AUSA's funding negotiations. Not to mention all the "minor" stuff that pops up in the daily life of being the AUSA President! Much of my activity is just supporting the team to help them achieve their goals and monitoring progress regularly, so this report is written from an overall perspective, rather than an individual perspective.

It has been a pleasure serving you, alongside my wonderful team. Although the job is stressful, I have enjoyed every minute and seeing the impact we make on students on a daily basis is one of the best feelings ever. It is such a privilege to serve in such a vital role and I hope to continue this momentum in Semester Two 2024.

A big thank you must go to my AUSA Executive Team for their ongoing support and dedication to student issues. Another big thank you to the AUSA Staff for the work you put in day-to-day in helping the Executive achieve our mission. This is a unique job and I am blessed to be working alongside all of you everyday

Should you have any questions or concerns, or if you would just like to have a general chat, my inbox is always open or come visit me at the AUSA House.

Nāku, nā,

Alan Shaker

#### 2 Goals set by the President for 2024

#### 2.1. My contribution to the Executive's Operation Plan goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution	
STUDENT EXPERIENCE	Weeks Tender Model:  I have played an active role in our themed weeks in Semester One  (Environmental Week, Self-Care Week, Pride Week). This involved working	

closely with our Engagement Vice-President in the lead-up and planning for such themed weeks, overseeing progress and budgets, regular check-ins, and

just overall making sure the team had the support they needed to plan and deliver the weeks. During the events, I attended most if not all of the events

held, to ensure there was AUSA presence. Post event I would worked to ensure that the Engagement VP and Treasurer-Secretary were processing reimbursements as necessary. The student engagement in the Weeks Tender for

Semester One has been a success, with a lot of student engagement in all of our

events, so I am really proud to see the progress made on this goal. We finish off

Semester Two with another three themed weeks!

#### **Postgraduate Engagement:**

In Semester One, I attended the PG Mixer that we hosted during Self-Care Week in the PG Lounge. This was planned well by our PGO and Engagement VP and was a well attended event. It was good to see us connecting directly with our Postgraduate students, especially as we head into a merger with the PGSA. Overall, this goal has been going well but plenty of room to do even more in Semester Two with our PG students.

#### **International Student Engagement:**

For this goal on the Ops Plan, my role was predominantly just checking in with our ISO regularly. I had regular check-ins with the ISO to make sure that the planning for International Week and UBUNTU, the international student magazine (planned for Semester 2) were on track. I also attended the International Orientation at the start of the year, which was a massive event and a big opportunity for AUSA to engage with the international student community. Overall, this goal has been tracking but will take full swing in Semester 2 when we have International Week and the release of the student magazine too.

#### Women and Queer Engagement:

For this event, similar to the above, I worked closely and checked in regularly with the WRO and QRO to monitor this goal on the Ops Plan. In particular for Semester One, Pride Week was a big one in achieving engagement with our Queer students. I attended most of these events personally to ensure an AUSA presence. The engagement we had during this week was good, however, the next step for us is to ensure we can have more

sustained engagement throughout Semester 2 with regular events and initiatives.

#### Māori & Pasifika Engagement:

Overall, this goal has tracked very well. My involvement in this was attending several events with AUPISA (such as Pasifika Debates, a Men's Mental Health Workshop in C-Space). I have also met with the NTM Co-Tumuaki and offered AUSA's support for Māori Day.

#### Improve AUSA's online presence:

During Semester One, I played an active role in leading our membership sign-up efforts and also gaining around 2000 Instagram followers during the Orientation period. During Orientation, I led a clear plan to gain more followers on our socials (giveaways, plugging the AUSA Insta at every talk). This worked very well and is something that AUSA should do every year to keep the follower base growing.

#### Create a vibrant student culture on Campus:

During Semester One, I attended several of the Weeks Tender events. I also attended events in Grafton (such as Study Sessions) which has been a big goal of AUSA's to enhance the student culture on the satellite campuses. I also attended "Pancakes on the House" which was a fun time for our hungry students! The Star Wars Quiz was also another big hit! I have generally been involved in the planning/overseeing of these events that work towards achieving this goal on the Ops Plan.

#### **AUSA Study Sessions:**

This was very successful in Semester One. Planned by our Education VP and Engagement VP together, I oversaw this and made sure everything was on track. For this, I monitored progress, oversaw the budget, etc. to make sure the events were delivered. The events themselves were held in Weeks 10 and 11 (in both the city and Grafton campuses), all study sessions had maximum engagement and was very much appreciated by students.

#### Kate Magazine:

I checked in with the WRO (and newly appointed Acting WRO) to make sure we had a plan in place to be able to deliver on producing KATE Magazine in Semester 2. So far all is on track.

#### **UBUNTU Magazine:**

Similar to the above, I met with the ISO regularly to ensure there was a plan in place and he felt supported to ensure this magazine is ready to be released in Semester 2. So far all is on track.

#### **Promotion of AUSA:**

I think overall a bit more could have been done in this area, and this will be a focus for Semester Two. However, in Semester One, I led AUSA's Orientation efforts to promote our services even more. This involved planning/coordinating UoA 101 sessions (to highlight AUSA's services to new students), coordinating the AUSA's stalls (where we took sign ups and gave out pamphlets about AUSA's services).

#### **Refurnish of AUSA Student Spaces:**

During the early parts of Semester One, I sat down with the QRO and WRO to help them develop a plan for their spaces. I also worked with them on budgets and purchasing new things for their spaces. Later in the year, the GM and I worked on getting some new furniture for our spaces.

#### Sex Violence Campaign & Workshops:

Not much progress has been made in this. In the early parts of the Semester, I connected our (former) WRO with the relevant personnel from the UoA Accommodation Team. I regularly checked-in on this, but due to capacity constraints, not a lot of progress has been made in this goal.

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

#### Tama Toa & Wahine Toa Support Groups:

I attended our first Tama Toa (Men's Mental Health) event in Semester One, organised as part of Self-Care Week by our Welfare VP. This was an awesome event and that was hugely successful in achieving its goals.

#### Find a dedicated space for International Students on campus:

Not a lot of significant progress has been made on achieving this goal. The ISO, GM and I met with the Director of the International Office to discuss this and gather his support. I have also flicked off an email to the relevant people within Campus Life to kickstart these conversations again.

#### International Students wellbeing workshop:

This was planned by our WVP and ISO together. I oversaw the event proposal/budgets etc.

#### STUDENT VOICE

Advocating for the AUSA President to be back on University Council as a

#### student representative:

Due to the prioritisation of other important goals, this has not been achieved as much as I would have liked. However, during Semester One, I did some background research (with other Universities and with UNZ) to see which current student associations still have their President as the student representative on Council. The answer is that 5 (AUT, Waikato, Canterbury, Lincoln, and Otago) of the Universities have their student association president as the student representative on Council.

### Effectively run Student Presidents' Training for all members of the 2024 AUSA Student Council:

This training weekend was a huge success. I worked alongside the EVP and Student Voice Manager to plan this and also delivered several of the sessions. Overall, it was a huge success. A separate report on the 2024 training was created.

#### Host an open forum for students to voice concerns and questions:

This has been planned by our EVP across Semester One, ready to be delivered in Semester Two. During Semester One, I checked in regularly with the EVP to see how progress was going. All is on track.

### Foster collaboration between PVC Maori, PVC Pacific, AUSA, AUPISA and NTM:

Across Semester One, I have focused on building the relationships with AUPISA and NTM. I have attended several events, and have encouraged the Executive to do the same, so that there is an AUSA presence at these events. In addition, I have had several meetings with the PISO in terms of what AUSA can be doing to help AUPISA (for example, giving advice for their new constitution) and have also had several meetings with the MSO's to discuss AUSA's MoU and support for NTM. Overall, the relationship is good and we hope it will only continue to grow across Semester Two and beyond.

#### Complete a full merger between AUSA and PGSA:

This is well on track and significant progress was made in Semester One. We have had several meetings to discuss the key and necessary tasks to complete this merger (i.e. creation of new roles, website domain changes, bank accounts etc.). In Semester One specifically, we created new roles on the AUSA Executive which was a massive step towards this merger. I played a key role in the development of this new role and the AGM which approved this change. We are hoping for a full merger by the end of 2024.

Develop a partnership agreement between AUSA and the University's

#### UEC:

Although some early conversations were had, this has been put on hold for the time being due to the focus being on the funding negotiations with the University

### Negotiations with the University regarding AUSA's funding and leases post 2025:

A lot of progress has been made on this goal in Semester One. At the same time, we have been faced with continuous hurdles and roadblocks. We are still aiming to have this completed by the end of the year. Semester One involved several funding meetings and several revised proposals to the Universities. In Semester One, I also presented to the University Executive Committee on behalf of AUSA about the "State of the Association" and our pitch for more funding.

### Complete a comprehensive review and update of the AUSA Constitution:

This was completed in Semester One and successfully passed at the Annual General Meeting. In Semester One, my work in this was setting up, coordinating and chairing a "Constitutional Working Group" made up of the President, Treasurer-Secretary, Education VP, Engagement VP, Queer Rights Officer, GM and Advocacy Manager. We had weekly meetings and reviewed the entire constitution. The changes passed included: splitting of EVP role into EVP (UG) and EVP (PG), changing the Welfare VP role into Equity & Wellbeing VP, changing the Treasurer-Secretary role into Finance & Operations VP, creation of a Disability Rights Officer, introducing some further checks & balances on the Executive, and several other technical amendments. I presented these at the AGM and answered questions from students about them, before they eventually went to a vote and successfully passed. Woohoo!

#### **Develop AUSA's long-term strategic plan:**

No significant progress has been made on this, although the GM and I have had informal discussions about how we want to start this process in Semester Two and some broader aspirations we have for the Association.

#### 3 Other Work

3.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
Interview Panels	I was invited to be on the interview panels for several University roles, namely the Campus Care Manager role and the Student Conduct Manager role within Campus Life	No next steps. These roles have been filled.
Executive Retreat	At the start of the Semester, we planned an Executive Retreat. This was a time for the Executive to get to know each other and do some planning for the year. I worked alongside the Treasurer-Secretary to plan this.	No next steps.
Media Interviews	Throughout the Semester, as AUSA's official spokesperson, I have been invited to comment on several media issues on behalf of AUSA/students.	No next steps.
CFT Work	During Semester One, I continued my work as part of the University's Curriculum Framework Transformation. This involved regular governance group/steering committee meetings. In Semester One, I was part of the CFT Steering Committee, CFT Faculty Implementation Working Group, Waipapa Taumata Rau Interim Governance Group, and Transdisciplinary Governance Group. During the Semester, we selected the transdisciplinary courses that will be offered in 2025 and 2026. We also discussed the requirements for the Waipapa Taumata Rau compulsory course that will be introduced in 2025 and 2026.	Continue as part of these groups but also ensure a smooth transition for student representation on the CFT into 2025.
Advisory Board Recruitment	In Semester One, we also went through a recruitment process for the Advisory Board. This involved putting up an ad and meeting with potential candidates. We appointed 6 new members to the Advisory Board (Ritika Singh, Kane Stanford, Jessica Kumar, Ross Henderson, Sinead Hart, Paul Divers). We farewelled Rob Milne, Roshni Sami and Kathryn Haworth.	No next steps other than regular AB meetings.
Regular committees	As part of being the President, I am on several University-wide committees. Examples of these include Senate, Discipline Committee and	Continue on these committees.

	University Equity Leadership Committee.	
TAUMATA Alumni Awards	I attended the annual TAUMATA Alumni Awards. I was part of the judging panel for the selection of these awards. This was a great event where we got to network with many University staff and key people in the community.	No next steps.
Levy Consultation	I was involved in the drafting of the Levy Consultation questions and discussing the process & timeline for this.	Continue to be engaged with the University about this consultation process (and how it ties in with AUSA funding) and also making sure AUSA is involved in analysing the levy feedback.

#### 4 Work ahead for next term

Task	Work to do	
Student Voice	<ul> <li>Gather legal advice on the University Council Student Representative and make a case for the AUSA President to be on there</li> <li>Host the AUSA Open Forum</li> <li>Complete the full merger between AUSA &amp; PGSA - and celebrate it with some sort of signing/ceremonial event</li> <li>Develop a Partnership Agreement with the University of Auckland</li> <li>Sign a new Funding Agreement for AUSA</li> <li>Develop a long-term strategic plan</li> </ul>	
Student Support	<ul> <li>Maintain/refurnish AUSA spaces to make sure they are kept tidy and welcoming for students</li> <li>Continue conversations with Campus Life about the International Student Space (or Global Student Space)</li> </ul>	
Student Experience	<ul> <li>Themed Weeks and continuing an AUSA presence at these (International, Suffrage, Politics)</li> <li>Improve AUSA's online presence by regular social media engagements (e.g. Meet the Exec)</li> <li>Contribute to the growing vibrant student culture on campus by hosting and attending more regular events (such as BBQs, Pancakes, etc.)</li> <li>AUSA Study Sessions in Semester Two</li> </ul>	
Miscellaneous	<ul> <li>Succession planning for the 2025 Executive</li> <li>University Advisory Group Meetings</li> </ul>	

- Student Voice Conference
- "President's Committee" meetings with other Student Associations from around the country
- GM Annual Performance Review
- CUAP and AQA Meetings in Wellington

Sincerely,

Alan Shaker

President, 2024

### Treasurer-Secretary 2024

### **Semester One Report**



**To:** The Student Body

From: Sarah White, Treasurer-Secretary 2024

**Date:** 31st July 2024

Contact: <a href="mailto:treasurer@ausa.org.nz">treasurer@ausa.org.nz</a>

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your Treasurer-Secretary for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the Treasurer and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

#### This Semester Report covers:

- 1. an introduction from this year's Treasurer;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. miscellaneous work of the Treasurer; and
- 4. what's ahead for next Semester.

#### **ROLE OF THE TREASURER**

The Treasurer is responsible for AUSA's financial matters. They help to write and monitor the AUSA budget and oversee spending in all areas of the Association. In addition to this, they also sit on the Boards of AUSA's entities and Trusts alongside the President of AUSA, working to ensure that they are providing sound governance decisions for the benefit of AUSA.

#### 1 Introduction from Sarah White

Kia ora! My name is Sarah White, and I have the absolute privilege of serving as your AUSA Treasurer-Secretary for 2024. This first semester in my role has taught me a lot about AUSA, working as a team, and the power that we have when we work toward a collective goal. This executive is full of passionate and driven individuals, and I have loved working alongside them to serve you. You never know what a day at AUSA will bring you; some days, I'll be in some of the highest decision-making committees at the University, providing the student voice, and others, I'll be dressed up as a Marvel Avenger hosting a pub quiz in Shadows! Although the typical assumption is that the Treasurer-Secretary simply makes agendas, takes minutes and monitors the budget, my role this year has been much more varied and I have been open to volunteering myself for other projects. It's that mixed experience that truly makes this role unique and special, and I am grateful for every single experience that I have had thus far.

Semester one has been busy but extremely productive. Stepping into a new role is always a challenge, but one that I have taken on gratefully and happily. Being able to serve and represent students on a daily basis is a privilege. Although a lot of our work is sometimes behind the scenes or unnoticeable to the average student, every day, our Executive team is fighting for students and representing them to the best of our abilities. A big thank you to the Exec & Staff who have made this to be such a successful Semester 1, and I look forward to going out in Semester 2 just as strong as we started.

#### 2 Goals set by the Treasurer-Secretary for 2024

2.1 My contribution to the Executive's Operation Plan goals for this semester has/have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution
STUDENT EXPERIENCE	Weeks Tender Model:  I have worked alongside the Engagement Vice-President to support the Weeks Tender (Environmental Week, Self Care and Pride Week thus far), to create and stick to our weeks tender budgets for clubs. These events were done in collaboration with a diverse range of clubs on campus, with a great variety of events that engaged students from all different networks. I have made an effort to attend at least two events per week, to show support to our clubs for the mahi that they do to bring back the student culture on campus.

#### **Creating a vibrant student culture on campus:**

This semester we have made a particular effort to help reimagine the student culture on campus. In a post-COVID environment, student engagement is at an all-time low, with UOA being ranked one of the worst in the country for this. As such, the Executive is constantly looking for ways to bring our students back to campus and make the University experience about more than the piece of paper at the end.

We started off strong with Freshers Week and Orientation. With thousands of students present on each day, I took part in giving Uniguide tours to first-year students outside of the AUSA House, to let them know about AUSA and what we do. Alongside the Student Voice Manager and Welfare VP, I also hosted UOA101 sessions for first years about campus life, AUSA, and even where to find the cheapest food places on campus. I also had the great privilege of delivering a few speeches at the daily Mihi Whakatau, to welcome each faculty of first-year students to campus on behalf of the AUSA President. The overall goal of these Fresher Week events were to provide students with awareness and connection to AUSA, in the hopes that they feel more comfortable reaching out to us for support.

The following week was then Orientation! For three full days, Alfred Street was shut down to the public and was filled with vendors and sponsors to help make the first week on campus a memorable one. The Wednesday night was then the Alfred's Street Party! This was a huge success, with acts like Savage, Coterie and Pendulum all performing right outside the AUSA House.

Aside from large scale events, the Executive also has made the effort to focus on smaller meaningful events as well. An example of this was Pancakes on the House, on both the City and Grafton Campuses. This was a huge success. The students on the Grafton campus were particularly grateful for the AUSA presence, as this is something that has been lacking in previous years.

Some staff and members of the executive also visited the Northland Campus, Tai Tokerau. As much of AUSA's focus is on the city campus, it was great to go on a road trip up north to visit some education students. We hosted a tournament of "beer" pong up there, played some mini-games, gave away prizes, and overall just helped connect these students with AUSA, something that has been lacking in the past.

#### **Postgraduate Engagement:**

I attended the postgraduate mixer held by the PGO in Semester one and mingled with some PG students. As an undergraduate myself, it was great to connect with some students who were able to provide some insight into

their learning progress. As we look toward a merger with PGSA next year, it would be great to continue these events and do them more regularly.

#### **International Student Engagement:**

This will more so be achieved in Semester two with International Week, but in Semester one I attended the International Orientation, which was a massive success and a great way to promote AUSA.

#### Women and Queer Engagement:

I attended multiple events throughout Pride Week and had a great time connecting with students. I hope that AUSA's connection to the Queer community can continue to be improved with more regular events and initiatives. I am also looking forward to Suffrage Week in Semester Two.

#### Improve AUSA's online presence:

In Semester one we became the most followed student association in the country! With giveaways on our Instagram during O week, and constant promos throughout O week, we managed to connect over 2000 students to our social media page. Now what needs to be done is better promotion of our services to students on our social media, as well as a new website that is accessible to students.

#### Māori & Pasifika Engagement:

I attended several AUPISA events through Semester One, such as Duavata, which was a great celebration of Pasifika culture on campus. I have also been in regular contact with our MSOs and PISO through our regular catchups and have made visits up to the Spaces just to chat with students. I believe it is a nice way to show an AUSA presence and further grow the bond between our associations.

#### **AUSA Study Sessions:**

In Semester one we hosted three study sessions across the Grafton Campus, as well as the City campus Engineering building and OGGB. This was planned by our Engagement and Education VPs, and it was a great success. I made many Costco trips to purchase all of the snacks for the students, and ordered hundreds of pizzas, and yet all the food was gone in minutes! Great to see our students making the most of the free food (hopefully, they got some study done too). As always, I tracked the budget for this event, and we have a little bit of room for more food next time!

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

My work for student support often overlaps into the other categories of experience and voice, and is something I strive to do daily, rather than something directly connected to the Operations Plan.

My key areas for Student Support this Semester have been through my work on the **Clubs Support Committee** and on the **AUSA Welfare Committee**, which I have categorised into miscellaneous, as it is not directly tied to the Ops Plan.

### Effectively run Students' President Training for all members of the 2024 AUSA Student Council:

In Semester one we held our very first event, Student Council Training. As a former Faculty President myself, it was an exciting feeling to be on the other end of this event, and I had a wonderful time meeting and connecting with all the 2024 Faculty Presidents. Overall, the event went very well. It is crucial to get this training done right, as it determines how the Student Council will function and work alongside AUSA for the entire year.

#### Increase the visibility of the AUSA Student Council:

This is something that I believe will still need to be worked on, through some social media promotion of who and what the Student Council is. But overall we have started this process. All of the Student Council minutes that I take are made public on the AUSA website, and the minutes of the subcommittees are also reported to the Student Council for full transparency of what is happening within different community groups lead by the AUSA Portfolios.

### STUDENT VOICE

### Negotiations with the University regarding AUSA's funding and leases post 2025:

A lot of work has been put into the funding negotiations this Semester, but it has been a three-year-long process with the university. With the end of the 13-year-long Deed of Settlement agreement, it is hopefully time for AUSA to enter a new era of funding, and hopefully have an increase to better provide our services to students. Semester one involved many funding negotiation meetings, many funding proposals written by our General Manager and a few setbacks, but I am confident that Semester two will bring us a new agreement. I also had the opportunity to present AUSA's funding state and proposal to both the Student Council and the Student Consultative Group. These presentations were to provide the Faculty leaders awareness of how underfunded AUSA is, and hopefully gain their support when the Levy Consultation comes around and there is a question of AUSA's funding included. This has been a long but extremely important process for AUSA,

and I am hopeful that this marks the beginning of a new era for us and stronger support offerings for all our students.

### Complete a comprehensive review and update of the AUSA Constitution:

A really enjoyable project for me this Semester was being apart of the Constitution Working Group alongside the President, GM, Advocacy Manager, EVP, EnVP and QRO. With the changes to the Incorporated Societies Act, this change was necessary, however, it provided us an opportunity to update some outdated things in our Constitution and, most notably, create new Executive roles. The new roles are the Education Postgraduate position, alongside a new Education Undergraduate position, as well as a Disability Rights Officer. We also changed my current role title, Treasurer-Secretary, to Finance and Operations Vice-President to have the same title as the other VPs and to better represent what the role actually entails. We also change Welfare VP to Wellbeing and Equity VP, to better recognise the scope of the role. All amendments were passed during the AGM.

#### 3 Other Work

3.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
Discipline Committee and Senate	The Discipline Committee is where students appear when they are facing allegations of academic or non-academic misconduct. Six AUSA Students sit on this committee on a rotating basis with two students per meeting.  At each meeting we see about four students, and it takes an estimated 4 hours total. The DC is quite backed up in terms of case load, as we have been hearing cases of misconduct from 2023.  Our role on this committee is not to act as an advocate for the student accused but rather to	Continue these meetings.
	provide a student perspective and ensure a fair	

	T	
	outcome for all those who appear.	
Clubs Support Committee	Being a former club President, sitting on this committee has been of great interest to me this year. Campus Life runs this committee, and myself and the EnVP are the student members. The committee receives and approves grant applications, as well as applications to form a club. We receive over 200 applications for the major grants, and it is quite the process to go through every one individually and discuss in detail the club's events, external funding and faculty support. My role has been to provide the student perspective on clubs and push for transparency and continual increase in club funding. Having been on the other end of these applications, I have also provided knowledge on a lot of clubs and their financial standing and external supports, which may affect their grant funding amount.  Throughout the year I have also meet with individual students to provide insight into how to form clubs, and how to improve their	<ul> <li>New guidelines and procedures for grants to be approved.</li> <li>Major and minor grants</li> <li>New clubs round 2</li> </ul>
	applications to be approved in the next round.  I have also provided personal guidance to clubs on how to apply for grant funding and explained the guidelines to them of what we can and can't approve. Although the information is available in the clubs handbook, this information sometimes can be hard to find so I have been more than happy to help guide students through this process.	
Welfare Committee	Alongside the Welfare Vice President and the Student Hub Coordinator, I sit on the AUSA Welfare Committee. We meet weekly to assess hardship applications from students and are able to provide \$300 to students or \$450 to students with dependents once per Semester. It is sometimes difficult to make a decision on a student's financial situation, but it is something that I take great care in ensuring that our processes are fair to the students applying.	Continue weekly in semester two.
Advisory Board recruitment and Student	This semester I was involved in the recruitment for our Advisory Board. We could appoint up to 9 members to our Advisory Board through the	

Voice Administrator recruitment	Constitution changes. Alongside the president and the GM, I interviewed potential members. We appointed Sinead Hart, Ritika Singh, Paul Divers, Ross Henderson and Jessica Kumar to the board.  I was also involved in the panel interviews for the new Student Voice Administrator alongside the Student Voice Manager and the Advocacy Manager.	
TAUMATA Alumni Awards	I attended the Alumni awards alongside SLT and the ISO. It was a great evening to network and hear from an incredible panel of speakers. I even got a picture with the host Jack Tame!	Sitting on the Panel for next years awards.
Levy Consultation	I was involved with the Levy Consultation through the Student Consultative Group. I was also a part of this group last year, being a Faculty President, so I was able to compare the levy information for both years and provide insightful feedback.	
Executive Retreat	Organised the 3 day Executive Retreat to Taupo as a team bonding exercise.	

#### 4 Work ahead for Next Semester

Task	Work to do	
Student Voice	<ul> <li>New funding agreement</li> <li>AUSA Open Forums</li> <li>Strategic Plan</li> </ul>	
Student Support	<ul> <li>Hosting a financial literacy workshop</li> <li>Approving new clubs and grants through the Club Support Committee.</li> <li>Weekly Welfare Committee meetings.</li> </ul>	
Student Experience	<ul> <li>Suffrage Week, International Week and Politics Week</li> <li>Re-Orientation</li> <li>Class of 2024 event</li> <li>AUSA Study sessions</li> </ul>	

Other	<ul> <li>AUSA Student Voice Conference</li> <li>National Student Conference in Lincoln.</li> <li>GMEC - GM annual employment review.</li> <li>Harmful Sexual Behaviours Advisory Group</li> <li>Blues Award Selection Panel</li> <li>Clubs Award Selection Panel</li> </ul>
	Taumata Distinguished Alumni Awards Panel

Sincerely,

Sarah White

Treasurer-Secretary, 2024

## **Education Vice-President 2024**

### **Semester One Report**

**To:** The Student Body

From: Layba Zubair, Education Vice-President 2024

**Date:** 29/06/24

Contact: <a href="mailto:evp@ausa.org.nz">evp@ausa.org.nz</a>

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your Education Vice-President for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the EVP and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

This Semester Report covers:

- 1. An introduction from this year's EVP;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. Miscellaneous work of the EVP; and
- 4. What's ahead for next Semester.

#### **ROLE OF THE EVP**

The Education Vice-President is the student voice on all academic matters at the University of Auckland. The EVP does this by sitting on various academic decision-making bodies (Senate, Education Committee, Academic Programmes Committee, Teaching and Learning Quality Committee, Library and Learning Services Committee and other Working Groups) and working with different University offices in the development of academic policy. The EVP also works with our Class Representatives Manager in coordinating the Class Representatives System here at the



University. As an Officer of AUSA, the EVP is also expected to play a serious role in the governance of the Association.

#### 1 Introduction from Layba Zubair

Kia Ora,

My name is Layba Zubair and I've had the pleasure and utmost privilege of being elected as your Education Vice-President for 2024. I'm in my penultimate year of a Law degree, and am serving my second year at AUSA - with that said, my first term as EVP has come with its own fair share of new challenges.

Semester One was an incredibly busy time for myself and the broader Executive. From Orientation and Uniguide Tours, to Student Council Presidents' Training and endless Curriculum Framework Transformation related meetings - I wouldn't trade this opportunity for anything else in the world. While at times it has proven to be difficult to manage the workload and my studies, I always feel so privileged to be in the position that I am in, being able to represent the student voice and working with such amazing people every day. Thank you to my team for always supporting me and having my back.

If you have any concerns or queries about anything in this report, feel free to contact me!

#### 2 Goals set by the Education Vice-President for 2024

#### 2.1. My contribution to the Executive goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution	
	Creating a vibrant student culture on campus:	
Semester One started off with a bang - our amazing staff and expulled together to make sure that we helped contribute to creat student culture on campus during Orientation. There were amazing of student students on Alfred's Street all week long, as well as an amazing of student students.  STUDENT EXPERIENCE		
2/11 Z111 Z110 Z	Not only that, but we continued our work with UniGuides. In 2023, the executive laid the foundation for collaboration during First-Year tours, and it was great to do the same this year by having the AUSA House be a "stop" during the UniGuide First-Year Tours. Here, our executive, including myself, took turns doing a pitch on what AUSA has to offer, encompassing AUSA's three pillars of Student Voice, Student Support, and Student Experience.	

This was an amazing opportunity to ensure that new students, regardless of their age or year level, are aware of the support that is available for them during their time at Waipapa Taumata Rau.

Furthermore, AUSA ran its "Pancakes on the House" activations across City Campus and Grafton Campus. Our executive pulled together to make pancakes from scratch, cooking them, and fed dozens of students. A personal goal for me was to commit to ensuring that we, as an executive, made more of an active effort to show up at Grafton Campus, and it was incredible to speak to so many Grafton students and hear how grateful they were for some very yummy pancakes!

#### Weeks Tender:

In Semester One, AUSA ran and hosted a plethora of themed weeks, such as Pride Week, Environmental Week and Self-Care Week. These were organised mainly by the Engagement Vice-President, and I made an active effort to attend as many events as I could. These events were done in collaboration with multiple clubs across campus, and I was incredibly glad that we had collaborations with clubs based in Grafton Campus, as often our outreach falls short there. All of the events were incredibly well run and organised, and were an amazing opportunity to meet with other club executives, and just mingle with students too.

#### **AUSA Study Sessions:**

Myself and the Engagement Vice President organised and ran three exam study sessions across Semester One. Two of these were held at City Campus, with the third being held at Grafton Campus. The purpose of these study sessions was to give students some free kai during what is a very stressful time period, as well as promoting a sense of community and belonging through studying together in groups. We aim to have these sessions in Semester Two as well!

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

Due to the nature of my role, I haven't had direct oversight or involvement with the goals pertaining to Student Support. However, I have supported the executive who do have involvement and oversight to the best of my ability and capacity at the given time.

#### STUDENT VOICE

Effectively run Students' President Training for all members of the 2024 AUSA Student Council:

One of the very first things I was responsible for as Education Vice President was planning and facilitating our annual Student President's Training weekend to equip our new student leaders with the skills they need to serve students in 2024. Student Council is made up of faculty and other key association presidents across the university and as such, this training is

integral in establishing an initial rapport and communication with them. For 2024, this training was held on the 20th and 21st of January, and was an incredible success, if I say so myself (in my very biased opinion) During the training, the student leaders stayed on campus at Waipāruru Hall, and we conducted the training in the East Wing of the Clocktower. Speakers on the day included Bridget Kool who is the Pro-Vice Chancellor of Education, and student leaders such as former AUCSA President Noor Randhawa and former SCISA President Talisa Gan-Setu who spoke to their experience as Faculty Presidents and Student Council members. We also had external guest speakers such as Ben Greenwood and Arena Williams.

### Increase the AUSA Student Council's reach in order to grow our collective student voice:

Another goal in relation to Student Council was to strengthen AUSA's subcommittees that were established in 2021 to ensure that our consultation processes through Student Council are more equitable and reflective of the student body voice. To achieve this, a measure of ensuring that where possible, subcommittee minutes are presented at Student Council meetings, was implemented. In doing so, the portfolio members on AUSA's executives are given a standing agenda item at each meeting to ensure that they are given the opportunity to raise any points for consultation where necessary, as well as any other general updates as they see fit.

#### Host an open forum for students to voice concerns and questions:

One of the biggest projects for me as Education Vice-President was to host at least one event for students and clubs to ask questions, get help and hear about what AUSA has been up to. As such, I spent Semester One planning and organising an Open Forum to be held in August of Semester Two. The purpose of this forum facilitated by AUSA is to provide an opportunity for club executives, and students, to network with each other, to raise issues/problems their clubs have been facing, to acknowledge club needs and concerns - we also want to facilitate productive dialogue between the university and students. This is something that has been in the works for a significant amount of time and as such, I am glad that it is finally going ahead and is on track to occur.

### Continue to develop and support student council relationships and authority:

This particular goal entailed regular catch-ups with all of the Student Council Presidents, as well as consistent communications and meetings. At the beginning of Semester One I took the time to have 1:1 meetings with all of the presidents, and in doing so discussed any goals that they may have, key concerns, as well as any areas where they may need AUSA's support.

These have proven to be incredibly fruitful meetings, and throughout the semester I have had multiple catch ups with various clubs. Our Student Council Presidents are integral in ensuring that AUSA is doing its job in representing the student body and as such, it is very important that the EVP is there to support them in their roles. These students are often unpaid, and are doing this mahi out of their own passion and alongside their studies, which is also why developing these relationships is so important - not only in the short term, but also in ensuring that there in continuity of good faith relationships and partnership between future Presidents and AUSA Executives.

#### Complete a comprehensive review and update of the AUSA Constitution:

As Education Vice-President, I was part of the Constitution Working Group. This consisted of various other Executive members as well, such as the President, Treasurer-Secretary, Queer Rights Officer, Engagements Vice President, as well as AUSA Staff Members such as the General Manager and Advocacy Manager. Key constitutional changes included amendments to Executive roles and structures, such as the renaming of Treasurer-Secretary to Finance & Operations Vice-President, Welfare Vice-President to Equity and Wellbeing Vice-President, as well as the creation of a new Disability Rights Officer, and the splitting of the Education Vice-President role into Undergraduate and Postgraduate Education Vice-President roles. The proposed constitutional changes were passed through our Annual General Meeting, which was an amazing moment for us as an executive and a team!

#### 3 Other Work

3.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role but which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
Curriculum Framework Transformation	As Education Vice-President, I sit on an array of committees in relation to the development of the Curriculum Framework Transformation (CFT), alongside the President. Committees I sit on include; the CFT Steering Committee, the Transdisciplinary Co-Governance Group, the CFT Student Transitions Working Group, and the Waipapa Taumata Rau Interim Governance Group.  A key focus for Semester One was the	Continue to sit on these committees and consult with the relevant stakeholders and Student Council where necessary.

development and implementation of the new Waipapa Taumata Rau Courses which are due for piloting in 2025, as well as the selection of the transdisciplinary courses that are due to be offered post 2025.

Another key focus for Semester One was to lay down the groundwork in ensuring that students are aware of all the transitions that are due to happen during the implementation of CFT. In doing so, I have been working closely with Faculty Academic Leads to ensure that I am able to compile information respective to each faculty and the suite of changes that CFT will bring for them.

Not only that, but there is a standing agenda item for CFT at each Student Council meeting, as to ensure that all the Presidents are well in the loop and promote a smoother transition process.

# University Committees EVP sits on

As Education Vice-President, I sit on an array of committees. These include;

#### **Academic Programmes Committee:**

I have attended all APC meetings in Semester One. These committee meetings are where all programme regulations are reviewed, discussed and amended accordingly. This committee feeds into the Committee on University Academic Programmes (CUAP), where they gain final approval. A key focus of mine in these meetings is ensuring that all new proposed qualifications or amendments are in alignment with the relevant University Policy.

#### **Library Learning Services Committee:**

While I haven't attended as many of these meetings as I would have liked due to unfortunate scheduling clashes, I have worked closely with Ben Bonné, our Postgraduate Officer who sits on this committee as well, to ensure that I am well kept in the loop of any matters arising. The purpose of this committee is primarily to discuss any new developments

Continue sitting on these committees.

around learning technology and services for students and broader university staff.

### Learning & Teaching Environment Subcommittee:

The purpose of this subcommittee is to discuss any matters arising pertaining to the digital and physical aspects of learning, such as Canvas.

#### **Academic Integrity Community of Practice:**

These meetings are meant to discuss matters pertaining to Academic Integrity, and consists of Academic Integrity Advisors from various faculties and members from the Academic Quality Office. Due to the ever changing and rapidly advancing nature of Generative AI such as Chat GPT, there is increasing concern around the usage of AI during assessments. However, a key point of discussion I've repeatedly raised is the notion that perhaps we should be re-evaluating assessment marking rubrics, especially as software such as Grammarly Go and Microsoft CoPilot become increasingly more available to the student body.

#### **Teaching & Learning Quality Committee:**

I attend this committee alongside Ben Bonné, our Postgraduate Officer. The purpose of this committee is to discuss any matters arising in relation to teaching and learning. These committee meetings are of an incredibly productive nature, and AUSA also has a standing agenda item to raise any issues or concerns that we may have.

#### **Education Committee:**

This is also another incredibly productive committee that I sit on, and is a personal favourite of mine. This Committee is the highest decision making committee for education matters other than Senate.

	Admittedly, there is a lot of pre-reading to be done as there a lot of policies, both academic or elsewise, must be approved through this committee. I sit on this committee alongside Julia, The Postgraduate Students' Association President, and so it is always helpful to have another student in the room.	
	Senate:  Senate is sort of the "final checkpoint" for major decisions/approvals that go through the university. I have attended as many meetings of these that I can, and I sit on this committee alongside five other AUSA Executive members.	
	Discipline Committee:  I have attended a significant amount of Discipline Committee meetings as a student representative since starting my term. These committee meetings are always of a more peculiar and difficult nature, as often harder decisions have to be made.	
Executive Roles	As Education Vice-President, I attend an array of meetings in relation directly to being an executive member of AUSA. These meetings include; SLT meetings, University Executive Committee, Executive Meetings, and Advisory Board Meetings.	- Continue attending these meetings and participate where necessary.
Access to Engineering Multi- Disciplinary Learning Labs	In Semester One, the issue was raised around access to Multi-Disciplinary Learning Labs in the Faculty of Engineering. This issue was raised to me by a group of Class Representatives across the Faculty from various Specialisations.	
	Here, I acted as a "bridge" between the students and the faculty. I had meetings with Richard Clarke, the Dean of Engineering, as to understand where the issue was and ways that we can mitigate concerns and come to a common ground between the staff and the students affected by the changes in timings for	

r		
	access to these labs.  I was quite appalled to learn that this was an instance of significant miscommunication between the relevant staff and the students, and fortunately, we were able to come to a resolution that addressed the concerns (such as of Health and Safety, and Equity) of all involved.	
Working Group for the Review of the Enhancement and Evaluation of Teaching and Courses Policy and Procedures and the Class Representation Policy	This is a project that I'm working on alongside David Hayward and Mauricio Lozano (AUSA Student Voice Manager). This working group is to address different forms of student voice: evaluations of their experiences in courses, and class representation. The purpose of this working group is to; consider the application of the Student Voice Policy and Guidelines to processes for students' feedback on their experience of courses, learning and teaching, and, student representation in courses and programmes, and, the use of students' feedback in the evaluation of courses and teaching, and how this informs course, programme and academic development.  In short, this working group will call for the review of the Enhancement and Evaluation of Teaching and Courses Policy and Procedures, and the Class Representation Policy.	- Work with those involved to ensure that the working group meets at least once by the end of 2024.
	Something particularly exciting with this working group is that the Education Vice-President will chair it! I look forward to doing so if the working group is up and running during my term, as currently it is still being workshopped.	

#### 4 Work ahead for Next Term

Task	Work to do
Inaugural Open Forum	<ul><li>Finalise details for Open Forum.</li><li>Host the forum itself.</li></ul>
Curriculum Framework Transformation	Create CFT 101 Documents for each faculty, outlining the key transitions that students should be aware of.
Student Council	<ul> <li>Continue to organise and attend Student Council Meetings.</li> <li>Do more work around promoting Student Council and its function within AUSA.</li> </ul>
Support Weeks Tender	- Support the executive and respective team members with the themed weeks coming up in Semester Two.
Study Sessions	- Run Study Sessions in Semester Two, ideally in different locations at City Campus as Semester One, however ensuring that at least one session is held at Grafton Campus.
Support the development of stronger feedback mechanisms for students	Work with the relevant staff and executive members to revitalise the AUSA website and streamline processes for students to give feedback.

Sincerely,

Layba Zubair

**Education Vice-President, 2024** 

# **Engagement Vice-President 2024**

### **Semester One Report**

**To:** The Student Body

From: Jade Butler, Engagement Vice-President 2024

**Date:** 29th of July, 2024

Contact: <u>EnVP@ausa.org.nz</u>

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your Engagement Vice-President for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the EnVP and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

This Semester Report covers:

- 1. An introduction from this year's EnVP;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. Miscellaneous work of the EnVP; and
- 4. What's ahead for next Semester.

#### **ROLE OF THE EnVP**

The Engagement Vice President is responsible for overseeing all matters concerned with engaging students through events and experience. They are responsible for coordinating AUSA's Events Calendar and manage the delivery of AUSA's differently themed Weeks in conjunction with the relevant member of the Executive. In addition to this, they also work closely with the Media Events



Team at AUSA to deliver AUSA's more high quality, professional events. In short, their job is to make sure that AUSA's giving students what they want events-wise.

#### 1 Introduction from Jade Butler

Hello all, my name is Jade Butler and I have the pleasure of being your Vice President of Student Engagement for 2024! I am in my third year of a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Commerce conjoint, majoring in Communications and Management respectively. This role has been such a joy for me, working with so many students and university students has been a unique opportunity.

Semester One has been jam packed with over 40 events, all happening within around 12 weeks. From coordinating with clubs to AUSA's own events, there's been a wide range of events on multiple campuses. Below is a reflection of that work, as well as additional ventures that I have assisted with as well as my endeavors for Semester Two.

Thank you all for your engagement this year thus far, I cannot wait to see you at our future events!

#### 2 Goals set by the Engagement Vice-President for 2024

#### 2.1. My contribution to the Executive goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution
STUDENT EXPERIENCE	<ul> <li>Weeks Tender Model: Develop the weeks tender model and reach out to faculty associations and clubs with an open invitation to run an event during one of the AUSA weeks</li> <li>The first three themed weeks of the 2024 Weeks Tender Schedule took place in Semester One with high engagement from students. Self-Care week had at least two events per day which was awesome to see all the students coming out.</li> <li>I created the "2024 Weeks Tender Booklet" and sent it out to clubs/societies for them to refer to throughout the year.</li> <li>Each Weeks Tender AUSA has hosted an event, this is the first year we have done this and it's been very successful, it's awesome to also be interacting directly with students as well!</li> <li>Postgraduate Engagement: Increase AUSA's engagement with post graduate students</li> </ul>

 I worked with Ben Bonne, our PGO this year to host a Postgrad Mixer during Self Care Week. It was a lovely event with great engagement, looking forward to working with his subcommittee more for future Week's Tender events.

**Women & Queer Engagement:** Increase AUSA's engagement with Women & Queer students.

- Pride Week was held in Semester One, I worked with Luna le Fay, our QRO, to coordinate the events during the week.

Improve AUSA's online presence: Ensure more transparent communication with students via Instagram & Facebook. Regularly post updates on what AUSA is up to, bring in more executive/staff takeovers, post more pictures of executives in their roles and more regular posting of our services. Establish a strong, large platform.

- We have been posting more engaging content on our social media pages (Instagram and Tiktok) such as short form videos that are more entertaining which results in better engagement with viewers. This is to help grow a connection with our viewers (students) to create a relationship with us (AUSA).
  - More content is set to be released next semester.

**Creating a vibrant student culture on campus:** Working with the University, CampusLife, clubs, and other key stakeholders to ensure that there is a vibrant and positive student culture on campus

- Running the Weeks Tender scheme.
- Increasing Instagram and Tiktok content.
- We've held smaller Events such as "Pancake on the House" that have seen fantastic engagement.
- Promoting AUSA to students, both new and returning, resulting in signups.

**AUSA Study Sessions:** Implement study sessions for all students, offer this earlier than usual study time to help encourage studying earlier on.

- Helped plan, promote and run AUSA's Study Sessions alongside our EVP, Layba Zubair.

**Promotion of AUSA:** What AUSA does for students and how it can help students

- Promoting AUSA to students, both new and returning, resulting in signups.
- Incorporated AUSA promotional material in goodie-bags for new students.

#### STUDENT VOICE

**AUSA Study Sessions:** Implement study sessions for all students, offer this earlier than usual study time to help encourage studying earlier on.

 Helped plan, promote and run AUSA's Study Sessions alongside our EVP, Layba Zubair.

(More upcoming planned assistance in Semester Two; Open Forums, Increasing Visibility of AUSA Student Council, etc.)

#### 3 Other Work

3.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role but which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
Executive Roles	SLT Meetings: I regularly attend the Senior Leadership Meetings and contribute as I have concerns/thoughts/questions/ideas etc.	Continuous attending and contributing to these meetings as they arise.
	<b>Executive Meetings:</b> I regularly attend the Executive Meetings and contribute as I have concerns/thoughts/questions/ideas etc.	
	University Executive Meetings: I have attended both of the UEC meetings over this semester. As the current focus is on AUSA's Funding Agreement there is not as much I can add, however, as always I contribute as needed and support AUSA's views on a matter strongly.	
	Advisory Board Meetings: I regularly attend the Executive Meetings and contribute as I have concerns/thoughts/questions/ideas etc. I really enjoy these meetings and hearing the different perspectives of AUSA alumni, industry professionals. Their insight is invaluable.	
	Student Council: I regularly attend the Student Council Meetings, helping to set up often and contribute as I have concerns/thoughts/questions/ideas etc.	
	Constitution Review Committee: Earlier in the Semester AUSA reviewed it's Constitution, I regularly attend these meetings and contributed where I had concerns/thoughts/questions/ideas etc.	
	Various Consultation Groups: As a part of AUSA, the University calls on us to provide the perspective of Students on a variety of topics. I have attended these consultations and voiced	

	student's concerns/thoughts/questions/ideas etc. I enjoy these meetings, the topics are often quite interesting and I do my best to take an active participatory role in them to benefit the student body.	
Assisting Students	Students are always popping into the AUSA house and as needed I answer any questions or guide them on where to go. In some cases, students come in quite distressed and I do my best to provide them a safe space where I can assist them to the best of my abilities. Providing a sense of calm in a moment of distress and showing them there is a way out is very rewarding.	Continue this as needed as well as educate myself on all the options for students when they need help to provide smooth directions.

#### 4 Work ahead for Next Term

Task	Work to do
International Week	One of three themed weeks of Semester Two's Weeks Tender schedule. I will be working with our ISO to plan, coordinate and execute multiple events during this week, working as well with clubs/societies, and managing AUSA's own event.
Women's Suffrage Week	One of three themed weeks of Semester Two's Weeks Tender schedule. I will be working with our WRO to plan, coordinate and execute multiple events during this week, working as well with clubs/societies, and run AUSA's own event.
Politics Week	One of three themed weeks of Semester Two's Weeks Tender schedule. I will be working with clubs/societies to plan, coordinate and execute multiple events during this week, and conceptualizing, organizing and run AUSA's own event.
Increasing Postgraduate Engagement	Working with the PGO to host more events for Postgraduate Students.
Semester Two's Study Session	Working with our EVP to organize, promote, and run Semester Two's round of AUSA's Study Sessions.

Open Forums	Working with our EVP to promote and assist with Open Forums to ensure a seamless event.
Documenting Best Practices for Weeks Tender Scheme	Document best practices, email formats, schedules that can be used for future use to ensure smooth and efficient communication with Clubs/Societies.
Increasing Content for Social media	Frequently filming with AUSA's Exec fun videos to engage with students, as well as promotional content for Week's Tender events, etc.

Sincerely,

Jade Butler

Engagement Vice-President, 2024

# Welfare Vice-President 2024 Semester One Report



**To:** The Student Body

From: Jennifer Setefano, Welfare Vice-President 2024

Date: 15/07/24

Contact: <a href="wvp@ausa.org.nz">wvp@ausa.org.nz</a>

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your Welfare Vice-President for 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the WVP and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

This Semester Report covers:

- 1. an introduction from this year's WVP;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. miscellaneous work of the WVP; and
- 4. What's ahead for next Semester?

#### **ROLE OF THE WVP**

The Welfare Vice-President works toward alleviating the practical problems that make being a student so difficult. They run and fundraise for support services like the foodbank and the Hardship Grant scheme. They also try to raise awareness on and off campus for student support. The WVP

sits on several equity-related university decision making bodies and engages with the various equity groups on campus.

#### 1 Introduction from Jennifer Setefano

#### Talofa Lava,

O lou igoa o Fesolai Jennifer Setefano and I have had the privilege to be your student body Welfare Vice president 2024. It has been one of the most challenging but rewarding roles I have taken up. I have learned so much during this role and connected with many students and members of the University of Auckland.

Semester one was hectic, coming into an unfamiliar place. Yet, I have gained such incredible friendships: long-term friendships and different skills. The main focus I had coming into this role as WVP was to ensure the period poverty project was secured and that Hardship Grant applications were reviewed so that students could gain our support.

In semester one, we had some of our most significant events, such as the Alfred Block party, and we also had Orientation Week, where I contributed my time to Uoa 101 sessions this week. In most of the events held during this week, I got to experience the whole Ausa spirit and how Ausa runs their events; I also got to attend a few university staff meetings, regular welfare committee meetings for hardship grants, Pacific working group to ensure that Pacific students are getting the support they need, I also hosted a Tama Toa Mental health workshop within the cultural space that was open for all and also an international mental health workshop to ensure that international students were getting the support that they also need.

It has been a pleasure working with my Ausa Executive team this year; as much as there were stressful times, this year's executive team pushed through for events and meetings this year.

It has also been a pleasure being the Welfare Vice president this year; it has been a fantastic journey to be able to offer my help to the students, and I am very blessed for this tremendous opportunity that has not only allowed me to extend my help and support to others but also for myself within my career journey.

#### 2 Goals set by the Welfare Vice-President for 2024

## 1.1. My contribution to the Executive goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution	
	Weeks Tender week:	
	I attended a few of the events during the tender weeks	
	- Environmental, self care and pride week During self care week I hosted and attended the Tama toa workshop which was a collaboration with UASSA ( samoan Association)	
STUDENT EXPERIENCE	<ul> <li>I also a attended other events such as the Rainbow law Debates with a few of the executive team</li> <li>I also hosted a international workshop collaborating with buddies to ensure that international students got the chance to voice any concerns especially moving to a foreign country and being away from family, so I made sure to give them tips and tricks on how to navigate their way around mental health and ensuring to normalise mental health within their everyday life.</li> </ul>	
	Ausa Study sessions	
	These study sessions were amazing to see, seeing students come by and grabbing food on their breaks or heading to class this ensured that students got to see that Ausa stand by them. I got to oversee this event with a few of the executive members. We hosted this in Grafton , an engineering building and this was held in weeks 10 and 11.	
Tama Toa mental health Workshops		
	I hosted this event in C- space specifically for our Males, I overlooked this event. There were a lot of activities involved this day, we had free haircuts, free food and game consoles including Kava to give that polynesian flavour into this workshop.	
	Sex and Violence workshops	
STUDENT SUPPORT	It has been a little difficult having this discussion amongst accommodation and halls as the Women's rights officer and I were meant to host workshops based on this issue within halls, so currently working on this.	
	Finding a space for international students	
	This hasn't been successful as Iso and I have tried contacting people to get this progress on the role again.	

	Period Poverty Project	
	This project was passed by our Welfare VP 2023 Qu and I have been working alongside Celia to ensure this is secured, I have been working along Campus care to ensure there is a bridge built between us so that there is a continuous funding for this project to carry on after my term.	
	Student Council training	
	We had student council training earlier in the year, across three days we built a relationship with the student council body to ensure each faculty president had the skills and mandatory connections with the Ausa body.	
STUDENT VOICE		
	Pacific Working Group Meetings	
	This year I have been elected to be on this panel discussion with PVC P, they have put together a committee to ensure student issues are dealt with well. These meetings happen every fortnight and are chaired by Jemaima PVC Pacific.	

#### 2 Other Work

2.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role but which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
Executive Retreat	At the beginning of the year we got the chance to build connections with one another as an executive.	No next steps
International Workshops	This year in early May I hosted a international workshop alongside buddies programme and ISO, this was an effective workshop that catered towards helping International students navigate around mental health whilst being in a foreign country.	Hoping this carries on to the upcoming Wellbeing officer for 2025 to ensure international students are cared for.

#### 3 Work ahead for Next Term

Task	Work to do	
Hardship Grant committee	<ul> <li>Ensure applications are looked over within our weekly meetings with the welfare committee and that applicants are being</li> </ul>	
Period Poverty Project	<ul> <li>Period poverty project initiative, continue catching up with shivani and campus care to ensure the initiative of the period poverty project remains even after my term is done.</li> </ul>	
Advisory Board	- Catching up with my assigned mentor Sinead to ensure I can gain effective skills for future roles and to also gain experience from sinead.	

Sincerely,

Jennifer Setefano

Welfare Vice-President, 2024

# International Students' Officer 2024 Semester One Report



**To:** The Student Body

From: Yueyang Chen, International Students' Officer 2024

Date: 31 July 2024

Contact: <u>iso@ausa.org.nz</u>

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your International Students' Officer for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the ISO and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

This Semester Report covers:

- 1. An introduction from this year's ISO;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. miscellaneous work of the ISO; and
- 4. what's ahead for next Semester.

#### **ROLE OF THE ISO**

The International Students' Officer is responsible to the Executive for matters concerning international students. They ensure that international students have a voice on campus, representing their constituency to AUSA and to the University. They also work to make campus a better place for international students, hosting events and distributing information targeted at international students. The International Students Officer has to be either an international student, or to have lived in a country outside New Zealand immediately before enrolling at Auckland University.

#### 1 Introduction from Yueyang Chen

Kia ora and 你好,

My name is Yueyang Chen, originally from China. I am your AUSA International Student Officer for 2024, it is my privilege to take this role for this year, representing the international students' body and voice for them. I really enjoy this role, at the same time, I must be honest, this is challenging as well. I would like to show my appreciation to the team and friends who really helped me a lot along the way.

Time flies like a blink in Semester One, lots of meetings and events filling in, I feel fulfilled and excited. Getting to know and work with the awesome team, meeting with student reps and engaging with students has been absolute pleasant and been the main rhythm of my university life, I am very grateful for this. I am going to detail what I have done for Semester One and what to be expected for the coming semester. Really looking forward to the rest of the year!

#### 2 Goals set by the International Student's Officer for 2024

#### 2.1. My contribution to the Executive's Operation Plan goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution	
STUDENT EXPERIENCE	The main purpose of this pillar is to increase AUSA's engagement with international students, as it is quite essential, we aim to interact with international students by hosting events especially a tailored International Week (Semester 2) and making it as inclusive as possible. I have been working closely with students especially international students this semester on increasing the students' engagement across campus through different activities.  • Weeks Tender Model  There happened three tendered weeks during Semester One, including Environmental Week, Self-Care Week, Pride Week. I have participated and helped as much as I could, I feel great to see the students' engagement and had a lot fun during these tendered weeks. Thank you team especially to Engagement VP who really worked a lot to make this happen!  • Orientation Week and Tai Tokerau Campus visit  Orientation Week is always one of the biggest events in one academic year, it can help the students to know what a university life looks like and how the students can get started smoothly. I was invited by International Office to give out presentation about AUSA, university life and some general tips during the Orientation Week in Semester One. It	
	was a great opportunity and way to engage with students and answer	

questions the students had with my experience both as an individual and an exec member of AUSA. I really had a great time.

I also had a chance to visit Tai Tokerau Campus together with our AUSA Events Manager (Ben), Treasurer-Secretary (Sarah) and EVP (Layba). It is fantastic to see the students there up north, fully packed with games, talks and competitions. We were super excited to see the students' engagement and having good times.

#### AUSA Study Sessions

These sessions are designed and implemented for all students, offering earlier than usual study time to help encourage studying earlier on. I participated a few sessions along with the team. There were great turnups and engagement with students, I found it quite useful for the students to get prepared for exams much in advance.

Promote AUSA International Buddies Program
I have been working closely with Buddies Coordinator (Amy) at the beginning of the semester, planning on Orientation Week events, presentation and promotion of Buddies Program. Unfortunately, Amy resigned not long after the semester, it took the team some time to recruit another wonderful Buddies Coordinator – Manisha! Manisha is quite passionate to engage with students, we had a couple of buddies events across the semester, and she has very good ideas and planning already for Semester Two as well. We also improved the structure of Buddies Program by taking more roles for the program, like leaders and volunteers. These roles help us to run the program more smoothly. I promoted this program whenever I can through different means during events, meetings, workshops, and personal connections. Hope to see more wonderful events in the coming semester.

#### UBUNTU magazine

UBUNTU is our annually released International Student Magazine founded by our 2022 ISO Varsha. It is going to release our AUSA's third Edition this year, I am very honoured to take charge on this. As discussed with the team, we are planning to release it in Semester Two, so please submit your ideas themed "home" and stay tuned on our International Student Magazine – UBUNTU!

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

- Find a dedicated space for International Students on campus International students space is a place where international students can host their own workshops and activities. As this has been discussed over time from previous ISOs, I continued the journey to try to get this space back, especially on the decision that the university has made in 2021 to give the space back. We managed to have discussions with DVC Strategic Engagement (Eric) and International Office Director (Martin), they fully support the idea, but also recommended that the space should be called "global space" to be more inclusive to other students as well. Further discussions are expected in the coming semester especially with the Campus Life team and Space Planning team.
- International students well-being workshops

	The international students well-being workshops are designed to provide information and strategies to help international students navigate cultural differences and adjust to a new environment. Along with WVP (Jennifer), we managed to run one workshop in Semester One. During the workshop, discussions about mental health and the support that they can reach out to both internally and externally have been made. Special appreciation to our Student Voice Manager (Mauricio) and Buddies Coordinator (Manisha) to support and co-host the workshop.
STUDENT VOICE	<ul> <li>Increase the AUSA Student Council's reach in order to grow our collective student voice         In order to grow our collective student voice, AUSA established portfolio subcommittees in 2021 to ensure a more streamlined and efficient consultation process for AUSA internally. As the International Student Officer, I chaired the subcommittee this year to discuss the concerns and issues international students may have, bring them to meetings where more voice and ideas could be collected and then provide possible solutions as possible. This year so far my subcommittee members include international students from FMHS, Science, Engineering, ABI and Business, and the team is still expanding.</li> <li>Student Council Meeting and Student Consultative Group Meeting At the beginning of the semester, we had a student council training with AUSA team, faculty associations and clubs, to build a relationship and ensure each faculty president have the skills and mandatory connections with our team. We also have regular student council meetings and student consultative group meetings where I usually sit. Through these meetings, I have a chance to hear from student representatives, bring concerns, discuss and get feedback.</li> </ul>

#### 3 Other Work

3.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
University committees	As the international student rep, I am honoured to have a chance to sit in Senate and Discipline Committee.	I will continue my roles in Semester 2.
Monthly catchup with	I have regular meetings with Education New Zealand (ENZ) officer (Faymie) to discuss	We will keep this meeting going as this is a very good chance to

ENZ officer	international student matters.	understand from an officer's view in ENZ about international student matters. I will pass this on to the next ISO as well.
Auckland Agency Group (AAG) meeting	Auckland Agency Group (AAG) Meeting host by Education New Zealand (ENZ), I met representatives from Ministry of Education (MoE), Tertiary Education Commission (TEC), NZ Police, NZQA, Health NZ, Ireen, New Zealand International Students' Association (NZISA), Unitec, and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited. The main talks and discussions were around the general life and special concerns for students especially international students.	Attend the AAG meeting in the second half of the year as well.
NZISA representative meetings	I attend NZISA representative meetings. This provides me a chance to meet the reps across New Zealand, and discuss the issue we encountered as international students, seek for solutions and feedback.	I will continue sitting in the meeting in the coming semester.

#### 4 Work ahead for Next Semester

Task	Work to do
Orientation Week	Prepare for the Orientation Week of Semester 2.
International Week	Plan with team especially EnVP (Jade) and clubs for the coming International Week.
UBUNTU magazine release	Publish the 3 <sup>rd</sup> annual edition of the international student magazine - UBUNTU. Reach out to a wide variety of international students to ensure diverse representation via various creative means.
Buddies Program	Work closely with Buddies Coordinator (Manisha) to plan and organize buddies events in Semester 2.
Global Space	Continue the discussions on global space.

Sincerely,

Yueyang Chen

International Student's Officer, 2024

# Postgraduate Officer 2024

# **Semester One Report**



**To:** The Student Body

From: Ben Bonné, Postgraduate Officer 2024

Date: Monday 24 June 2024

Contact: pgo@ausa.org.nz

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your Postgraduate Officer for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the Postgraduate Officer and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

This Semester Report covers:

- 1. an introduction from this year's Postgraduate Officer;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. miscellaneous work of the Postgraduate Officer; and
- 4. what's ahead for next Semester.

#### **ROLE OF THE POST-GRADUATE OFFICER**

The Postgraduate Officer (PGO) serves as a representative for postgraduate students on academic decision-making bodies, and various committees supported by the Education Vice President.

Another key part of the PGO is to chair the AUSA Postgraduate Consultation Committee, to gain insight into issues, events, and initiatives occurring for postgraduate students in different faculties.

#### 1 Introduction from Ben Bonné

Tēnā koutou katoa,

My name is Ben Bonné and I have had the utmost pleasure and privilege to serve as your Postgraduate Officer at AUSA for 2024. Being in my second year at AUSA, I have seen time and time again the meaningful difference that AUSA has in so many students' experience of university life. It really has been such a great opportunity to be part of AUSA's team and to contribute to such a meaningful cause.

This report serves as a summary of the progress I have made in the first Semester of 2024 for postgraduate students. It has been great to meet so many fellow postgraduate students throughout Semester One at events and through the various committees and groups I am involved in.

Before we get into the rest of my report, I would like to express my gratitude to the rest of the team at AUSA. My fellow executive members, and the amazing staff who support us, are truly incredible, and I couldn't do my mahi without them.

If you have any questions or concerns about my report, or if you wish to get in touch about any future initiatives regarding postgraduate students at UoA, please do not hesitate to email me at pgo@ausa.org.nz or visit me at the AUSA House.

Ngā mihi nui,

Ben Bonné

#### 2 Goals set by the Postgraduate Officer for 2024

#### 1.1. My contribution to the Executive's Operation Plan goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution
STUDENT	Postgraduate Engagement
EXPERIENCE	To improve postgraduate student experience at UoA, I have been very focused this Semester on increasing the postgraduate engagement across

campus through various different means.

- 1) Following the shift of the Education and Social Work (EDSW) Faculty to City Campus this year, I have worked hard to reconnect the EDSW Postgraduate Student Association (PGSA). This has been achieved through the EDSW PGSA having a seat on the AUSA Postgraduate Consultation Committee, which I chair, where I gain insight from postgraduate students from each faculty, of the different issues and events that are happening in their respective spaces.
- 2) Whilst some faculties (such as FMHS and EDSW) have really strong postgraduate student representation through their faculty PGSAs, there are still various faculties that do not have this systematic form of postgraduate student voice mechanisms. This semester I supported a postgraduate student from the Faculty of Engineering to establish EPSA (Engineering Postgraduate Student Association) which is an exciting step in the right direction for postgraduate representation!

#### Weeks Tender Model

A key priority of mine this year has been to work closely with AUSA's Engagement Vice-President (Jade) to ensure that AUSA's themed weeks throughout the year are inclusive to postgraduate students. We successfully hosted a Postgraduate Mixer Event as part of AUSA's Self Care Week in Semester 1 in the Kate Edgar Postgraduate Lounge, which was a big success. Unfortunately we were unable to arrange a postgraduate specific event for AUSA's Pride Week in Semester 1, however this was in part due to myself being quite sick in hospital in the lead up to that week. Alas, we are working towards ensuring that there will be really great postgraduate events for the rest of AUSA's themed weeks in Semester Two.

#### Improvement of AUSA Website

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

Whilst this component of the AUSA Executive Operations Plan was not originally envisioned as a goal specifically related to my role, improving the postgraduate representation on the AUSA website has become a core focus of mine in Semester 1. Since a big part of my role involves running a consultation group with postgraduate students from across different faculties at UoA, I have been working with AUSA's staff members in Semester 1 to get this committee represented on the AUSA website as a subpage to add visibility, legitimacy and awareness of this group. At the end of Semester 1, this addition has yet to be added to the AUSA website, however this is expected to happen early Semester Two - so watch the space!

#### STUDENT VOICE

Strengthen the subcommittees of Student Council that were established in 2021 to ensure a more streamlined and efficient consultation process for AUSA internally

My biggest goal for this year, and for Semester One, has been to revitalish the AUSA Postgraduate Consultation Committee to be an efficient and effective team. Thus, throughout Semester One I recruited 10 new members, bringing our total membership to 17 members, with at least one postgraduate rep from each faculty!!

Another way that I have sought to improve this group in Semester One is changing the forum it is run in. In 2023 this group's monthly meeting was held via Zoom, with no in-person option. This year I have run hybrid meetings, although have had a really high in-person turnout, which is in part linked to the good team culture that we've established in the group, and because the meetings have been fully catered this semester as a way to thank members for their voluntary commitment to the group. I am super excited to see what this committee will achieve in Semester Two!

#### Complete a full merger between AUSA and PGSA

This year the Auckland University Student Association (AUSA) is merging with the central Postgraduate Student Association (PGSA) with the goal of ensuring AUSA is fully representative of ALL students, especially postgraduate students. My work on this in Semester One has involved attending various meetings with key stakeholders from AUSA and PGSA. I was heavily involved in the consultation process and have given a lot of feedback on the creation of the new postgraduate role on AUSA's Executive for 2025. I have also put in a lot of effort this semester to develop and maintain good relations with the PGSA president to ensure a smooth merge between the two associations.

#### 2 Other Work

2.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
Postgraduate Craccum Edition	For the first time in a long time (if ever) Craccum had a 'Postgraduate Edition' this year: a special issue solely focused on postgraduate issues, experiences and events. This was a result of	Talk to Craccum about making this an annual tradition to keep this legacy going!

	collaboration between myself and the team at Craccum, who helped make my idea of this edition into a reality.	
University Committees that I sit on as the postgraduate student rep:	Human Participants Ethics Committee:  This committee reviews ethics applications from students who are conducting research at the university. My role, along with the rest of the committee, is to review, and, where satisfied that it is appropriate, approve submitted research for compliance with ethical principles. This committee meets once a month and takes up a lot of my time, as I have to review 2-3 full ethics applications each month in preparation for the meeting.	Continue to attend all these committee meetings in Semester Two, to ensure postgraduate voices are being heard in decision making spaces at the university.
	Library Learning Services Committee:	
	This committee meets to discuss all matters relating to the various libraries and learning spaces at UoA. There have been two meetings in Semester One, both of which I attended.	
	Learning & Teaching Environment Subcommittee:	
	This Subcommittee met twice this Semester, and I attended both of these meetings.	
	Teaching & Learning Quality Committee:	
	This committee discusses a range of topics from scholarships, CANVAS updates and many more UoA policy oriented matters.	
	Senate:	
	I have attended 4 out of the 5 Senate meetings for Semester 1. Senate is the final Committee for all academic matters at the University before they go to University Council. Senate is comprised of all Professors at UoA.	
	Discipline Committee:	
	The UoA Discipline Committee hears all cases	

of academic and non-academic misconduct. It acts like a jury in that it determines whether an allegation is made out but it also acts like a Court in that it determines the appropriate punishment. Given my previous experience in AUSA's advocacy team last year, it has been great to be a student rep on this committee this year as I was already well aware of how this committee functioned.

#### **Student Consultation Group:**

This group, which meets on a monthly basis, provides a place for students to have input into decision-making on major University issues that are likely to affect students.

#### AUSA Executive Meetings

#### **AUSA Executive Meetings**

I have attended all executive meetings except for one which I missed due to being ill in hospital in May. I have actively participated and advocated for positive changes for postgraduate students in these meetings.

#### **AUSA Student Council**

These monthly meetings serve as one of the key student consultation groups that the university comes to to gain feedback on proposed changes. Membership on this council is made up of the presidents of student faculty clubs, and the AUSA executive. I have attended all of these monthly meetings, except one when I was unwell and in hospital.

### Distinguished Graduate Award

A big goal of mine this year has been to increase the legitimacy, awareness and prestige of the Postgraduate Consultation Committee. To incentivise and reward student participation in these meetings, I have worked with the team at AUSA to partner with the University, to allow this participation to be counted towards the University of Auckland's Distinguished Graduate Award. At the end of Semester One we gained confirmation from the university that they would allow membership on the Postgraduate Consultation Committee (as well as all other AUSA equity-based committees!) to

I am going to work alongside AUSA's Student Voice Manager (Mauricio) for Semester Two as we begin to implement this new award recognition internally within AUSA.

Continue to attend all these meetings in Semester Two, to ensure postgraduate voices are being heard in decision making spaces within AUSA.

	be counted towards the number of hours a student needs to volunteer in order to gain the award.	
Zoom meeting with other PG reps from other student associations/u niversities	Another important thing I did in Semester One, was network with the other PG elected representatives at the other university student associations in New Zealand. This was via a Zoom call, and was extremely insightful into the similar challenges we all face with postgraduate matters at our respective universities. However, this meeting also highlighted areas in which AUSA is doing a good job in serving postgraduate students which was rewarding to pick up on.	Maintain a healthy relationship with these other PG reps in Semester Two.
Establishment of an AUSA PG mailing list	At the start of the year I saw a huge gap in AUSA's current engagement with postgraduate students at UoA: we did not have a way to reach PG specific students. Since this is the community that I am meant to be representing, it was important to me that AUSA sets up a better system on this matter going forward. Therefore, with the help of AUSA's staff, I have been in process of setting up an AUSA PG emailing list, which would serve as a forum to share events and initiatives relevant to PG students, whilst also increasing AUSA's visibility within the PG community.	By the end of Semester One, this mailing list establishment had not been completed, although this is something I am going to prioritise in Semester Two.

#### Work ahead for next term

Task	Work to do
Host AUSA's Inaugural 'Lunch & Learn' Event	Decide upon a date, find speakers, and then advertise the hell out of this event so that it is well attended. Watch the space!
AUSA Postgraduate Emailing List	Finish the set-up of this emailing list and then use it for the remainder of this year to create a sense of community within the postgrads at UoA, and create a greater awareness of what events are going on.
Find an outstanding successor for this role for 2025	As I am not seeking to rerun for this elected position for 2025, a key goal of mine for Semester Two is to find an outstanding student leader to take the reins of my role in 2015, and continue the legacy which I have worked hard

	to create this year.
--	----------------------

As always, I am here to serve you, the students. So please do reach out if you have any concerns or wish to discuss anything with me.

Ngā mihi nui,

Ben Bonné

Postgraduate Officer, 2024

# **Queer Rights Officer 2024**

## **Semester One Report**



**To:** The Student Body

From: Luna le Fay, Queer Rights' Officer 2024

**Date:** 31 July 2024

Contact: qro@ausa.org.nz

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your Queer Rights' Officer for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the QRO and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

This Semester Report covers:

- 1. an introduction from this year's QRO;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. miscellaneous work of the QRO; and
- 4. what's ahead for next Semester.

#### **ROLE OF THE QRO**

The Queer Rights Officer is responsible for supporting, representing and advocating on behalf of queer students to the University and AUSA. The QRO works closely with the University's Equity Office, runs events and campaigns around queer issues, and is responsible for looking after

Queerspace, a safe space provided by AUSA for queer students. In the past, the QRO has lobbied for and celebrated marriage equality, successfully created a designated Queerspace, and lobbied on issues like use of preferred names and access to queer networks on campus.

#### 1 Introduction from Luna Le Fay

Tēnā koutou katoa.

Ko Putauaki te maunga,

Ko Whakatāne te awa,

Ko Mataatua te waka,

Ko Hawai te marae,

Ko Ngāti Awa te iwi,

Ko Ngāi Tamaoki te hapū,

Ko Luna Lyra le Fay ahau.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve you. I have been a servant of this community in a number of ways now, in the past as secretary of Trans on Campus, in my current role as Co-chairperson of Rainbow Youth, and always as a member of my community.

As many of us who serve our community have felt, especially those who serve the queer community, this has been a challenging and exhausting year. I am happy with the long work that we have done throughout the year so far, and I carry with me the optimism that this year is not yet over, and there is much we can achieve before it is done.

#### 2 Goals set by the Queer Rights' Officer for 2024

2.1. My contribution to the Executive's Operation Plan goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution
STUDENT	Pride Week

#### **EXPERIENCE**

I worked alongside the Engagement Vice President by providing information on how proposals by clubs should be prioritised. We worked to coordinate the funding of events. I was able to participate in the majority of these events throughout the week. While I had done significant planning for two events, neither were able to be accomplished, but this gave valuable insight into queer event planning in the future.

#### **Pink Shirt Day**

Along with the Engagement Vice President, I met with a representative of CampusLife to discuss AUSA's takeover of the Pink Shirt Day event. I worked with the Engagement Vice President to plan this event.

#### **Period Poverty Project**

Monitoring the supply of period products available in Queerspace and ensuring that this supply is visible and accessible.

#### **Refurbishing of Queerspace**

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

I have been working to ensure that there is ample seating available, as there has been a tendency for seating to run out. I was able to source free furniture that was not being used, through the help of the Rainbow Support Advisor. I have also poured a lot of effort into finding arrangements for the space that are able to maximise the use of the minimal space available in Queerspace. I have also had furniture removed from the space that had become unhygienic. I also invested in a dehumidifier to help with issues of mould and make the space more comfortable for students. I have worked to get the Community Wardrobe under control and made great progress doing so, with clothes being contained yet accessible.

#### **Constitution Review**

As part of the constitution working group, I attended meetings and offered input on decisions around the constitutional changes that were later made at the AGM.

#### STUDENT VOICE

#### **Queer Student Council**

I have chaired the student council made up of club executives. This has given me further insight into the needs of queer students, alongside the more informal input of club executives and regular students.

#### Students' President Training

I assisted in the facilitation of this training event and gave a panel talk.

#### 3 Other Work

3.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
	I have advocated directly for the needs of students who have faced challenges at the university relating to being queer. I have also been able to listen and offer advice to queer students navigating their university experience. In one case where I was able to help advocate, the case led to changing policy around allowing preferred names to be read at graduation.	Continuing to make myself available to students by email and in Queerspace so that students have support available.
	I have worked with the Rainbow Support Advisor to direct advocacy efforts based on the needs of students.	Connecting with the new Rainbow Support Advisor to continue these projects as well as other collaborations.
	Meeting with the Equity Practitioners Group to discuss matters with equity practitioners at the university.	Continue to attend these meetings.

#### 4 Work ahead for Next Term

Task	Work to do
Running further queer events	I would like to see more events for queer students in semester two. This will involve a lot of planning as well as seeking help from queer students.
Advocating for a more suitable location for Queerspace	I have consulted the Queer Student Council to develop a plan to advocate for a space that is able to meet student needs. This will involve putting together many different things that build our case.

Refurbishing Queerspace	There is still a lot of work. While we've reached a point where seating is acceptable, there is still a lot of furniture that is reaching the end of its life. Queerspace is also in need of a deep clean, with a lot of old items taking up space. The Community Wardrobe is also overcapacity and needs to be sorted with the consultation of Trans on Campus, to whom the clothes belong.
Collaborating with the WRO for Suffrage Week events	I plan to work alongside the Women's Rights Officer in planning events that cater to students on an intersectional level.

Sincerely,

Luna le Fay

Queer Rights' Officer, 2024

# Pacific Island Student Officer 2024 Semester One Report



**To:** The Student Body

From: Andrea Va'ai, Pacific Islander Students' Officer 2024

**Date:** 06/08/24

Contact: piso@ausa.org.nz

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your Pacific Island Students' Officer for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the Pacific Island Students' Officer and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

#### This Semester Report covers:

- 1. an introduction from this year's Pacific Island Students' Officer;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. miscellaneous work of the Pacific Island Students' Officer; and
- 4. what's ahead for next Semester.

#### **ROLE OF THE PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS' OFFICER:**

The Pacific Island Students' Officer is responsible for representing our Pacific Island Students at the University of Auckland, working with the AUSA Executive to ensure that Pacific Island Students' perspectives are included in University decision-making.

#### 1 Introduction from Andrea Va'ai

Talofa lava,

My name is Andrea Va'ai and I have had the privilege of serving as the Pacific Islands Students' Officer for AUSA and Auckland University Pacific Islands Students Association AUPISA (AUPISA) 2024.

Semester one has been a busy semester for our executive team. I have been working alongside AUPISA and AUSA to build on and foster a strong relationship for our Pasifika student body. Throughout the semester I have also helped in facilitating events that cater to the student experience, student support and Student voice.

Throughout my term so far, I have come across many challenges that has tested me, however serving the student body and seeing the outcome of our service has made all the difference. It has been an honour serving alongside our executive team. In this role I have also gained main skills that I know will benefit me when I leave University.

#### 2 Goals set by the PISO for 2024

#### 2.1. My contribution to the Executive's Operation Plan goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution
	Maori and Pasifika Engagement
STUDENT EXPERIENCE	My role as the PISO is to be the bridge between AUSA and AUPISA. My goal has been to increase the AUSA presence within AUPISA and vice versa. Overall this goal has tracked quite well. I have seen a positive engagement between AUSA and AUPISA, I am grateful for the support our executive teams have put in; from being present at various Pasifika Student Events to assisting with the maintenance and support of our Cultural space. These events are

listed below:

#### Duavata - Pasifika Students Meet and Greet

 AUSA had a stall and our executives had the opportunity to meet and socialise with the Pasifika Students Body. It was also an opportunity to inform our Pasifika Students about the support AUSA has available to them.

#### Talangai Oe Pasifiki - Pasifika Debates

O This is the second year AUPISA has run this event. Similar to last year, the AUSA executives have either competed, attended or judged this event over the course of 4 weeks.

#### Men's Mental Health Workshop

The University of Auckland Samoan Student's Association (UASSA) collaborated with AUSA on a men's mental health event. This event was set out as a barber-shop setting where they could talanoa (conversate) about different issues in their lives. Although I was not able to attend the session as it was for men only, I received good feedback from this event and I appreciate the support from our male executives for this event.

#### Lagi Malofie - Sip and Paint

 For Samoan Language week UASSA and AUSA collaborated on a traditional painting event in celebration of Samoa's 62nd.
 This event was hosted in the new Maori and Pasifika Space in Level 1 of the Library.

Other than these collaborations, AUSA has made a good effort at attending as many Pasifika events as possible. I can confidently say that our presence within the Pasifika student body has been good.

#### **Promotion of AUSA**

Throughout orientation weeks, I have actively been promoting AUSA to not only the Pasika student but also the wider student body. I have enjoyed being the designated executive on the mic, I am quite talkative so I got to use this to my advantage. The energy you give is the energy you receive!!

#### **Maintenance of Cultural Space:**

I have been working closely with our general manager, David to maintain C-space. David has been a great help in ensuring that C-space is functional. A few of the issues we encountered are:

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

- Changing the locks on all the doors in C-space
- Changing the lights in C-space
- Constant maintenance and repairs on the toilets in C-Space
- Ceiling in C-Space has been leaking
- David and I are currently waiting on student groups to help replace or repair the heaters in C-space. The space is really cold in, especially in the winter - this is still in progress.

	AUPISA and AUSA
	AUSA and AUPISA have worked closely in ensuring that our Pasifika students have the support they need throughout their university journey. This support has mainly been beneficial for our Pasifika student leaders. AUSA has been able to give advice for different Pasifika executives, financial support and guidance on how to manage and navigate issues that have arisen over the course of the first semester.
	In semester one we received backlash on Pasifika and Maori Spaces. During this time our students, as well as the AUSA President, received scrutiny and threats from people in the public and students at UoA for our designated spaces. AUPISA and NTM released a joint statement supporting and emphasising the importance of our spaces. AUSA also expressed their support for our Pasifika and Maori students; our President Alan voiced AUSA's support for our spaces via public statement and interviews with the media. Although the University and PVCP did not openly support us during this time, our Pasifika student body appreciated the support received from AUSA.
STUDENT VOICE	Foster collaboration between PVC Pacific, AUSA and AUPISA. Although collaborations between AUPISA and AUSA have been tracking well, we are still working on building a relationship and collaborations with PVC Pacific.

#### 3 Other Work

3.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
AUPISA Executive	As the PISO, I am also an AUPISA executive member. My role is to be the bridge between AUSA and AUPISA. Throughout this year it has been a goal of mine to maintain the relationship between the two associations, I can say that this has been tracking well.	AUSA has been a great support to AUPISA, I plan to continue to build and maintain this relationship.
AUPISA Constitution	AUPISA is currently undergoing a Constitution reform. Over Semester one our executive team has been working on amendments to our	Amendments have been discussed by the AUPISA executive, now we await our

Reform	current constitution as it is quite outdated.	SGM date.
Pasifika Advisory Committee	The Pasifika Advisory Committee (PAC) is the PISO subcommittee. This committee aim to discuss Pasifika Student experience and advocacy that are not already discussed within AUPISA.	Our subcommittee does not meet as often as other subcommittees because AUPISA already covers a lot of the issues that I then relay onto AUSA.

## 4 Work ahead for next term

Task	Work to do	
AUPISA SGM	Our SGM is set for August 13th at 6pm in the Cultural Space. Our students will have the opportunity to discuss the changes and pass these amendments.	
Collaboration with NTM and Te Tumu Herenga	Te Tumu Herenga (Libraries and Learning Services) in collaboration with Nga Tauira Maori and AUPISA are hosting an event that aims to reconnect the Maori and Pacific community to Te Tumu Herenga Village. The theme for this event is indigenous learning journey. The day is filled with workshops, activities and spot prizes that cater to our indigenous cultures.	
Language Weeks	Semester two is when most of the Pasifika Languages are held. AUPISA works with other Pasifika cultural groups to celebrate our indigenous languages here in the diaspora. Following are dates for our upcoming Language weeks:	
	<ul> <li>Te Reo Maori Kuki 'Airani (Cook Island Language Week)         <ul> <li>4th August - 10th August</li> </ul> </li> <li>Lea Faka-Tonga (Tongan Language Week)         <ul> <li>18th August - 24th August</li> </ul> </li> <li>Te Gana Tuvalu (Tuvaluan Language Week)         <ul> <li>29th September - 5th October</li> </ul> </li> <li>Vosa VakaViti (Fijian Language Week)         <ul> <li>6th October - 12th October</li> </ul> </li> <li>Vagahau Niue (Niuean Language Week)         <ul> <li>13th October - 19th October</li> </ul> </li> <li>Te Gagana Tokelau (Tokelauan Language Week)         <ul> <li>27th October - 2nd November</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Nessian Fest	AUPISA hosts an annual Festival in celebration of our different Pasifika	

	cultures. This festival is filled with music, dance and different activities that portray our cultures. We have 11 Pasifika associations that come together to celebrate our cultures and also brown excellence at the University of Auckland.
	Aside from Nesian Fest, AUPISA still has many events yet to come. If you wish to know more about our events please visit out instagram: aupisa_uoa
Student Voice	Throughout Semester two, I need to work on the relationship and foster collaborations between PVC Pacific, AUSA and AUPISA.
	I hope to have more collaborations with AUSA as we head towards the end of the year.
Funding Agreement	One of my main goals for 2024 is to secure an extension of the lease of O Lagi Atea Moana Cultural Space (C-Space). This is still in the works as we await the funding agreement with UoA.

Sincerely,

Andrea Va'ai

Pacific Island Students' Officer, 2024

# Māori Students Officer 2024 Semester One Report



**To:** The Student Body

From: Jimah Ruland-Umata me Te Tuhiwhakauraoterangi Wallace-Ihakara

Date: 20 July 2024

Contact: mso@ausa.org.nz

#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

This Semester Report documents the work to date of your Māori Students Officers for Semester One, 2024. This Semester Report is designed to provide accountability to the Māori Students Officers and the Executive, and to keep you informed about what work is being done on your behalf.

#### This Semester Report covers:

- 1. an introduction from this year's Māori Students Officers;
- 2. The goals set towards the Executive's Operation Plan goals and the progress towards those goals.
- 3. miscellaneous work of the Māori Students Officers; and
- 4. what's ahead for next Semester.

#### **ROLE OF THE MĀORI STUDENTS OFFICER**

The Māori Students Officers are responsible for representing our Māori Students at the University of Auckland, working with the AUSA Executive to ensure that Māori Students perspectives are included in University decision-making.

#### 1 Introduction from

Kia Ora mai koutou. We are Te Tuhiwhakaura and Jimah, the Māori Student Officers' and Co-Presidents for Ngā Tauira Māori (NTM), the Māori Students' Association here at Waipapa Taumata Rau | The University of Auckland.

This semester report will outline some of the work we have done to ensure Māori students (Tauira Māori) are well represented in the university.

## 2 Goals set by the MSOs 2024

2.1. My contribution to the Executive's Operation Plan goals for this year have been:

Operation Plan Goals	Contribution	
STUDENT EXPERIENCE	We view our role as not only being advocates for tauira Māori, but also being the bridge between AUSA and the impact they can have on tauira Māori. Thus we have worked to increase the engagement that AUSA has with Māori here at the university. This has been executed through  Events:  - We have invited the executive to attend NTM events and meet some of our teina (younger students) so that connections, networks and relationships can foster.  Campaigns:  - When NTM had officially made a stance on the condemnation of Māori and Pacific spaces, our concerns were voiced to the executive, all of which were in total support of our course of action and helped in any way they could. Such help was made visible to the wider Māori student body, who grew a greater appreciation for AUSA and the experience it provides.	
STUDENT SUPPORT	Tama Toa & Wahine Toa Workshops	
	Student support is a relatively tricky area for us to navigate, as we see	

ourselves as more the co-Presidents of NTM than we do the co-Māori Student Officers' for this pillar.

One of the key events that came out of Semester One was a Men's Mental Health Workshop hosted by UASSA (University of Auckland Samoan Students Association) and AUSA. This saw a strong turnout for AUSA members and NTM members who came together to share about the struggles men have in navigating mental health. Our attendance as such gave our teina more confidence to be open about their struggles so we can find ways to help them in a more productive way.

# Foster collaboration between PVC-Māori, PVC-Pacific, AUSA, AUPISA and NTM

A big goal for us this year was ensuring that we maintain key relationships for NTM which involve AUSA and PVC-Māori.

#### AUSA:

#### **STUDENT VOICE**

We have meetings with Alan (AUSA President) which allow us to voice our concerns for NTM and Alan has always been proactive in addressing them to the right people and has been a great advocate for us when we need him. As such, our relationship between NTM and AUSA has improved greatly in comparison to previous years.

#### PVC-Māori:

Our relationship with PVC-Māori has made immense strides over the past few years and we have seen a lot more engagement between PVC-Māori and NTM. We have monthly meetings with the Office of the PVC-Māori and occasionally they will bring all the executives of other Māori Associations together to network. This has given us great confidence to do what we do because we know that we will have the support of PVC-Māori in advocating for our tauira and providing them a safe space here at the university.

#### 3 Other Work

3.1. As always, there is work that falls outside of the defined scope of an Executive Member's role which is completed/done by an Executive Member.

Miscellaneous Work	What?	Next Steps?
Co-Presidents of NTM	Unlike many of the other executive roles, the Māori Student Officers' are not voted on by the general student body.	To carry on our roles in both AUSA and NTM
	The presidents' of NTM automatically become the Māori Student Officers' and as such we often find ourselves walking in both roles simultaneously.	
	Thus a large portion of the work we do outside of AUSA is running NTM itself and its many events that NTM holds.	
	Our priority always lies with the students who voted us in to be their presidents' and everything we do is to ensure that they are best represented.	

### 4 Work ahead for next term

Task	Work to do	
Collaboration between AUSA and NTM for upcoming events	NTM has some major events coming for Semester Two and we have leaned on AUSA to provide some insight into better ways to manage different aspects of the events. We have also begun working with AUSA to learn how to better market these events alongside AUSA's Marketing Team.	
Better collaboration between PVC-Māori and the NTM Society	Much of our tauira do not know who PVC-Māori is or what they do for us and so we want to help bridge that gap and allow a chance for both to network with each other.	
Increase AUSA's presence at NTM Events	The next few events for NTM are much more open to the audience we cater to and so we want to showcase what AUSA does at these events.	

Sincerely,

Jimah Ruland-Umata me Te Tuhiwhakauraoterangi Wallace-Ihakara

Maori Student Officers, 2024