



Mary Jane Kivalu
UOPISA President
3rd Quarter Report 2019
Submitted 18-09-2019
1675 words

SUMMARY:

Mālō e lelei and warm Pasifika greetings.

It has been a very busy quarter for Pasifika students, with numerous events as well as trying to build on opportunities that will help Pasifika students at Otago. With many different groups within UOPISA, we've done our best to address the different needs and expectations of our members and stakeholders.

Our executive committee has been outstanding this quarter and have followed through with achieving some great outcomes. As the official inaugural year for UOPISA's operations and governance, it has been tough trying to navigate this unpaved path. The Public Relations Officer position is still vacant, which has meant that we've had to pick up a few extra tasks on the side. A huge highlight is watching our student leaders become empowered to do great work in the student space, which is good progress towards our overarching goal of weaving more of our Pasifika work into the general student space. An area to further develop is the balance between the UOPISA President's position and being an ex-officio member of OUSA. Admittedly this has been a struggle, however the executive committee and UOPISA have both been very supportive, and it looks like there will be a lot to look forward to for UOPISA in 2020.

Upcoming events for us include our Annual General Meeting and our Pasifika Student Awards Night. We will also look to wrap up the year and do a handover, that will provide some recommendations for our 2020 Executive Committee. All associations will also have their Annual General Meetings, and UOPISA will look to support them as much as we can so that the handover for 2020 teams are as smooth and informative as possible.

PART ONE: EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITION DESCRIPTION DUTIES

1.1 Main spokesperson for UOPISA.

1.1.1 UOPISA representation at the following events:

- a) Otago Tongan Students' Association Fundraising Concert (Auckland)
- b) New Zealand Tongan Tertiary Students' Association 28th Annual Amatakiloa Conference
- c) National Tairua Pasifika Fono with NZUSA (Dunedin)
- d) 150th Anniversary – Pasifika Student Koneseti (Dunedin)
- e) UOPISA Pasifika Mental Health Summit (Dunedin)
- f) Pacific Islands Law Students' Association Public Lecture
- g) Pacific Islands Centre Taimane Programme

1.1.2 Other events requiring my attendance in my capacity as a Pasifika student leader (locally and nationally):

- a) The Lave Mai Show Radio Programme
- b) Otago Tongan Students Association Tongan Language Week Workshops
- c) Fe'unu Koula Academy Tau'olunga Competition Global
- d) Dunedin Tongan Community Cultural Night

1.1.3 I also sit on the following committees:

- a) Pacific Leadership Group
- b) Tairua Pasifika Group
- c) External Pacific Advisory Group – Otago Polytechnic

1.2 Chair and convener of executive and general meetings.

I have chaired all meeting for UOPISA.

1.3 Chief representative and responsible for all internal and external relations.

1.3.1 Involved in the organising and hosting of the NZTTSA 28th Annual Amatakiloa Conference in Dunedin. This was hosted by the Otago Tongan Students Association. It brought together 250 Tongan tertiary students from around the country, and we spent 5 days hosting a conference that involved academic, sports, cultural, social and spiritual platforms for delegates. During the conference, I spoke on the Mental Health and Well-being panel as the UOPISA President.

1.3.2 UOPISA hosted the National Tairua Pasifika Fono alongside NZUSA and Ako Aotearoa. The fono was held in Evison Lounge at OUSA Clubs and Societies Building, over a period of 2 days. The fono brought together the leaders of the Pacific student associations from around NZ.



- 1.3.3 UOPISA organised the 150th Anniversary – Pacific Student Koneseti. The Koneseti was held in the Teacher's College Auditorium and was supported by the Pacific 150th Komiti as well as OUSA. As well as organising a very successful event, UOPISA also presented the opening and closing address (myself and our Treasurer Zayna Lam, respectively). Items were performed by Otago Samoan Students Association, Pacific Islands Law Students Association, the Tili Family, Otago Tongan Students' Association, Pacific Islands Health Professionals Students' Association, Kiribati Students' Group and UOPISA finished the night with a traditional Tongan tau'olunga.
- 1.3.4 UOPISA hosted a very successful Pasifika Mental Health Summit that was supported by Le Va – a nation-wide organisation that aims to address mental health issues in Pasifika communities. The summit attracted over 100 Pasifika students at Otago and created some great conversations around the theme of navigating between two worlds, and learning to tell our own story.

1.4 Promote the equitable opportunity, wide representation, friendly gathering and participation of Pacific students within the University;

1.4.1 The following Pasifika events were held around the university this quarter:

- a) NZTTSA Annual Amatakihoa Conference
- b) Otago Cook Islands Students Association Social Fundraiser
- c) Science Students' Pacific Islands Association Degree Planning Evening
- d) National Tauria Pasifika Fono
- e) Science Students' Pacific Islands Association Lunches
- f) Pacific Islands Health Professional Students' Association Dinners
- g) Pasifika Students Health Summit
- h) 150th Anniversary – Pacific Student Concert
- i) Science Students' Pacific Islands Association Quiz Night
- j) Pacific Islands Law Students Association Annual Public Lecture
- k) Pacific Islands Law Students Association Sentencing Competition (Christchurch)
- l) Annual Samoan Students' So'otaga Conference
- m) Annual Cook Islands Students' Taokotaianga Conference
- n) Science Students' Pacific Islands Association Postgraduate Evening
- o) Humanities Otago Pacific Students Association Welcome

1.5 Promote the expression of Pacific cultures and language within the University.

- 1.5.1 All content from UOPISA is inclusive of all Pasifika cultures and languages. Tongan Language Week and Cook Islands Language Week were also this quarter. UOPISA allows the relative associations to take lead in promoting their language, culture and events – UOPISA promotes and supports this via distributing the news via email and social media.

1.6 To establish and maintain our relationship with OUSA, Te Roopū Māori and the University, where appropriate.

1.6.1 Due to a quarter full of events, the only correspondence that was manageable with both groups were done via OUSA Meetings. I also assisted Te Roopu Maori by chairing their Special General Meeting.

1.7 Establish and maintain relationships with external stakeholders where appropriate.

1.7.1 Met with the following key external stakeholders from the University:

a) Pacific Leadership Group (monthly meetings)

1.7.2 Met with the following key stakeholders from other student-led groups:

a) NZUSA

b) Pasifika association leaders from other institutions

PART TWO: GENERAL DUTIES OF ALL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

2.1 Where reasonable, all Executive Officers are expected to assist as volunteers for OUSA events and functions, including, but not limited to:

2.1.1 Assisting at the OUSA Tent City marquee and other activities during Summer School, Orientation and Re-Orientation;

N/A I was not an ex-officio member at the time of Summer School & Orientation

2.1.2 At an individual Executive Officer's discretion, be a safety contact during Orientation, Re-Orientation and other OUSA events throughout the year;

Re-orientation week was on the same week as the National Tongan Students Conference which I had to attend as the National Tongan President.

2.1.3 Collecting for the capping charity; and

N/A

2.1.4 Assisting with elections and referenda where appropriate, including but not limited to advertising the election and collecting votes.

OUSA elections have been posted on UOPISA platforms and have helped out at the voting booth.



2.2 Where reasonable, all Executive Officers are to be available for Executive meetings, national conferences, national and local campaigns, Executive training sessions and Executive planning sessions.

2.2.1 Attending OUSA Exec Meetings.

2.3 All Executive Officers with control of budget lines, or who have been allocated a budget line, shall maintain detailed budgets and not exceed their budgeted expenditure.

N/A

2.4 All Executive Officers, where possible, shall maintain regular, publicised office hours, and are expected to regularly check and respond to all correspondence received.

These are publicised through UOPISA but are separate from OUSA.

2.5 All Executive Officers shall every quarter undertake five hours of voluntary service which contributes to the local community.

2.5.1 I volunteer my time with the Dunedin Tongan Community by teaching Tongan performances.

2.5.2 I volunteer fortnightly for the Tongan tertiary student segment on Otago Access Radio 105.4FM.

PART THREE: ATTENDANCE AND INVOLVEMENT IN OUSA AND UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

OUSA Executive Committee (Ex-officio Member)

University Pacific Leadership Group (Student Representative)

PART FOUR: PROGRESS ON GOALS

Here is an update on my key focus areas for the 3rd quarter:

- a) **Pasifika Mental Health Campaign – Next Generation, Next Tale:**
Progress: Pasifika Mental Health Summit Completed as well as campaign.

Next Step: Regroup with team to create a report and decide whether the campaign should be recommended for continuation in 2020.

- b) **Explore what adopting the UN Sustainable Development Goals would look like for UOPISA:**

Progress: the following SDG goals were identified as relevant to the work that UOPISA can do:

- i. 3 – Good Health and Wellbeing
- ii. 4 – Quality Education
- iii. 5 – Gender Equality
- iv. 10 – Reduced Inequalities
- v. 13 – Climate Action
- vi. 17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Next Step: Create some recommended ways the 2020 Executive can work towards these goals.

c) Attend as many student events as manageable:

Progress: I have been attending as many events I can manage. If I cannot attend, the invitation is transferred to another UOPISA Exec Member.

d) Stocktake recycling bins in Pasifika spaces on campus:

Progress: All Pacific spaces rely on the buildings' recycling bins.

Next Steps: Lobby for more common spaces to have recycling bins – this will encourage people to recycle where ever they are, and will minimize the likelihood of people NOT recycling due to the fact that it is an extra task to leave the room/area to find the recycling bin.

GOALS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Goals:

- a) Follow through with AGM and handover
- b) Organise Pasifika Student Awards
- c) Connect and wrap up with TRM Tumuaki and OUSA President
- d) Regroup with Pasifika student leaders and UOPISA stakeholders

Recommendations:

- a) Pasifika Mental Health Campaign for 2020 (continue or not)
- b) Recommend UN SDG for 2020 Executive to work with:
 - i. 3 – Good Health and Wellbeing
 - ii. 4 – Quality Education
 - iii. 5 – Gender Equality
 - iv. 10 – Reduced Inequalities
 - v. 13 – Climate Action
 - vi. 17 – Partnerships for the Goals
- c) Attend as many student events as manageable
- d) Lobby for more recycling bins in Pacific common spaces