Melissa Lama

President of the University of Otago Pacific Islands Students’ Association (UOPISA)

1st Quarter Report 2021

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**Part One: Individual Executive Officer Position Description Duties**

**6.1 The University of Otago Pacific Island Student Association President shall be a voting ex-officio member of the Association Executive.**

6.1.1 I have been voting in the matters that are presented to the Association Executive, given that I am present at the meeting, or otherwise stated in abstaining to vote.

**6.2 The duties of the University of Otago Pacific Island Student Association President are outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Otago University Students’ Association and the University of Otago Pacific Islands Students’ Association.**

6.2.1 The Memorandum of Understanding between the Otago University Students’ Association (OUSA) and the University of Otago Pacific Islands Students’ Association (UOPISA) is still being developed at this point in time and should be completed by the end of the fourth quarter 2021.

**6.3 Where practical perform the general duties of all Executive Officers.**

6.3.1 See in Part 2.

**Part: Ex-Officio Member Descriptions**

**1.1. The President is the primary elected representative of members of UOPISA. The President will lead UOPISA in fulfilling its core functions and achieving its goals. This includes:**

**1.1.1 Main spokesperson for UOPISA.**

I have represented UOPISA at the following events:

1. Regular communication with the UOPISA Sub-Committee
   1. This aims to support the Pasifika student associations and communication about key messages from the OUSA, the university and Tauira Pasifika.
2. Regular communication with Tauira Pasifika
   1. Tauira Pasifika held a one-day in-person workshop with UOPISA and other similar Pasifika associations who belong to institutions across Aotearoa, to discuss support services, strategy and policy, as well as revisiting long-term goals and expectations of Tauira Pasifika in anticipation and preparation for incoming committees.
3. Regular meetings concerning the University of Otago Medical school admissions regulations and its proposed changes, this is usually conducted over zoom and chaired by OUSA president.
   1. I participated in many of these meetings that involved various student body representatives.
4. Monthly meetings with the University of Otago Pacific Leadership Group (PLG)
   1. These meetings aim to facilitate round table discussion on current events, policy and updates with all of the Pacific Deans for the various teaching disciplines.
5. Meetings hosted by the Pacific Development Office concerning the Pacific Strategic Framework
   1. I have attended one student consultation hosted by the Pacific Development Office as a UOPISA facilitator to gain pacific student participation and perspective on the 2021-2040 Strategic Framework. I also met with the Pacific staff on a separate occasion as the Pacific Student voice representative to again discuss and inform the framework for the new Pacific Strategic Framework.
   2. We are now in the finalsiing phases of this Pacific Strategic Framework, one of my concerns raised was the student voice not being reflective across the whole strategy.
   3. OUSA exec profile in Critic. This was published on the 16th of March issue. I spoke about the struggles of Pasifika students moving away from their village support and encouraged them to make use of the student support services and the various associations we have with OUSA.
6. Otēpoti council monthly meetings with wider Pasifika community.
7. Attended all 8 Pasifika association welcomes for 2021.
8. Part of the interview panel for the new Pacific Island Centre Manager.

**1.2 Chair and convener of executive and general meetings.**

I have chaired all meetings for UOPISA.

Te Roopū Maori (TRM) Special General Meeting was held on the 1st of March that I chaired in support of Karamea and TRM.

I have chaired the Otago Tongan Student’s Association General Meeting for 2021.

I have chaired Ola Malohi research meetings with student lead advisory group.

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

I have attended the regular Pacific Leadership Group meetings.

I have maintained contact with the member associations of UOPISA through online chat forums.

I have maintained contact with Tauira Pasifika through various forms of communication as well as attending their one-day workshop with UOPISA.

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

I have attend all OUSA exec meetings for the first quarter. I work collabartivley with

OUSA president Michaela on issues that affect our Pasifika students, Mirror on society policy review and the future budget line we are hoping to establish, are some examples of work we hope to get outcomes for. OUSA have been very supportive of UOPISA so far this year.

I have maintained a good relationship with Te Roopū Māori (TRM) by maintaining contact with TRM Tumuaki: Karamea Pewhairangi. I have chaired a TRM SGM and have collaborated with TRM on the potential collaboration with UOPISA to run a “Leadership Weekend” for our members. I continue to be in contact with members of TRM about the sharing of resources, other opportunities for collaboration and sharing experiences. I appreciate my relationship with TRM and look forward to continuing to build on the relationship together.

I have met with the Pacific Leadership Group (PLG) twice during COVID-19 Alert Level Two and am confident that I have a strong working relationship with many of the members. I find my relationships with the members of the PLG to be valuable and helpful in enabling me to communicate Pasifika student interests to the university. In addition to this, I met with the Director of the Pacific Development Office: Dr. Tasileta Teevale to discuss matters regarding the Medical Schools’ proposed changes to its admission regulations and support for Pasifika students during this time. Tasileta has mentioned that $5000.00 dollars was assigned to the Pacific Island Centre for student associations through the university equity fund. This was only relayed to me after it had been approved, we are yet to receive any funds for our student associations yet.

**1.5 Establish and maintain relationships with external stakeholders where appropriate.**

I have met with the following key external stakeholders from the University:

1. Nina Kirifi-Alai (Manager of Pacific Islands Centre)
2. Dr. Tasileta Teevale (Director of Pacific Development Office)
3. Dr. Losa Moata’ane (Associate Dean Pacific Division of Sciences)
4. Associate Professor Daryl Schwenke (Associate Dean Pacific Biomedical Sciences and Division of Health Sciences
5. Dr. Patrick Vakaoti (Associate Dean Pacific Division of Humanities)
6. Esmay Eteuati (Associate Dean Pacific Otago Business School and Division of Commerce)
7. Dr Michelle Schaaf (Division of Humanities)
8. Prajesh Chhanabhai (Liaison Officer)
   1. I have maintained a relationship with Prajesh with the aim of collaborating to increase awareness of tertiary education as serious option for Pacific high school leavers.
9. Cheryl (Liaison Officer)
10. Therese Lam (Pacific Student Navigator at Te Whare Tāwharau)

I have met with the following key stakeholders from other student-led groups:

1. Mary Jane Kivalu (Fusifonua Consultancy Partner)
2. Ala Teu (Assistant Research Fellow/Teaching Fellow)
3. Ali Leota (Ex:President of Tauira Pasifika)
4. Jaistone Finau (President of Tauira Pasifika)

**Part Two: General Duties of All Executive Members**

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

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

- Yes, I attended and supported with Clubs Day.

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

N/A

**3.2. 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.**

This quarter I have attended the meetings that were held via Zoom and all of the meetings in person.

I also:

* + Completed UOPISA’s executive column in Critic Te Arohi.
  + I was a member of the student focus group for the Vice-Chancellor’s appointment process.

**3.3. All Executive Officer's will keep up to date with the Finance and Strategy Officer's Executive budget, bringing to the finance and strategy officer any spending proposals, keeping track of their spending and ensuring they do not exceed budgeted expenditure.**

N/A

**3.4. All Executive Officers are to educate themselves on needs and experiences relevant to historically marginalised demographic groups including intersectionality and promote and encourage all demographics to participate, where relevant, in clubs, societies, committees and OUSA events.**

As a Pasifika wāhine, I understand how important it is to continue to grow my knowledge of other people’s lived experiences of being an ethnic minority in Aotearoa. This quarter, I agreed to partake in an interview with the Human Rights Commission video to discuss what “Race relations” means to me and my peers in Aotearoa. I also supported in the “Cultural Intelligence” workshops that were coordinated for all the college RA’s alongside the workshop lead Mary Jane Kivalu. I continue to give voice, hold space and advocate for the voices of marginalised communities in Aotearoa.

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

I am an active supporter for the Dunedin wider Pasifika community, I volunteer as the MC for the Moananui Festival on the 13th of February, held in the Forsyth Barr stadium. I facilitate a weekly session with Tongan elders on the intergeneration changes our young people face, in order to bridge the gap around cultural differences within the Tongan community.

**3.6. All Executive Officers are expected to regularly check and respond to all correspondence received.**

I have continued to check my correspondence regularly and have responded to all emails and messages as soon as possible.

**Part Three: Attendance and Involvement in OUSA and University Committees**

1. OUSA Executive Committee (Ex-officio Member)
2. University Pacific Leadership Group (Student Representative)
3. Ola Malohi Study Advisory Group (Chair)
4. Te Whare Tāwharau Pasfika Focus Group (Chair)

**Part Four: Goals and your Progress**

1. Pasifika Mental Health Campaign – Theme is yet to be decided, TBC.
2. To establish UOPISA own budget line with the University of Otago.
   1. I plan to set up a MOU and a budget streamline structure that ensures our associations receive financial support for the pastoral care they provide for our students. Outside of what the university provide already.
3. To establish an office space for UOPISA
   1. No progress yet
4. Attend as many student events as manageable
   1. Progress: I have attended various events that have had Zoom capacity and face to face attendance.
5. To finalise a MOU between UOPISA and OUSA.
6. To collaborate with TRM on a “Leadership Weekend” event.
   1. Progress: Planning meeting set for Monday 22nd March with UOPISA exec and TRM exec.
7. To help build the capacity of our association leaders in governance training.
8. To actively support the Mirror on Society policy and ensure nothing changes for our students and their pathways.
9. Support and Lobby the “Pacific Arts and Performance” Paper for summer school through Te Tumu.

**Part Five: General**

During this quarter, I have:

* Contributed to the collaborations of Moananui festival 2021.
* Encouraged associations to apply for Dunedin council Pasifika innovative fund.
* Lead a leadership weekend for UOPISA 2021, alongside our executive.
* Joined the Academic and Welfare OUSA committees.
* Attended Tauira Pasifika national fono.
* Hosted a civics education workshop alongside Adult Education Aotearoa.
* Attended Minister Andrew Little community engagement for Royal Commission of Inquiry feedback session for the Terrorist attacks on Christchurch mosque report.
* Advised 4 Potential new Pasifika Associations: Fiji Association, Biomedical Pacific Association, Pacific Students Commerce Association and Pacific Post-grad Students Association.
* Took part in PACIFICANA show case for Pacific Welcome.
* Helping business/commerce school with their outreach PIPE program for school holidays.
* Join the South Dunedin Pacific Housing Committee.
* Attened Nina-Tofilau (ex- Pacific island center manager) farewell lunch, said a speech on behalf of [pacific Island students at Otago University.
* Attended the follow up feedback session in council chambers for the appointment of new Vice-chancellor.