

Lilly Baird

Residential representative

Second Quarter Report 2023

Submitted 04/07/2023.

### **Part One: Duties of the Residential Representative**

#### **17.1. Promote via publications, promotions and campaigns, an environment within the OUSA and on campus which is supportive of University of Otago student flatting culture, education, community, and Residential Colleges.**

To my knowledge flatting talks were given in the residential colleges by Student Support. I was not invited to these talks due to internal reasons. Moving forward this will change.

I am also in the process of working with a large group of stakeholders around waste management in the North Dunedin area. This includes members of the waste management Governance group (Dean Macaulay (Director of Property Services), Nicole Gorman, Waste Management), and later the DCC. At this current stage we are looking at the actual issue is and defining it which is a lot harder than it sounds (when is anything actually as easy as it sounds), as well as researching what has been done and exploring next steps. This project isn't going to be finalised this year, it will take years to complete but I am hoping that by coming onboard the project will gain more attention and there will be greater accountability, as there has previously been no student input despite this being something that has been 'worked on' for the past 5 years??

#### **17.2. In conjunction with relevant Association departments, Executive Officers and committees, create educational material relevant to flatting.**

I am in the process of creating flyers to be distributed to the North Dunedin flatting area. The flyers/posters will be an 'Honest Flat Review' that tenants can put on their front doors in line with when 'flatting season' begins on the 24<sup>th</sup> July. The posters will have questions such as '*Does your flat have excessive mould?*' or '*On a scale from 1-5 how hard is your flat to heat?*'. The aim behind this campaign is to create open & honest communication between current tenants and the potential tenants around the viability of the flat, rather than just what the landlords/property managers say.

#### **17.3 Be a member of appropriate internal committees of the Association, including, but not limited to:**

- 17.3.1. Residential Committee;**
- 17.3.2. Colleges Committee; and**

The Residential and Colleges committee have been combined this year.

#### **17.3.2. Subwarden Committee.**

I am the chair of the subwarden committee.

#### **17.7 Take direction from the Residential Committee, and by extension the Colleges Committee and Subwarden Committee, on all matters relevant to Residential Colleges,**

**University Flats, the Locals Programme, student flatting and student locals within the University and the community.**

This is my highest priority this next quarter, I have been asking HR for a copy of the sub-warden list and all for their emails, after a month and a half they finally sent me one, however it was only for 4 colleges, I am now waiting for a full list. I have been in regular contact with Johnny Nu'u and he has said that he hasn't heard anything negative from sub wardens. However, I still think it is unacceptable that no contact has been made with sub wardens and it has become my highest priority.

**17.8 Via, or in consultation with the Student Support Centre, maintain a good working relationship with the Campus and Collegiate Life Services of the University, sharing information and ideas with them when appropriate.**

My relationship with Student Support has been rocky, however actions are hopefully going to be taken to correct this to create a better working relationship during Q3 & Q4. I have bi-weekly meetings with Johnny Nu'u and we have a good working relationship, discussing issues in students halls and current events. Last quarter I had a meeting with James Lindsey (Director Campus & Collegiate Life Services), I have not had any other meetings with him and I don't feel I need to as we have a good relationship and frequent contact is not required.

**17.9 Maintain a good working relationship with the Proctors' Office and Campus Watch bringing to them issues of students within the wider community.**

This is not something I have actively engaged in.

**17.10 Maintain a good working relationship with the heads and deputies of Residential Colleges and University Flats, and the head of the Locals Programme and their student representatives.**

I have not personally reached out to head of colleges, however as mentioned before I have regular meetings with Johnny, and he mentions any pressing issues. I have also been working alongside Luke (Cumberland/192 Castle) on a couple of shortlisting panels for Deputy positions. I have also had Jake from Aquinas reach out to me wanting to build a working relationship with their elected college president, so I have a meeting set up.

**17.11 Maintain a good working relationship with the Administrative Vice-President, proactively bringing issues relevant to Residential Colleges, University Flats, Locals Programme and the Otago Student Community to their attention and meeting with them on a weekly basis.**

Imogen and I have bi-weekly meetings.

**7.12 Perform the general duties of all Executive Officers.**

I have fulfilled this to the best of my ability.

**17.13 Where practical, work not less than ten hours per week, from January 1 until December 31**

I have fulfilled this to the best of my ability.

**PART TWO: GENERAL DUTIES OF ALL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

**3.1. The appointed term for all OUSA Executive Officers shall commence from the 1st of January and will terminate on the 31st of December of that same year.**

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

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

**3.2.2 Assisting with elections and referenda where appropriate.**

N/A

**3.3 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.**

I have fulfilled this to the best of my ability.

**3.4 All Executive officers shall:**

**3.4.1 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.**

I have not needed to make use of the Executive Budget so far.

**3.4.2 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.**

I am open and willing to any and all conversations about this. There are constantly moments internally and externally learning more, this is an aspect I love about the role.

**3.4.3 Prioritise sustainability and minimization of environmental impacts in all aspects of their role and keep up to date with environmental issues;**

Day-to-day in my role I make a conscious effort to minimize environmental impacts such as working online. I also sit on the Waste Governance Group/Committee, it is in this meeting that I am pushing my Glass Waste in the North Dunedin area initiative.

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

I attended the Relay for Life Charity event.

### **3.4.5 Regularly check and respond to all communications.**

I respond to emails as soon as possible, ensuring I check them frequently.

#### **PART THREE: ATTENDANCE AND INVOLVEMENT IN OUSA AND UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

I am a member of the following OUSA, University, and external committees:

- OUSA Executive (I have attended all meetings)
- University Combined Colleges Project Steering Committee (I have attended all meetings)
- OUSA Residential Committee (I am the chair of the committee; no meetings have been held yet)
- OUSA Subwarden Committee (I am the chair of the committee; no meetings have been held yet)
- Library Services Committee
- Waste Management Governance Group

**1300 Words**

#### **PART FOUR: GOALS AND YOUR PROGRESS**

- First quarter report: provide a detailed outline of your goals.
- Second, Third and fourth Reports: provide progress updates.
- Fourth report additionally provide a run down on success/ achievement of your goals and what further is to be done.

I have refocused my goals for this role. I have decided not pursue waste in halls, I would rather put my effort into fewer projects then try and balance multiple projects.

I am also in the process of working with a large group of stakeholders around waste management in the North Dunedin area. This includes members of the waste management

Governance group (Dean Macaulay (Director of Property Services), Nicole Gorman, Waste Management), and later the DCC. At this current stage we are looking at the actual issue is and defining it which is a lot harder than it sounds (when is anything actually as easy as it sounds), as well as researching what has been done and exploring next steps. This project isn't going to be finalised this year, it will take years to complete but I am hoping that by coming onboard the project will gain more attention and there will be greater accountability, as there has previously been no student input despite this being something that has been 'worked on' for the past 5 years??

I have been talking with all of the local North Dunedin landlords and have finally gotten them all to release their flats in the later weeks of July – the proposed date is the 24<sup>th</sup> of July! Next steps will be figuring out how I can get this down in writing as well as advertising this date to the students.

#### **Part Five: General**

I am not aiming to complete any projects during my time in this position, instead I have a focus on continuing previous projects in order to evoke change, nothing is going to happen especially in regard to flatting in North Dunedin if every exec member starts a whole set of new projects each year. I have also found that majority of projects cannot be complete during the time period given – such as the glass waste management project. I hope that the Residential Representatives that come after me agree with this view and we can make some big changes and shake up the systems that have been in place for years.

The current flatting environment needs to change but that change doesn't come due to false information about flatting shortages and landlords abusing the fact that the person who sits in this role changes every year. Students are the ones who hold the power not the landlords and we need to remember that, if we simply say 'no the amount of rent you are charging for the quality of flat is not acceptable' landlords will have to comply as their whole business runs on students, we just need to stand up and do it. Any who that's my rant, peace and love.