

**Kaia Kahurangi Jamieson**  
**Welfare and Equity Representative**  
**3rd Quarter Report – 2359 words**  
**Submitted 20/09/23, 1pm**

PART ONE: EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITION DESCRIPTION DUTIES

**10. Duties of the Welfare and Equity Representative**

**10.1 Assume all the powers and duties of the President in the absence of the President, the Administration Vice-President, the Finance and Strategy Officer and the Academic Representative.**

I have not been required to assume the powers and duties of the President during this quarter.

**10.2 Work on issues specific to minority groups of students at the University of Otago, including but not limited to:**

**10.2.1 Academic Issues at the University of Otago; and;**

This quarter, we have felt some of the initial run-on impact from the Uni's staff cuts. My work has predominantly been focused on students receiving these impacts. I have heard from students who have felt abandoned in their tutorials and have directed them to disabilities services or student support (whichever was a better fit).

**10.2.2 Social and welfare related issues within the University of Otago and the wider community.**

I am in the process of re-writing the OUSA Clubs and Socs sexual misconduct policy, after a meeting where a student and I advocated for the systemic restructuring of the process of misconduct complaints within the clubs' systems. This has moved forward well from my last report; we have planned out how we want the system to look in an ideal world and are currently focusing on policy wording.

I have been a consultant on the Equity Action Plan, which will advocate for a range of students from minority groups and participated in a collaborate meeting/presentation with senior university staff, partially aiming to come up with some ideas to support Māori students and international students.

I have been consulted on the Student Health equity plan and will continue to advocate for students who have difficulty accessing services due to disability or other barriers.

I collated a large amount of qualitative data from students who responded to my survey, students I interviewed, and students who spoke on behalf of minority groups. This data will go into a report to inform the slt of what I believe to be the most pressing issues students face right now, and to assist the next welfare and equity rep.

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

#### **10.3.1 Standing Committee of the Executive;**

I have attended all meetings of the executive committee.

#### **10.3.2 Residential Committee; and;**

This Committee has not commenced yet

#### **10.3.3 Welfare and Equity Committee.**

I am having trouble finding members for this committee. We uploaded a signup sheet but this has had no significant uptake.

#### **10.4 Chair monthly meetings of the Welfare and Equity Committee, ensuring that all committee members are advised of meeting times, that the agenda is prepared and circulated beforehand and ensuring that the standing orders of the committee are adhered to.**

As noted above, this committee is not established for 2023, but insight I do gain from students into the issues experiences by the student body enjoy working collaboratively to come up with resolutions I can action in my position within OUSA.

#### **10.5 Take direction from the Welfare and Equity Committee on all welfare matters relevant to the Association and its members.**

See above

#### **10.6 Where reasonable, ensure that as many different representatives of student welfare issues are present on the Welfare and Equity Committee as possible.**

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If any students reading this document would like to be involved, or feel it is integral I get this committee up and running as soon as possible, please email me.

#### **10.7 In order to provide feedback and information, work with members of the Welfare and Equity Committee, including, but not limited to:**

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##### **10.7.1 Disabilities Rep;**

Please see above

##### **10.7.2 Queer Rep; and;**

Please see above

##### **10.7.3 Woman's Rep.**

Please see above

#### **10.8 Where appropriate, brief the President on national and local tertiary sector welfare issues and representing the welfare interests of students on local body committees and boards.**

Quintin and I have a close working relationship and I endeavor to keep him up to date with any issues arising and my relevant actions. We have occasional official 'catch-ups' and talk often in the office.

**10.9 Actively inform the student body of issues relating to their welfare, via publications, promotions and campaigns.**

I have worked with Critic, R1 and individual students with podcasts for their classes to draw attention to important issues.

**10.10 Maintain a good working relationship with relevant OUSA staff, including the Student Support Centre Manager, Queer Support Coordinator and Advocates, meeting with them weekly where possible and liaising with them on relevant welfare issues as they arise.**

I have had a close working relationship with Sage and the rest of the student support office since taking up my role. I have relayed appropriate student support concerns to Quintin and other relevant parties and kept Student Support in the loop of OUSA's relevant plans and actions. I look forward to meeting the newest student support center manager when they are hired.

**10.11 In consultation with the Student Support Centre Manager, maintain a good working relationship with community organisations and groups that may provide services to the benefit of student welfare.-**

I have met with a variety of people and organizations in my time so far as welfare and equity rep. I have maintained a relationship with Sage, and we have coordinated events like MHAW. I have also met with representatives of TIB, UniQ, HOTYF.

**10.12 Maintain a good working relationship with the 'Are You OK?' coordinator to ensure, where reasonable, Executive assistance is available.**

I am a trained volunteer with Are You Ok and have a good working relationship with relevant parties.

**10.13 Facilitate in conjunction with the chairs a variety of student representation on welfare and equity related University Committees and on OUSA Sub-committees.**

I have provided student voice on the following committees: Ethical Behaviour Committee, Equity Advisory Committee, Otago Chaplaincy Trust Board, Student Health Clinical Governance Board and the Tertiary Chaplaincy Consultancy Board. I also spent A LONG TIME reading applications and samples for the burns fellowship this quarter.

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**10.14 Maintain a good working relationship with the University, particularly with:**

**10.14.1 The Director of Student Services.**

Claire and I have been in touch about some changes on the horizon, and I am hoping to hear back from her to arrange a meeting time soon.

#### **10.14.2 The Director of Student Health.**

I have not yet met with Student Health's director, but I have met with the heads of various departments and have a good holistic knowledge of the 'going ons' based on my seat on the CGC.

#### **10.14.3 Disability Information Services;**

I have done!

#### **10.14.4 UniQ;**

I have been in touch with UniQ about my report for slt, and they are assisting in this.

#### **10.14.5 Te Whare Tāwharau;**

I met with the staff of TWT and my inbox remains open to them.

#### **10.14.6 Thursdays in Black;**

I have met with exec from TIB they are also helping with my SLT report.

#### **10.14.7 Chaplaincy Board; and;**

I recently caught up with Olivia and Mike for coffee and a chat about how the year is going.

#### **10.14.8 Any other Welfare and Equity related organisations.**

I have a relationship with Hold Onto Your Friends and have been in contact with SSDP>

#### **10.15 Liaise with the Clubs and Societies Representative to assist those affiliated clubs that have a focus on student Welfare and Equity.**

Emily and I have worked together on a number of small matters and have plans to meet about the sexual misconduct policy.

#### **10.16 Be available via cell phone at all practical times.**

My phone number is available on my email signature to make it easy for anyone to contact me by cell phone. I have not had an OUSA related call yet, but answer all calls from unrecognized numbers between the hours of 8 and 6.

#### **10.17 Perform the general duties of all Executive Officers.**

This is discussed in Part Two of the report.

**10.18 Where practical, work not less than twenty hours per week, from January 1 until December 31.**

I generally work 18-21 hours, depending on the week.

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

**3.1 The appointed term for all OUSA Executive Officers shall commence from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January and will terminate on the 31<sup>st</sup> 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;**

We haven't had any relevant events this quarter.

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

I attended all ousa election panels this quarter.

**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 attended executive meetings, political panels and election panels.

**3.4 All Executive Officer's 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 suck at maths, but I do what I can.

**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 do my best to be aware of any privileges I hold as a cisgender Pākehā woman, continually educating myself through reading, listening to and engaging with stories and lived experiences of marginalised demographics and communities. Part of my effort to be conscious of my privilege includes acknowledging my inability to speak out of turn of behalf on minority and marginalised communities I am not a part of. I do my best to seek out perspectives from groups and communities I am not part of and will continue to prioritise this as I form the Welfare and Equity Committee over the coming weeks. I have had a decent amount of exposure to historical stories and perspectives of marginalised communities though my education in philosophy, sociology, history, social anthropology and English lit,

which I am grateful to have received. I have also read Te Tiriti O Waitangi and do my best to work by this but am aware that hearing about lived experience from students overrides this as a resource. I am open and keen to hear from students in marginalised communities about what they think I could do better, and how I can better assist these demographics for the good of current and future students.

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

The physical environment is acutely important to me. Respect for the environment is a value I carry in every part of my life – OUSA work being no exception. Earlier this year I got in touch with Wā Collective, a business providing period cups, as I saw that they were closing and wanted to discuss whether OUSA could purchase any excess stock. We were able to purchase 100 period cups and have subsidised these to only \$20 per cup. These are available from the Clubs and Socs building and OUSA reception. I am very grateful to Wā Collective for their generosity and concern for the environment and am glad to have been able to make these great products more accessible to students – using period cups in place of pads or tampons minimises period waste, as period cups are a long-term, reusable investment.

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

Otago University Snow Sports Club. Many hours.

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

I stay on top of correspondence by checking and responding to my emails daily. I hope to receive more emails from students in the coming weeks.

PART THREE: ATTENDANCE AND INVOLVMENT IN OUSA AND UNIVERISTY COMMITTEES

The list of committees that I am involved in is set out at 10.13.

PART FOUR: GOALS AND YOUR PROGRESS

1. Work with Student Support and other relevant bodies to increase access to mental health support and promote early intervention

My survey outlined in my last report was a success – I heard back from a range of students and hope to use the Responses as a tool to focus uni resources on target areas of early intervention.

2. Reduce harmful drinking and drug culture in Dunedin while preserving the fun of partying

In the long-term, I would love to see Dunedin host a new student bar (similar to U-bar) where students ate safe to drink and party in a safe and mediated environment, with attractions like live music and dancing spaces. I believe the lack of student bars

pushes students out to the street to party, which increases harmful incidents involving badly built flats being over capacity and students overdosing on drugs and alcohol. I am a big supporter of initiatives like Know Your Stuff and Good One. Having worked with the Are You Okay team during O-Week, I was surprised and delighted to see students really value and utilise the service, including the 'Chill Out Zone', which provided students with a space to just have a sit down and get away from the rush of the party, take a breather. The welfare training, I set up for clubs' execs went well and will hopefully give execs the tools they need to limit harm from drugs and alcohol when they encounter it. I have participated in discussions about student safety and introducing positive party spaces with HOTYF, SSDP, the exec and OUSA, the DCC and Student Support.

#### PART FIVE: GENERAL

- Very keen to hear from students about what they feel is important – hmu, we represent YOU and want to support you to have a safe, fun and educational uni experience!