Elisepa Taukolo

President of the University of Otago Pacific Islands Student Association (UOPISA)

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report 2023

Submitted Monday 18th September 2023 at 10:10pm

Word Count: 2495

### **Part One: Executive Officer position Description Duties**

- 1.1 The University of Otago Pacific Islands Students Association President shall be a voting ex-officio member of the OUSA 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.
- 1.2 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 Island Students' Association (UOPISA).
  - 1.2.1 The Memorandum of Understanding between the Otago University Students' Association (OUSA) and the University of Otago Pacific Islands Students' Association (UOPISA) has been met and passed.
- 1.3 Where practical perform the general duties of all Executive Officers

1.3.1 See in Part 2.

### PART ONE: EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITION DESCRIPTION DUTIES

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 Main spokesperson or representative for UOPISA

1.1.1 I have represented UOPISA at the following events:

#### **Internal**

- a) Monthly meetings with the University of Otago Pacific Leadership Group (PLG)
  - These meetings aim to facilitate around the table discussion on current events, policy and updates with all of the Pacific Deans for the various teaching disciplines.
  - Prayer service for Director of Pacific Development Office.
- b) Otago Pacific President meetings (Standing Committee)
  - These meetings aim to facilitate around the table discussions on current events and issues that any of our Pacific Presidents may have.
- c) Monthly meetings with acting Vice Chancellor, Helen Nicholson
  - This meeting aim to discuss what has been happening in UOPISA's space and the types of support and resources we need from the University.
  - These meeting involve UOPISA president, OUSA president and TRM president.
- d) Director of student services
  - This meeting was about potential funding and space for UOPISA.

• Student Services Leaders & Friends Meeting – this meeting is where all student services managers and TRM, OUSA, UOPISA presidents come together and update what's happening in our spaces.

### e) Senate

- The senate is the principal academic authority of the University and shall, subject to the powers reserved to the council by act of parliament, take such measures and act in such a manner as shall appear to it best calculated to promote the academic work of the University both in teaching and research and for the regulation and superintendence of the education of the students of the University.
- f) Learner Success Plan (LSP) Advisory Group
  - It is an advisory group to ensure the LSP sets a vision and goals which focus on the success of our learners and can be implemented across the university.
  - The Tertiary Education Commission require territory education organisations to develop an LSP he LSP is designed to establish a vision, goals and KPIs for how the University will support and empower our learners to succeed in the future by considering how we currently support them, and what we want to do to improve in the future. Ultimately, the vision and goals are designed give us a direction we want to travel to ensure our learners are the best they can be, and we are doing the best we can to help them get there.
- g) Pacific Farewell for Professor David Murdoch
  - Delivered a speech on behalf of UOPISA.
  - Tele and I attended.
  - UOPISA gifted a gift and lolly lei
  - I closed off the ceremony with a closing prayer
- h) Culturally competence meeting with OUSA (Imogen) and TRM (Haki)
  - Discussed how we can strengthen OUSA executive with Pacific and Māori culture competency ideas.
- i) Recruitment for Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic with Birgrit Brandt
  - This meeting is confidential.
- i) Interviewing potential candidates for Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic
  - This meeting is confidential.
- k) Manager Student Pastoral Care Recruitment Pastoral Care Recruitment Focus Groups
  - This meeting is confidential.
- 1) Mentoring OFISA
  - Throughout the first, second and third quarter they would message and ask general questions or concerns they had.

- I caught up with the president once in semester twice.
- I emailed in semester one requesting for a catch up with the executive. I had one catch up meeting with them in semester 2.

## m) Mentoring OPICSA

- Throughout the first, second and third quarter they would message and ask general questions or concerns they had.
- I emailed in semester one requesting for a catch up with the executive. OPICSA responded in semester 2 and I had a catch up with them.
- We have pencilled in monthly meetings.

### **Member associations events**

- a) Attended PILSA x HOPSA Kava ceremony
- b) Attended PILSA x HOPSA Pasifika Panel navigating the waters
- c) Pacific Week
- HOPSA x OSSA Mental Health Talanoa
- OMISA x OFISA Devotion Night
- OTSA x BOPSA Pō vainga
- ONSA x SSPIA Social Night
- PILSA x OKISA

### **External**

- a) Sports New Zealand Tita Leaupepe
- This meeting was talking about how Pacific students/association move physically in the south island. I touched on how we move through our dances like te runga faiva or through sports OSSA's sports competition.
- Tita then offered the opportunity for UOPSIA to collaborate and volunteer helping out with an event in Dunedin in September where they will compensate us.
- Planned to meet up but postponed to next month.
- b) Otepoti Pasifika Support Network Meetings Dunedin City Council
- This meeting is Pacific community leaders that are part of an email thread that send out local funding opportunities and jobs. These are meetings have been held every 2-3 months, depending chair person.
- c) Chief Ombudsman of New Zealand
- Waiting to confirm a talanoa session.
- d) Ministry for Pacific peoples
- MPP have been in regular contact via email and call regarding community workshop, job opportunities and available funding.
- e) Anderson Lloyd
- We have established a relationship with Anderson Lloyd where they have been very generous to do pro bono work for UOPISA in terms of reviewing and advising UOPISA on their MOU with the uni.
- Tim from Anderson Lloyd is who was working with us.

- I have organised a meeting with PILSA president and AL's HR to establish a collaboration between the two organisations.
- f) Pacific Trust Otago
  - This meeting was discussing potential funding for remaining events UOPISA funding for events this year.
  - This meeting was with Tevita.
- g) Auckland University Pacific Island Student Association (AUPISA)
  - AUPISA is equivalent to UOPISA but at Auckland University.
  - I have been in contact with the president regarding their history and structure of their designated space and their funding from their University.
- h) New Zealand Union of Student Association (NZUSA)
  - NZUSA is the national student body that OUSA come under and I have been in contact with NZUSA president regarding Tauira Pasifika and NZUSA.
- i) Pacific Presidents in New Zealand
  - Had a zoom meeting with Rosa who is Te Mana Ākonga's tumuaki and other Pacific Presidents such as Adonai Schwenke who is the rep from Canterbury and is the nationally to discuss how we can revive Tauira Pasifika.
- j) Te Mana Ākonga
  - Te Mana Ākonga is the over-arching Māori NZ association that TRM are governed by. The tumuaki reached out asking for assistance in organising a meeting with all Pacific presidents of in the country to get Tauria Pasifika running.
  - Tauira Pasifika is the over-arching Pacific student Association in NZ as it is existing but there are no execs on it. Tauira Pasifika work alongside NZUSA and Te Mana Ākonga.
- k) University of Sunshine Coast Pacific Island Student Association
  - Zoom call with their treasurer Abijah to talk about the individual work that they do in Australia and she asked advice of how to get resources and a seat on their general association execs and seats to voice pacific voices within their University.
  - It was an interesting and empowering talanoa.
  - Their executive is planning to come NZ, Dunedin and look at the work UOPISA is doing and meet and greet with the executive.
- 1) Alcohol Levy Review
  - Allen + Clarke has been commissioned by Manatū Hauora, Te Whatu Ora, and Te Aka Whai Ora to undertake an independent review of the alcohol levy. To inform our review we are particularly interested in hearing directly from community representatives about the activities the Alcohol levy could fund to support communities to address alcohol-related harm.

- I was identified as a community representative whose experience and knowledge would be valuable to this process.
- m) Radio New Zealand
- n) General Elections Talanoa with Elika Consulting

## 1.2 Chair and convener of executive and general meetings

I have chaired all meetings for UOPISA executive and UOPISA's standing committee.

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

I have attended the regular Pacific Leadership Group meetings in person and in zoom.

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

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

I have attended all OUSA exec meetings for the first quarter. I work collaboratively with OUSA president Quintin on how we can work effectively together as allies and where we would best need OUSA's support on to help achieve our strategic vision and goals. OUSA has been very supportive so far.

I have maintained a good relationship with Te Rōpū Māori (TRM) by maintaining contact with TRM Tumuaki Haki. I have had a in person meeting with Haki discussing our collaboration events we want to hold this year. We have had our annual TRM x UOPISA bbq that UOPISA hosted and TRM will host in second semester. TRM will be hosting the bbq this Friday.

We have had our meet and greet with TRM executives where we discussed about potentially having a wine and cheese next semester. That is to be confirmed early next semester. I appreciate and value the working relationship with TRM and look forward to continuing to work alongside and supporting them and their mahi.

I also chaired TRM's SGM where they elected new executive officers.

# 1.5 Establish and maintain relationships with external/internal stakeholders where appropriate

- a) Tangiliima Feleti (Manager of Pacific Islands Centre).
- b) Dr Rose Richards (Acting Director of Pacific Development Office).
- c) Dr Edmond Fehoko Associate Dean Pacific Division of Sciences).
- d) Dr.Michelle Schaaf (Associate Dean Pacific Division of Humanities).
- e) Esmay Eteuati (Associate Dean Pacific Otago Business School and Division of Commerce).
- f) Dianne Sika-Paotonu (ADP Health Sciences)
- g) Tofilau Nina Kirifi-Alai (Manager Pacific External Engagement Auckland)
- h) Pacific Trust Otago
- i) Dunedin City Council
- j) Anderson Lloyd

## Part Two: General Duties of All Executive Members

2.1 The appointed 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.

Still in progress.

2.1.1 Where reasonable, all Executive Officers are expected to assist as volunteers for OUSA events and functions, including, but not limited to: Assisting at the OUSA Tent City and other activities during Summer School, Orientation and Re-Orientation; and;

N/A

2.1.2 Assisting with elections and reference where appropriate.

Encouraged members to vote for OUSA elections and referendum.

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.

I have attended most of the executive meetings either on zoom or in person.

- 2.3 All Executive officers shall:
  - 2.3.1 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;

This is the third year we have executed our MOU with OUSA for our leadership weekend. OUSA has granted us \$2,000 towards UOPISA's leadership weekend that works to help our associations plan out their year and enhance our leadership skills.

2.3.2 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;

N/A.

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

N/A.

# 2.3.4 Every quarter undertake five hours of voluntary service which contributes to the local community;

Currently I dedicate my voluntary service hours to my Pacific community. I am attending community events and meetings that work to maintain and foster UOPISA's relationship with the community.

# 2.3.5 Regularly check and respond to all communications.

I have checked my correspondence regularly and have responded to calls, messages and emails as soon as possible.

# Part Three: Attendance and involvement in OUSA and University Committees

- 1. OUSA Executive Committee (ex-oficio Member)
- 2. University Pacific Leadership Group (Student Representative)
- 3. Senate
- 4. Academic Committees
- 5. Learner Success Plan Advisory Group

# Part Four: Goals and your Progress

- 1. To establish sustainable funding for UOPISA
  - Waiting on the Vice Chancellor
  - While we are waiting on the University's response, we have applied for funding from external stakeholders.
  - Discussion and meetings are now being dealt with the Academic DVC regarding funding.
  - UOPISA and acting Vice Chancellor are in the works of drafting up a MOU.
  - Meeting is set for Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September with the VC and Director of PDO.
- 2. To establish an office space for UOPISA
  - Waiting on a response from the University COO.
  - OUSA is supporting and advocating on our behalf regarding an office space.
  - Have reached out and talked with Karla Sellwood who is the space planner for the university and her and her team are in the works of finding an appropriate space for UOPISA.
  - Waiting on updates from the VC.
- 3. To document UOPISA history at the Hocken repository.
  - Agreement between Hocken and UOPISA has been signed.
  - UOPISA's secretary Cam Young is collecting UOPISA data and records and submitting it to the archives.
- 4. To have UOPISA logo on Pacific Island student ID
  - This has been a success.
  - UOPISA's executive and standing committee have reprinted their Uni ID with UOPISA's logo.

• All Pacific Students enrolled at the University Otago will have the logo on their ID's next year in 2024.

# **Part Five: General**

- 1. Assisted Pacific associations with constitutional amendments.
- 2. Mentoring Otago Pacific Island Commerce Student Association
- 3. Mentoring Otago Fijian Island Student Association
- 4. Mentoring Otago Biomedical Otago Pacific Island Student Association
- 5. Meeting with students regarding association and general issues they have.
- 6. Writing support letters for associations.