Daniel Leamy

Finance and Strategy Officer

2nd Quarter Report 2025

Submitted 10/06/2025 at 1pm

1700 words

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

**8.1. Assume all the powers and duties of the President in the absence of the President and the Administrative Vice-President.**

N/A

**8.2. Where reasonably required, assist the Administrative Vice-President in their duties.**

I’ve worked with Amy this semester on a variety of projects, particularly on the referendum last month.

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

**8.3.1. Standing Committee of the Executive;**

N/A

**8.3.2. Finance, Expenditure and Strategy Committee;**

Yes, three FESC meetings this quarter.

**8.3.3. Policy Committee and;**

Yes, I’ve attended all Polcom meetings and haven taken minutes for Amy.

**8.3.4. Grants Panel.**

Yes, I’ve attended both meetings this quarter.

**8.4. Meet regularly with the Chief Executive Officer to ensure a governance oversight of the Association finances and capital projects.**

Yes, I have fortnightly meetings with Debbie where we discuss FESC as well as other ongoing projects and potential risks to OUSA.

**8.5. Chair meetings of the Finance, Expenditure and Strategy Committee, ensuring that all committee members are advised of meeting times, that the agenda is prepared and circulated beforehand and that the standing orders of the committee are adhered to.**

Yes, I have chaired all FESC meetings this year. We have lengthy monthly meetings and had an extra interim meeting in mid May. I try to send out the agenda and documents a few days in advance, to give everyone time to prepare for the discussions. We have had productive discussions thus far, and will continue to, with the 2026 budget being a big focus in the upcoming quarter.

**8.6. In conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer, maintain oversight of the Association’s holdings, with a focus upon sound investment of student funds and adherence to the Association’s Strategic Plan.**

Yes, I have had discussions with Debbie about OUSA’s commercial assets and services, and the role of these, including how they provide for students and OUSA as a whole.

**8.7. Maintain a sound understanding of the position of any of the Association’s holdings, ensuring that all relevant documentation is filed as soon as is reasonable and accessible and that financial controls are understood.**

Yes, I have a good knowledge of OUSA’s holdings, I sign all invoices in an appropriate time, and I understand the procedures for the authorisation of finances, including my role in approving payments.

**8.8. In conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer, ensure that the Association produces annual audited accounts and an Annual Report.**

The 2024 audited financial statements have been approved by the student body in our annual referendum.

**8.9. Ensure expenditure and budgeting is in line with the Association’s Strategic Plan, and advise the Executive of any significant discrepancies.**

Sticking to the budget has been a significant focus for FESC. We discuss budget variances and forecasts at FESC when reviewing monthly accounts.

**8.9.1. Authorize transactions from the Association accounts relating to the Executive expenditure.**

No, Liam does this.

**8.10. Oversee the Executive budget setting process.**

This is coming up, we have discussed the budget process at FESC, and I will attend some manager meetings with Matt in a few weeks' time to get a good idea of the work involved behind the scenes.

**8.11. Ensure that all Executive Officers are familiar with the Executive Budget, expenditure processes early in the year and assist them where necessary.**

I went over the process of spending money in training week in February.

**8.12. Update the Executive monthly on the Executive Budget expenditure.**

I update the executive on any major variances every month. The executive budget looks healthy at this point in the year.

**8.13. May be appointed a Director of any company where the Association holds the power to make such an appointment, including but not limited to:**

**8.13.1. University Union Limited.**

Yes, I attended the second quarter meeting in May.

**8.14. Assist and liaise with students and Students’ Associations on University of Otago satellite campuses.**

N/A

**8.15. Oversee any campaigns undertaken by the Association, actively seeking to inform the student body and general public on student issues and concerns and liaising with relevant officers such as the Political Representative, including but not limited to:**

**8.15.1. Encourage voter participation;**

**8.15.2. Local Body Elections; and;**

I have attended all Political Action Committee meetings and have regularly discussed campaigns such as the student charter which was approved by the executive this quarter.

With Jett stepping aside from his political roles, I am now leading the campaign to encourage voter participation in the upcoming Local Body Elections. I have liaised with the OUSA events team, the electoral commission, and OUSA clubs to produce a strong campaign kicking off in mid august, that will include hall visits and engagement events such as candidate forums.

**8.15.3. National Body Elections.**

N/A

**8.16. Support and act as a reference point for all Executive Officers in the running of campaigns and initiatives, ensuring they are executed in line with the Association’s Strategic Plan and objectives, and that the student body are informed of these events.**

I have kept in regular contact with Callum on the student housing campaign and have gone on flat visits to engage with students. No other campaigns have begun yet.

**8.17. Liaise regularly with the Chairs of all Association committees to ascertain the campaigns, initiatives and directives from those committees, and act on those directives where appropriate including but not limited to:**

**8.17.1. Residential Committee;**

I don’t see much of Callum outside of exec meetings, but Liam is well on top of all the housing campaign stuff, so discuss this with him regularly.

**8.17.2. Affiliated Club Council; and;**

I attended the meeting this quarter, no campaigns to come from this committee.

**8.17.3. Academic Committee.**

I keep in regular contact with Stella. There are no campaigns coming out of this committee other than compulsory lecture recordings, but this sits with her and the DVC Academic, so I need not spend any time thinking about it.

**8.18. Be available via cell phone at all practical times.**

Yes

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

Yes

**8.20. Where practical, work not less than twenty hours per week.**

My average for the quarter is 19 hours, partly due to the exam period, but my annual average is still comfortably above 20 hours.

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

**3. General Duties of all Executive Officers**

**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.**

Yes

**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 and other activities during Summer School, Orientation and Re-Orientation; and;**

N/A

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

Yes, I worked on the pros and cons of each referendum question with Amy M.

**3.3. It is expected that Executive Officers attend Executive meetings.**

Yes, I have attended all executive meetings this quarter.

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

I attended the Aotearoa Tertiary Students’ Association (ATSA) group conference which we hosted in May.

The exec had a strategy planning session this quarter that was productive, and I voiced my opinions on relevant topics.

**3.5. All Executive officers shall:**

**3.5.1. 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;**

No spending proposals have come to me, just some campaigns that Liam mocked up but no budgets for these were approved.

**3.5.2. 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;**

Yes

**3.5.3. Act in accordance with and uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi while exercising their duties;**

Yes

**3.5.4. Where reasonable, attend events hosted by clubs related to historically marginalised demographic groups;**

I attended TRM’s birthday Hangi in May.

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

Yes

**3.5.6. Every quarter undertake five hours of voluntary service which contributes to the local community; and;**

I’m on a club exec so make up my hours through this.

**3.5.7. Regularly check and respond to all communications.**

Yes

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

University Union Limited Company - Director

Web Transformation Committee

Information Management Governance Committee – I currently sit on this but will be handed over to Jett to manage conflicts

Finance Expenditure and Strategy Committee - Chair

Policy Committee

Political Action Committee – now Chair

Constitutional Review Committee

**Part Four: Goals and your Progress**

1. Cost of living

None happening here

1. Student Culture

There is an entertainment review committee that Liam sits on so I don’t have any affect here. The OUSA submission was written by Liam, I just added my two cents at the end.

1. New era of OUSA

Slow progress here. FESC continues to have robust discussions about the financial situation of OUSA.

**Part Five: General**

This quarter has felt unproductive in terms of making a difference for students and I imagine many other executive members feel the same. That said, it hasn’t been due to a lack of effort. After nearly a year on the executive now (having started in August 2024), I continue to be frustrated by the layers of bureaucracy, and reluctance from the executive to embrace necessary and meaningful change. Next quarter, I’m committed to pushing the executive to be bold, to make decisions that genuinely serve students and have a lasting positive impact.

Taking on the Political Action Committee chair is a significant extra responsibility, but I am stepping up as I believe that running a strong Local Body Election engagement campaign is crucially important and in the best interests of the student body and the executive.