

Daniel Leamy

President

3rd Quarter Report 2026

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

4.1. Be the official spokesperson for the Association to all communications.

Yes I have done this. Safe to say there has been a lot of media this quarter.

4.2. In liaison with any appropriate affected parties, coordinate and oversee all interactions with other student associations, media organisations, the University of Otago, the Dunedin City Council, members of Parliament, the Government of New Zealand, local authorities and any other external organisations and their representatives.

Yes, I hold relationships with a large number of external individuals and groups. Here's a list of some of those not mentioned elsewhere in my report.

I have a great relationship with the National Disabled Students' Association, who I've been having regular catch ups with throughout the year.

Flynn and I met with VUWSA earlier this quarter to discuss advocacy for paid placements which VUWSA was pushing strongly. We haven't done too much in this space due to other competing priorities but nonetheless an important student issue particularly with the ongoing cost of living crisis.

I meet with the University Director of Student Services once a month to discuss the many services that both the University and OUSA offer and other student issues.

I meet with the University Chief Operating Officer once a month to discuss student issues in his areas. Recent topics have included the campus masterplan and car parking.

I have met with various politicians in different settings including the local MP, Rachel Brooking, as well as Francisco Hernandez, and Dunedin electorate candidates for the upcoming general election including David Bainbridge-Zafar from the Opportunity party, who I participated in a podcast with, in July. I met with Dunedin Mayor Sophie Barker last month too, and I spoke at a Makelt16 event on campus.

I have met with clubs including the Hockey Club, UniQ, and OPAW this quarter, along with many others casually.

I have engaged with the Dunedin city council on transport and other related discussions, and Flynn, Troy and I intended to speak at a DCC meeting where city support for students and fees free was being discussed, but we were not able to get in due to a lack of space.

I've met individually with other University staff including the dean of teaching and learning, the registrar, proctor, pastoral care manager, a student care coordinator, and campus activation manager, as well as many others through various committees. I have also engaged with the

university on the development of the campus masterplan, which I have had a lot of involvement with.

I attended a Student Job Search meeting on behalf of OUSA back in July. There is an issue where OUSA, like many other students' associations, has not paid membership fees due to financial issues. This discussing is ongoing and something I care strongly about particularly with such a tough job market for young people.

I have met with some OUSA life members (from 1979 President to the 2025 President), to discuss ongoing issues of Studentville and approaches to resolving them.

4.3. Maintain a good working relationship with the Otago Polytechnic Students' Association (OPSA) and coordinate joint activities when relevant or practical.

Yes, Daiiz and I travelled to SJS and ATSA in wellington in July. We have a good relationship.

4.4. Be the Association's official representative on relevant external boards, committees or executives, including, but not limited to:

4.4.1. Council of the University of Otago (and requisite sub-committees);

Yes, I sit on the University Council and four subcommittees.

4.4.2. University of Otago Senate;

Yes.

4.4.3. New Zealand Union of Students' Association's National Council (Aotearoa Tertiary Students' Association now);

We had an ATSA conference in Wellington over a weekend in July. This was a productive meeting where we discussed various student issues and reworked the terms of reference. Work on this is slow due to all of the Presidents being super busy.

and 4.4.4. Any other national student body affiliate where applicable.

N/A

4.5. Hold membership and, where reasonable, attend all internal committees of the Association.

Yes, there haven't been a lot of internal committee meetings this quarter, however.

4.7. Be given first opportunity for appointment as a director of any company where the Association holds the power to make such an appointment, excluding OUSA Holdings Ltd and its subsidiaries, if the executive chooses not to appoint an external director. This must occur in accordance with the OUSA appointments policy.

We are in the process of recruiting directors for OUSA Holdings and its subsidiaries, but I did not want to be a director due to a lack of time with all my other OUSA work.

4.8. Chair all meetings of the OUSA Executive and ensure that the standing orders of the Executive are adhered to.

Yes, thanks to Donna for keeping me in line.

4.9. Ensure that an adequate level of consultation between the Executive and staff is maintained on all relevant matters of interest to the Association.

Yes.

4.10. Where relevant matters arise, prepare verbal reports to the Executive and a written summary for the Executive, of all relevant matters of interest to the Association.

I usually just send information to the exec via our group chat but yes.

4.11. Report on NZUSA activity at regular OUSA Executive meetings.

Yes, I've discussed the work (although limited) of ATSA with exec to keep the Executive informed.

4.12. In conjunction with the Finance and Strategy Officer and Political Representative, oversee any political campaigns undertaken by the Association actively seeking to inform the student body and general public on student issues and concerns.

There are a lot of student issues on the radar for this year's general election, none more so than fees free, which we have lobbied for publicly and privately. The leaders debate was a massive success, huge credit to Flynn who organised the bulk of it. In the final months coming up to the election, I will be working particularly hard to get as many of our students enrolled before the October 25<sup>th</sup> cutoff date. I have attended four general election debates so far (organised by OUSA and other groups). I have attended two online meetings to discuss promotion of voter enrolment, particularly with only 53% of 18 to 25 year olds enrolled to vote as of July.

4.13. Maintain a good working relationship with the Administrative Vice-President, Finance and Strategy Officer, Academic Representative, and Welfare and Equity Representative, meet with them weekly and, where reasonable, liaise with them on a daily basis.

Yes I have a good working relationship with all four. I seem to constantly be in contact with Kamesha and Troy, but less so with Hansini and Rihana, but this is because these roles are very university heavy, particularly the Academic rep role. I don't have scheduled check ins with any of my exec as I try and catch people when they're in the office, but this is something that I would do if I had my time again.

4.14. Maintain a good working relationship with all other Executive Officers and, where reasonable, liaise with them individually on a weekly basis.

I catch up with Exec members in the office, around campus, in meetings, via email, and through other social media means. Again, I don't have any locked in meetings but keep updated on how

exec members are going in their roles and where they need support. I also rely on Kamesha here to have an oversight of everyone in the exec. There are some exec members who I don't see much of but that is mainly due to their own individual circumstances.

4.15. Maintain a good working relationship with Te Rōpū Māori Tumuaki and uphold the duties of the President as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Otago University Students' Association and Te Rōpū Māori.

Yes, I have a good relationship with Jarna and Sami. We try to catch up every fortnight and also ad hoc when we see each other in committees etc.

4.16. Maintain a good working relationship with University of Otago Pacific Island Students' Association President and uphold the duties of the President as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Otago University Students' Association and University of Otago Pacific Island Students' Association.

Yes, Adeleine and I have a good working relationship, although we don't always see heaps of each other as she is super busy. I have chaired two SGM's for UOPIISA this past quarter to get their constitution compliant with the ISA, in order to get their university funding.

4.17. Maintain a good working relationship with the Vice Chancellor and uphold the duties of the President as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Otago University Students' Association and the Vice Chancellors office.

Yes, I have a good relationship with Grant Robertson. I caught up with him five times this quarter, and we have discussed many student issues.

4.18. Maintain a good working relationship with the Chief Executive Officer and, where reasonable, meet with them on a weekly basis.

Yes, Debbie and I catch up weekly at least, but I tend to pop into her office most days to touch base on different issues.

4.19. Maintain a good working relationship with the advisory board and, where reasonable, liaise with them on a regular basis.

Yes, I have a good relationship with Gina and Jeff. They have been very useful in helping the exec navigate governance problems. I regularly meet and call them to keep on track.

4.20. Supervise the Chief Executive Officer on behalf of the Executive, including setting and reviewing of annual Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

Yes.

4.21. Where appropriate, seek advice from the Association lawyers on legal matters relevant to the Association to do with governance.

Yes, we got our lawyers to draft constitutional changes relating to governance changes. This is on ice for the time being as we ran out of time to do a proper consultation process with the OUSA elections starting, but OUSA's long standing governance issues remain a priority for the executive.

4.22. Be available via cell phone at all practical times.

Yes, I am always available via my phone.

4.23. Perform the general duties of all Executive Officers.

Yes, see below.

4.24. In the final quarter, write and submit an Annual Review as President, for the purpose of inclusion in the Annual Report.

N/A

4.25. Where practical, work not less than forty hours per week.

Yes, during semester time I averaged just over 46 hours per week but had a week off (almost) over the semester break.

My average over the full third quarter is 40.5 hours, which includes the mid-year break and mid-semester break.

## **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.

Yes.

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

The Executive had our annual summit with the Vice-Chancellor in July, where we discussed many student issues, both within the university related and broader.

I have twice met with our Student General Meeting chair, Jack, to iron out issues ahead of the meeting.

I assisted with the leaders debate, SGM, and the Dunedin candidate debate, including setting up and packing down these events.

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

I helped at market day last month but missed the re:ori clubs day due to a clash with a university council meeting.

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

Yes, I have done quite a lot of work already on the OUSA elections including meeting with Cam, our returning officer this year, and with Donna, liaising and making content to be posted to promote our elections, particularly with the complication of having our SGM very close to the elections. I have also liaised with critic and radio one, and am in the process of writing the forum questions for candidates. I will also likely be the host for the forums which we are doing in the Evison lounge during \$5 lunch. I have also done work relating to the elections policy that has been waiting for a long time to be done, following recommendations from the 2025 returning officer. There are other changes that weren't considered due to it being so close to the election when the policy was changed.

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

Yes, attended all and chaired all but one (which was above).

### 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.

Yes, I attended a national presidents conference, and attended the fees free protest, as well as helping organise semester 2 campaigns.

### 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;

Yes, I often remind Troy that we have lots of money to spend.

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 haven't done this, I don't believe, only really due to busyness and sickness. I will make sure to do this next quarter.

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;

Yes, I have done this through the uni rugby club where I am a team manager.

3.5.7. Regularly check and respond to all communications.

Yes, I am constantly checking my phone.

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

OUSA Executive – met seven times

OUSA Executive monthly board meetings – met twice

Grants Panel – Met twice

FESC - Met twice

Polcom – Not met this quarter

Academic Committee – Not met this quarter

Welfare Committee – Not met this quarter

Political Action Committee – Not met this quarter

Learner success plan governance group - Met once

Affiliated Clubs council – Not met this quarter

OUSA Review Committee (Deloitte committee) – Met three times

OUSA Advisory Board – Met once

Blues and golds panel – met once

Council - Met twice

Senate - Met twice (I missed one due to a clash)

Appeals Board – Not met formally, but I have attended a working group relating to appeals.

Audit and Risk Committee – Met

Health and Safety Committee – Met and site visit done

Compulsory Student Services fee – Met twice

Student wellbeing and pastoral care project – Met twice

Sophia Charter – annual meeting had in June

ATSA – met at 2 day in person meeting

I have probably missed a least a couple other committees and working groups that I've been a part of.

### **Part Four: Goals and your Progress**

#### **1. Cost of living**

Cost of living has been the number one issue for students for a few years now. I talk about the cost of living so much that I now abbreviate it to COL. While this is a wicked problem and won't

be fixed by any one thing, I believe this is an issue which has been very well highlighted, not just with politicians but also within the university too.

## 2. Student Housing

This was a big goal from the start of the year that I have honestly just not had enough time to put a substantial amount of time into. In saying that, through media I have continued to highlight the state of student housing in Dunedin (both the quality and price of flats and also the cost of first year halls).

## 3. Strengthening OUSA Governance

This has been a big goal this year and something that we just ran out of time to continue forward with as it needed a substantial consultation process with students, but anyone within OUSA understands that our governance isn't fit for purpose and needs to be addressed moving forward. There is an almost final proposal that has been put together that will strengthen student control in OUSA, that will better serve students for years to come if it's followed through.

## 4. Student Bar

Unfortunately in a resource short environment, particularly in the university, there is very little ability to add things, particularly when at the same time there are ongoing restructures being made within the university. I haven't given up on this, but very aware that this is a longer term push, and no one person on an exec will be able to get this over the line, unless at the cost of other services.

## 5. Relationship Building

As you will see from the start of my report, a massive part of my role is holding relationships, particularly externally, such as in the university, local MP's, local council, and elsewhere. I continue to meet with anybody who has the time for me, to get student issues on the agenda.

## **Part Five: General**

This quarter has once again been very busy, and it is hard to put words in a report to describe all the work that has gone on. There has been a lot of activity in amongst the roughly 120 meetings and all the other informal catchups, and emails and messages I've sent I've been in over the past quarter (that's come at the expense of my studies unfortunately).

There are two big focuses for me in the final quarter of the year. One being running the OUSA executive elections, as there is a lot of work to do on this on my end, and also more importantly, the enrol to vote campaign, which I haven't been able to put much time into with other things taking my time. With less than two months left until the general election at the time of writing, I'm hoping the Executive can mobilise to run a strong campaign to get our students on the roll.