

# MINUTES – ANUSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) 2024 Wednesday, 8 May 2024

6:15pm, Zoom

https://anu.zoom.us/j/88226268819?pwd=NFFhTWJHeVd4STF6dktrMXdya3RWZz09 How to join the meeting via zoom description: How to Join the AGM via Zoom Standing orders guide: ANUSA standing orders ONLY STUDENTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY AND APPROVED STAFF ARE TO ATTEND THE AGM. BRING STUDENT IDS TO THE AGM.

# Item 1: Meeting Opens and Apologies

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

# Milli

Acknowledgement of Country. Advises places to seek assistance for distessing content in the meeting from ANUSA student assistance team or Student Safety and Wellbeing. Highlights importance of treating others with respect regardless of opinion.

# 1.2 Apologies

1.3 Chair outlines standing orders for the meeting (please also see the following: <u>https://anusa.com.au/pageassets/about/meetings/ANUSA-Standing-Orders-Guide.pdf</u>)

# Milli

Affirms importance of ANUSA standing orders, to ensure that the meeting is fair and productive. Only people recognised by the chair can speak. Speaking list for and against motion will be taken. Use raise hand motion to get on list. Amendments emailed to Gen Sec. Each amendment and motion will be voted on. React with green tick to vote yes and red tick to vote no, no other symbols will be recognised.

Procedural motions 1 minute. Extensions for speaking time require procedurals.

People named 3 times kicked out of zoom. Any people who use hate speech, bullying or discrimination will be immediately removed. Procedural motions are to ensure fairness. Please email Milli to move a procedural motion. Respect the rules of this meeting.

**Phoenix**: ANUSA Exec will be monitoring both zooms to ensure that no one votes twice. Anyone doing so will be expelled from meeting.

# Item 2: Passing the previous meetings minutes

# 2.1 📃 AGENDA – ANUSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) 2023 MINUTES

Mover: Phi Seconder: Charlotte

2023 Meeting Minutes carried.

**Procedural Motion** to consider motion 5.2 before other business. Wren (mover) references political climate, Rafah invasion, and Gaza death toll.

- Procedural carries.

**Motion 5.2:** ANUSA Endorses the Jewish Council Of Australia's Statement and Stands with student encampments in Australia and across the world fighting against Israel's Genocide.

# Motion

- ANUSA endorses the April 28th statement made by the Jewish Council of Australia regarding university encampments.
- ANUSA stands in solidarity with student encampments for Palestine across the world.
- ANUSA supports the rights of students to protest peacefully.
- ANUSA reaffirms its condemnation of all forms of discrimination, including antisemitism and islamophobia (see further the ANUSA March statement on Palestine here)
- ANUSA reaffirms its commitment to Motion 6.5 in SRC 2, 2024 see here.
- ANUSA reaffirms that Jewish students have a right to participate in universities free from discrimination or antisemitism.

Movers: Miriam, Khalid and Ruba

# Khalid (mover)

Speaking as a Palestinian PhD student in personal capacity, to highlight the importance of protests, demands of the encampment, importance of free speech, reiterates action points of motion.

# Anna (seconder)

Speaks to personal experience and identity as an anti-zionist jew, seriousness of the situation in Gaza and Palestine, importance of encampments, rejects links between antisemitism and encampments.

# Speaker for

Speaks to value of protest and collective action, reinforces seriousness of situation in Gaza, criticises Israeli Government.

#### Speaker against

Speaks to personal experience and identity, critiques rhetoric of encampment, questions statements from peak bodies, raises issues with public statements from encampment.

#### Speaker for

Emphasise peaceful nature of encampment, discusses meaning of phrases used by encampment, reiterates demands of encampment.

#### Speaker against

Speaks to historical context of ANU establishment, emphasises importance of Jewish students safety and wellbeing, questions motion's intent.

#### Speaker for

Speaks to the situation in Gaza, and violations of international law being documented, highlights the importance of students' rights to protest and the need to support human rights for all.

# Speaker against

Criticises the rhetoric of the encampment and its statements, acknowledges right to protest but says it's crucial Jewish students must feel safe and can't tolerate calls for violence or support for terrorsm on campus.

#### Speaker for

Support free speech and rights for all students, says international protests are important ways to show solidarity, speaks to the situation in Gaza and its impact on ANU students.

#### Speaker for

Speaks to personal identity and experiences, expresses how protest is key to freedoms and that voices should be heard in protset to support Gaza.

#### Speaker against

Supports free speech and expression for all, wants all voices to are being heard to ensure that students feel safe on campus.

# Speaker for

Supports motion's discussion of the encampment's demand for divestment and disclosure and speaks to moral importance of protesting ANU.

# **Right of reply**

Highlights worldwide campaign against Gaza genocide, includes fighting antisemitism and Islamaphobia. Says protests are peaceful and that the encampment opposes antisemitism. Reiterates encampment is about increasing awareness of the situation in Gaza.

Vote on motion

- Motion carries.
- Motion entrenched.

Procedural for 5 minute break. Phi mover and Charlotte seconder.

- Procedural failed

Procedural to move reports en bloc - moved by Charlotte seconded by Phi.

- Procedural passes

# Item 3: Reports

3.1 President's report (P. O'Neill) [Reference A]

# Phoenix

Thanks everyone for attending meeting, keeps short and reports on highlights.

Postgrads now in ANUSA, huge increase in staff and funding. Legal team is  $\frac{1}{3}$  undergraduate,  $\frac{1}{3}$  postgraduate coursework and  $\frac{1}{3}$  postgraduate research.

Throughout 2023, 4368 loaves of bread eaten in the BKSS. Highlight of 2023 included student support for staff strikes. Won lockout fee reduction alongside Interhall Council.

Shoutsout campaigns of Departments, emphasises they are backbone of ANUSA campaigning and advocacy, and changed ANU for better. Disclosure form at ANU changed. Now students can report any form of discrimination (not only SASH). Allows students to access support and make a complaint more easily.

On governance note, SRC grown due to postgraduate reps. Governance review currently occurring. Includes review of Constitution, policies and regulations to ensure that best serving students. Expansion of SRC great but requires governance changes.

Taking section on finance as read. Encourages people to read written reports.

3.2 Treasurer's report (W. Burfoot) [Reference B]

# Will B

Flags that financial policy is being passed at the next SRC. Speaks to updating finance documents and making them more accessible. Encourages people to email if they have questions.

The financial review committee will be elected at AGM, it looks into the suitability of ANUSA's policies and takes referrals for financial misconduct. Says currently difficult for students to engage in and people are not interested.

ANUSA's financial position as of 30th November 2023: ANUSA's services are funded by SSAF paid by students and collected by university. Speaks to SSAF and non-SSAF income. Says ANUSA looks to spend it and what would happen if ANUSA Was in an operating deficit, but emphasises very happy that ANUSA is in a Surplus.

We received \$2.86 M, includes new postgrad funding.Speaks to budget in report, encourages people to read. Explains ANUSA is no longer pursuing commercial ventures, explains that the main priority was to pursue an independent revenue source, but that this is no longer viable.

Explains his report has expenditure but may be hard to read through, so has tried to make easier for those unfamiliar with finance. Encourages anyone to email with questions about any part of report.

# **Questions**

Question: Is the 14,000 in consultancy for the governance review or for other things too?

**Will B (A)**: ANUSA has a rollover from the consultancy regarding night cafes. I don't believe it's all for the governance review

Question: Could we have details of ongoing ANUSA expenditure on Kambri encampment?

**Will B (A)**: ANUSA did not spend any funds on encampment. ANUSA makes materials available to all activist campaigns (e.g banners and paint). But no money spent.

Motion to accept reports

# - Reports carry.

3.3 Financial Review Committee Report [Reference C]

# **Item 4: Elections**

4.1 Election of FRC members

**Matthew**: Brief remarks, believes in accountability of ANUSA finances, brings unique set of skills to role and speaks to these skills.

**Milli**: Notes having a FRC representative is constitutional requirement and that Matthew's is the only nomination received.

# Matthew elected.

# Item 5: Motions on notice

# Motion 5.1: ANUSA 2023 Audited Financial Statement

# Motion

ANUSA approves the audited financial statement for the year ended 30 November 2023. ANU Student's Association - Nov 2023 - Financial statements.pdf

Mover: Will B Seconder: Phoenix

# Will B (mover):

Per Constitution and regulatory requirements, ANUSA must present audited financial statements at AGM. The information is in the reports themselves, encourages people to read.

# Phoenix (seconder):

Concurs with Will B.

# Motion carries.

# Motion 5.3: Jewish students have a right to belong to the ANU community

# Motion

ANUSA:

- 1. condemns Hamas;
- 2. *calls* for a two-state solution to end the conflict in the Middle East
- 3. *condemns* the comments in support of Hamas by former Education Officer and Beatrice Tucker;
- 4. notes that these comments are discriminatory in nature
- 5. *welcomes* the statement released by ANUSA regarding the ABC Drive comments on 30 April 2024;
- 6. *condemns* the use of hateful slogans, such as calls for an Intifada as antisemitic hate speech which is not welcome within the ANUSA environment.
- 7. *affirms* that Jewish students have a right to participate in ANUSA, in a discrimination-free environment;
- 8. *affirms* that Jewish students have a right to participate and belong to the University community;
- 9. *acknowledges* that there is a toxic culture, including antisemitism within activist circles at the ANU and that systemic action, and not just statements against antisemitism, is needed to fix this;
- 10. *encourages* students to participate in governance review and reflect on how ANUSA could engage with the broader ANU community.

Mover: Jaz Seconder: Liat

# Jaz (Mover)

Important to rebuke statements made on ABC Radio in strongest terms possible, but speaks to importance of safety for those making the statement. Reiterates that Israel has the right to exist, and says that a two state solution or condemning Hamas should not be too radical. Speaks to importance of respectful debate, and highlights opposing violence and supporting students.

# Liat (Seconder)

Speaks to Jewish identity, and as a representative of ANU Jewish Students Society. Speaks to the fact ANU is not currently safe for Jewish students. Asks that people listen to Jewish students about the encampment causing harm. Implores support for Jewish students.

# **AMENDMENT** on Notice #1

Amend Motion 5.3 to strike the preamble and points 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9 from the motion, leaving points 7, 8 and 10.

The meeting now debates the amendment

# Tian (mover of amendment)

Speaks to amendment, and concerns about this motion and particularly the preamble condemning Palestinian activism, condemns the misrepresentation of the goals of the ANU encampment, which supports divestment.

# Speaker for

Speaking as a student, the speaker supports amendment, argues conflation of criticism of Israel with antisemitism is an attempt to undermine pro-Palestinian activism, emphasises the need to protect Palestinians and reject antisemitism without silencing dissent.

# Speaker for

Speaks as student, argues it misrepresents peaceful protest and chants as harmful, and detracts from the urgent focus on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, in favour of both opposition to antisemitism and support for protest rights.

# Speaker against

Criticised the removal of condemning Hamas, opposing the condemnation of a terrorist group is concerning, frustrated at lack of listening to Jewish voices speaking out .

# Speaker for

Supports the amendment and opposes the motion, threatening to freedoms and activis in broader effort to silence pro-Palestinian voices during genocide.

# Speaker against

Opposes the amendment, many Jewish students feel unsafe since October 7th, anti-Zionist rhetoric an excuse for antisemitic intent, emphasises that supporting the motion is important to support Jewish students.

# Speaker for

Speaking as ANU student, affirms Jewish students central to protest and academic freedom, reiterates Judaism and Zionism are not the same thing, and supports amendments as motion unamended suggests inherent antisemitism within the Palestinian cause.

#### Speaker against

Baffled people want to strike points to condemn Hamas, protests are incredible, historically important in South Africa and Iraq. Acknowledges encampment is fighting for worthy cause, but needs to do something to ensure safe space.

# Milli

As General Secretary, interprets motions. Amendment does not change ANUSA's previous stance that it condemns Hamas (as passed in March).

#### Speaker for

Responds to point about removing condemning Hamans, deflection to raise Hamas repeatedly, instead about the genocide and all unis in Palestine destroyed. Highlights importance of safety, including US students facing brutal police attacks.

# Speaker against

Speaking as Jewish student, identifies as LGBT. Condemns the failure to denounce Hamas, and hypocrisy from Queer students, rejects the use of terms like "intifada," that such language is harmful and should be challenged.

A student is named for generalisations.

Milli: ANUSA does not allow questioning how ppl identify.

# Speaker for

Supports amendment, unamended motion misrepresents protestors' calls for divestment, unfairly restricts freedom of expression for Palestinian activism, is a distraction from true purpose of global encampments.

#### Speaker against

Speaks as President of AJUS, emphasises many Jewish students feel unsafe on campus, the motion is not an attack on activism but necessary to ensure Jewish students safety, says the amendment ignores these concerns and silences Jewish voices.

**Milli**: Received requests for points of clarification. Any must be about factual claims not political opinions.

**Clarification:** Motion does mention from the river to the sea, in the third sentence of the preamble.

# Speaker for

Supports amendment, especially to point 9, rejecting claims of a toxic culture in the encampment, defends the phrase "from the river to the sea" as a call for freedom and equality for all in the region, emphasises importance of opposition to the denial of Palestinian rights amid ongoing violence.

# Speaker against

Emphasises a complex discussion, importance of supporting a Jewish nation and a two-state solution. Explains Zionism is central to many people's Jewish identity and criticises attempts to delegitimise it, acknowledges oppression faced by Palestinians under Hamas and importance of supporting Palestinians.

# Speaker for

Speaks as student, points out condeming Hamas again is redundant as it is already a government designated terrorist organisation, notes ANUSA has already condemned.

# Speaker against

Asks people to stop and listen to voices of Jewish students, shouldn't cut out what Jewish students wanted to express.

# Speaker for

Rejects the conflation of anti-Zionism with antisemitism, emphasises criticism of Israel as an apartheid state is not inherently antisemitic. Supports the amendment, preamble unjustly accuses the Free Palestine movement of antisemitism, undermines free speech and critique of Israel.

Procedural to finish talking on amendment and go to vote (Needs <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> majority).

- Procedural carries

Vote on amendment

- Amendment carries

# Debate on motion as amended

Milli: We are debating the motion as amended because amendment carried.

# Speaker for

Explains that even as amended, still positive motion and should support Jewish students. Reiterates importance of listening to Jewish students and their reflections.

Procedural for 5 minute break

- Carries

**Milli**: Motions or amendments may be withdrawn by mover. Motion has been withdrawn by movers.

**Sarah:** Doesn't want to move motion, but reiterates comments about perspectives of Jewish students.

Milli: would you like to take up the moving rights?

Sarah: I'm happy to move it.

Milli: would anyone like to second?

**De Mars**: I'm happy to move the motion.

**Milli**: I've received another amendment from Sarah which reads: "ANUSA condemns the incorrect statement that the pro-Israel counter-protestors are 'definitely paid actors'".

Phi: Sarah is mover. Is there any dissent to this amendment?

Amendment (re paid actors) Meeting now debates this amendment

**Sarah (mover of amendment):** Says that the 'paid actors' claim was antisemitic, says is moving the amendment in good faith.

**Speaker for amendment:** Agrees a simple amendment, reiterates that the previous motion was simple too in condemning Hamas. Reiterates support for unamended motion.

Procedural to move to a vote

- Procedural carries

Vote on amendment

- Amendment carries

Motion now includes the text that ANUSA condemns the 'paid actors' statement.

Procedural to go to vote on motion as amended

# - Procedural carries

**Milli**: Reminds that holding up signs counts as heckling, regardless of sign. Will be named, like an in-person meeting.

Vote on motion as amended

- Motion carries

A student is named. First warning.

Procedural for 10 minute break to investigate allegations received of bad behaviour

A student is named and is kicked out of the meeting

# Milli

- Clarifies naming, person kicked out of meeting on first warning, behaviour is unacceptable.
- Explains signs on screens will be treated as naming, with regular procedure.
- Reminds people to keep full names on zoom or will be removed

A student is asked to remove Zoom background. They have been named.

A student has been named and removed from zoom for alleged discriminatory behaviour.

# Motion 5.4

# Motion

1. ANUSA reaffirms its condemnation of the Hamas attacks on Israel, which targeted unarmed civilians and children, that took place on October 7th 2023

2. ANUSA will release a public apology letter addressed to ANU's community of Jewish students for the distress they may have caused through the actions of their executive members and other representatives during the Kambri lawns demonstration

3. ANUSA condemns Hamas as a terrorist organisation that harms both Palestinians and Israelis alike

4. ANUSA will release a report on what financial and material resources were allocated to the Kambri lawns demonstration

5. ANUSA will clarify if executive members continued to receive their salary during their participation in the Kambri lawns demonstration

Mover: Will R Seconder: Harry

# Will R (mover):

Expresses disgust at silencing of Jewish students in meeting, speaks to failur to support all members, and concerns of antisemitism from the encampment and support for Hamas, importance of supporting the wellbeing of students including jewish students.

# Harry (seconder)

Agrees with Will, speaks to need for an apology, and important to ensure Jewish members feel safe, wants transparency for support offered to the encampment, doesn't want this motion amended too.

# Speaker for

Speaking as Jewish student, that Jewish students have been silenced including at this meeting, calls out refusal to acknowledge antisemitism in encampment. Asks people listen to Jewish students, says antisemitism is absolutely real.

**Milli**: Notes ANUSA condemns the antisemitic behaviour in the meeting, and that person was immediately removed from the zoom, notes further action.

# Speaker against

Speaks as student, condemns Hamas, and reiterates ANUSA's position condemning Hamas, notes ecanmpent received no ANUSA funding, and notes ANUSA is everyone not just a body.

# Speaker for

Notes in-kind contributions still included under budgeting process, speaks to importance to affirm condemning Hamas, highlights need to listen to Jewish students and apology needs ot acknowledge this.

**Phi:** Notes that ANUSA can help students make complaints to Student Safety and Wellbeing, and can help them seek support.

# Speaker against

Speaks as ANU student, speaks to the feelings of Palestinian students whose money used to fund genocide, speaks to motion failing to represent all students, distracts from ANU's complicity in a genocide.

# Speaker for

Says Jewish student have expressed feeeling unsafe and what they need has been ignored, least to do is condemn Hamas, says this doesn't negate support for Palestinian students, and asks for support for Jewish students by supporting this motion.

# Speaker against

Says ANUSA has condemned Hamas, and speaks to destruction in Gaza and need to support students in encampment taking political stances.

# Speaker for

Speaking as President of AUJS, Jewish students been denied the right to speak out and debate is oversimplification, denied Jewish students rights to feel safe, Speaks to motion not about silencing encampment but to listen to Jewish students.

Phi: A student has been named via zoom chat

# Speaker against

Speaks to need to stand up against attacks on freedoms, speaks to destruction of universities in Gaza, says concern should be money being in weapons companies and moral responsibility to divest.

# Speaker for

Says that speaking on behalf of others should not happen, that Jewish students haven't been listened to, importance of affirming condemning Hamas, acknowledges destruction in Gaza, does not support ANUSA supporting encampment.

# Speaker against

Speaks about situation in Gaza and condemns it, supports encampment supporting Palestinians lives, condemns antisemitism.

# **Right of reply**

Speaks to lack of listening to Jewish voices and failure to support Jewish students that feel excluded, supports Jewish students' voices in ANUSA spaces.

Vote on motion

- Motion fails.

# Motion 5.5: Some Cleanup

# Motion

Amend the Standing Orders by deleting schedule 3 titled 'Clubs Council' and by removing the phrase "Clubs Council Executive" from section 1.1.2 and by removing the phrase "Clubs Council" from section 1.1.3 and by removing subsection 1.3.2(c).

Amend the Standing Orders by changing all instances of "CRC" to EDC.

Amend the Electoral Regulations section 4.5.2 by replacing "College Representative Council" with "Education Council"

Amend the Financial Regulations section 7.3.5 by removing the phrase "and a member of the Clubs Council Executive"

Mover: Sarah

# Sarah (mover)

Waives speaking time. Opposes Nazis, opposes the gestures, and apologieses to the Jewish students for what happened.

Procedural to go straight to procedural on voting on motion immediately.

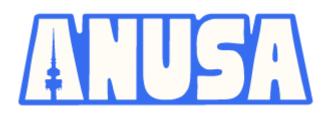
#### - Procedural motion carries

Vote on motion

- Motion carries

#### Milli

Declares meeting closed at 11:04pm. Reminds everyone that SSW is available, and ANUSA can help people access support. Acknowledges that this meeting raised distressing topics, so encourages people to reach out if ANUSA can support during this difficult time, Thanks everyone for attending.



# **Annual Report**

Phoenix O'Neill, ANUSA President 2024

# Summary

2023-24 has been a big year for ANUSA. We have done a significant amount of work in all of our pillars: advocacy, social, and welfare. Our services have reached an all time high in usage from students across the university, which excitingly includes postgraduate students now. We have undertaken significant advocacy for the student body to improve their experiences at the University.

Alongside undertaking postgraduates, ANUSA has renewed our branding. This was a much-needed refresh and the base design was designed by one of our very own students.

Thank you to all of the students who have put hard work into ANUSA this year, and to our amazing staff for the hard work that they do helping students.

# Postgraduate

As of July 1 2023, ANUSA is officially the single student union for all students. Coming up to one year, we have seen a huge amount of new engagement from postgraduates, including our new representatives and events. We are going to carry on the work to increase postgraduate engagement in the representative space and in our service provision. The theme of postgraduate representation and engagement will be present throughout this report.

As of July last year, ANUSA has taken on the lauded Shut Up And Write program as part of its commitment to the HDR community. Between July and December 2023, 75 in-person writing sessions were facilitated all with great engagement.

# Social

Our social program has grown immensely with the expansion of representation to postgraduate students. Historically, our social program has relied on O-Week and Bush

Week events with club events filling the gap between those two peak weeks. 2023 was a big year for clubs with around \$200,000 spent. This was achievable after we successfully bid to allocate more money to the clubs budget from the SSAF underspend. So far, 2024 has seen a decrease in spending though it has a higher budget. We saw an increase in representative-led events this O-Week with staff support, including events run by college representatives which had great engagement. Since the induction of postgraduate students into ANUSA, we have organised regular coffee catch ups and wine and cheese nights for postgraduate coursework and HDR students, respectively. This has been a staff-led endeavor and has involved postgraduate college representatives being present at the events. We endeavor to expand the engagement of these events going forward.

# Services

Since July last year we have taken on new staff including another lawyer, two student assistance staff members, a Shut Up And Write coordinator, and a clubs and SEEF administrator. This has allowed us to serve a greater portion of the student population since taking on postgraduates.

Since taking on a new staff member, our legal team has been able to take on more matters with 227 matters created in the first quarter of 2024. So far this year, 33.8% of students seeing the service were undergraduate, 32.4% were postgraduate coursework students and 33.8% were higher degree research students.

The Student Assistance Team is a highly respected body at the ANU with a unique level of institutional knowledge and understanding of ANU policy, academic and otherwise. In quarter 1, we have seen an increase in postgraduates accessing our grants. We have also successfully bidded to add new grant programs.

ANUSA took on SEEF in July last year and saw \$85k in approved funds ranging from club events to conference attendance. Many postgraduates continued to access SEEF which was previously operated by PARSA for conference attendance and other means.

The BKSS continues to operate at a high level of usage which is no surprise given the cost of living crisis. ANUSA has expanded its support available through the BKSS through the new BKSS Lunch Express.

# Advocacy and Campaigns

Every year, ANUSA takes part in several campaigns and advocacy matters for students.

This year, we continued our ongoing support for the yearly Invasion Day rally. We play a logistical and supporting role in helping with the organisation and supporting the tent

embassy in their organisation. We provide marquees, chairs, tables, megaphones, water, and food, as well as organising legal observer training and volunteers for legal observing and marshalling.

We have continued our Housing Campaign, with budget day protests organised for the 2023 and 2024 Budgets on student housing and education. This year's event is upcoming next Tuesday and is a collaboration with the National Union of Students. This has included calls to ease the general housing crisis and to ease the on-campus housing prices. We continue to negotiate with the ANU for more affordable on-campus options.

In 2023, the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) called a strike on the 27th of July, for the first time in decades. ANUSA fully supported this strike, including making calls for students to not go to class that day in solidarity with our staff and speaking at the rally. We have firmly held that staff working conditions are student learning conditions.

In late 2023, the School of Art and Design's library was announced to close. ANU students organised a mass borrowing of books to protest, and ANUSA assisted by helping store these books and negotiate for fees to be waived. In 2024, it has been announced that the SOAD library will be reopening after construction is done!

We campaigned against the \$100 lockout fee in residential halls. We launched a petition that received hundreds of signatures and as a result of the campaign, the fee was made more affordable than its original cost.

ANUSA's departments continue to be a core part of our activism and advocacy, and I want to give them a huge amount of credit for this. Some of the key Department campaigns over the last year include, but are not limited to, August 1st 2023, the 2023 Racism Report, the Disability Royal Commission submissions and the Hybrid ANU Campaign. August 1st 2023 was a rally held in Kambri with a particular focus on safety at Residential Halls. The Racism Report in 2023 was a documentary on the experiences of BIPOC students at ANU, continuing from the legacy of previous years racism reports. The ANU DSA made an input to the Royal Commission and did a significant amount of advocacy work upon the release. They also campaigned for a continuation of hybrid classes for disabled students but also as a universal accessibility measure.

#### Advocacy

On residential advocacy, we have an ongoing relationship with residential halls regarding Senior Resident scholarships. In 2023, there was a proposal to cut this scholarship that was successfully shut down. We will be continuing this advocacy into 2024. We have been engaging in discussions on the upcoming 24-hour staffing model at residential halls, which will provide important relief to residential leaders but does not and should not take away from the key role that Senior Residents play in making halls culturally safe and supporting students. ANUSA have been working with the IHC on advocacy for residential halls.

ANUSA deals with a lot of academic advocacy, from the level of helping individual students with their academic matters to pushing for an improvement to academic policy at the ANU as

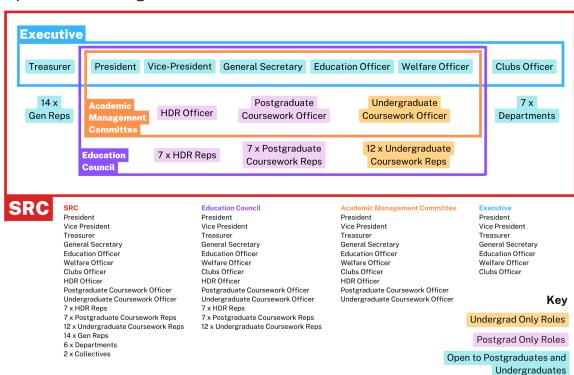
a whole. Last year, the ANU got rid of it's special considerations policy and changed it to an Extenuating Circumstances Policy. This rollout was particularly bumpy as it did not have the appropriate support and resulted in long backlogs, and it meant that students could only defer an exam or receive an adjustment once per task. We are continuing to advocate to fix this and should have exciting updates in a number of weeks.

Based on advocacy from students and staff, in 2024 the ANU has introduced a disclosure system for all forms of discrimination and harmful behaviour. All disclosures prior to this date were only for sexual assault and sexual harassment, but this tool includes that and incidents of racism, ableism, transphobia, misogyny, anti semitism and islamphobia and so on. This tool is a huge step forward in acknowledging the adverse impacts of all forms of discrimination on students. For the rest of 2024, we will be continuing to push for the ANU to take an intersectional approach and to adequately respond to these concerns. You can find the tool at this link here.

In 2023, the ANU began to take some students to court over unpaid parking fines. This was a source of distress for many students, particularly as it was for a criminal conviction. ANUSA's legal service successfully represented and expunged charges for 30 students.

# Governance

Last year, ANUSA had a significant update in its representative structure to include postgraduate representatives. This has included having a HDR Officer, Postgraduate Coursework Officer, Undergraduate Coursework Officer, a Parents and Carers Officer, and college representatives for Postgraduate Coursework and HDR students in every college. You can see the full org structure here:



Option 2: Full integration of the PRC

This new representative structure was made with wide consultation of postgraduate communities.

Given this change, we have also now undertaken a Governance Review, which is currently ongoing! This is an independent review undertaken by an external consultant. This review involves closely examining how ANUSA operates on a whole-of-union scale, including our representative structure but also all of our Constituion, Regulations and Policies. This review is open to submission from all students, and you can find more details at the link <u>here</u>. I would strongly consider all students to consider making a submission by 31 May.

# **Financial position**

A majority of ANUSA's financial position will be covered by Will's report. I would like to highlight a few major things in this report.

We have moved to signing three year SSAF agreements with the University. Prior to 2024, these agreements were instead year-on-year basis. This is a massive improvement for the financial stability and planning of the union. Our three-year SSAF agreement signed for this period is for 55% of the SSAF pool. This is a decrease on the 2023 pool, where we received 51% but a significant additional portion of the pool due to PARSA being defunded. There is a remaining unallocated pool every year of 7.66% that we have been bidding for additional funding as needed.

In 2023, we ceased to continue investigating a Night Cafe commercial venture due to a lack of viability. You can see the updates as of <u>September</u> and <u>November</u> 2023.

# Reference B AGM Treasurer Report

# Introduction

Hi Everyone, my name is Will (he/him) and I am the ANUSA Treasurer for 2024. Every SRC and general meeting we have I provide a report that details what I have been working on, plans for the future, and most excitingly an update on expenditure of the Association. I had hoped to present my Financial Policy Framework for consideration at this meeting but instead it will happen at the next SRC. This project has taken considerable time but I believe its important to get it right as this policy will be in effect for the next decade. As always please send me an email at <u>sa.treasurer@anu.edu.au</u> if you want to chat, have any questions, or want to provide feedback.

# **Financial Review Committee**

The constitution outlines there will be a financial review committee (FRC) which serves to report on the financial controls of the Association and the adherence to said controls. I ran in the election on reforming the FRC, as in my view it no longer serves its purpose well. I believe greater transparency and accountability of the Association's finances are critical to the success of our Union, the FRC does neither of these things well. The FRC places a high workload on its members, and expects regular students with little to no support to be able to independently assess the Associations adherence to its financial policy. I will be writing a submission to the governance review detailing my issues with the FRC, and what I see as potential fixes. If you want to contribute to this please send me an email. In the meantime I look forward to supporting the members elected at this AGM.

# **Audited Financial Statements**

We have the completed financial statements for the Association for the financial year ending 30th November 2023. Our FY runs from the start to completion of our terms, Dec 1st to 30th Nov. ANUSA engages with external independent auditors who complete this process.

# ANUSA's Financial position as of 30th November 2023

The constitution of the Association states the Treasurer shall provide a report on the financial position of the Association at the end of the previous Financial Year (Section 13 (15)).

# Overview on how we operate

The Association receives the majority of its funding from the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF), which is paid by students and collected by the University. The Student Services Council (SSC) is the responsible body which facilitates consultation with SSAF recipients, hears quarterly reports on the activities of the recipients, and through which additional reserve and underspend rounds are coordinated. For the 2023 FY the Association was operating under a one year agreement with the university that determined funding.

#### Operating in surplus

In 2023 ANUSA ran both a SSAF and operating surplus. As per rules surrounding SSAF, all funds must be exhausted by the end of the year or the Association has to return any surplus, in order to ensure the Association received the most benefit from the funding the view taken was to bring forward expenses the Association would incur during 2024, as well as purchase items which would provide long term value. While SSAF makes up the majority of the funding ANUSA receives, the Association also generates revenue from ticket sales to events, O-week/Bush week Market Day stall hire, as well as interest on term deposits where the majority of the Association reserves are placed. This leads to the difference between the two surpluses, with an operating surplus of particular importance as that accounts for all revenue and expenses of the Association. Any non-SSAF revenue is rolled into the Association reserves, which alongside another income source provide significant financial stability for the Union.

#### Funding

In 2023 the Association received \$2,867,059 in SSAF funding, inclusive of the \$1 million the Association received to aid with the expansion to include post grads and HDR students. Additionally the Association received \$446k from the underspend pool for one off capital expenses.

# Budget areas of interest

I'll highlight some areas of interest in the 2023 budget.

Budget line	2023 actual 2	2023 budget
BKSS Food/Consumables	78,203.68	85,000.00
Club Funding	204,710.18	170,000.00
Departments & Collectives	102,605.30	115,000.00
O-Week Events	86,732.11	30,000.00
SAT Purchases - Grocery Vouchers	24,918.28	-
SAT Purchases - Student Meals & Others	13,069.92	40,000.00
Student Assistance Team Grants	65,644.99	100,000.00

#### Status of commercial ventures

During 2023, the Executive was pursuing commercial ventures as a possible way to diversify revenue and grow the Associations service provision. Budgets passed at 2023 OGM 1 indicate provisional funding of \$268,720 for a "Night Cafe". External consultants were contracted to prepare a business case which outlined how the "Night Cafe" would operate, this was delivered late 2023. In consultation with the incoming Executive the decision was made to no longer pursue a "Night Cafe" as a commercial venture. The main priority for a "Night Cafe" was to provide an alternate independent revenue source, it

became clear to me this was no longer possible and therefore was in the best interests of the Association to no longer pursue the project.

# **Reserves**

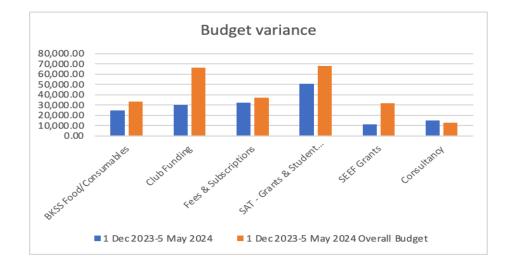
The Association maintains non-SSAF reserves which provide financial stability and interest income. These reserves are primarily placed in 3 month and 6 month term deposits.

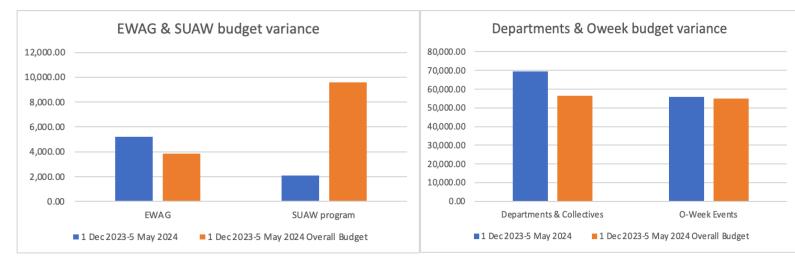
If you have any questions about the financial activities of the Association please email me at <u>sa.treasurer@anu.edu.au</u>, always happy to talk.

# **Expenditure report**

At each meeting I provide an expenditure report which details the Associations expenditure, last years expenditure is included for comparison. I have also started providing additional information in the form of budget variance reports on specific line items. I hope these can provide more transparency on the Associations finances. I am still trialing out these new ways of presenting this info so if you can think of a way to improve this please reach out.

Budget variance indicates the difference between actual expenditure and budgeted expenditure. Some areas have higher one off expenditure earlier in the year, such as EWAG, fees and subscriptions, and departments which is why they can be above the allocated amount up until this point in the year but this will even out later on. I am closely monitoring the Clubs budget line as there is a growing discrepancy, clubs funding is very volatile throughout the year and so I anticipate this will begin to self-correct as we go into semester 2. If there are any changes to funding required this will be brought to the next general meeting.





Account	1 Dec 2023-5 May 2024	1 Dec 2022-5 May 2023
SSAF Allocation	1,337,577.99	1,306,941.30
	1,337,577.99	1,306,941.30
Accounting/Bookkeeping - Xero	838.62	724.08
Auditing	27.27	27.27
Bank Fees with GST	193.92	152.03
Bank Fees without GST	640.46	399.44
BKSS Food/Consumables	24,540.47	26,246.95
BKSS Non-food	413.69	3,031.74
Motor Vehicle expenses	10,485.71	4,637.19
Club Funding	29,887.41	61,075.33
Clubs Council Grants Committee	215.44	0.00
College Representatives	108.16	0.00
Committee projects - General	0.00	30.55
Consultancy	14,860.00	0.00
Departments & Collectives	69,602.61	61,125.77
Education Committee	5,224.91	4,113.69
Equipment Expense	(613.45)	402.73
Fees & Subscriptions	31,945.77	34,455.96
Friday Night Party Expenses	0.00	490.91

Leadership and Professional Development	15,450.35	20,489.21
Legal Expenses & Consultancy	9,512.91	5,798.60
Marketing & Communications - Advertising	149.99	197.82
Marketing & Communications - Diary	0.00	4,690.00
Marketing & Communications - Printing	840.46	9,734.00
Marketing & Communications - Software Subs	508.61	199.00
Meeting Expenses	109.09	472.08
NUS	0.00	41,600.00
Other Employee Expense	6,587.36	9,051.16
Other Events	0.00	10,125.51
O-Week Events	55,727.46	86,327.57
O-Week Food purchases	0.00	71.51
O-Week Merchandise	0.00	5,327.18
Parenting Room	0.00	1,431.27
Printer	519.77	177.48
Department - Honoraria	(100.00)	0.00
Department - Stipends	57,543.01	54,849.08
Department - Superannuation	6,329.80	5,759.20
Salaries and Wages	553,399.80	368,813.06
Salaries and Wages - ANUSA Exec & Officers	97,250.85	83,455.40
Salaries and Wages - BKSS	26,623.25	24,278.02
Salaries and Wages - Event Coordinators	14,282.44	13,637.68
Superannuation Expense	91,225.27	60,789.79
Superannuation Expense - ANUSA Exec & Officers	10,301.54	8,762.67
Superannuation Expense - BKSS	2,918.18	2,666.66
Superannuation Expense - Event Coordinators	1,826.25	1,451.91
SAT Purchases - Grocery Vouchers	0.00	16,075.00
SAT Purchases - Student Meals & Others	21,285.47	2,379.82
Student Assistance Team Grants	29,108.90	26,422.18
Staff Amenities	231.38	105.86
Stationery/General Supplies/Postage	709.88	1,129.08
Student Engagement	600.24	7,897.45
Utilities	1,540.99	1,481.77
Workers Compensation Insurance	0.00	8,278.06
	1,192,854.24	1,080,838.72

SSAF Surplus/ Deficits	144,723.75	226,102.58
Bus hire revenue	0.00	72.73
Interest Income	448.97	9,236.31
Miscellaneous (Sundry) Income	2,144.40	491.33
Other Grant Funding	850.00	5,000.00
O-Week Income	32,925.00	39,645.00
Ticket/Event Sales - O Week	842.79	29,923.16
Ticket/Event Sales - Others	0.00	6,059.77
	37,211.16	90,428.30
Non SSAF Expenses		
Events Non-SSAF	0.00	5,009.27
Total Non SSAF Expenses	0.00	5,009.27
Other Student Grants	8,507.00	0.00
Social Profolio	741.82	0.00
Birth Control Subsidy	7,549.17	0.00
SEEF Grants	11,180.86	0.00
Parents and Carers	413.48	0.00
Shut Up and Write program	2,092.73	0.00
	30,485.06	5,009.27
Net Profit	151,449.85	311,521.61

# Timesheet

From 1/12/23 to 5/5/24 I have worked 318.75 hours. For a more detailed breakdown of my timesheet please send me an email at <u>sa.treasurer@anu.edu.au</u>.

Reference C Report: had a handover with last year's treasurer. No further actions.