



MINUTES – ANUSA AGM 2025

Wednesday, 16th April 2025

6:15pm, Copland Lecture Theatre and on Zoom:

<https://anu.zoom.us/j/85450842978?pwd=iYwJClA58wTedLsPpRrx9ETUXfEVK.1>

*Please make your Zoom name in the meeting: “*FULL NAME - u-number*” for verification purposes.*

Item 1: Meeting Opens and Apologies

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

1.2 Apologies

1.3 Chair outlines standing orders for the meeting. [Please also see the following guide linked here.](#)

Will: Moved a procedural to do 3.1-5.1 until after the item motions. Passed.

Item 2: Passing the previous meeting's minutes

The Minutes from the AGM 2024 (8th May 2024) can be found linked here:

[MINUTES – ANUSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING \(AGM\) 2024](#)

Mover: Will Burfoot

Seconder: Hayden O'Brien

Passed.

Item 3: Reports

3.1 President's Annual Report (W. Burfoot) [Reference A]

Will: University outlined a document that explained these changes. Did not include how they were going to change anything, corporate speech right. EDU disputed that it did not represent their members at all. The uni released their management plan, the most unhelpful document you have read in your life. It does discuss how they are going to change things. They've described academic services. Eg. student services and support, uni experience, research and innovation services, partnership and translation, marketing and brand. Does not mean these things are being cut, but are getting changed in Q2. The financial deficit in 2024 will have change proposals in 2025. Colleges operated in deficit in 2024, so to introduce change plans for these colleges. Eg. CASS, CSM, CSS. We saw the voluntary redundancy scheme come out a few days ago. Ongoing process. Marketing comms is indicative of what they want to do here and plant it fresh.

3.2 Treasurer's AGM Report (H. O'Brien) [Reference B]

Hayden: The role of treasurer is to seek external auditors for the union, alongside Liana (Financial Controller). How much money is received and taken out in 1 year. We are in a surplus as a union, I am proud to say that, thanks to the previous treasurer. We gained some money from market day and bush week that goes towards our reserves and are on track to do well this year. Exec decisions made are at the bottom of my report. Please read my report if you want to read anything else.

Item 4: Items requiring resolution (special resolutions/ constitutional changes)

Notice for these changes has been circulated in a tracked changed and an authoritative copy of the ANUSA Constitution that can be found in this folder:

AGM - Notice for Constitutional Changes

It contains all details of the precise wordings of the proposed constitutional amendments listed in the below motions. The below motions refer you to the clause in the Constitution where you can see the tracked change and new/ replaced clause.

Motion 4.1: Postgraduate Changes

Preamble:

Consulting with students told us that Postgraduate and HDR students wanted more of a social possibility within ANUSA. This new Postgraduate and Research Network (the PRN) provides the social space for Postgrad and HDR students within ANUSA, fostering community

Action:

1. Add new clause 18(2)(e) to include a "Postgraduate and Research Network"

(e) a Postgraduate and Research Network.

2. Add new clause 9(10A), between 9(10)(c) and 9(11), that reads:

(10A) The HDR Officer and the Postgraduate Coursework Officer are jointly responsible for the Postgraduate and Research Network.

3. Add new section 31 entitled "Transitional Provisions 2025".

31. Transitional Provisions 2025

(1) The changes adopted at the Annual General Meeting 2025 with regard to change of roles of the HDR Officer and Postgraduate Coursework Officer, except for their position description when being advertised for election at the 2025 ANUSA Elections, shall not take effect until 1 December 2025.

(2) These transitional provisions, Section 31, may be deleted from the Constitution by the General Secretary after 1 December 2025.

Mover: Will Burfoot

Seconder: Rosie Paton

Will: Gap in the union. HDR students in the middle of 2023. Talked to HDR and post grad students, what they're missing and what they can do to hit the mark. Eg. the legal service has almost $\frac{1}{3}$ HDR and $\frac{1}{3}$ post grad. Representative positions of the community building aspect, not doing enough. They don't see themselves in ANUSA. Establish a post grad research network. Established as a committee under the association, a permanent committee. Draft its regulations, structure, how its governed, what its goal are. Eg. community building, social events, places for discussion and advocacy. Opportunity for everyone to get involved. Enshrine the committee into the constitution. Start from 1 Jan 2026, not operating this year. Take time to get it up and running. Provide things that HDR and post grads want to see

Rosie: Long overdue change for including post grads and HDR students to be involved in the student union. Ample opportunity in how people want this to run in 2026 onwards

Will: Move a procedural to block all motions together to make it easier to vote, we will still have time for discussion after the bloc. **Procedural to move all motions in the meeting en bloc passes.**

Bloc of all motions.

Mover: Will

Seconder: Rosie

Bloc passed. Further is therefore just discussion, not formal debate.

Motion 4.2: Further Administrative Clean-Up

Preamble:

These make some Administrative changes that clean up after changes made at OGM 1:

- On new 13(3)(d) and amending 28(2) - these changes help to clarify provision 12(2) and 12(3) with respect to the way our Election systems/ regulations interact with the University's rules for electing Members of ANU Council.
- On 13(10)(a) and 14(4)(a) – We are increasing how much notice is required before an SRC is called. We are also increasing the deadline for motions to General Meetings and SRCs to ensure there is sufficient time to workshop, improve, and finalise submitted motions.
- On 19(2) – this just creates consistency with other Committees and helps with record-keeping regarding those who are members of the Education Committee.
- On 22(14) and 27(1) – The General Manager title is now the correct title for this position; the majority of the Constitution was updated at OGM 1, but this was missed.
- ~~On 13(3)(d) – a General meeting no longer needs to recommend this to Disputes as any ordinary member can create a dispute against a Representative that could lead in their dismissal so this power is no longer needed. 13(3)(e) still gives a General Meeting the power to dismiss an Officer. This amendment has been pulled.~~

Action:

1. Add new 13(3)(d) and amend 28(2) to provide greater clarity on the previously unclear provisions 12(2) and 12(3).

13(3)(d) notwithstanding section 13(3)(c), any changes to Regulations related to the election of ANU Council members, pursuant to section 12, must be ratified by ANU Council prior to taking effect

28(2) regulations may only be made, amended or repealed in accordance with section 13(3)(c) and 13(3)(d) and subject to section 13(6) (“General Meetings”).

2. Amend clause 13(10)(a) to change five (5) to seven (7) in regard to the deadline for submitting motions at General meetings.

13(10)(a) any motion to be put to the meeting that was submitted by an ordinary member of the Association to the General Secretary at least ~~five (5)~~ seven (7) Teaching Days before the date of the meeting; and

3. Amend clause 14(4)(a) and (c) to increase notice required for SRC meetings from five (5) to seven (7) teaching days and increase the deadline for submitting motions at SRCs from three (3) to five (5) days.

14(4)(a) give at least ~~five (5)~~ **ten (10)** Teaching Days' notice of the time, date and venue of such a meeting;

14(4)(c) include on the agenda any motion proposed by an ordinary member of the Association and submitted to them at least ~~three (3)~~ **five (5)** Teaching Days before the date of the meeting.

4. Amend clause 19(2) to bring the Education Committee in line with other committee regulations.

(2) All members of the Association ~~are members of~~ may enrol in the Education Committee by writing to the Education Officer. Any member of the Education Committee can also resign by writing to the Education Officer.

5. Amend clause 22(14) and 27(1) to replace "Office Manger" title with "General Manager"

*22(14) Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Regulations and the provisions of this Constitution, the ~~Office~~ **General** Manager shall keep in their custody or under their control all records, books and other documents relating to the Association.*

*27(1) The common seal of the Association shall be kept by the ~~Office~~ **General** Manager. It shall be affixed by authority of the SRC, and any two of the President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall sign below the seal.*

Mover: Will Burfoot

Seconder: Rosie Paton

Will: Procedural changes, need to update the name of general manager, names of people on ed com, that can roll on from year to year. All admin changes.

Carter: question

Will: everyone is enrolled, no one can be rejected


Rosie: waives

Item 5: Motions on Notice

Motion 5.1: ANUSA 2024 Audited Financial Statement

Action

ANUSA approves the audited financial statement (linked below) for the year ended 30 November 2024.

 ANU Student's Association - Nov 2024 - Financial statements.pdf

Mover: Hayden O'Brien

Seconder: Will Burfoot

Hayden: Admin that the exec must audit the finances of the union once a year, to make the union keep running. The state of the union is strong. Keeping it real guys.

Will: we get external accountants.

Hayden: will discuss more in my report

Motion 5.2: Amendments to the ANUSA Standing Orders - #1

Preamble

ANUSA meetings are very frequently are criticised for being too long and mean people struggle to engage with the whole meeting. These changes seek to improve the length of meetings by ensuring that debates are relevant, to the point, and continue to move.

'Three for; three against' already existing in the standing orders, and would require a full motion of dissent to challenge a Chair's decision to move to a vote - this allows the meeting to extend meaningful discussions where relevant and ensures that on uncontentious matters (ie. if all are in favour), that debate does not take up time repeating the same claims. These amendments balance discussion of important issues: where four speakers (a mover, seconder, 1st speaker for, 2nd speaker for) can speak before the motion is put, but prevents and prolonging of debate on unanimous issues.

Action

1. Amend 2.1.10, 2.1.11, 2.1.12 as follows.

~~2.1.10 Though the Chair must make reasonable efforts to equally divide the speaking list between speakers for and against, if no further members wish to speak against a motion but members wish to speak for it, at the discretion of the Chair and subject to the dissent of the meeting, such members may be allowed to speak. The same shall be true where no further members wish to speak for a motion but there are additional members who wish to speak against it.~~

~~2.1.11 Where three (3) members have already spoken for and against a motion, at their discretion and subject to the dissent of the meeting, the Chair may allow further speakers for and against the motion where to do so would further meaningful debate.~~

~~2.1.12 If dissent is expressed under 2.1.10, 2.1.11 or 2.1.12, the meeting must progress to a vote on a procedural motion to allow the contribution/s moved by the member who wishes to speak. If the vote carries, the member/s may speak to the motion.~~

2.1.10 The Chair must make reasonable efforts to equally divide the speaking list between speakers for and against a motion.

2.1.10.1 However, if no further members wish to speak for one side of a motion, the Chair may give the call to any speaker, regardless of their stance.

2.1.11 Subject to a procedural for further speakers passed by a simple majority, the Chair shall immediately put the question, subject only to the mover exercising their right of reply, if:

- (a) two (2) speakers have spoken on the same side of a motion or amendment and there are no speakers on the other side, or
- (b) three (3) speakers have spoken for and three (3) speakers have spoken against a motion or amendment.

Mover: Rosie Paton

Seconder: Kuba Meikle

Rosie: Up to the chair to decide if 3 or more speakers need motions. Difference is what happens after. Now it's a simple procedural, needs less hassle.

Motion 5.3: Amendments to the ANUSA Standing Orders #2

Preamble

These amendments also deal with clarity and detail with regard to provisions in the standing orders that are unclear and/or confusingly worded. The 'Questions' portion of the current standing orders is almost impossible to digest, verbose, opaque, and hard to follow consistently. These clarify the existing provisions in a digestible and clear way.

Action

1. Strike all of 3.9.1 - 3.9.10, and replace as follows.

3.9.1 A member may ask a question seeking greater clarity or information relating to the current agenda item.

3.9.2 Questions must:

- (a) Be only related to genuine clarification and shall not be used to advance an argument;*
- (b) Be concisely stated in 30 seconds or less;*
- (c) Not interrupt a speech;*
- (d) Not raise substantially the same issue(s) as a question which has already been asked during the meeting; and*
- (e) State to whom the question is being asked.*

3.9.3 The Chair may rule a question incompatible with these Standing Orders invalid.

3.9.4 Subject to a procedural motion increasing the number of questions passed by a simple majority there may only be a maximum of four (4) such questions per item.

3.9.5 Only the person to whom the question is directed shall answer a question, unless:

- (a) They defer the question to a particular member;
- (b) The Chair, by discretion, accepts an alternative response from another member;
- (c) Where a question is directed to a group of members, the Chair shall have discretion as to who is best placed to answer the question

3.9.6 A member asked a question on a report may take the question on notice if they wish to seek further information related to the question before responding. In that case, the member's response may be provided at the next scheduled meeting or in writing.

3.9.7 If the member to whom the question is directed is absent from the meeting, the question shall automatically be taken on notice.

3.9.8 Follow-up questions are not to be treated differently from any other question and shall count towards the limit in Standing Order 3.9.4.

Mover: Rosie Paton

Secunder: Kuba Meikle

Rosie: Asking questions on motions. About clarity, substance is not changing, it's about standing orders. The current way is quite considering and cross over themselves, they way this has been done is set out much more clearly what is written in them. Default max of 4 questions asked on any motion. You can make a procedural for that.

For: Carter: purpose of asking questions, there is not provision in a report to hold an officer to account by asking questions. When reports are submitted pretty late, i think it's valid to do so. We should have a provision about argument to make reports.

Rosie: provision about the motion, not the report.

Will: can reject reports if there's an issue

Motion 5.4: Amendments to the ANUSA Standing Orders #3

Preamble

ANUSA meetings are frequently considered tense places with a lack of clarity over the guidelines. These changes clarify the current interpretations of dealing with meetings. The Chair is currently empowered with broad powers to interpret the line of acceptable and unacceptable behaviour - this makes that much clearer.

For all members, there is greater clarity

Action

1. Add new 1.4.5:

1.4.5 The following shall constitute a breach of these Standing Orders and misconduct in a meeting of the Association:

- a) engaging in defamation
- b) engaging in discriminatory conduct or speech or vilification
- c) improperly disclosing confidential or private information
- d) engaging in personal attacks, harassment, abuse, insults, demeaning or aggressive conduct or speech against any person present at a meeting
- e) otherwise engaging in improper conduct harmful or that may be harmful to the health or safety of any person present at the meeting
- f) engaging in disruptive behaviour in a meeting
- g) failing to declare a conflict of interest and participating in decision making while conflicted
- h) misleading a meeting of the Association
- i) failing to leave a meeting of the Association after the chair of the meeting has properly directed a person to do so under clause 4.3.2 or 4.3.3.

2. Amend 4.3.1 - 4.3.3 as follows:

4.3.1 The Chair must be heard in silence and without interruption, and may name any person ~~for unruly and disruptive behaviour~~ in breach of these Standing Orders.

4.3.2 Where any person is named 3 times during the same meeting, that person must not be recognised by the Chair and must leave the meeting and the Chair may have the person removed from the meeting, may suspend proceedings until the person leaves, or may adjourn the meeting.

4.3.3 The Chair may have a person immediately removed from the meeting ~~for intimidating, bullying, abusive or harassing behaviour as defined in section 6.3 or as defined in section 6.2, but not for any other conduct~~ for breach of 1.4.5 (a), (b), (c), (d) (e), or (g). Any decision to immediately remove a member under this clause 4.3.3 may be invalidated by a simple majority. The Chair may also suspend a meeting until the person leaves or adjourn a meeting if the person has refused to leave.

3. Amend 6.2 and 6.2.1 and repeal 6.2.2 to clarify discrimination and vilification as follows:

6.2 *Discrimination and Vilification on the Basis of Gender, Race or Sexuality*

6.2.1 During meetings governed by these rules it is the responsibility of the Chair to protect members and students from any type of discrimination or vilification, whether based on gender, race, ~~or~~ sexuality or any other protected attribute.

6.2.2 ~~The Chair may have the discretion to have a person immediately removed from the meeting for extreme types of discrimination based on gender, race or sexuality.~~

Mover: Rosie Paton

Seconder: Hayden O'Brien

Rosie: Extensive list of discrimination and what cannot be said, standing orders and what can/not breach standing orders.

Hayden: It's important to have additional clarity. Eg. religion, or something homophobic would not be under the current system. Finally this issue has been fixed by the constitution. Thanks Sam.

Motion 5.5: Making it rain: Introducing the Clubs Funded Sponsored Pool

Preamble

ANUSA has long supported clubs and societies through funding grants, covering events, capital expenditure, merchandise, and general operational expenses. This year, we have a pool of \$200,000 to distribute across 125 clubs, with the most that any single club can receive being \$10,000. This is entirely funded by SSAF, which means that opportunities for funding growth are limited and often fail to meet the expanding needs of our vibrant club community.

Many large clubs, particularly discipline societies, get around this issue by recruiting external sponsors to give them money. This requires a huge volunteer time commitment from industry engagement subcommittees and is clearly not feasible for smaller clubs with limited personnel resources. The current system inadvertently creates a two-tiered club ecosystem where resource-rich clubs continue to thrive while smaller organizations struggle to compete for attention and funding.

During the last ANUSA election, I ran on an ambitious promise to safeguard the clubs system by introducing a sponsored pool of funding which runs parallel to the SSAF pool. This motion is the fulfilment of that promise and represents a transformative approach to club funding at ANU.

We've strategically focused the sponsored pool program on event funding, as events constitute the largest funding category within our clubs system. Most grant funding goes toward supporting club events that bring students together, create community, and enhance campus life. By targeting this high-demand area, we can maximize the impact of our sponsored resources where they're needed most.

The sponsored pool framework is designed with both flexibility and ethical considerations at its core. All participating sponsors must adhere to ANUSA's Ethical Sponsorship Policy, ensuring that funding sources align with student values. The framework creates a more equitable distribution system where clubs of all sizes can access additional resources without the administrative burden of managing individual sponsorship relationships.

Participation in the funding pool is completely optional, and sponsored grants are administered in the same way that SSAF grants are administered, reducing administrative overhead. To receive sponsored funding, clubs must meet *all* of the standard SSAF grant criteria, in addition to sponsor-specific criteria, such as including a logo on advertising material. This ensures that sponsored activities maintain the same high standards as SSAF-funded events and that student money is being spent appropriately.

Most importantly, the sponsored pool system preserves club autonomy while expanding opportunities. Clubs that prefer to operate solely with SSAF funding can continue to do so, while those seeking additional resources have a streamlined pathway to access them. This balanced approach respects the diversity of club needs and operational preferences.

The proposed changes introduce two new grants:

1. **Sponsored Event Enhancement Grant:** An additional \$5 per person to enhance events that meet the sponsored pool criteria. This brings the total amount of funding that a club could receive to \$13 per person per event. This enhancement allows clubs to elevate their event quality.
2. **In-Kind Sponsorship Grant:** A catch-all grant for goods and services we might receive from sponsors. This is classified as an operational grant so benefits can be distributed ahead of events that clubs use them for. Things that would fall under this category include ball venue hire, pallets of soft drinks, discount vouchers, and other non-monetary contributions that significantly reduce club expenses.

All sponsors of the program are subject to the ANUSA ethical sponsorships policy, which prohibits partnerships with organizations involved in environmental harm, labour exploitation, social harm, or other unethical practices. The changes do not impact on the ability for clubs to seek their own sponsors, preserving existing fundraising channels while adding new ones.

By adopting this framework, ANUSA takes a significant step toward creating a more sustainable and equitable funding ecosystem for our clubs and societies, ensuring they can continue to enrich campus life for years to come.

Proposed changes can be seen [here](#).

Action:

1. This meeting adopts the attached changes to the Clubs Regulations, establishing the Sponsored Pool of funding and introducing the Sponsored Event Enhancement Grant and the In-Kind Sponsorship Grant as new funding streams available to eligible clubs.
2. ANUSA recognises the importance of ethical sponsorship and reaffirms its commitment to upholding the Ethical Sponsorship Policy in all negotiations and agreements associated with the Sponsored Pool.
3. ANUSA calls upon clubs and students to contribute to the success of the Sponsored Pool by passing on sponsor leads to the ANUSA Treasurer and Clubs team.

Mover: Harrison Oates

Secunder:

Harrison: able to deliver market day, target grants and leverage to make o wekk bigger in collab with anusa. I delivered a dashboard to make funding caps and clubs calendar delivered after 3 years. These changes establish a parallel and transparent way and do 2 classes of grand. Extra \$5 per head and income grant from sponsors/clubs.

Dylan: more money for clubs.

Motion 5.6: Election Regulation Change - Paying Probity Officers

Preamble

The Probity Officers provide a crucial service during our election periods, these are students who volunteer their time in one of the most important ways for our association. Anyone who has ran in an election will know the importance of these positions, and the fact is that our elections would not function without these students contributions. In recognition of this, and with the hope to encourage other students to volunteer their time, I believe it is proper to provide a small monetary nod of thanks.

This is conditional on the competition of the Probity report, which is due two weeks following the declaration of results. I have also included two provisions where the President (or their delegate) in consultation with the Returning Officer will decide the specific allocations, this is done to minimise the chances that one probity officer who doesn't do a whole lot still receives some honoraria.

Action

Under Section 2.11 "Probity Officer" of ANUSA's Electoral Regulations,

Add new point 2.11.14 and associated sub-points to read:

2.11.14 The SRC, following the election of the Probity Officers, and before the call for nominations, may resolve to allocate an amount for honorarium to the Officers.

- a. Honorarium will be paid subject to the requirements of clause 2.11.12 being met.*
- b. The President, or their delegate in the case the President is contesting the election or otherwise conflicted, in consultation with the Returning Officer:
 - i. shall determine the split of the honorarium between the Probity Officers to reflect the individual's contribution throughout the election period up to a maximum of \$500 to an individual officer.*
 - ii. may resolve to not allocate an amount to a Probity Officer, if in the opinion of the President or their delegate and the Returning Officer, the honorarium is not necessary in recognition of their efforts.**

Mover: Will Burfoot

Seconder: Hayden O'Brien

Will: good change to pay probity officers a max of \$500, recognise these students put a lot of work into probity. To retain them as probity officers to retain that knowledge. They won't receive this honorarium until we receive the probity report. Positive change. Allocating the honorarium: appoint a pool, exec will divy up that pool, so if an officer doesn't do work, the src doesn't dissolve before election, the officer won't get money for nothing. Get recognised for it. Probity and disputes will be elected at src 3, to encourage people to do it, and expect a higher standard for probity.

Sarah: question: coming for the honorary pool? Budget?

Will: a limited cap of probity officers, flexibilities of a specific amount.

Sarah: can't we already pay them?

Will: we can ensure it happens with the election, so the report is done and pay them after the election. Will deliver the probity report on time Sarah. I promise.

Motion 5.7: Solidarity with students in the US

Preamble:

After the new Trump administration took office this year, students in US universities started to get targeted. Students who participated in peaceful protests or wrote in support of Palestine have been arrested. The target are international students who are on a student visa or hold a green card. Recently international students who committed minor infractions (eg speed driving ticket) received notice of termination of enrollment because their visa has been canceled. They have 15 days to leave US soil or they risk arrest. The attack to students by the US administration is outrageous and a crackdown on democracy and freedom of speech. As a student union we should stand in solidarity and publicly voice our support to those fellow students.

Action:

1. ANUSA opposes the cancelling of student visas in the US and stands in solidarity with those impacted.
2. The ANUSA Executive will release a statement in solidarity with the students in the US who are experiencing visa cancellations and arrests.

Mover: Gio

Seconder: Seungbin

Gio: targeting of international students specifically, and students. As a students union we should put something out there who are experiencing a difficult moment and their status of studying.

Seungbin: really important we show solidarity for US students. It's a massive dream.

Fascism always targets with people with the least rights. Eg. trans, people of colour, people in US. Important to stand up for people in the US and fight against the fascist regime in the US.

Will: Trump admin sent letter to Harvard, called it diversity of opinion. International students facing deportation. Encourage everyone to read that letter. Going into unis to students who don't comply and take their funding.

Sarah: statement about Trump admin, for students applying for exchange or post grad in America, will the union look into that? Is that something the union's thinking about?

Will: have thought about this. Uni is advising students the risk around that. We are inward looking. Students here are impacted by this and go for exchange to the US for eg. so we are working on that.

Seungbin: what work can be done for HDR students having funding cut off?

Will: I'm sure there is. Check with them and provide relevant support services. Maybe you, Gio and I can continue that discussion. It is a concern of ours as well and an issue that affects us.

Gio: right of reply: US level is very gory, but we have regimed and want the uni to go in a specific direction. If you are connected to other countries to bring this conversation to us as the union. Other people are struggling. It is important for us to stand with them with their own gov harassing them when they're study to come forward.

Motion 5.8: All is Fair in Exploiting International Students and War

Preamble

The past month watching the Federal election unfold has been a distressing period of time for many international students. Being an international student is to be a cog in a \$52 billion industry in Australia, disproportionately facing the burden of an increasingly transactional education experience with increases in fees, not for new services, but rather cuts and blame for housing crisis, cost of living, and instability within universities. International education in this country has been so focused on its continued financial growth and importance to the nation's economy that it has detached itself from its cancerous heart, the struggle of the exploited international student. The reality of an international student's lived experience is so far detached from the images of rental crises perpetuated by both the Labor and Liberal Parties, and paints a distressing image for us international students.

This past month, we've seen vicious political attacks by the Liberal opposition in blaming international students for making housing unaffordable for young people in this country. Policies such as an almost doubling of student visa prices from \$1,400 to \$2,500, with further increases to \$5,000 for Group of 8 Universities, making these visa fees non-refundable, alongside a \$2,500 university transfer fee for international students, a cap to 240,000 international students, and a review into the Subclass 485 Temporary Graduate Visa that allows international students to live, study, and work in Australia after they've completed their studies to address the "misuse" of the visa "as a way to gain access to the Australian labour market and as a pathway to permanent migration." Last year, Peter Dutton would describe international students as 'modern day boat arrivals,' it is no surprise he and his party are no friends of international students. On the other hand however, the Australian Labor Party is also by all means complicit in this toxic political discourse. We've seen during this term of government a massive increase in the Subclass 500 Student Visa fees from \$500 to \$1,600, making it the most expensive student visa in the world by far. The government has already reduced the number of years former students can stay on temporary graduate visas, and reduced the age limit to be granted a visa from 50 to 35 years. Furthermore, the Labor government has previously attempted to cap international student numbers to 270,000 despite widespread opposition to the policy from international student advocacy groups, the National Tertiary Education, and other policy groups. At a time when international students were looking for greater support, all Labor Minister Katy Gallagher had to say in response to Peter Dutton's policy announcement was that "the government also wanted to reduce the number of international students," and Peter Dutton was proposing a version of Labor's policy. To be an international student in the midst of this political discourse is to be an unseen cog in the \$52 billion dollar international education business, where discriminatory policies designed to create fear and division towards our society's most vulnerable are commonplace and we're just told to 'deal with it.'

The argument that international students are to cause the housing crisis is absolute farce that is detached from the lived experiences of international students. A recent study conducted by the Property Council of Australia finds just 4% of Australian rentals were taken up by international students (and 6% were taken up by domestic students), moreover finding median weekly rent increased by 30% while student visa arrivals decreased by 13% in the four years between 2019 and 2023. Further research by the University of South Australia, published in January, also found there was actually no direct correlation between the cost of rent in Australia and international student numbers. The reality however is that international students are less competitive in the rental market, not having local rent history and credit and therefore choosing exorbitantly expensive student accommodation. Last year in the

ANU, rent in student accommodation increased by up to 8%. Many international students are conversely priced out of student accommodation and forced into poor living conditions in shared houses through practices such as “hot-bedding,” or students sharing a bed in shifts to be able to afford rent. For many, it is being stuck between a rock and a hard place.

Furthermore, we’ve seen an alarming increase of racism directly particularly at international students this election cycle. This is both in the digital space with social media accounts showing algorithmic caricatures of migrant communities in Australia, or in physical spaces where walking in the streets of cities can get you at least an odd look, more frighteningly an insult and slur or threat of violence in your direction. This anti-immigrant sentiment intertwines with cost of living pressures and is amplified by voices of political leaders. Why is it when international students commit their personal and family’s finances to study abroad, to work hard in a job they’re limited in their working hours for and to study diligently, that political leaders choose to look down and punch down on society’s most disfranchised? This racism perpetuated by the top makes our daily existence a war of dignity, we as a society should be above that.

International students don’t want to be political footballs. If any, the discourse has made people feel unwelcomed, confused, and threatened. Many of us come to this country to seek opportunity, and in response to our commitment we are exploited and treated as cash cows. But it’s not just that, international students want more than just not being political footballs, but rather to be seen and heard for our genuine struggle. Beyond society-wide cost of living pressures, international students pay upfront 4x the fees to our domestic counterparts without access to HECS-HELP loans, or any sort of welfare support. Watching the election unfold, we seek resilience in our communities such as the International Students’ Department, but also more broadly in our Union and our peers. To cut through the noise in this toxic discourse and to fight for a world where international students are not exploited. This world is possible. We need to call for an end to the racist political discourse punching down on disenfranchised international students and for the onus to be placed on the government to address core issues behind housing unaffordability in this country. Successive governments have refused to tackle taxation reform and supply of public housing, and have prioritised profit growth rather than housing affordability. What we see in universities is an embracing of the corporate university focused on driving growth rather than research, built on the unstable foundations of international students. We need to see governments take stronger action on raising the standard of housing and education in this country, and to reject this race to the bottom when it comes to migration.

Something we can do as a Union is to support the creation of an ‘International House’ on campus, an autonomous space for international students to feel safe and welcomed in. This is beyond looking out for our international student peers, and to realise their struggle is part of a broader struggle for justice in migrant communities, equity in education, and a fairer society for us all.

After all, for our major parties, all is fair in exploiting international students and war.

Action

1. ANUSA writes in support of greater international student welfare to the Federal Education Minister, and ACT Education minister, and rejects any proposals on increasing Visa fees, university transfer fees, or establishing student caps.
2. ANUSA endorses the creation and protection of an Autonomous International Student safe space on campus.
3. The ANUSA Executive commits to working with the ISD Officer to identify petitions and campaigns regarding international education policy and international student welfare, and commits to endorsing and publicising these actions where appropriate.
4. ANUSA will coordinate with the National Union of Students and the National Tertiary Education Union to release a joint statement condemning the targeting of international students as a political tool during this federal election.

Mover: Seungbin

Seconded:

Seungbin: crazy time. Woke up to an announcement by Peter Dutton. Paid \$500 for a visa when first came to uni, that is non-refundable. Visas went up, this should be a large concern for a lot of people, and when we come to support students. More labour over liberal for caps being introduced. That's our policy. I think that's ridiculous for international students now. Advocate for international students' space. Appreciate NUS. what international students experience is hidden before the education industry. About what they contribute to the economy, not the lives of international students behind this machine. It is worth looking forward to what support and welfare. \$50k per sem, to make sure they get the opportunity and treat it with respect.

Someone: Unexpected times for anusa to support them financially. Need the agent fee. Having financial support about housing crisis. Anusa does provide 7 day accommodation which is important but people don't know about that.

Vaish: extending on that. International students make up 1/3 of the campus, significant part of the ANU community. Disappointing to be seen as numbers. Come to the opportunity to study and to be treated as human beings. Promise to do everything and to support Seungbin. Awesome to have an autonomous space on campus.

Gio: lots of HDR students, we would not survive without international students. Pay high taxes to come to this uni, who study here to do a phd at the ANU. should be more considerate of international students in general. Fully support this motion.

Motion 5.9: Support for the Poster Policy Working Group and Campus Free Expression

Preamble

In Semester 2, 2024, ANU management introduced a new poster policy under the guise of "aesthetic and operational integrity." This policy, however, significantly restricts student expression and the ability to advertise events, promote clubs, and engage in political activity. These changes arrive in the wake of widespread student protest over ANU's ties to weapons manufacturers and the controversial "Renew ANU" restructure, which threatens over 600 jobs. The timing and content of the policy reflect a broader crackdown on student dissent and campus culture.

The policy limits posters to small noticeboard spaces, imposes vague rules against “excessive” posterage, bans sandwich boards and stickers, and introduces a bureaucratic approval process that delays spontaneous communication. It also threatens disciplinary action for non-compliance, which has already had a chilling effect on student activism and club engagement.

In response, the Poster Policy Working Group (PPWG) has formed to oppose the policy and protect campus free expression. Our campaign includes mobilising affected students and staff, organising direct action and creative resistance, and pressuring ANU to rescind the policy entirely.

Action

1. ANUSA opposes the 2024 Poster Policy introduced by ANU and recognises it as a threat to student free expression and campus life.
2. ANUSA affirms the importance of freedom of expression in resisting harmful institutional decisions like Renew ANU.
3. ANUSA formally endorses the establishment and work of the Poster Policy Working Group in its efforts to repeal the policy and encourages all students to get involved.
4. ANUSA will assist in coordinating campaigns, including participation in actions and demonstrations, noting a first demonstration on the 7th May, Week 10, on Kambri Lawns at 1 pm.
5. The ANUSA Executive will release a statement condemning the poster policy and affirming ANUSA's commitment to defending free speech on campus.
6. ANUSA will advocate for a new, student-informed poster policy that promotes accessible, low-barrier communication and supports vibrant campus culture.

Mover: Dylan Adams

Seconder: Carter Chryse

Dylan: ANU released poster policy that gives no detail on what they want to restrict. Eg. on small noticeboards. They do not give much idea of what this is. Got a campaign coming up on this policy. Steps on student culture and student life. Restricts political expression. Come support us on 7 May wk10.

Carter: UWA has a similar policy. More broader crack down on freedom of speech. Culture and activism on campus. Massive course cuts. Anything you want to poster about. Things happening in a world of political development. The uni is our campus for that. Without putting posters, or gigs or rallies. We pay and get none of it. I support the action of the poster policy.

Harrison: if we won't run this campaign, it means all other campaigns will be hand strung. Seen the neo nazi stickers going around campus. It shows ANU does nothing to stop hate speech. Compared to tearing things down and pretending it doesn't exist. We are running a sticker event, and how fascists are not welcome on campus. Through public expression and counter speech.

Item 6: Other Business

Meeting closed at 7:17pm.

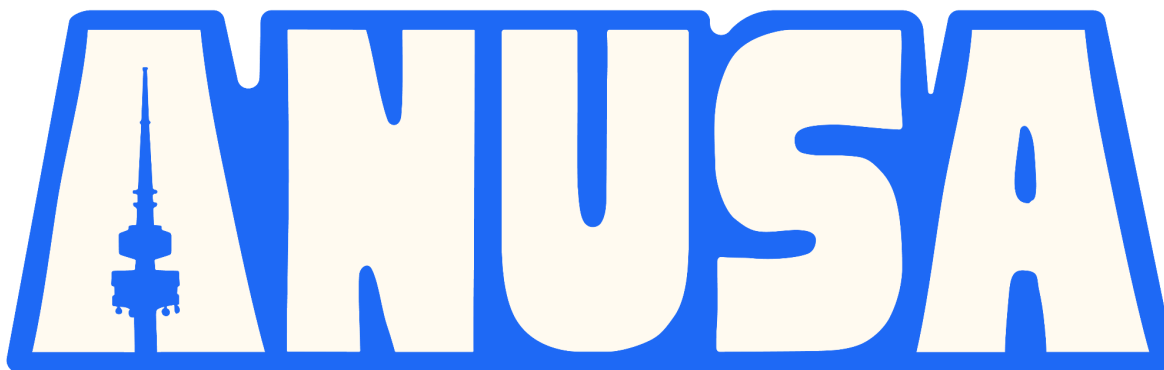
Item 7: Date of next meeting and close

The next General Meeting (OGM 2) is scheduled for the first term of Semester 2, 2025.

References

[Reference A] - President's Annual Report

ANUSA Annual General Meeting Report 2025



Summary

- The state of the union is strong, with 55% of the SSAF pool over three years we have certainty over funding which has enabled a longer term approach to decision making. I have confidence that we can push our case for a larger share of the SSAF pool when the agreement expires at the end of next year because student money should always be in student hands.
- Our array of services and programs demonstrates just how critical ANUSA is to students at the ANU, we saw continued growth in both demand and satisfaction which is a remarkable achievement by our fantastic staff.
- Through ANUSA representation on University committees we engaged on a wide set of important matters for students, these forums prove that ANUSA and our representatives reflect our diversity of students and opinions.
- ANUSA continued to be a strong activist force during 2024, building campaigns on issues that matter to students and pushing for more action not just within the University, but on both a territory and federal level.

Activism & Advocacy

- Divestment - Divestment was a key demand that students overwhelmingly supported as evidenced by the referendum at the election time, returning a strong 74% yes vote of students supporting the question, "Do you think ANU should withdraw all current investments in the weapons industry and make no further investments into the weapons industry". The ANU announced partial divestment from so called "controversial weapons manufacturers" after months of pressure from activists and following the deplorable decision to call the police on the Gaza Solidarity Encampment and the students peacefully demonstrating there. However this by no means go far enough, it's clear that students believe the ANU should have no ties with companies that profit off of war and violence.
- Double Deferred exams returned in 2024 as a result of advocacy by ANUSA, allowing students the very reasonable accommodations if they have an unforeseen issue and they need to reschedule their deferred exam.

- Poster Policy - The poster policy was launched in 2024 under the guise of environmental concerns and the "aesthetics" of campus, however it was clear that this was instead a response to student protest and dissent towards the University, it is one part of a larger crackdown that we saw in 2024 across Australian Universities. ANUSA remains opposed to the poster policy and the movement to restrict and condition activism and political activity.
- There was a number of other campaigns and projects that occurred in 2024, these include the Deadnaming report, the 2024 Racism report, the Daley Road bus campaign, the opposition to the parking fee hikes, concerns around the Universities monitoring of politically active students, the August 1st rally, and many others. These demonstrate the unions ability to mobilise and take strong stances on issues that are really important to students.

Services

- The ANUSA Legal team handled 957 matters in 2024, compared to 833 in 2023. Some helpful indicators are; wait times for appointments averaged at 6.03 days, 80% of students who used the service said they could not afford to obtain legal services otherwise, and there was a roughly equal split with 36.3% of students being postgrads, 33.7% being undergrads, and 30% being HDR students.
- Student Assistance had an incredibly strong year, going from strength to strength in academic matters, grants, and the other programs they administer. With strong demand particularly for our financial assistance grants indicating the cost of living was hitting students. We also launched the Indigenous Wellbeing Program which saw our first applicants in 2024 and looks set to be successful in 2025 as well as the HDR Completion Support Grant to assist research students as they near the end of their program.
- Shut Up and Write supported HDR students with structured yet flexible writing opportunities throughout the year. We hosted events over a wide range of locations including ANUSA, Marie Raey, Menzies, and Wright Hall. These sessions average around 14 people each which shows great engagement from HDR students.
- The Student Extracurricular Enrichment Fund (SEEF) supported a wide variety of events, conference attendances, shows and musicals, and other student activities.
- The BKSS remains a staple for students on campus, and with increased cost of living pressures we saw more and more students seek out the free food and drink provided out of the space. In 2024 we launched Lunch Express which provided free excess food from on-campus catering to students. This was a rousing success and sits well alongside student bites as another way we can get food to students.

Clubs, Societies, Social

- Our Club and Societies had their biggest year ever, with over \$230k spent by over 120 groups, they delivered an astounding variety of events.
- O-week and Bush week saw an incredible number of events attended by heaps of new and returning students. These weeks remain an important opportunity for students to become acquainted with ANUSA, as well as provide a warm welcome for those new to our community.

- Throughout 2024 we delivered numerous events for HDR and postgrad students, including but not limited to coffee catch-ups, networking opportunities, and information sessions and workshops.

Governance

- In 2024 the Association undertook a Governance review through NFP Consulting, this was a requirement from the additional funding we received in 2023 as part of our expansion to postgraduate and HDR students. Naturally with a long and strong history of being an undergraduate union we needed to think critically about how we could transition to really being the student union for all students, and while our constitution has served us well over the years, as with any organisation it is necessary to reflect on what has worked and what has not. It has been over 6 years since we holistically looked at our governance and while some of the recommendations will be adopted this year, it has provided a resource for future representatives to understand the challenges we face.

Future outlook

- While ANUSA continues to excel in our services, advocacy, and representation, we find ourselves in a more uncertain environment than has existed for a long time. Both within the University and Australian society at large we are faced by an increasing number of challenges, many of which intersect with the student experience in unique ways.
- It's critically important we continue to monitor how the Association is serving postgraduate and HDR students. We are made stronger if we are truly upholding our responsibility to be the representative body for all students. Supporting postgrads and research students doesn't just mean making our services available, it means understanding and fighting for their needs and ambitions as well.
- It's also essential that going forward we are able to be honest about where we are succeeding, and where we need to improve. While some really important constitutional amendments didn't get the requisite 75% at OGM this year, the issues that these amendments were seeking to address will continue to exist and will undoubtedly need to be addressed. My hope is this happens sooner rather than later.

[Reference B] - Treasurer's Annual Report

2025 ANUSA AGM Treasurer's Report

Introduction

Hello all you cool cats and kittens, if you did not already know my name is Hayden (he/him) and I am the 2025 ANUSA Treasurer. At every general meeting and SRC of this association it is my responsibility as Treasurer to present to you what I have been working on as well as provide an update on the financial position of the association.

The AGM report however provides an update on the work of the previous year's Treasurer and the financial position of the association in the financial year leading up to the beginning of my term. Last year's Treasurer made several key changes to the union's finances including finalising negotiations for a 3-year SSAF deal and instituting a financial policy framework to reform the union's finances and improve the financial oversight and governance of the union.

Any questions about this report or my current workings please direct to my email at sa.treasurer@anu.edu.au

Audited Financial Statements

ANUSA has completed its annual audit of the association's finances in the financial year beginning on the 1st of December 2023 and ending on the 30th November 2024. Unlike the standard Australian financial year; ANUSA operates on a schedule based on our SSAF funding year that runs simultaneous to the length of each ANUSA term. (Dec 1 - Nov 30). As is required this audit is run by external independent auditors and upon this meeting's acceptance of the signed statements they will be submitted back into the record.

ANUSA's Financial position as of 30th November 2024

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)).

Each year the ANUSA receives a majority of its funding from the Student Services and Amenities fee or SSAF. In 2024 ANUSA finalised negotiations with the university to begin a 3-year SSAF agreement instead of the 1 year agreement system previously in place. During these negotiations ANUSA was provided with 55% of SSAF and this agreement lasts until the end of the 2026 ANUSA Financial Year. In a time when student unions are increasingly under threat of defunding and lowering of the SSAF percentage they receive this was a massive win secured for the association. However as we now work for both undergraduate and postgraduate students we still continue to push for more SSAF in order to continue to provide ANU students with the support they need.

In 2024 the association received \$3,347,995 in SSAF funding and combined with other funds received a total revenue of \$3,468,254. The association also received a sizable portion of the “underspend” i.e. extra SSAF money that was not allocated at the beginning of the year. ANUSA regularly bids for this money to deliver extra projects beyond the day to day ones the union provides. These bids help pay for things such as migration training for the legal team, new equipment for the BKSS and department spaces as well as provide a much needed kickstart to programs the association provides students through areas such as student assistance.

During 2024 the President issued a directive to freeze the expenditure of the Environment Department due to concerns of financial mismanagement, SSAF compliance, and other matters of probity. This included expenditure over the course of 2023-2024 that was not eligible to be funded by SSAF and as a result was instead paid out of non-SSAF funds. This was done to ensure compliance with our SSAF agreement and minimise risk.

In 2024 the ANUSA operated in surplus with a profit of \$42,647 being reported. This income came from Market Day, Bush week as well as interest from our reserves. Additionally we had roughly \$1,500 in unspent SSAF. In accordance with SSAF rules all unspent SSAF funding must be returned by the end of the year, so the Association regularly brings forward expenditure for the succeeding year to utilize the SSAF funds and then reinvests all non-SSAF profit into our reserves.

As stated above the ANUSA maintains non-SSAF reserves which provide financial stability and interest income. These reserves are primarily placed in 3 month and 6 month term deposits. The 2024 ANUSA Treasurer began the process of investing some of these reserves in order to continue to provide long-term security of the association’s finances.

Expenditure report

Profit and Loss

The Australian National University Students' Association

Incorporated

For the period 1 December 2024 to 11 April 2025

Account	1 Dec 2024-11 Apr 2025	1 Dec 2023-11 Apr 2024
SSAF Income		
SSAF Allocation	1,430,000.00	1,337,577.99
Total SSAF Income	1,430,000.00	1,337,577.99
SSAF Expenses		
Accounting/Bookkeeping - Xero	835.25	698.85
Auditing	27.27	27.27
Bank Fees with GST	206.70	167.10
Bank Fees without GST	413.60	507.83

BKSS - Asset purchases	708.00	0.00
BKSS Food/Consumables	18,944.39	18,947.45
BKSS Non-food	462.50	5,525.13
Motor Vehicle expenses	2,840.81	10,024.94
Club Funding	53,056.71	28,569.28
Clubs Council Grants Committee	0.00	215.44
College Representatives	336.57	108.16
Consultancy	20,295.00	6,930.00
Departments & Collectives	50,052.45	69,602.61
Education Committee	4,020.00	5,224.91
Equipment Expense	2,975.00	20,591.50
Fees & Subscriptions	45,742.78	52,994.98
Leadership and Professional Development	19,696.18	30,475.61
Legal Expenses & Consultancy	12,714.60	10,147.35
Marketing & Communications - Advertising	0.00	149.99
Marketing & Communications - Merchandise	0.00	30,187.05
Marketing & Communications - Printing	656.36	5,526.53
Marketing & Communications - Software Subs	971.02	761.20
Meeting Expenses	276.36	109.09
Membership Solutions Limited	200.00	23,210.00
NUS	0.00	5,681.82
Other Employee Expense	5,611.70	6,311.05
O-Week Events	47,859.98	56,241.43
O-Week Merchandise	0.00	4,486.00
Parental Leave payable	(1,282.12)	0.00
Printer	243.43	519.77
Department - Honoraria	0.00	(100.00)
Department - Stipends	56,627.54	51,078.14
Department - Superannuation	5,836.36	5,618.66
Salaries and Wages	574,071.93	480,957.92
Salaries and Wages - ANUSA Exec & Officers	94,806.98	88,126.50
Salaries and Wages - BKSS	20,164.05	22,158.05
Salaries and Wages - Event Coordinators	15,237.94	14,282.44
Superannuation Expense	93,017.23	79,355.35
Superannuation Expense - ANUSA Exec & Officers	14,183.37	9,400.97
Superannuation Expense - BKSS	2,109.81	2,458.85
Superannuation Expense - Event Coordinators	2,059.18	1,777.21
SAT Purchases - Grocery Vouchers	0.00	5,642.00
SAT Purchases - Student Meals & Others	3,906.65	21,112.74
Student Assistance Team Grants	31,719.53	27,908.90
Skill Up	3,966.84	0.00
Staff Amenities	273.36	231.38
Stationery/General Supplies/Postage	621.40	1,517.25
Student Engagement	0.00	491.15
Utilities	3,299.21	603.71
Workers Compensation Insurance	0.00	12,260.30
Total SSAF Expenses	1,209,765.92	1,218,823.86

SSAF Surplus/ Deficits	220,234.08	118,754.13
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Other Income

Interest Income	6,945.09	(18,005.64)
Miscellaneous (Sundry) Income	46,122.31	2,144.40
Other Grant Funding	0.00	850.00

O-Week Income	32,684.09	32,925.00
Ticket/Event Sales - O Week	550.02	842.79
Total Other Income	86,301.51	18,756.55

Other Expenses

Other Student Grants	0.00	7,687.00
Social Profolio	180.67	941.82
Birth Control Subsidy	5,947.47	6,464.71
SEEF Grants	30,120.16	4,848.36
Parents and Carers	0.00	427.13
Shut Up and Write program	707.91	11,020.00
Total Other Expenses	36,956.21	31,389.02

Net Profit	269,579.38	106,121.66
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Executive Decisions since December 1st

It is also the responsibility of the Treasurer to report on expenditure of the union when it requires executive approval; that is when expenditure for one item or program costs over \$5,000. Since December 1st that has been:

- \$5000.00 to Harwicks Consulting for Department Tax Advice
- \$29,154.00 to Select Events Canberra for Market Day Related Expenditure (final number)
- 8,910.00 to Josh Farr Consulting for ANUSA Service Quantification
- \$32,214 to Select Events Canberra for Market Day Related Expenditure (preliminary)

Timesheet

From the 1st of December 2024 to the 11th of April 2025 I have worked a total of 223.5 hours with two days of leave.