



AGENDA – ANUSA STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC) 1 2022

Wednesday, 23 February 2022, 6:15pm

Zoom and Graneek Room (NB. Graneek Room is available to SRC representatives only)

<https://anu.zoom.us/j/84880288396?pwd=Qk1SQVBHUnBvbnJ4Qm54d1k3M1FKUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 8028 8396

Password: 094794

Item 1: Meeting Opens and Apologies

- 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country
- 1.2 Apologies

Item 2: Passing the previous meetings minutes

Item 3: Executive Reports

- 3.1 President's report (C. Flynn) [Reference A]
 - 3.2 Vice President's report (C. Nyakuengama) [Reference B]
 - 3.3 Education Officer's report (B. Tucker) [Reference C]
 - 3.4 General Secretary's report (B. Yates) [Reference D]
 - 3.5 Treasurer's report (J. Ryan) [Reference E]
 - 3.6 Clubs Officer's report (P. O'Neill) [Reference F]
 - 3.7 Welfare Officer's report (G. King) [Reference G]
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Item 4: Department Officer Reports

- 4.1 Indigenous Department (K. Russell) [Reference H]
- 4.2 Women's Department (A. Daruwalla) [Reference I]
- 4.3 Queer* Department (X. Romilio) [Reference J]
- 4.4 International Students' Department (C. Fonseka) [Reference K]

4.5 Disabilities Department (S. Bannister) [Reference L]

4.6 Environment Department (F. Brown and E. Chua) [Reference M]

4.7 Bla(c)k, Indigenous and People of Colour Department (C. Nguyen) [Reference N]

Item 5: NUS Delegate Report

5.1 NUS Delegate Report (S. Winn) [Reference O]

5.2 NUS Delegate Report (C. Flynn) [Reference P]

Item 6: NUS President Summit Report

6.1 President Summit Report (B. Yates) [Reference Q]

6.2 President Summit Report (C. Flynn) [Reference R]

Item 7: Discussion Items/Motions on Notice

Motion 7.1

Confirming the Election of Department Officers

The SRC confirms the election of the following Department Officers:

Xya Romilio – Queer* Officer

Avan Daruwalla – Womens Officer

Katchmirr Russell – Indigenous Officer

Chanel Nguyen – BIPOC Officer

Saf Bannister – Disabilities Officer

Chamika Fonseka – International Students Officer

Freya Brown – Environment Officer

Moved: Christian Flynn

Seconded:

Motion 7.2

Confirming General Representative Appointment

The SRC confirms the appointment of Dorcas Bugeme to the vacancy in the position of General Representative created by the resignation of Samantha Shaw.

Moved: Christian Flynn

Seconded:

Motion 7.3

Confirming Appointment of Deputy Education Officers

The SRC confirms the appointment of the following members to the position of Deputy Education Officer:

Luke Harrison

Jasmine Delaney

Perpetual Nkatiaa Boadu

Gabriel Luca-Morison

Moved: Beatrice Tucker

Seconded:

Motion 7.4

Solidarity with Adelaide University SRC

The Adelaide University SRC is currently subject to an anti-democratic attack from a right-wing student bloc who control the Adelaide University Union (AUU) board.

In the last student elections, the Adelaide uni student body voted overwhelmingly to reject the coalition of the LNP and the right wing ticket Progress, and elected students from Socialist Alternative, the Greens, and Labor. In response, the right implemented a undemocratic 'funding agreement', which prohibits the SRC from using its funding for anything disagreeable to the AUU. This agreement has been invoked to block spending on O'week materials, specifically a counter-guide to highlight the cuts being made by the Adelaide Uni administration, NUS material, and anti-fascist stickers printed to counter far-right propaganda stickers which have been appearing on the campus.

This is a way for the right, which has lost the student elections, to use bureaucracy to try and prevent more left wing student representatives from carrying out the activities they were elected to do, and to undermine opposition to uni cuts, and to undermine the left-wing president Ana Obradovic. Additionally, student media on campus have been subject to pressure to not publish content disagreeable to the AUU board.

Motion:

1. The ANUSA SRC condemns the right-wing, anti-democratic attacks on the Adelaide Uni SRC.
2. The ANUSA SRC recognises the importance of campus activism, and opposes efforts to stifle campus activism and unionism.
3. The ANUSA SRC will sign on to the Adelaide Uni SRC statement to defend student union democracy: <https://www.facebook.com/adelaidesrc/posts/255109323461311>

4. The ANUSA SRC will share this statement on their facebook page.

Mover: Carter Chryse

Secunder:

Motion 7.5

No AUKUS at ANU

Early last year, the Department of Defence announced it will sponsor defence employees and other public servants for a Master of Science in Nuclear Science at the ANU as part of its Nuclear Science Academic Program.

The program, which will see more than 300 scholarships awarded nationally, is an attempt by the Morrison government to train a workforce capable of building and maintaining the nuclear submarines secured under the AUKUS alliance.

The AUKUS alliance is part of an aggressive military build-up by the US and its allies - including Australia - for a confrontation with China. It is not a defensive alliance, but about ensuring continued US domination of the Indo-Pacific region, and that Australia is better militarily equipped in the event of war against China.

More than 300 scholarships will be offered around the country as part of the program, worth approximately \$20,000 per student per year. This means that over \$12 million will be spent on training as part of this military expansion in the next couple of years alone.

The submarines themselves are already Australia's most expensive military expenditure of all time. It could cost up to \$171 billion to build them, according to a report from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, and nearly as much again to maintain them over their lifetimes. Military expenditure as a proportion of GDP is set to continue to increase over the coming years in order to facilitate this.

This comes after federal funding for higher education was slashed by nearly 10% over the next three years in the 2021 budget. Federal funding cuts and university restructures have seen 1 in 5 university staff lose their jobs across the country in the 12 months to May 2021. 465 jobs alone have been cut at ANU along with hundreds of courses, multiple schools, degrees, and other qualifications.

This announcement shows where the priorities of the Morrison government lie - there's plenty of money available for higher education when it comes to funding war. It is equally appalling the the ALP has signalled its complete agreement with the Morrison government in this matter, pledging to support AUKUS and the building of the submarines.

Higher education should not be geared towards expanding a destructure industry. Both the dangerous military aggression of AUKUS and deeper ties between the military and the higher education sector must be opposed.

Action:

1. ANUSA demands that ANU reverses its decision to participate in the Nuclear Science Academic Program and rejects any future involvement with the Department of Defence
2. ANUSA calls on the federal government to scrap the program altogether, with the money put instead towards increasing Commonwealth funding for universities.

3. ANUSA will share the Education Activism Network's petition No AUKUS at ANU (<https://www.change.org/p/vice-chancellor-brian-schmidt-no-aucus-at-anu>) through its Facebook page and newsletter and encourage students to sign on.

Mover: Carter Chryse

Seconder:

Item 8: Other Business

Item 9: Meeting Close

The next meeting of the Student Representative Council is scheduled to be on Wednesday, 23 March at 6:15pm on Zoom with an in-person option in the Graneek Room of Chifley Library.

Expected Close of Meeting: 9:00pm

Released: 21 February 2022 by Ben Yates

Reference A

SRC 1 President's Report

Christian Flynn

23/2/2022

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1. Introduction
2. External Advocacy and Activism
 - a. Academic Advocacy
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 - a. BKSS
 - b. Free stuff that ANUSA has handed out
 - c. O Week
4. Internal ANUSA Projects
 - a. ANUSA Policies Review
 - b. Archive Work
 - c. Department and Executive Support
5. Major projects
 - a. Clubs Reform
 - b. Night Café
 - c. QPay
6. Miscellaneous
 - a. Office clean-up
 - b. Hours

1. Introduction

Hi SRC! I'm Christian (he/him) and I'm incredibly proud to be your president for 2022. The president's role is hard to pin down, but essentially, I'm most concerned with ensuring that the overall functioning of ANUSA is as good as it can be. I focus on supporting everyone else to achieve their major projects, as well as overseeing the biggest projects that we run, such as major events, the proposal to create a Night Café, and major advocacy campaigns. My work often involves seeing what the rest of the executive needs from me and trying to see how we can provide the resources that they, and indeed the whole SRC, need to succeed in your projects.

Briefly, I want to start off my first (real) SRC report reiterating what I said in SRC Zero – I aim to be someone that is approachable and easy to chat with at any point. There should not be a divide between

the general student body and the ANUSA executive. While it's tough to avoid, particularly as so much of my job necessarily devolves into endless meetings, I want to be as responsive and receptive as I can possibly be to the concerns and questions you all have. I encourage any of you to send me a slack or email any time about anything on your mind – my inbox is about 200 emails larger than what I'm used to, but I promise in time, I will get back to replying to you. The same goes for any student who wants to share their concerns and thoughts with me. On that note, I'd like to emphasise that a healthy democracy of any kind involves regular contact between the elected representatives and those that they seek to represent. This is a strong value of mine, and I hope to be able to fulfill it over the coming year.

2. External Advocacy and Activism

Academic Advocacy

A lot of work with Saf and Chido on the return to campus. There's a lot more work to be done, but I'm pleased that we've been able to make some progress in bringing more support for students who aren't safe on campus as COVID moves through the general population. I encourage you all to reach out to me on sa.president@anu.edu.au if you have further concerns about how the return to campus is being managed.

Committees

I sit on several Committees at the ANU. The most important of these is probably the Academic Board. I attended an Academic Board workshop about the future of undergraduate degrees at the ANU. This was just an initial brainstorming session essentially, but a major part of this that I will continue to push for is a large-scale of student consultation.

I also sit on the RRWG. With Chido, Bianca (the IHC Chair), and Avan, we have planned out a year-long approach to achieving a variety of objectives in SASH. In the coming weeks, I hope to draft a proposed oversight body for the RRU and the Student Safety Response Team. I hope that this oversight body can replace and build upon the work of the current RRWG. This is a big project, and I don't expect it to be easy, but I'm hopeful we can make some progress by the end of the semester on this.

On a side note, a lot of you have been asking about ANU Committee allocations – the ANU has changed a lot of their committees but not kept ANUSA updated, I am going to need a few more weeks to track down every single committee. Apologies for the delay, but entire committees no longer exist it seems, so some rejigging of the allocations will be necessary.

COVID Updates

COVID is, despite how the government and media might act, still ongoing. The effect is huge, particularly when it comes to the risk that immunocompromised people face every day, cannot be understated. This remains my priority in our advocacy with the university.

Now, there are a lot of developments occurring in the residential hall space. This is fast moving, and I can provide a better update in-person.

Recent Actions

I'm incredibly impressed by the work done by members of ANUSA's departments on some key protests, namely the Invasion Day Protests as Katchmirr and the Indigenous Department contributed greatly towards, as well as Xya with the Queer* Department on the Kill the Bill protests. Both protests had a lot of other contributors, but it's important to recognise the endless hard work and emotional labour of department officers. My own contribution pales in comparison to that work, but I'm proud that I helped provide the bus for those in need of transportation on Invasion Day, as well as sourcing a generator that ANUSA now owns for the Kill the Bill snap action.

3. Social and Welfare

BKSS

Not my area to comment on, but I can't help but give a huge shout-out to Chido for her incredible work in the BKSS over the summer. The space has been completely renovated and looks incredible. There are huge numbers of people in there now, and the massive engagement is a testament to Chido's commitment, competence, and care for the student body.

Free stuff ANUSA has handed out

This one's fairly simple – since O Week began, we've handed out approximately 1500 ANUSA tote bags with ANUSA resources in them, as well as 2500 campus kits (over the last 24 hours no less). Combined with thousands of students provided with breakfasts, wall calendars, and everything on the mutual aid shelves, I'm pleased that we've reached so many students. Hopefully we can continue to build on that over the coming months. I also want to give a big shout out to Grace for her work on Mutual Aid.

O Week

O Week was a massive success, and huge congrats are owed to Phoenix and everyone else who helped. I have a few observations, the most important being that engagement was higher this year than it has been for a few years. The return to campus was something that it appears a lot of students were eager for. In terms of the effect on O Week, this did leave us a bit behind on a couple of events, but the coordinators, executive, and trustees worked hard to make sure as many events as possible were unaffected.

Overall, as best as I can tell, the week was well received by most students. I understand not every student is going to be satisfied with how we run O Week. In response to those students, I just want to say that we're always willing to improve and listen to feedback – we're eager to make our events as inclusive, accessible, and welcoming as possible.

4. Internal ANUSA Projects

ANUSA Policies Review

This is a long-term project, but I have begun a broad process of just reviewing several ANUSA policies and documents that are becoming a little bit outdated. The last round of review of some documents was in 2016, so I'm keen to update a number of those documents. This is something that will be mostly

dealt with internally and with stall consultation. Some of the policies will also be brought to the SRC for consideration.

Archive work

Not super important or a big part of my hours, but I have begun to sort through the hundreds of pages of documents in the president's office and the ANUSA records in general. There's a lot of good bits of information, and I hope to create a bit of an archive for future presidents to be able to dig into when in need of inspiration of how previous years dealt with the challenges of their time.

Department and executive support

This is not a category that is easy to elaborate on, but a significant part of my hours goes towards supporting the rest of the ANUSA executive and department officers to feel supported during their work at ANUSA. Chido is a massive part of this process, and while it's early days, I'm hopeful that we can continue to build upon progress from last year to create an atmosphere of care and support for everyone. In the coming weeks, I'm hoping to establish some processes for supporting those individuals as best as we can.

5. Major Projects

Clubs Reform

Phoenix, Ben, and I are working on some major changes in Club Policy. While we're only at the beginning of this process, I'm hopeful that we can make a lot of progress in making everyone's lives easier in the Club space.

On this note, I have spent a fair amount of time working with Phoenix on what the Clubs Officer role does and does not entail. As it currently stands, the role is simply too big to be manageable on the current hours. I don't believe that this is a reason to not have a Clubs Officer – I very much am of the belief that we some Phoenix has done an incredible job up till now, but I'm keen to slowly adjust how the role is constructed. I believe that Clubs Reform itself will be how we can achieve this.

Night Café

I have been working with Chido and Jaya to develop our plans for a Night Café at ANU. This is a huge project and there's a long way to go – at this stage, however, we are making progress on a lease and a full business proposal with which to progress on that lease front. I'm working with staff and key executive to develop a plan for how we approach this over the coming semester. Stay tuned for more information as it comes up.

QPay

After months of negotiation starting last year, I'm pleased to say that we have finally signed a contract with QPay to provide digital support services over the next year. This is a huge win for students, and I'm really pleased that we managed to get over the line with it. As with so many things in my report, this is best covered by other members of the executive, but I want to highlight two things:

- QPay will help provide a brand-new website for ANUSA – ANUSA has needed a digital revamp for a long time, and I'm excited to avoid doing my real job and just fiddle with the website for hours on end.
- QPay will also provide a structure for the aforementioned clubs reform. An online affiliation, grants, and communications system will be the easiest way to make life easier for the average club's executive.

6. Miscellaneous

Office, BKSS, and foyer clean-up

Not the most exhilarating of updates, but the entire executive has been incredibly helpful in completing a clean-up in the office and the foyer. We've also installed new storage structures in the office and foyer, including one that is being used for mutual aid. While this may not seem important, we've found a huge number of items that we have been able to handout or reuse, and I'm hopeful that we can create an inventory over the year. As ANUSA is very much an organisation focused on the material wellbeing of our membership, then I believe it makes sense to take our physical spaces seriously. I also like to clean things.

Hours

As of the end of O Week, I've worked over 450 hours at over 48 hours per week. Many of these hours came from long days of work, such as Presidents' Summit, as well as O Week itself.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

CHIDO CHEMOYO NYAKUENGAMA

As at Monday the 21st of February 2022



CONTENT WARNING:

This report discusses sexual assault and harassment, racism and discrimination under the Ongoing Issues section.

SUMMARY:

ONGOING ISSUES

- ★ RETURN TO CAMPUS
- ★ SASH AT ANU
- ★ ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

PROJECTS COMPLETED

- ★ BUS LIFE
- ★ TRAINING
- ★ BKSS REINVIGORATION
- ★ BKSS REOPENING
- ★ LIBRARIES PANEL
- ★ O WEEK

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- ★ BALCONY RENOVATION
- ★ UNIVERSAL LUNCH HOUR

FUTURE PROJECTS

- ★ RETREAT 2022

ONGOING ISSUES

RETURN TO CAMPUS

Many students expressed deep concern with the ANU's messaging regarding returning "back to campus". Working with Christian I have had many meetings in the last few months with various sectors of the ANU, to ensure student concerns are being continuously brought straight to decision makers. It has been a lot of hard work and unfortunately, many people are still having negative experiences navigating accommodation, enrolment, tutorial allocation and overall physically attending campus when it is unsafe for them to do so. I would like to thank Disabilities Officer Saffron for going above and beyond in advocating for his community.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT ANU

Alongside President Christian and Women's Officer Avan, I have attended numerous SASH related meetings and consultations with the ANU since my handover period began. The ANU is due to release several SASH related reports in the near future. I would like to emphasise as always our stance as an association, of standing with survivors. This is a very painful topic for many and I would like to thank every student who had dedicated their time and spirit to stand up against the ANU for decades. The work we do every day is because of the sacrifice of so many advocates and the change we have today is because of them. I would especially like to thank Avan, Christian and IHC Chair Bianca for their ongoing work in the space. Looking forward, I anticipate this year will be just as difficult, if not more for survivors on

ANU Campus. Change is very slow, but as always I would encourage survivors to reach out to the Women's Department.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

Under my election policy to create an Anti-Discrimination policy for ANUSA and furthermore the ANU, I have been doing a copious amount of research. I have met with student and staff advocates from several other universities to better understand how they institute policy into their teaching and student life practices. This is an ongoing project and if anyone would like to give input I am more than happy to meet and discuss it. I will be putting out several surveys very soon and organising consultation sessions to be held after the teaching break.

As the ANU reworks its IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access) framework, Christian and I have been meeting with many actors in the university. Notably, the new Equity and Belonging team will be overseeing the rework this year. I anticipate that ANUSA's advocacy works, especially Departments will continue to put pressure on the ANU for adequate change in the right direction. I look forward to informing ANUSA members of whatever changes the ANU brings about this year and figuring out how best our work can continue to foster positive change.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

BUS LIFE

The day I got my full licence Christian taught me how to drive the bus and it has quickly become my favourite activity of all time. We successfully use the bus to transport equipment to and from several events so far as well as doing lots of Costco trips. I'm very much looking forward to clubs and societies using the bus for their various activities with our forest hire in March locked in! I'm working with Christian on building a quick training session for those hiring it out to feel more prepared and confident using the bus too. Big shout out to 2021 Treasurer Jin for doing all the hard yards with purchasing and registration last year so we get to enjoy this really awesome tool of our association!

TRAINING

After some very tedious planning, we have finally gotten members of the SRC first aid and Mental Health First Aid certified. This was a really tricky feat with ongoing restrictions and competing schedules, so I would like to thank everyone who made a big effort to ensure they were trained before their constitutionally required deadline of 0 Week. Department Officers and Executive are accredited so far, and I am looking to train College and Gen reps in late March. As more opportunities open up, I would like to see these trainings offered to other members of ANUSA such as clubs council and Department executives.

BKSS REINVIGORATION

Since SRC Zero I've done a lot more work on the BKSS Space and foyer. There are a few more walls to be painted and toasters to be purchased here and there. But overall the space is looking great! In the last week, students and BKSS staff have been able to put their own spin on things and I'm excited to see what else we can do to make the space more user friendly this semester. If you have feedback on the BKSS please let me know here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdaTy_pe89r67-2G3AE2DVrQmtHiVqhYaA-tlaswrGXu6IvbA/viewform?usp=sf_link

BKSS REOPENING

We reopened the BKSS to students on the 11th of February and every day since we have had a usage that is monumental in comparison to the last 2 covid impacted years. Breakfast has seen around 50-100 people every day and there has been a steady flow of students using the space for the whole day. I am very proud of our staff, who I hope you all come into the space to meet. They worked tirelessly to be trained, first aid and mental health first aid accredited all within a week of our opening. I am looking forward to serving more students every day and watching the space grow this year!

LIBRARIES PANEL

Alongside the PARSA Vice President Delphine, I attend the ANU libraries 2022 planning day where I discussed student experiences and answer questions from library staff about student needs. This was a really great opportunity to hear how motivated library staff are to support students this year. Libraries have a lot of free resources and welfare that can be offered to every single ANU student. I'm looking forward to being a part of some more collaboration between our 2 areas of the university this year!.

0 WEEK

After being somewhat abandoned during the lockdown period, the BKSS was not in the best shape. After some cleanup of old food, plants and supplies that has been in the space, I started redesigning in the last week of November. We now have a whole bunch of fresh new furniture, kitchen supplies, decor and accessibility accessories that will be sure to liven up the space. I am very excited to reopen in February just before 0-week so we can start providing the BKSS services to students directly once more!

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

BALCONY RENOVATION

The balcony space outside of the ANUSA Office has been drastically underused, and often times a dumping ground for various members of the ANU. In my opinion, this is due to the oftentimes student unfriendly design and layout of the Di Riddell building. I am hoping to bring some life to the space but also broaden ANUSA's capacity to host events. Taking the same approach as I did with BKSS, I will be repainting, adding furniture and planters. Hopefully, we'll reopen come teaching break ready for clubs and societies to book the balcony as a great free venue for their events.

UNIVERSAL LUNCH HOUR

ULH is coming back! After a great week supporting clubs and students in 0 Week, we will start again from Thursday Week 1 with ANUSA's SRC hosting! We are continuing a free sausages sizzle lunch, with vegan and gluten free options, but hoping to expand to more diverse options as the semester goes on. Any clubs interested in hosting ULH this sem, please fill out the following form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfpBYn8z83bzMdZh-YI_tALvD85835mUIx_WpndDlVe_0c5gg/viewform?usp=sf_link

FUTURE PROJECTS

RETREAT 2022

With almost 100% of our SRC back in Canberra, I've started planning options for SRC retreat. This will hopefully be more of planning/professional development experience that will up-skill members whilst shedding light on

some overlooked issues in regular ANUSA operations. I'm really excited to share more info very soon, but tentative dates are during the semester 1 teaching break.

TIMESHEET

I have worked 350 hours since my term began on December 1st till now. This time was mostly spent working on BKSS, helping with O Week and attending meetings with the ANU. If you would like a more detailed breakdown of my timesheet, feel free to email me at sa.vicepres@anu.edu.au.



Education Officer Report SRC 1 23/02/22

Summary

- **O-week**
- **Dep Ed Process**
- **Banner Library**
- **Protest Supplies**
- **Invasion Day Support**
- **Support the Religious Discrimination Bill**
- **Liaising with NUS Education Officer**
- **NUS**
- **Student Safe Protest Guide**

O-week

Unfortunately during O-week I was in isolation. I was in isolation due to being a household contact on Monday 7/02 week before O-week and tested positive with covid-19 on Thursday 10/02. My isolation ended Friday 18/02. I am still very fatigued and continue to have sore lungs so may need to take sick leave if I don't improve, in order to rest and recover.

During O-week I coordinated from afar:

- A banner paint: ANUSA Balcony TUESday 12-2pm.
- A movie night of Ningla a na, Wed night 8-10pm.
- Had an EdCom section at the ANUSA market day stall.

Many thanks to my Deputy Education Officers, the members of the ANUSA Exec and to the department officers for filling in on my events when I couldn't be there.

Dep Ed Process

- Started the deputy officer processing having opened the form on 5/01/22 and was open for two weeks closing on Thursday 20/01/22 at 10am. 15 people applied in total and 4 people were selected based on an interview process.
- Ben and Bea will be completed interviews on Mon 24th & Tues 25th Jan via zoom.
- The selected applicants were, Luke Harrison, Jasmine Delaney, Perpetual Nkatiaa Boadu and Gabriel Luca-Morison.

Banner Library

- Spent the summer collecting hundreds of pieces of cardboard from the BKSS revamp items in order to be prepared for snap rallies that ANUSA might be involved in that come up.

- There was an event in O-week to contribute to it, having contacted each department to ask if they'd like to contribute slogans that people could gain inspiration from and use, which many departments took up.

Protest Supplies

- Taking stock of the supplies ANUSA currently has to be ready and equipped for protests/ marches and rallies, investigating what's in need of maintenance/ what else we might need to procure.

Invasion Day w/ Indigenous Dep (Katchmirr & Amy)

I worked with Katchmirr and Amy from the Indigenous department, along with others in ANUSA to help facilitate a marshals, megaphones, shade and marquees, snacks, first aid, water and an accessibility bus for protest march attendees in the 50th Anniversary Invasion Day Rally that took place on 26th January 2022.

Stop the religious discrimination Bill rally

Supported the Queer department and Queer Officer Xya in the organisation of their rally against the religious discrimination bill, helping with speakers, media, equipment, marshals, first aid, mental health first aid, de-escalation. I also MC'd the rally.

Liaising with NUS Education Officer

Have been in conversation with the NUS education officer Luc Valez. He was very generous during O-week, coming down last minute to Canberra from Sydney, to support the Education Committee stall when I came down with COVID-19 and was in isolation.

NUS

Attended the President's Summit in both my capacity as Education Officer and as the ACT State Branch President of the NUS. Ben Yates wrote a report covering the events of the NUS.

Student Safe Protest Guide

- Before I came down with COVID-19 I had a plan, along with Elise Chua (co-enviro officer) and Deputy Ed Officer and General Representative Luke Harrison, to produce a 'Student Safe Protest Guide, 1st Edition' to be printed and handed out at O-week.
- Due to my illness this document hasn't come to fruition but have been in meetings with Elise and Luke working on this project across the summer.
- Work on this will continue, pending my energy levels with COVID-19 recovery.

Hours

I've done 221hrs since December 1st in my capacity as the ANUSA Education Officer.

Reference D

General Secretary's Report

SRC Zero

Ben Yates

CW: brief mentions of SASH policy in the academic committees section.

Hi all, I am Ben, I use he/him pronouns and I am your General Secretary. This year, my priority is shifting the governance and bureaucratic structures of ANUSA to best serve its activist and community welfare purposes. I want good governance *with a purpose*, not rules and regulations for the sake of rules and regulations.

The summer was a productive time across the Association. In my own portfolio, I spent a lot of time preparing for more routine matters, especially meetings for Semester 1. I also spent time on a number of governance reform projects as well as providing advice to other representatives on governance matters. The next largest use of my time was academic committees. Finally, I worked on a number of projects within my general capacity as an executive of the Association including representative training and support and activist work on Invasion Day and against the Religious Freedoms Bill.

Summary

1. Meetings
2. Meeting Reform
3. Clubs Management
4. Clubs Reform
5. Constitutional Reform Matters
6. Media Policy
7. Disputes Reform
8. Governance Review Working Group
9. Interpretations
10. Resignations
11. Training
12. NUS Presidents' Summit
13. Academic Committees
 - a. Academic Quality Assurance Committee
 - b. TEQSA Re-accreditation Oversight Committee
 - c. University Research Committee
14. Other Executive Matters
15. Activist Work
16. Project Tracker
17. Timesheet

Meetings

The full meeting calendar for the semester has been finalised. All notices except the notice for the AGM are on the ANUSA website. AGM will be coming soon.

SRC and General Meetings will, subject to university and territory health advice, be held in person with an online option. CRC will be held in person with an opt-in online option. The purpose of this is to maximise CRC as a space for discussion and collaboration. All meetings will be held in the Graneek Room of Chifley Library. I am very keen to hear on-going feedback about meeting formats and welcome any correspondence regarding how I can make meetings more accessible, safe and engaging.

Meeting reform

One of my key priorities for the year is to work on making ANUSA meetings safer. It is intolerable that our meetings are too often characterised by abusive discussions, thinly veiled racism and intimidating

behaviour among a host of other forms of misconduct. Governance solutions can improve this situation but they cannot fix it. We need a genuine consensus on conduct in meetings. Paria's Safer Spaces Policy project has the potential to be this and I am thrilled to be working with her on it.

Clubs Management

In the absence of a Clubs Secretary this year, I am doing some of the tasks they would usually do. This is quite productive and ensures I have a good picture of governance across Association activities. In this capacity, I have provided advice on a number of clubs policy matters. I had a meeting with Clubs Affiliations Officer Tom Graham in January regarding a number of routine affiliation/re-affiliation matters.

Clubs Reform

Clubs reform is moving rapidly. Phoenix, Christian and I are working to create a new management system that has ANUSA staff managing most day-to-day matters. Equally, we are looking to simplify the policy-making powers so that clubs are integrated into the affairs of the association rather than being siloed away. I have already drafted and given notice of constitutional reforms to be moved at OGM1. The purpose of these amendments is to allow us the flexibility to create a clubs system that meets the needs of clubs, staff and the community. Administrative matters like clubs grants and affiliations are best managed through more flexible instruments like regulations rather than the constitution.

Phi, Christian and I will develop a more comprehensive explanations of these proposals and will undertake comprehensive consultation in the process of designing the new system. Please reach out if you have questions or thoughts.

Constitutional Reform Matters

I've spent a considerable amount of time ensuring that our constitutional reforms passed last year and any that pass this year can be ratified by ANU Council in July. This is a quite lengthy process and I'm happy to discuss it with anyone who has questions.

Media Policy

Over the summer I have redrafted the Media Policy. I am getting final advice from the ANUSA Lawyer and then I will send it out to representatives for consultation. The new media policy is much simpler and is a reflection of representative's obligations, unlike the current Media Policy which is dated. The new policy will be known as the Media and Information Policy (Representatives). I have also consulted with the Operations Manager given that the new policy will be a representatives only policy whereas the current policy applies to representatives and staff. Accordingly, staff may choose to redraft their own staff media policy.

Disputes Reform

Reforming the Disputes Committee is one of my long-term projects for the year. There are a few key objectives:

1. Creating a system for publication of disputes where appropriate.
2. Clarifying the procedure for disputes being raised and heard.
3. Clarifying the appointment and terms of members of the committee.
4. Clarifying the scope of the role of committee members with a view towards making it a more rewarding position.

I have spoken to Kevin Tanaya, the chair of the Disputes Committee to start the consultation process and discussed the scope of reforms with the ANUSA lawyer.

Separately, I will also be looking to elect new Disputes Committee members at SRC 2. If you know people with an interest in conflict resolution, legal interpretative skills, governance and related areas, please encourage them to nominate.

Governance Review Working Group

I will be continuing the Governance Review Working Group that started last year. I anticipate starting meetings after OGM 1. The purpose of the group is to broaden the circles in which governance reform is discussed and to provide an opportunity for upskilling.

Interpretations

I have not made any formal interpretations so far. I have provided informal advice on a number of topics, especially clubs policy and the procurement policy.

Resignations

Over the summer there were two resignations. The first was in the Environment Collective where Elise resigned as Officer in order to create a co-officer arrangement. Freya Brown was elected as the 'official' officer while Elise was elected as co-officer. I prepared comprehensive advice for the Environment Collective on this arrangement and I am more than happy to discuss it with anyone who has questions about it.

I also received a resignation from a general representative. That vacancy was filled by Dorcas Bugeme.

Training

I assisted in both governance and financial training sessions that Jaya organised for the Department Officers and their committee members. This consisted of a basic governance 'survival guide'. I have also reached out to offer further support to all officers. Finally, I have had direct contact or meetings with most department secretaries now and look forward to hopefully meeting all secretaries soon.

I organised College Rep training in late January. This featured presentations from the ANUSA Student Assistance Advisors, Christian, Grace and myself.

NUS Presidents' Summit

I attended the National Union of Students' Presidents' Summit in Melbourne with Christian and Beatrice. I have filed a separate report on this.

Academic Committees

Academic committees are taking up a considerable amount of my time but represent vital and interesting work. The three committees I sit on are the Academic Quality Assurance Committee (AQAC), TEQSA Re-registration Oversight Committee (TROC) and the University Research Committee (URC). Each of these are presenting interesting opportunities and challenges. I plan to give an overview of these committees at SRCs but intend to focus my verbal report at CRCs on my work on these committees.

Academic Quality Assurance Committee (AQAC)

AQAC manages most policy development and has a quite significant workload. The policy reform agenda at each meeting is significant.

Beyond this, via AQAC, I am called upon to give feedback in other fora. For instance, over summer I prepared a significant submission on academic support for a review being conducted by Scholarly Information Services. I was assisted in preparing this report by input from the Student Assistance Advisors, Grace and Chanel. I also participated in a Zoom consultation for this same review which was also attended by Grace, Beatrice, Rania and Christian.

My role on AQAC is not passive. I am intending to push forward on some reforms Christian started last year on safety and wellbeing in the classroom, mainly focused on pronoun usage, acknowledgements of country and content warnings. Especially the latter is a relatively significant reform and one I anticipate may create some pushback. I am working on designing a draft policy, procedure and guidelines that is evidence-based and that I can happily promote wholeheartedly at the committee. Timeline for this is to present it for discussion at AQAC 2. I have already received great advice on the pronouns element from

Xya, in terms of ensuring we create a practical framework that assists staff in understanding how to use gender affirming language. I look forward to consulting further with departments before I move forward with this policy.

AQAC 1 (Wednesday of O-Week) was mostly uneventful however I provided comments to the committee on the equity of pathways to admission. My comments were well-received and a working group is being developed to continue to work in the area.

TEQSA Re-registration Oversight Committee (TROC)

TROC is proving to be a very lively committee this year. The purpose of the committee is to oversee the project of demonstrating ANU meets the requirements set out by TEQSA (the higher education provider accreditation body). Essentially, TEQSA sets out comprehensive standards that the university must then show it meets. ANU's reaccreditation is due at the end of 2022. What is proving most interesting about this process is that it is generating a rapid policy reform agenda. Of most interest to ANUSA is a rapid reform agenda around student safety and SASH. I'm grateful to be working with the wonderful Avan and Katrina Ha who are sitting on the Learning Experience Working Group and Representation Working Group, subsidiary bodies of TROC. Over the summer, Grace, Avan, Xya and I all attended a consultation with the project manager for the student safety and SASH elements of the reaccreditation process.

TROC 1 (Wednesday of O-Week) was mostly routine however I received forceful pushback regarding some points I raised on student safety. I am concerned that a governance committee has assumed a role in developing student safety and wellbeing policy, especially given it is happening under a very compressed timeline. I look forward to working closely with Avan throughout the year to put a strong and uncompromising stance in this area.

University Research Committee (URC)

URC is the quietest of my three committees but there are some interesting matters on the horizon. Of most interest to me is a project regarding a policy on partnerships with carbon intensive industries. At the last URC of 2021 that I attended as an observer with Meg, there was an interesting debate about this. It is something I look forward to engaging with through the year.

Other executive matters

I have done a variety of other tasks including:

- Minuting executive meetings
- Assisting Beatrice with Deputy Education Officer interviews.
- Meeting progressively with each of my 'buddies' on the SRC.

Activist work

I have also been involved in the broader activist work of the Association. I assisted with on-the-day logistics for Invasion Day. Katchmirr, Amy and Bea did absolutely astounding work to bring together the rally at very short notice. It was great to see many ANUSA reps involved in supporting the Indigenous Department and Tent Embassy.

I also worked with Xya, Grace and Beatrice to organise the snap rally against the Religious Discrimination Bill. We put this rally together in less than two days, over a weekend. I worked particularly on sourcing speakers. Initially there was minimal awareness that the bill would come up that week and, given we found out on a Friday evening, many organisations were uncontactable for the weekend. Nonetheless the rally was a great success. A huge shoutout to Xya who stepped up to the plate massively to produce one of the Queer Department's most significant protests in years.

Project	Content	Status
Task Management System	Integrate a task management system with ANUSA communication systems like Slack to foster collaboration.	In progress consulted with the outgoing Gen-Sec on this. So far, I think this may be a solution looking for a problem, at least for this year's SRC.
Accessibility at meetings	Increase accessibility of SRCs. Includes looking at how we can make agendas more digestible.	In progress Reached out to all departments about needs and wants for meetings. This work will mesh with the safer spaces policy work being pursued by Paria.
Training	Train reps in governance, legal dimensions to activism and working in uni decisionmaking.	In progress Partially completed at SRC induction. Looking to create a guide to document some of the knowledge built in the referendum last year among other governance tools.
SRC Zero	Hold a meeting in late 2021 for reporting plans for 2022.	Complete Occurred in December
Team meetings	Hold meetings of the SRC outside of formal council meetings to foster collaboration and team building.	In progress Partially done at induction but more substantively will be done through gatherings for reps before SRC meetings next year as well as gen rep meetings fulfilling the policy introduced by Isha this year.
General Meetings	Promote General Meetings as an activist tool and reform procedural elements to make them more suitable for this purpose.	Not yet commenced See 'training' point above re guide.
Rolling students	Increase engagement with students in decisionmaking outside of election time through investigating the possibility of polls in the newsletter and at public engagements.	Not yet commenced will discuss this with ANUSA's Communications Officer.
Disputes Committee Reform	Create Disputes Regulations to broaden the role of the Disputes Committee beyond a conflict resolution/arbitration panel into also being an advisory panel; generate a Disputes Register to record decisions of the Disputes Committee and clarifying procedural matters around the committee.	In progress have started drafting the Regulations to provide a basis to go out and consult much more extensively. Met with Kevin Tanaya (chair of committee) and ANUSA Lawyer to discuss options.
Agenda prefaces and flagging	Introduce the opportunity for department officers to include a comment in the agenda before motions as well as flagging points such as whether the motion has the support of the officer/department or whether any consultation occurred.	Completed/On-going This option was provided for SRC 1 and will continue to be provided through the year.
Autonomy resources	Produce a resource, in consultation with the department officers, on autonomy. <u>Updated</u> : Meg produced a great document on how to write a motion this year. In many ways, this provides a great starting point. I will be looking to update this as well as integrating some more discussion on the normative question of why it is important to engage in good faith consultation with autonomous departments.	Not yet commenced See update point. Will commence work on this soon.

Department training	Offer training on governance with an orientation towards practical skills of how to achieve goals within the structures of ANUSA and how to make those structures work for the purposes of departments.	In progress Assisted in training led by Jaya to give governance training. Met with several department secretaries. Offered further support to all departments.
Clubs governance review	Review and reform clubs governance in light of the new clubs officer.	Completed / In Progress Phi and I worked closely to draft the changes that passed at the last OGM of 2021. While the election policy is more or less complete, Phi, Christian and I are working on a overhauled system to commence in Semester 2. Constitutional changes will be presented at OGM 1 to make this possible.
Policy review	Audit governance and financial policies to bring them up to date.	In progress Much of this is taking place on an ad hoc basis. Jaya is looking into amendments to the procurement policy and I look forward to assisting with that. I am also working on reorganising the policies on the website to ensure that they are organised in a coherent way and old policies are removed.
Standing order/meeting reform	Scope of project TBD. Broadly, make meetings safer and more effective.	Not yet commenced Looking forward to working with Paria on Safer Spaces policy. Standing Order reform will follow from the particulars of what I hear in this process.

Timesheet

I have worked 266 hours between 1 December 2021 and 18 February 2022; on average 24 hours per week, excluding the Christmas shutdown. I have not taken any leave. Please feel free to send me an email if you would like a more detailed breakdown of hours.

Ben Yates
18 February 2022

Treasurer Report SRC 1

Jaya Ryan

Executive Summary

- 1. Introduction**
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 - a. Ethical Sponsorships**
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1. Introduction

Hi everyone, my name is Jaya (he/him) and I am very excited to be ANUSA's Treasurer for 2022. The main role of the Treasurer is to create the budget, monitor spending all spending in all line items, to organise the audit, to chase up any financial/bank related issues the association faces, and to generally work with the other trustees (the President and Vice-President) on any financial matters surrounding the association. For more information about my long term goals for the role I would recommend checking out my SRC 0 Report where I go into depth on each project.

2. Expenditure Report

This section gives a regular update as to how much ANUSA has spent within each of our line items from between each of ANUSA's large meetings (SRCs, OGMs, etc.) and the beginning of my term (1/12/21). The table below summarises our spending from between December 1st 2021 to February 21st 2022. Note that these numbers as of this meeting don't paint a full picture of our finances as due to our financial controller being on leave we have fallen a bit behind on bank reconciliation; just before O-Week I received training that taught me how to do this in our accounting software so by the OGM we should have worked through this backlog. I will also

note that we are still waiting on quite a few invoices to be paid to us from O-Week. I would also note the negative net profit for the year-to-date is that way as we have yet to receive the first installment of our SSAF payment. If you have any questions about this expenditure, don't hesitate to ask me during this SRC or at sa.treasurer@anu.edu.au.

Profit & Loss

The Australian National University Students' Association Incorporated

For the month ended 28 February 2022

	Feb-22	Jan-22	Dec-21	Nov-21	YTD
Gross Profit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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Less Operating Expenses					
Accounting/Bookkeeping - Xero	\$111.13	\$111.13	\$105.22	\$93.41	\$327.48
Auditing	\$27.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$27.27
BKSS Food/Consumables	\$1,995.80	\$322.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,317.94
Bus expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$34,443.64	\$0.00
Departments & Collectives	\$0.00	\$33,806.02	\$0.00	\$14,527.00	\$33,806.02
Education Committee	\$362.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$362.73
Fees & Subscriptions	\$1,655.00	\$312.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,967.25
IT Support & Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$107.27	-\$5,354.00	\$107.27
Leadership and Professional Development	\$373.64	\$137.00	\$542.79	\$997.75	\$1,053.43
NUS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.45	\$10,000.00	\$1,000.45
Printer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$99.83	\$41.32	\$99.83
Stationery/General Supplies/Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14.29	-\$839.05	\$14.29
Student Engagement	\$0.00	\$130.91	\$0.00	\$12,630.09	\$130.91
Training	\$221.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$221.82

Utilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$723.95	\$0.00
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Bank Fees

Bank Fees with GST	\$26.82	\$62.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$89.09
Bank Fees without GST	\$25.35	\$38.63	\$91.33	\$159.63	\$155.31
Total Bank Fees	\$52.17	\$100.90	\$91.33	\$159.63	\$244.40

BKSS Non-Food

BKSS Non-food	\$1,726.79	\$1,954.40	\$5,991.11	\$352.76	\$9,672.30
Total BKSS Non-Food	\$1,726.79	\$1,954.40	\$5,991.11	\$352.76	\$9,672.30

Clubs Council and Clubs Grants

Club Funding	\$0.00	-\$727.27	\$21,125.00	\$21,678.35	\$20,397.73
Total Clubs Council and Clubs Grants	\$0.00	-\$727.27	\$21,125.00	\$21,678.35	\$20,397.73

Consultancy

Legal Expenses	\$749.82	\$478.00	\$937.47	\$239.00	\$2,165.29
Total Consultancy	\$749.82	\$478.00	\$937.47	\$239.00	\$2,165.29

Equipment

Equipment Expense	\$0.00	\$195.46	\$2,339.20	\$0.00	\$2,534.66
Total Equipment	\$0.00	\$195.46	\$2,339.20	\$0.00	\$2,534.66

Marketing & Communications

Marketing & Communications - Diary	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,850.00	\$90.00
Marketing & Communications - Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$81.77	\$1,310.55	\$81.77

Marketing & Communications - Software Subs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$199.00	\$0.00
Total Marketing & Communications	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$81.77	\$4,359.55	\$171.77

Other Employee Expenses

Other Employee Expense	\$2,424.67	\$0.00	\$57.72	\$265.72	\$2,482.39
Staff Amenities	\$22.45	\$0.00	\$33.85	\$0.00	\$56.30
Total Other Employee Expenses	\$2,447.12	\$0.00	\$91.57	\$265.72	\$2,538.69

O-Week

O-Week Events	\$10,167.85	\$362.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,530.80
O-Week Food purchases	\$470.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$470.75
O-Week General expenses	\$601.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$601.75
O-Week Merchandise	\$0.00	\$8,640.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,640.00
Total O-Week	\$11,240.35	\$9,002.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,243.30

Salary and Wages

Department - Honoraria	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,950.00	\$0.00
Department - Stipends	\$0.00	\$1,700.00	\$0.00	\$19,103.82	\$1,700.00
Department - Superannuation	\$397.88	\$397.88	\$318.30	\$1,959.33	\$1,114.06
Honoraria	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,075.00	\$0.00
Salaries and Wages	\$108,884.40	\$79,858.35	\$59,249.31	\$81,305.43	\$247,992.06
Salaries and Wages - ANUSA Exec	\$25,270.48	\$19,326.86	\$11,430.00	\$23,980.64	\$56,027.34
Salaries and Wages - BKSS	\$12,989.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,399.33	\$12,989.84
Salaries and Wages - Event Coordinators	\$8,880.10	\$3,768.84	\$2,354.00	\$706.20	\$15,002.94

Superannuation Expense	\$11,216.86	\$10,490.17	\$10,253.09	\$11,895.98	\$31,960.12
Superannuation Expense - ANUSA Exec	\$361.70	\$361.70	\$289.36	\$1,432.36	\$1,012.76
Superannuation Expense - BKSS	\$238.92	\$144.68	\$115.74	\$395.45	\$499.34
Superannuation Expense - Event Coordinators	\$341.33	\$102.01	\$117.70	\$0.00	\$561.04
Total Salary and Wages	\$168,581.51	\$116,150.49	\$84,127.50	\$155,203.54	\$368,859.50

Student Assistance Team Grants

Student Assistance Team Grants	\$3,850.00	\$8,000.00	\$14,290.00	\$19,853.00	\$26,140.00
Total Student Assistance Team Grants	\$3,850.00	\$8,000.00	\$14,290.00	\$19,853.00	\$26,140.00

Student Assistance Team Purchases

SAT Purchases - Grocery Vouchers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,750.00	\$0.00
SAT Purchases - Student Meals & Others	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$643.82	\$0.00
Total Student Assistance Team Purchases	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,393.82	\$0.00

Total Operating Expenses	\$193,485.15	\$169,974.38	\$130,944.80	\$205,882.20	\$494,404.33
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Operating Profit	-\$193,485.15	-\$169,974.38	-\$130,944.80	-\$205,882.20	-\$494,404.33
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Non-operating Income

Interest Income	\$53.37	\$60.77	\$2,302.81	\$2,337.46	\$2,416.95
Sales - BKSS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3.23	\$0.00
Sponsorship - Bush-Week	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$50.00	\$0.00

Sponsorship - O-Week	\$17,347.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,347.73
Ticket/Event Sales - C & S Ball	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,190.91	\$0.00
Ticket/Event Sales - O Week	\$2,395.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,395.46
Total Non-operating Income	\$19,796.56	\$60.77	\$2,302.81	\$8,481.60	\$22,160.14
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Non-operating Expenses					
Non SSAF					
Interest Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$369.86	\$0.00
Loss on Sale of Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,338.88	\$0.00
Parental Leave payable	\$0.00	\$1,545.10	-\$1,545.10	\$0.00	\$0.00
Provison for Leave	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$27,941.90	\$0.00
Total Non SSAF	\$0.00	\$1,545.10	-\$1,545.10	\$35,910.92	\$0.00
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Total Non-operating Expenses	\$0.00	\$1,545.10	-\$1,545.10	\$35,910.92	\$0.00
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Net Profit	-\$173,688.59	-\$171,458.71	-\$127,096.89	-\$233,311.52	-\$472,244.19
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3. SSAF Update

Contrary to popular belief all of our SSAF (the Student Services and Amenities Fee which all students pay) does not go to ANUSA, and the bit that we do get we need to bid for. Normally in the first SRC of the year the Treasurer would give an update on how the negotiations went and how much money ANUSA has this year, unfortunately that is not the case as negotiations with the university are still ongoing. What I can say is that ANUSA is confirmed to receive at least 35% of the SSAF pool (\$1,760,000) as well as rollover (unspent SSAF funds from 2020-2021, which was \$136,625.91). I can also say that we have been told that starting from next year we will not receive rollover – this is important to know, but won't have any impact on this year's budget.

4. Completed Projects Since Last Report

a. Transfer of Trustees

This is exactly what it sounds like, transferring permissions from all of our bank accounts (CommBank, Bank Australia, and AMP) from the old trustees to the new ones (me, the president, and the vice-president). The previous treasurer did start this process but I did spend most of my first week finishing it. A fairly long and uninteresting bureaucratic process, not worth talking about.

b. Department Officer Training

I ran two Department Officer training sessions (on 20/12/2021 and 14/01/2022). Involved giving a run down of Department funding sources, restrictions around SSAF funding, and how to track spending and compile the end of year financial report. Shout out to Ben for doing the governance portions of those training sessions, and thank you to all the Officers and Department executives who came along to the sessions!

c. O-Week

Traditionally the Treasurer acts as a sort of deputy to the Social Officer in the leadup to O-Week, however this year our Clubs Officer Phi delegated tasks really well so I ended up having a far smaller burden placed on me than some previous treasurers, which was really nice. My main role was talking to and negotiating with sponsors. I am very proud of the fact that we raised \$14,545 through sponsorship this O-Week, a significant amount considering that all sponsors were properly vetted by the Ethical Sponsorships Committee. O-Week's budget is \$45,000 - \$30,000 is budgeted from SSAF, and \$15,000 from sponsorship. Our estimates show that with sponsorship we are a few thousand under budget (though I won't have an exact figure until my next report as we are still reconciling payments and waiting on invoices). Overall a very good amount, which shows that our ethical sponsorships policy is not hindering our sponsorship income. We also need to take into account that many sponsors were wary to work with us due to fears around COVID and its effects on turnout; the huge turnout we saw at all of our events I think is proof that those fears are now unfounded, and I'm sure in Bush Week we will see good engagement from sponsors as well.

Aside from Sponsorship, I also aided in the running of many events along with the rest of the executive, and helped Phi do some of the organising in the hectic week beforehand. Huge shoutout to Phi and the O-Week coordinators Indy and Anna, who all did an excellent job and ran an immensely successful O-Week, evidenced by the massive turnout to all of our events.

d. Upskilling

In the week leading up to O-Week I did a bunch of training courses; those being First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, and a Xero training course (Xero is the accounting software we use).

e. The Audit

Though technically not completed just yet I am happy to say that I am very close to gathering all of the materials needed for the audit. This has been a long process chasing up the 2021 Department end of year financial reports, bank statements that had been sent to the wrong address, and other similarly exciting endeavours. There is not much to explain here, but ANUSA will send off all the materials to our external auditor very soon. I am quite happy with how ahead of schedule we are here; for context, last year the completed and signed audit for 2020 was only presented in May, we should be able to present ours much earlier. I would like to thank all of this year's Department Officers and many Department executive members (who are too numerous to mention); their efforts to track down the spending and records of their predecessors went beyond the remit of their role, and they have made my life a lot easier than it could have been.

5. Ongoing Projects

a. The Night Café

As many of you are well aware, my main project for this year is to finish the work of the last treasurer and establish an ANUSA run business in Kambri; the night café (name pending). This would not only provide a valuable service to students in the form of cheaper meals, it would also provide ANUSA with an alternate revenue stream. To this end I am working closely with the other trustees to negotiate a lease with the ANU. I can't say too much about this as it is an ongoing process, but we have progressed to the next step in negotiations, and are now putting together a comprehensive business plan to show ANU that we are serious about this enterprise. I am unsure of how long this process will take, and will continue to provide regular updates in my report.

I will state here, as I have stated many times before: I will not sign a lease unless I am confident the business will survive without SSAF subsidies from ANUSA. The market research my predecessor indicates a huge level of enthusiasm for the night café from the student body, at this point I am confident the business can succeed. What is important is that ANU gives us a fair lease, that will be a huge factor in the long term success of the business.

b. Alumni Engagement

Though in its early days, our principal lawyer is working to setup a DGR entity (the ANUSA Student Care Fund), this is an entity which will be able to receive tax deductible donations, which we plan to funnel into student assistance grants. Grace has put forward some great proposals for new grants we could fund through this project, and I have been in talks with ANU Advancement about alumni engagement. As of now we won't have the DGR setup in time for

Alumni Week, but we do have an event planned further down the line which we think could be a good opportunity to launch the fund.

In similar news, I have also been talking with ANU Advancement about what the ANU Foundation plans to raise money on this year and how ANUSA can help distribute the funds. Early days, but this is one of the main things I ran on last year, and I think there is a good chance we can use this money to fund even more student assistance grants.

c. Wage Theft on Campus Survey

I am very excited to announce that I am working very closely with the Young Workers' Centre here in the ACT on a survey into wage theft on the ANU campus. Before the pandemic there was a lot of talk about how extensive the problem of wage theft was on campus, and that some businesses entire business models were built on stealing student's wages. We don't have any extensive data since the pandemic began, and I will say anecdotally it sounds like the problem has only gotten worse since COVID. We are almost done drafting the questions, and hope to release the survey very soon. The plan right now is to have the survey run for a few months, so it is unlikely that the results will be released before the election (so expect June/July for results). I am also talking with Bea right now about the next steps once the survey is released – expect action from ANUSA if the results aren't good.

If you work on campus or have recently worked on campus I would strongly encourage you to participate.

d. QPay

For a very long time ANUSA has been in negotiations with QPay for them to handle ANUSA's digital infrastructure. Currently we have a contract with MSL, who handle everything from our elections to our website. QPay offer similar services, but their package also includes a host of features that will make ANUSA's operation much more efficient and intuitive for students. This includes:

- A digital affiliations form. The affiliations process is infamously difficult, an administrative nightmare for both ANUSA and clubs. This will simplify the entire process, and make it easier than ever to create a new club or run an existing one.
- Digital grant application forms, which will make grant administration far easier.
- A new website.
- Analytics tools for both clubs and clubs administration to keep track of club spending, events, engagement, etc.
- Other exciting stuff.

Big thanks to Jin, my predecessor, who began this whole process last year and to Christian, who as a law student was more qualified to be involved in this whole process anyway. I've been

involved in the negotiations, though the last month or so has mostly involved our lawyers talking with each other.

e. Birth Control Subsidies

I have been helping Avan, the Woman's Officer, with their scheme to provide subsidised birth control to all undergraduate ANU students (mostly through talking to the Uni Pharmacy, and running the numbers on how much we could provide at different funding levels). A hugely exciting initiative that will benefit students immensely and that makes use of a funding pool which normally goes unspent. Our challenge going forward will be to secure more funding as we expect the scheme to be very popular. Also huge shoutout to Avan, this is her project, and she has done the vast lion's share of the work!

6. Committees

a. Ethical Sponsorships Committee

As Treasurer I chair the ESC, and as someone who has been involved with it since its beginning last year I have loved watching it grow. So far we have had four (yes, four!) meetings, which is insane considering a) the committee consists mainly of Gen Reps and b) this was all over Summer before the term started. Huge shoutout to Luke, Ben, and Oscar, who have taken time out of their Summer to attend many long meetings. I promise we will meet less from now on, but the efforts of the ESC are very important for the success of O-Week, and considering the amount we raised so far this year from reputable sponsors I think this is an indication of our success.

b. Kambri Reference Group

I currently sit on the Kambri Reference Group, an ANU committee. I have nothing to report yet as due to an administrative kerfuffle I have only recently been invited to their meetings, and as of the writing of this report have yet to attend any meetings.

7. Timesheet

I have worked a total of 255 hours since my term began (not taking into account the hours I have done this week). For context I am only required to work 14 hours a week, which when taking public holidays into account means that up to now I was only required to work 140 hours. As of now, I have taken no annual leave or sick leave.

Clubs Officer

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1. Introduction

Hi everyone, welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed your summer break and O-Week. My name is Phi (they or she pronouns) and I'm very excited to be the 2022 Clubs Officer.

As this is a new role, I am very focused on setting up systems for future Clubs Officers to have a manageable workload. Taking on the previous Social Officer's role and adding clubs to it has been a lot to manage but I think that it is possible with the right changes. In particular, there have been a high number of reported flaws in the Clubs system without any executive member specifically dedicated to fixing it so I am very keen to work on reform to ANU's Clubs system with a heavy focus on consultation and accessibility.

2. O-Week

I would love to give a massive shoutout to everyone involved in making O-Week happen. Anna Power and Indy Shead were my O-Week coordinators and they did an absolutely AMAZING job. We had some amazing Volunteer Coordinators running events and the support from the rest of the ANUSA executive and staff made the week so much better. Shout-out to the Departments for running great events and collaborating with us on a few of ours. Finally, a huge thank you to every single person who volunteered for O-Week as it cannot run without you.

It was great to be able to run mostly non-ticketed events again. The turn-out to events was massive, much bigger than expected, so for events with limited supply, we ran out very quickly. For most events, we bought extra supplies last minute to make up for it. We also kept track of approximate turnout for each event to put in our handover as prior handovers didn't have it so that future coordinators can be more prepared - though obviously, events were much smaller during COVID O-Weeks.

The only ticketed events that we ran were events that cost money and Market Day, which we'll get to. One thing I would like to note is that there were not equity tickets - I intended to do them but it did not end up happening. This is something I apologise for as it's not good enough, and I

will fix for all future ANUSA events. These events generally got a fairly good turnout overall, and the ones that didn't will be re-evaluated for future O-Weeks.

I tried to increase Club involvement with ANUSA O-Week as it's a really big time for them to gain membership and engagement with the ANU Community. The Clubs Calendar was a bit complicated so I'm looking for feedback to make it smoother in the future. It was great to have significant club involvement at events like ULH, thrift markets and night markets, as well as collaborating more specifically on a few club events.

Overall, I really think this O-Week was a success and it was amazing to have so many students engaging. There is a feedback form that should be published by the time of SRC and I would really appreciate as many people as possible filling it out with any feedback they have, both critical and positive. This is the best way to have your voice heard and to improve future O-Weeks. Volunteer and Club specific forms are also in the works.

a. Market Day

I was extremely lucky to be able to run Market Day without any session times and with an increased capacity. Nevertheless, it sold out on Tuesday and we sadly had to turn many people away at the door. We got feedback that the ANU website did not appropriately communicate that it was a ticketed event - we did not realise that this was the source of information for a lot of people and will be making sure that mistake is not made again in future O-Weeks.

So far I have received positive feedback from Clubs and sponsors on their engagement levels throughout the event! Many students were able to come and sign up to a lot of clubs which is promising for a post-COVID revival of the clubs and societies scene in 2022. This is the first year in a long time that we gave out all of our goodie bags!

One thing I would like to touch on is rules compliance. There were a lot of issues with rules compliance - in particular the no food, 2 per table limit and mandatory masks for stallholders in the large structure. I don't make these rules for fun - they were requirements in order to run the event. I thank everyone who followed the rules. Although I had COVID Marshalls who were monitoring, the sheer amount of rule breaks made it difficult to shut down all rule breaks. Repeat offenders were particularly frustrating. Though I hope that these rules will be gone in future years, I don't think that it was a lot to ask for during COVID times.

The amazing/slightly frustrating news is that ACT Health announced during O-Week that from Friday 25 February, exemption requirements are removed from all events and events of over 5,000 will submit their COVID safety plans for review. Hopefully, they will never return (touch wood), which means that future O-Weeks should be able to both get rid of ticketing and get out communication to stallholders and students much earlier. Communicating with ACT Health about this event was the number one cause of delays and though I wish the change had come earlier, considering the current COVID outbreak situation at the ANU I hope everyone understands why it was important for Market Day to be ticketed and have a capacity despite it being a really frustrating process for everyone involved.

b. Ethical Sponsorships & Sponsorships in general

This is the first O-Week that the Ethical Sponsorships Committee existed in! As I was on the committee last year as a gen-rep, I'm really passionate about this committee. Something I discovered as I worked on O-Week though is that it is very difficult to get every individual sponsor approved in the lead-up to O-Week. This created a few issues with communicating with sponsors effectively. I think that there are a few solutions to this and I know that Jaya is working on some ESC reforms that I am keen on - I'd like to see the process being made easier for the executive without putting an unreasonable workload on the gen reps as the weeks leading up to O-Week are often busy for them as well! Huge shoutout to the ESC gen reps, not only for all of your time before O-Week but also the interesting discussions we got to have.

Because of the lingering impacts of COVID and the aforementioned ESC teething issues, I think we struggled a bit with sponsors for this year. However, because of the huge amount of engagement we got, I am hoping that the photos and numbers from this year's events mean that we can improve for future O-Weeks and Market Days! Sponsorship is an important part of O-Week because it means that we have a better budget to make the events better for our students, Departments and Clubs.

c. Budget

Jaya and I will provide a budget update on O-Week in SRC2.

3. Clubs

I am very excited to get into the swing of Clubs work, particularly now that O-Week has finished.

a. Clubs Council Meeting 1 (CCM1)

Clubs Council Meeting 1 will take place, unless otherwise called, on Monday of Week 3. A formal notice and time will come once I have confirmed this time with the CCE.

b. Clubs Council Executive (CCE)

So far our amazing CCE has had an induction session and one CCE meeting.

c. Clubs Reform

I have begun working with Ben and Christian on reforms to the current Clubs system. This is a major project of mine that I ran on and intend to complete. Already, I have found that the Clubs system as it is currently is difficult to work with - this is both in my personal experience and from Club inquiries I have received. Though not much work has happened yet on my end due to O-Week, I think the fact that a lot of clubs administration requires my role to be available when I'm also planning O-Week is pretty solid evidence for at least some reform. I intend on beginning a lot of consultation at CCM1 about the Clubs governance and finance systems.

Additionally, Jaya and Christian have excitingly signed a contract with QPay!! This has been in the works before we were elected and I'm very excited that it's been finalised so early in my term. QPay has a much more robust system for Clubs and Societies including through website,

calendars, finances and affiliation processes. So in the coming weeks I am going to be exploring all of our options under that system! I really hope that this will make clubs and societies more accessible, both to run and to join.

d. Clubs Training

I am working with the amazing Kelsie, the CCE Community Officer, to provide training to Clubs executives. The modules of training that we're providing are outlined in the CC Training Policy. We will have both online training and hybrid training, COVID permitting. A formal email will be sent to clubs this week. Training dates are as follows:

Week 3: Monday the 7th of March 5:30pm - 8:30pm ONLINE only

Logistics and Event management 5.30pm - 7pm
Community and Engagement 7pm - 8.30pm

Week 3: Saturday the 12th of March 10:00am - 1:00pm ONLINE only

Finance and Budgeting 10.00am - 11.30am
Governance 11.30am - 1.00pm

Week 4: Monday the 14th of March 5:30pm - 8:30pm IN PERSON and ONLINE

Finance and Budgeting 5.30pm - 7.00pm
Governance 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Week 4: Saturday the 19th of March 10:00am - 1:00pm IN PERSON and ONLINE

Logistics and Event Management 10.00am - 11.30pm
Community and Engagement 11.30am - 1.00pm

e. Office Hours

Starting in Week 3 (in order to give myself time to recover from O-Week burnout), I'll be doing office hours for clubs to come and talk to me. I would love for clubs to come and talk to me about the clubs system and how it has impacted them, but also inquiries about the system are more than welcome. I will announce the specifics of the times and location at CCM1. People who are interested in the non-clubs aspects of my role are also more than welcome to attend but I imagine this will be mostly utilised by clubs. As usual, I can also be contacted by email for any of these inquiries.

4. Timesheet

From December 1st-February 20th, I have worked 273 hours, for an average of just over 27 hours a week excluding the Christmas shutdown. I also want to acknowledge that this role has a lot of hours that go into it before December 1, as I've been working on Market Day and Clubs reforms since October. I have taken 2 days of paid leave. If you have any questions about my timesheet please email me at sa.clubsofficer@anu.edu.au

5. Project tracker

Project	Content	Status
O-Week	Organise a week of events for ANU students during Orientation Week (14 February-18 February)	Completed. Yay!!!!!!
Bush Week	Organise a week of events for ANU students during Orientation Week (25 July-29 July February)	Not yet commenced.
Friday Night Party	Organise the one-day music festival	Not yet commenced. Though COVID-19 requirements may have allowed us to hold FNP in O-Week this year, we decided not to for two main reasons: 1, the remaining restrictions would have been extraordinarily difficult to work around and 2. the safety of the event being during O-Week was called into question.
Developing ongoing events throughout the year	There have been many requests for ANUSA to hold more events outside of the usual O-Week and Bush Week and I am investigating this possibility. This is particularly important to reinvigorating campus life after the past two years.	In progress. I am in the beginning stages of looking into popular O-Week events being turned into consistent events and I have a meeting about a new event idea slated for Week 3.
Clubs Governance - CCE roles	Reform the amount of CCE roles in order to reduce workload and size of committee	Finished. I worked closely with Ben on this and it passed at the last OGM of O-Week
Clubs Governance - Policy review	Review and reform the Clubs Policy. The main goals are to make it more accessible, take a stronger stance on discrimination, be less bureaucratic and to reduce the current administrative workload on volunteers.	In progress. I am in the process of setting up a consultation process with Clubs and relevant ANUSA staff.

Clubs Officer Office Hours	Establish office hours to assist and consult with clubs	In-progress.
Clubs Newsletter	Establish a newsletter for better progress for clubs	In progress. My clubs policy consultation will also ask clubs about their preferred methods of contact.
SEEF reform	Investigate the possibility of reform to the SEEF system. There have been reports of it being inaccessible for clubs and not allowing enough potential for future growth.	Not yet commenced.
Clubs Training Videos	Create generic Clubs Training Videos and review the Clubs Training process to be more automatic and easily accessible throughout the year. I will work with the CCE Community Officer, Kelsie, on this.	Not yet commenced.

Welfare Officer Report

Executive Summary

1. Introduction
2. Mutual Aid
 - a. Logistics and operating details
 - b. Research
 - c. Contingency plans
3. Budget submission
4. O'Week
5. Religious Discrimination Bill protest
6. ANUSA Committees
 - a. Wellbeing Committee
 - b. ANU Student Diversity Working Group
7. ANU Committees
 - a. Timetabling Committee
 - b. Special Considerations Working Group
 - c. Childcare Liaison Committee
8. Trainings
9. Other
 - a. Academic skills
 - b. College Representative training
 - c. Presentations
10. Timesheet
11. SRC One bestie shoutout

1. Introduction

Hello everyone! My name is Grace (she/her) and I am the 2022 Welfare Officer. My role is centred around bettering the material conditions of students. This includes the increased and improved provision of goods and services, activism and representing student issues to internal and external bodies.

2. Mutual Aid

I spent a large portion of my time over the summer creating the foundation of the mutual aid system. This was a policy I ran on prior to my election.

2a. Logistics and Operating Details

The mutual aid system is run out of the ANUSA foyer, next to the Brian Kenyon Student Space (BKSS). It is accessible to all students on weekdays 8am-8pm. You can take as much as you like, how often you like! It is not monitored. The mutual aid system relies on community members, so if you have anything you'd like to donate (including but not limited to what is listed below), please contact me at sa.welfareofficer@anu.edu.au or simply bring your item/s to a BKSS staff member between 8am-8pm on weekdays! The mutual aid system accepts almost everything, as long as the item is not broken/contaminated/irreversibly damaged/a safety hazard or otherwise unfit to be taken. If you are not sure, email me or come see a BKSS staff member!

Current offerings:

- Assorted breakfast items
- Snacks
- Quick and easy meals
- Assorted cans vegetables and legumes
- Pasta and rice
- Baking goods
- Household cleaning products
- Toilet paper
- Hygiene products
- Menstrual products
- Contraception, including pregnancy tests
- Assorted appliances
- Assorted household items
- Assorted kitchenware

2b. Research

I spent time collating and analysing available research on students' experience with similar offerings, both in university and external settings. This gave me better insight into the prevalence and severity of need and common issues with advertisement, provisions, and operational and logistical set-ups. This translated into intentional changes in the set-up of the mutual aid system. Further decisions will be made in light of this information and community response in due time. This information will be useful for subsequent ANUSA executives.

2c. Contingency plans

I made a contingency plan for how the mutual aid system, the BKSS and ANUSA's other goods and services provisions will operate in case of any emergency (spiked prevalence and/or intensity of demand and need). This document included plans for a bushfire near or in the ACT region, COVID-19, floods, storms and Canberra winter-related emergencies.

I would like to sincerely thank and express my gratitude to Chido and the 2022 BKSS staff for their assistance with the set-up of the mutual aid system. They have been a tremendous help and made this all possible.

3. Budget Submission

I created and submitted ANUSA's submission to the ACT government for the 2022-23 budget. This involved a significant amount of research, consultation and drafting. The budget highlighted several funding priorities from the perspective of student welfare in the ACT. This included but was not limited to issues of rental affordability, healthcare, crisis service providers, public transport infrastructure and student worker exploitation.

4. O'Week

2022 O'Week was a great success! Massive shoutout to Phoenix, Indy, and Anna for pulling it off — the challenges and uncertainty that COVID-19 brought, especially with the Omicron wave, were no mean feat. The team handled it all with expertise, confidence, and an insane level of organisation.

I assisted each day in O'Week performing several roles in my capacity. This included preparing, running, and packing up events alongside a team of hard-working, passionate student volunteers that I could not thank enough (but I will still try later in this report). I provided first aid and mental health first aid to students, encouraged COVID-19 compliance and general safe-making.

It was great to see so many students getting around O'Week and bringing some life back to campus! All of the ANUSA Executive were thrilled by the level of event attendance and the positive energy — especially after two years of online learning, lockdowns and consequential social isolation that many of us have experienced.

A big excitement of O'Week was the opened Brian Kenyon Student Space (BKSS)! It was great to see how instantly popular it was and have people interacting with the space and the BKSS staff after such a long hiatus.

The biggest success of O'Week in my opinion was the seeing mutual aid system up and running for the first time. It was incredibly popular. Prior to O'Week, my hope was that it would be popular enough as to need restocking by Thursday or Friday of O'Week. Within two hours of its opening on Monday, it already needed restocking. The popularity of the mutual aid system is positive because it means that not only is ANUSA addressing a critical need, but we are doing so in a way that makes students feel comfortable, informed, and empowered enough to actually use it.

5. Religious Discrimination Bill Protest

CW: queerphobia

Alongside Education Officer Beatrice, General Secretary Ben and Queer Department Officer Xya, I organised and ran a protest on the 6th of February against the religious discrimination bill. The protest ran well, especially considering how last-minute it was. Shame on the Liberals for putting up the bill and Labor for supporting it but it came as no surprise. Queerphobia and catering to the whims of rich and powerful bigots (their donors) are the status quo for both major parties. It is important to state that the harms this bill proposed to implement are already happening and already swept under the rug. Beyond the current status of the bill and what it may eventuate to, the bill, it's debate and the media coverage around it have done so much damage. Solidarity always.

6. ANUSA Committees

6a. Wellbeing Committee

I am currently in the process of finalising the 2022 Wellbeing Committee and thank everyone for their application.

6b. ANU Student Diversity Working Group

The ANU Student Diversity Working Group was established at SRC 7 in 2021 by Sai Campbell. I have assisted Sai over the summer with setting up the working group. We received a significant number of applications, all very high-quality, and are conducting interviews throughout Week 1.

7. ANU Committees

7a. Timetabling Committee

I am the ANUSA Executive representative on the Timetabling Committee. It is a very exciting project that students will benefit from.

7b. Special Considerations Working Group

I am the ANUSA representative for the Special Considerations Working Group. There are fortnightly meetings which I am attending.

7c. Childcare Liaison Committee

I am the ANUSA representative for this committee and there has been one meeting for the committee which I have attended. A major benefit of the committee is that it provides an opportunity to connect with and communicate to parents about the Parents' Room. The Parents' Room is Room 2.57, located on Level 2 of the Di Riddell building, near the ANUSA and PARSA offices and the Brian Kenyon Student Space (BKSS). It is open Monday-Friday 8am-8pm. It offers a quiet place to feed, a change table, places to relax and toys. Nearby, there is a gender-neutral accessible bathroom. The BKSS offers appliances including microwaves, a sink and zip-taps for use, as well as free breakfast, hot drinks and snacks.

8. Trainings

I have undertaken several trainings in my capacity as welfare officer. This includes getting my First Aid certificate and CPR qualification. I have completed two full days of training to gain certification in delivering Mental Health First Aid. I attended a training session run by Sex Workers Outreach Program in the ACT.

9. Other

9a. Academic Skills Submission

I assisted with the creation of a submission about academic assistance at ANU.

9b. College Representative Training

I ran a training session for College Representatives about the goods, services, and support ANUSA offers and how and where to refer students.

9c. Presentations

I have presented to several ANU student groups and residential halls. These presentations focussed on ANUSA's provision of goods, services, and support. These presentations were catered to the demographics, needs and prior knowledge/experience of the attendees. They were very well-attended and well-received! If you would like me to come speak to a group (residential hall, club or society, Department etc.) I am more than happy to and will gladly cater to you! Please contact me at sa.welfareofficer@anu.edu.au to arrange!

10. Timesheet

From the first day of my term (01/12/2021) to the date of this report being written (18/01/20212), I have worked 216 hours, averaging 21.6 hours per week. This is not inclusive of the ANU shutdown or public holidays. I have not taken any leave.

11. SRC One Bestie Shoutout

Every SRC, I want to use my report to shoutout and express my gratitude toward a person/people who have done something worth acknowledging and celebrating.

My SRC One Bestie Shoutout goes to every O'Week volunteer, including those involved directly with ANUSA (especially Volunteer Coordinators) and its Departments, clubs and societies and residential hall committees. You make such a difference to the student experience. I am so grateful for your hard and long work the lead-up to and during O'Week. You are crucial to pulling this whole O'Week off and I am so appreciative of your care, dedication, and selflessness. I hope you are enjoying some well-deserved rest!

ANUSA INDIGENOUS DEPARTMENT OFFICER'S REPORT
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 1
Katchmirr Russell

Executive Summary

1. Summer Projects
2. O-Week
3. Upcoming Events
4. Nomination and Election of Open Executive Positions
5. 2020-2021 Handover
6. Expenditure Report

Report

1. Summer Projects:

Over the 2021-2022 Summer break, the Indigenous Department ran an Invasion Day Campaign in the lead up to Invasion Day on the 26th of January. This campaign was led by the Indigenous Department. Our Social Officer produced infographics to be released in the lead up to and on Invasion Day and they received a huge amount of engagement. The Instagram infographics received engagement from over 15k people and the department account gained around 1000 followers. We worked with ANUSA and PARSA to have water, food and sunshade at the rally and the ANUSA bus ran the length of the protests with elders or attendees with accessibility needs. Overall it was a huge success.

2. O-Week:

O-Week for the Indigenous Department was a very successful week. We participated and/or hosted the following events: The Department Fete, Market Day, a picnic event with the BIPOC Department and the International Students Department, we also had an autonomous dinner scheduled however this was postponed due to a COVID-19 scare through the Tjabal Centre and the colleges. This week was very important for student engagement as many second and third years who were not able to get involved in previous years due to COVID-19 got a fresh start this year to get engaged this year.

On the Monday of O-Week, the Department participated in the Department Fete where we gave attendees the opportunity to braid bracelets in the colours of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flag colours, which helped teach people about the flags and the diversity of our peoples. We talked to many Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students and invited them to our various socials. We also were handing out the books that students ordered as part of a welcome pack. The placement of the Department Fete in Kambri this year instead of the Copland Courtyard also helped create a larger attendance and therefore increased engagement. This event was very valuable to us as we got to engage with Indigenous students and non-Indigenous students and direct them to our socials.

On the Wednesday of O-Week, the Department held a stall for the ANUSA Market Day. This was successful in that we were able to engage with Indigenous Students and invite them into Department spaces and to communicate to non-Indigenous students that we have a facebook page and Instagram where non-autonomous events are posted and educative campaigns are displayed. We also handed out welcome care-packages to Indigenous students, as well as handing out orders of last years merch (delayed due to COVID). The poster cards and stickers were a huge success at both the department fete and market day events.

On Wednesday night, we were supposed to be running an autonomous dinner, however, due to the aforementioned COVID scare, this event was postponed to Week 1.

On Thursday we ran a collaborative picnic on Kambri Lawns with the BIPOC Department and the International Students Department. The event was a lovely opportunity for BIPOC people to meet in a safe environment and build some friendships at a university that can be quite isolating for BIPOC peoples.

3. Upcoming Events

The Indigenous Department will be running weekly autonomous coffee catch-ups. A collaborative event with the Science Society and the BIPOC Society running BIPOC in STEM Coffee Catch-ups. There are plans to run something in the lead up to International Womens Day.

4. Nomination and Election of Open Executive Position

This Department period began with one executive position open: the Secretary. A member of the department put their hand up for the position after the elections last year and has been working with us in that capacity since, they were elected into the position in our first meeting this year. Congratulations to Aleisha Knack.

5. 2020-2021 Handover

Due to my return as Indigenous Officer for a second term, there was no handover needed.

6. Expenditure Report

line Item	Description	Amount Expended
O Week	Office works Flyers	\$304.14
Invasion Day	Invasion day stickets	\$52.33
O Week	Mal Paper Journals	\$2,383.67
O Week	Mal paper UPS fee	\$455.40
O Week	Books for Members - Harry Hartog	\$259.82
O Week	Books for Members - Dymocks	\$321.88
O week	O week Flyers	\$103.00
	Total:	\$3,880.24



WOMEN'S OFFICER REPORT

Avan Daruwalla

20th February 2022

Content warning: this report will mention sexual assault and harassment under the Advocacy section.

1. Support Reminder

O-Week whilst an exciting and social time for us all can be a really heavy, overwhelming and sometimes traumatising time for students - particularly women and non-binary students. Just a reminder that support is always available and that there is absolutely nothing wrong with taking rest and one of the kindest things you can do for the world is to be gentle with yourself.

Simultaneously, there has been an influx of misogynistic, divisive and unproductive discourse - particularly around gendered oppression on online unregulated spaces. These conversations provoked anonymously can have very real and hurtful consequences for individuals and I would encourage anyone who has been made to feel uncomfortable or unsafe by these threads to disengage and reach out if you would like to talk or access support resources. The Women's Dept will strive to advocate on these issues throughout the year but I have refrained from engaging in the online discourse to prevent further sexist content from infiltrating our feeds and creating greater harm.

I am always an email away at sa.womens@anu.edu.au and any department member looking for support or a chat is welcome to reach out at any time.

2. Completed Projects

(a) **O-Week**

(i) **Women's Department**

The Women's Department's O-Week was super well-attended by both existing and new collective members and we gave away over 1300 info cards to our members as well as thousands of merch items including stickers, phone wallets, tote bags and Valentines Day flowers. We also sold our remaining stock of hats, jumpers and even 3 beanies. A giant thank you goes to my wonderful deputies Elodie and Stella! They have been such incredible blessings with so much energy and charisma for the department. Event summaries as follows:

Department Fete: we set up a stall in the fete distributing Valentines Day roses as well as giving out free merch. Everything was gone in record time and we were visited by a tonne of keen new members. We talked to at least 300 people over the two hours.

Market Day: as per usual - distribution of free merch was the defining factor of our Market Day success and we ran out of everything we had by about 2.30pm. We also had stall visitors take part in a mural by contributing their message to the world, the mural will be

assembled soon in a craft session and displayed on campus. Bossy and the Women's Revue both provided a bunch of information to be distributed as well - all of which was also taken.

Pole Dancing Classes and Women's Health Matters Talk: these events were organised by the wonderful O-Week coordinators to huge success. Both pole dancing classes were booked out fully and a wait list was created.

Welcome Picnic: this was a well-attended event with many first years and a few older years, with approximately 40 people coming to eat and have a chat over the course of the event. We commissioned two department members to provide a cake, cupcakes and cookies as well as supplying a bunch of yummy snacks.

(ii) ANUSA

Friday Night Music: I worked with Phoenix to offer a quiet space at the Friday Night Music event and also provided First Aid at the Mooseheads Party .

(b) Merchandise

The merchandise for O-Week this year was a re-print designed by Shannon Napier our 2021 Web and Design Editor who designed a tote bag with roses on it. We also reprinted bucket hats that said 'Women' designed by 2019 Web and Design Editor Sydney Farey. We also reprinted sticker designs by Shannon, 2021 Deputy Officer Aurora Muir and myself. All this merchandise was extremely popular with a number of people expressing interest in us reprinting more as soon as possible and additionally expanding our merch selection.

All the merchandise was bought with 2021 funds before the handover to 2022.

2. Continuing Projects

(a) Advocacy

(i) Residential Hall Advocacy

During training for 2022 Senior Residents and Community Coordinators I attended all RRU training sessions regarding responding to disclosures and administrative procedures. I spoke to student leaders about the services ANU and the ANU Women's Dept can offer as well as the role of SASH advocacy on campus and about some tools they could use within their residences to contribute to primary prevention of sexual violence.

I am also in communication with the residential halls' Women's Officers. We will be setting up a meeting and I hope to support all of these wonderful advocates in their goals. I hope for this to be a useful way of disseminating information across campus and providing support to advocates based on individual needs.

(ii) Release of de-identified SASH data

The ANU will this week finally release de-identified data concerning rates and responses to SASH incidents on campus over the past year. This data was promised by the VC for public release years ago.

(iii) Universities Australia Survey

The UA Student Safety Survey data and results report is forthcoming and will be released early this year. I am working towards the establishment and accessibility of increased support resources and systems in place for students during the release of the report as well as considerations for the Women's Departments official response.

(iv) Student Safety Team

Christian, Chido and myself have been working with the newly established Student Safety Team to discuss reform of the ANU's response structure for incidents of SASH and wellbeing incidents. They have been an incredibly considerate team and taken a lot of initiative already in this space. I am very happy to see such productive changes in this space and encourage students who have feedback about their interactions with this team to pass it on to me so we can better inform their work.

(v) LEWG

In addition to my work on the RSWG (Respectful Relationships Working Group), SVPS Taskforce and GEWG (Gender Equity Working Group) I have now joined LEWG (Learning Environment Working Group) as the student representative. The LEWG meets to discuss necessary changes and processes in advance of the ANU's reaccreditation to TEQSA

(b) Birth Control Subsidy Program

Over the Summer I have been working on setting up a program to subsidise birth control for students on campus. With approvals from the Department Officers I have secured \$20,000 from the Department Funding Pool to pay for a trial of this program.

Birth Control is often a problematic form of medication that can have adverse effects on those who use it - however it is also often the best and safest option for many students seeking to prevent pregnancy, regulate periods and alleviate painful periods, relieve endometriosis and PCOS, treat acne or regulate hormones. It is unconscionable that BC is not further subsidised or made free by the government and the Women's Department would love to play a part in supporting students to access this necessary healthcare.

Treasurer Jaya and I have organised a partnership with the University Pharmacy to provide 50% subsidies to undergraduate students on prescriptions for oral contraceptive pills, contraceptive implants, contraceptive injections and IUD's. Students will have to show their undergraduate student ID in order to be eligible, supply will be limited to one pack per time.

The trial is slated to start in Week 2 and I will be promoting the program online.

If there is significant uptake for this, which in consultation with department members I do expect - we are likely to run out of funds and at that point I will revisit some funding options later in the year.

(c) Campaigns

The Women's Department is currently in the process of choosing our campaign focuses for Semester 1. We are looking at a number of interest areas falling under the lens

of radical feminism and will be consulting with the collective at our first collective meeting about issues of major interest and events they would like to see.

(d) Upcoming Events

(i) Collective Meetings

Our first collective meeting will be on Monday 28th February - we have postponed to week 2 to alleviate some concerns about covid case increases in the past few days.

(ii) Friendship bracelet collaboration with the ANU Queer Dept

We will have a collaborative event with the ANU Queer Dept in the next few weeks to make friendship bracelets/do craft together.

(iii) Mural making

We will have an event to collate our mural and glue it together into a form that can be displayed from the ANUSA Balcony.

(iv) Consciousness Raising Circles

In collaboration with Dept Member Ellen Carey we will be setting up regular feminist consciousness raising circles in the coming weeks to provide a safe space for discussion and idea sharing.

(v) Women* in STEM Catch-ups

We will be co-hosting and promoting the Science Society's Women in STEM coffee catch-ups every second Monday at 9am in coming weeks.

(vi) Launch of Bossy Magazine 2021 Copy

In collaboration with Bossy Magazine will be organising a launch event to celebrate the release of their 2021 edition of the magazine.

(e) Pastoral Care

I have received a number of disclosures and incidences that have required pastoral care. I have helped the students take the appropriate next steps as per their wishes and have ensured that they access appropriate support services as well. These disclosures occurred over email and Facebook as well as in person.

1. Income and Expenditure

Source of Income	Details	Amount	Total
Baseline Funding from ANUSA	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
		Total Income	\$10,000.00

Expenditure	Details	Amount	Total
O-Week	Market Day	\$163	
	Departments Fete	\$159.44	

	Picnic	\$73.09	\$395.53
New Merch Design	Payment to Artist	\$150	\$150
		Total Expenditure	\$545.53

It's all about an abundance mindset at the Women's Department.

4. Timesheet

Since the 1st December 2021, I have worked an approximate 115 hours. Most of these hours have been spent on Admin and Community Outreach. A fair bit of this time has also been spent in training programs and meetings.

If you would like more details about any of the above please feel free to contact me at sa.womens@anu.edu.au.

4. Slay Queen of the Month

In 2021 we celebrated the girlboss of the month in my SRC reports, this year we shall transition to the Slay Queen of the Month (if anyone thinks of something better let me know). I think (hopefully!) everyone knows what it means to slay queen but for the purpose of this report I will clarify that a slay queen need not be a queen/woman matriach.

*Also worth acknowledging the origins of language like slay queen in AAVE and the fact that the same can be said of a tonne of gen z's colloquialisms.

This month's slay queen will be Phoenix - they deserve a mega shout-out for breathing life back into campus and being so genuinely kind and friendly whilst doing it! Phi is a slay queen legend and everyone should say thank you to them for saving ANU and coordinating such an insanely well-attended and fun O-Week. Hope you get a big rest. Slay queen.



QUEER* OFFICER'S REPORT 1

Xya Romilio (Queer* Officer)
As of Feb 18, 2022

SUMMARY

1. Introduction
2. Elections
3. Completed Projects
4. Continuing Projects
5. Income and Expenditure
6. Timesheet

Introduction

I started my term on December 1st, 2021, and since then we have done a lot! Following concerns raised in the AGM last year, we decided it was super important that we set strong foundations that meant that all members of our team felt well supported and listened to. The deputies and I spent a lot of time creating strategies for managing workload and improving morale of the team. Internally, we established a code blue, where any member of the team can take a period of max 2 weeks off with no questions asked, effective immediately. We also created checklists that are marked off fortnightly to ensure everyone in the committee and exec understands their duties for that time and have an opportunity to raise any concerns. We have also been planning o-week which all our events went fantastically! It was so lovely getting to meet so many students in spaces that we made sure were inclusive and intersectional.

The 2022 team this year want to have a strong focus on support for everyone. We have created support measures internally and will be working through the year on how to best support all students on campus. We have created strong working relationships with the residential colleges and QIC, something I will touch on later, and new students commencing study in 2022! We also would love to further the working relationship between department officers and ensuring all departments understand that we are always here to support any member of your department!

Elections

There was no publicity officer elected at the end of 2021, due to lack of nomination. According to the ANU Queer* Dept constitution, nominations will open in our first collective meeting of the year which is yet to happen at time of writing. The nominations will be open for 2 weeks, and a publicity officer will be elected in week 3 2022.

Completed Projects

O-week events

We held several Queer* department events during O-week including Queer* Picnic, Thrifting, Online games night, Queer* Coffee, Queer* Soiree, and a Yoga collab with ANU Sport, as well as participating in other ANUSA events including Department fete and Market Day.

Merch

As a subsection of this, we outsourced new merch to sell at O-week. We commissioned a Queer* ANU Student to create pride flag earrings for students, as well as commissioning another Queer* Student to create a new merch design. For merch this year, we really wanted to focus on discrete designs that allow students to wear them without outing themselves to family and friends.

Mailing list

We have been keeping up to date with our mailing list, with our march addition about to be released! We have released 3 issues since December to our subscribers. Monthly newsletters were something we aimed to do last year; however, it became too big of a job for the officer alone last year, thus constitutional amendments were made in order to make the job more manageable at the end of last year.

Rally

One of the biggest things that we have done so far this year was organising a rally against the religious discrimination bill. This was a snap action protest that was on the 6th of Feb. It was held by ANU Queer* Department and organised by ANUSA Staff including Beatrice, Ben Yates, and Grace, who provided immense amount of time and energy into organising this event. We had a large turnout, and was able to pick up some media interest, to which we gave media statements to.

Continuing projects

Res halls

We are continuing to contact the res halls to organise a more effective communication system for issues of queer-phobia and access to resources. We have reached out to the interhall council, QIC, and the queer reps of each college to see how we can best support queer students at colleges and will continue to work closely over the year.

Promoting ANUSA services

We are changing our meeting running's due to feedback from collective meetings last semester. In hopes of increasing engagement, we are aiming to have members from ANUSA services come and talk to our members about the types of services offered. Our week one collective meeting [which will have occurred at the time of SRC] hosted ANUSA welfare officer Grace King.

Counselling

There was attempted movement last year about a push for free counselling sessions for queer students. I have been in communication with last year's welfare officer to grant 10 free group counselling sessions held by meridian. This will be something that is likely to occur later in the semester.

Queer-phobia Report

At last year's AGN, it was voted that the queer department starts developing a queer-phobia report where students report their instances of queer-phobia, and we use this to develop stronger measures to combat queer issues on campus. We are currently brainstorming how to do this, with myself and the deputies Will and Liz developing questions to ask in the survey.

5. Income and expenditure

From the 31st of December to the 17th of February

Item	Notes	Income or Expenditure	Amount
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Queer Department Merch	Totes, T-Shirts, Hoodies, Bucket Hats and Earrings	Ex	\$9206.60
Merch design		Ex	\$180
Department Fete Cookies	O-Week	Ex	\$743.16
BIPOC Painting Supplies	Reimbursement, O-Week	Ex	\$40.64
Non-Autonomous Picnic	Food, Drink and Cups for, O-Week	Ex	\$132.57
Queer* and caffeinated	Attendees' Coffees, O-Week	Ex	\$67.50
Queer Soirée	Food and Drinks, O-Week	Ex	\$145.30
Bank Account Fees	Charged Monthly	Ex	\$24
ANUSA Baseline Funding		In	\$10000
Merch Sales		In	\$3712.65
Total Expenditure			\$10539.77
Total O-Week Expenditure			\$1129.17
Total Income			\$13712.65

6. Timesheets

A complete breakdown of timesheets can be found [here](#). In total, since December 1, as of 18/02, I have spent 247 hours on various activities within queer department.

I have listed below a sample of the average weeks spent during this period

Date	Start Time	End Time	Notes	Overtime Hrs.	Total Hrs.
24/01/2022	1200	1800	Admin		6
25/01/2022	1400	1800	FOC meeting 1400-1500	Admin: 1500-1800	4
26/01/2022	1830	2230		Meeting 1400-1500	5
27/01/2022				Admin 6 hours whole day	6

28/01/2022				Admin 6 hours whole day	6
29/01/2022	-	-	-	-	-
30/01/2022	1200	1300			1
Weekly Totals					28

Reference K

ISD SRC 1 REPORT

DATE: 19/02/2022 | AUTHOR: Chamika Fonseka (he/him)



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Introduction

Hi everyone! My name is Chamika Fonseka. I use he/him pronouns, and I will be the 2022 ANUSA International Students' Officer, as well as the President of the ANU International Students' Department (ISD).

For the uninitiated, the ISD is an autonomous department under ANUSA, which exists to represent and advocate for international students. We also create resources, run initiatives, and organise events for international students, both on-campus and overseas.

You can reach out to us via our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/anuisd>), or email me directly at sa.international@anu.edu.au.

International Borders

When the incumbent ISD executive began our term on the 1st of December, 2021, much of our work focused on clarifying the situation around Australia's international borders, which had been closed to international students since 2020.

From late-November to mid-December 2021, we attended regular meetings with Professor Sally Wheeler, the Deputy Vice Chancellor for International Strategy, to discuss the University's plans to manage the return of international students. These meetings were a useful forum through which to seek answers to common questions & queries remote students had, and to share information with students about the University's expectations & plans. A huge shoutout to Isha for reaching out to Sally's office and organising these meetings!

We are delighted that Australia's borders have since reopened, and that international students have been able to travel to campus through ANU-managed returner pathways, as well as private travel arrangements (e.g., commercial flights). However, we understand that several international students are still overseas, and ISD will continue to advocate for them.

Recruitment of ISD Directors & Reps

Over December & January, the ISD Executive recruited Directors for the Wellbeing, Social, Education, and Publications Portfolios. I welcome to the team Abirami Manikandan as Wellbeing Director, Pranavi Jamwal as Social Director, Syed Muhammad Fawwad as Education Director, and Kirat Alreja as Publications Director.

Additionally, ISD also recruited reps for these portfolios. In the past, rep recruitment has taken place in the first half of Semester 01, leaving Directors without a team to support them during Orientation Week, one of the busiest times of the year for ISD. The rationale behind earlier rep recruitment was to ensure that Directors' workloads were more manageable, and to allow ISD to run a more comprehensive Orientation Week calendar.

We will be holding another round of rep recruitment in the first half of Semester 01, as has been the norm in the past.

Interested students are also able to apply to become ISD Global Ambassadors. Ambassadors are volunteers who assist Directors in implementing projects and running events. The Ambassador application form is available at <https://forms.gle/T4buUkXqERGRGt6F7>.

Orientation Week

This year's Orientation Week program was one of the ISD's most extensive, with several events across both O-Week and N-Week.

Earlier rep recruitment allowed Directors to run more events, and the return of international students to campus meant that most events saw strong attendance. A huge shoutout to all the ISD Execs and Reps that ran and helped with events, as well as the BIPOC Department, Queer* Department, and Indigenous Department, who collaborated with ISD during O-Week.

ISD's Orientation Week events comprised of:

- Three Online Games Nights (including in collaboration with the Queer* Department)
- Two Grocery Store Tours
- Department Fete & Market Day
- Picnic (in collaboration with the BIPOC Dept. and Indigenous Dept.)
- N-Week Mixer
- Two Induction Sessions (organised by ANU Engagement & Success)

ISD Executives participated in both induction sessions, sharing our insights with both new and returning international students. A huge shoutout to Kezia and Jason from ANU Engagement & Success, who organised these sessions, and have worked tirelessly to support arriving international students in recent months.

International Students' Welcome Evening (ISWE)

The International Students' Welcome Evening (ISWE) will be ISD's first large-scale formal event in over two years. As a collaboration between ISD and PARSА, ISWE will be an occasion to welcome both new and returning international students to ANU.

It will be held at QT Canberra on Friday the 25th of February. We have seen strong ticket sales, with all tickets being sold out. A huge shoutout to Katrina for spearheading plans for ISWE, and to PARSА International Officer Soniya for her support.

Collective Meetings

Going forward, the ISD will hold regular Collective Meetings. These are committee meetings of the ISD which are open to all members of the Department (i.e., international students) to attend, observe proceedings, ask questions, and raise discussion items. The time & venue for

these meetings, as well as the process for submitting agenda items, will be announced in advance via the ISD Facebook page.

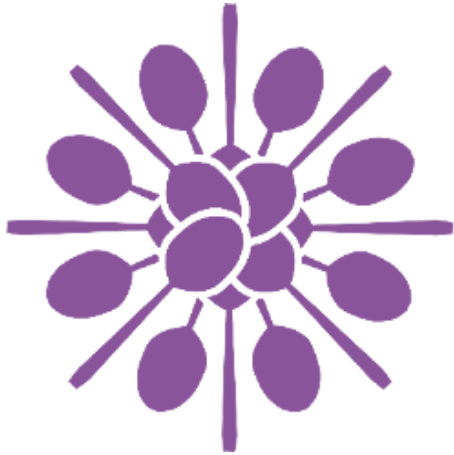
Upcoming OGM & Constitutional Amendments

The ISD will be hosting our first OGM of 2022 on Saturday the 5th of March (see Facebook for more details). The purpose of this OGM is to amend the ISD Constitution around two key areas:

- 1. ISD Election Policy** – Currently, ISD elections are governed by the ANUSA Election Regulations. However, the ISD Constitution as it stands currently does not satisfy all the stipulations of the ANUSA Regulations. Thus, amending the ISD Constitution to introduce an ISD Election Policy will harmonise the election process.
- 2. Expanding Portfolios** – The ISD Constitution currently permits each Director to recruit a maximum of three reps to their portfolio, with the Wellbeing Director being permitted an additional rep as the ISD Queer* Rep. This is an increase from the two reps which Directors were allowed to recruit until 2021.
The rationale behind a further increase in the number of reps Directors can recruit is to (a) provide Directors the resources to take on additional projects & run extra events, and (b) allow Directors to share their workload more evenly amongst reps. This will be particularly helpful for the Social and Publications portfolios, which are generally the busiest throughout the year.

Income & Expenditure

Income	\$	\$
Opening Balance		14,227.49
ANUSA Baseline Funding		10,000.00
Unauthorised Transaction Refund		52.22
ISWE Ticket Revenue		2,255.74
Total Income		26,535.45
Gross Profits		26,535.45
Expenses		
Rollover Budget Return to ANUSA	(6,192.98)	
International Meetups Reimbursement	(212.92)	
Merch Orders	(2,430.70)	
Publications Portfolio Subscription	(211.77)	
International Transfer Fee	(6.00)	
ISWE	(1,724.41)	
O-week Mixer	(539.98)	
Total Expense	(11,318.76)	
Closing Balance		15,216.69



Disabilities Officer Report SRC 1, Semester 1, 2022

Saffron Bannister (Disabilities Officer)

Anu Disabilities Student Association

Prepared 18/02/2022

Contents

1. Executive Summary
2. Advocacy & Campaigning
3. Media & Community
4. Administration

1. Executive Summary

The Officer and DSA have worked extensively on campaigning during the summer period, and have many planned campaigns for the semester. These include both interpersonal advocacy and discussions with ANU groups to improve accessibility, as well as wider scale campaigns to improve conditions for disabled students. The Officer has met with the Wattle development team and has brought student requests to the forefront with them. Ongoing campaigns include multi-modal learning, multi-modal graduation. Proposed campaigns for the DSA include increased training on disability awareness and ANU policy around disability for staff, adoption of the CASS extensions portal by other colleges, and an ableism on campus report.

The DSA logo has been updated to be more sleek and visually appealing. New branded flyers, a new banner, and various merch and stickers have been obtained. The DSA's website has been updated to contain more recent information, and a linktree has been created for easier accessibility of information.

The DSA committee has had most positions filled over the summer, but we are running an election for a new secretary in the first collective meeting of the semester. As we have regained access to the bank account, we have been able to make purchases.

2. Advocacy & Campaigning

Issue based Advocacy & Student Support

Students who contact the Officer with individual issues of ableism and discrimination can receive assistance. I have been in contact with various parties, including conveners, A&I, and other university staff members, and in order to address the individual concerns of students. The details of these interactions will remain unspecified for reasons of confidentiality.

If you ever have an issue like that, please don't hesitate to contact me at sa.disabilities@anu.edu.au, or any other means through which you are comfortable seeking contact.

Disability Action Plan Working Group

The Officer has been in contact with and involved with the Disability Action Plan working group. This group has been working towards the implementation of the Disability Action Plan. The outline for this plan is available here:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/files/committee/HR200059%20Disability%20Action%20Plan%20FINAL.pdf>

Accessibility Consultations

The Officer consulted with various groups to improve accessibility on campus. This included ANU Sport, Wattle support, the CSSA, and ANUSA's clubs officer. Something that I would consider to be a big win here is getting the quiet hour at Market Day to be extended to be an entire hour, rather than half an hour.

If any ANU groups or ANUSA representatives want to consult the DSA on accessibility for events or policies, please contact the Officer at sa.disabilities@anu.edu.au.

Ongoing Campaign for Multi-Modal Learning

The Officer and DSA have been campaigning with the support of ANUSA's president and vice president for the continuation of multi-modal learning. In the immediate term this has been successful, but work must still be done to ensure it remains an option in the future for undergraduate students who need it.

Ongoing Campaign for Multi-Modal Graduation

Despite multiple attempts to get in contact with the Graduations Office with student concerns about accessibility and lack of a graduation ceremony for students who could not attend in-person, no response was received, and the February 2022 graduation ceremony continued in-person only. This was a deeply frustrating show of indifference from the university in response to genuine student concerns.

Improving Wattle

The officer has been in discussions with the Wattle team relating to the improvement of the platform for students regarding accessibility concerns. We have been told that dark mode is impossible, but a dimming mode to decrease white space is in development. The UI is also being changed to have less scrolling. We also brought up that the current announcements system means that announcements get buried in discussion posts and suggested possible improvements to the system.

Proposed Campaign for Disability Education and Sensitivity Training

This year, the DSA intends on pushing for training for staff on issues of ableism, as well as on the ANU's policies on disability. As it currently stands, students often must negotiate their accessibility requirements with conveners, putting an undue burden on disabled students to self-advocate. To that end, we would like to see mandatory training on disability awareness. While these goals stated here are partially crossing over with the goals of the Disability Action Plan, that plan is very behind on delivering on its objectives, and in my opinion does not go far enough in relieving disabled students of the burden of self-advocacy.

Proposed Deputy Officer Campaigns

Mira will be working on extending the CASS extensions portal to other colleges. This is important as it reduces the load on students requesting extensions. As it currently stands, the process for extension requests outside of CASS can vary wildly between conveners, from an e-mail, a message on Piazza, to a Teams meeting. The lack of consistency and potential difficulty reaching out means that getting an extension can be an undue burden on students, and from what I have seen many do not get extensions which they are entitled to because of anxiety around the process. Extending the CASS portal for use in other colleges would bring greater consistency and reduce the barriers for students already experiencing difficulties.

Maddi will be writing a report on ableism on campus, similar to the racism report produced by the BIPoC department. We believe that ableism on campus is a prevalent issue, both interpersonally between students, staff members, and conveners, but also structurally with the difficulty of getting an EAP and using that EAP to get accommodations. The first step towards addressing this massive issue is getting the university to recognise it, and a report covering the extent of it will assist in that.

I will be assisting the deputy officers in their campaign wherever needed, and plan on allocating them money in the budget to assist with their campaigns. Both deputy officers will be involved with other issues of advocacy, and Mira has volunteered to help co-ordinate the push for more convener and staff education on issues of ableism and disability.

Other

A number of disclosures have been received and directed to appropriate places. Due to confidentiality these will remain anonymous. If you have any questions about accessibility and support at the ANU please feel free to contact the Officer at sa.disabilities@anu.edu.au.

3. Media & Community

Logo and Branding Redesign

Due to being unsatisfied with the previous logo, during December I underwent a full logo redesign. This was done by myself, in consultation with the DSA committee, the collective, and the Artifex discord server. The new logo is spoons in the shape of a flower, intended to be evocative of a sunflower. Sunflowers are used to represent invisible disabilities. The use of flower motif was also inspired by both the Womens' and BIPoC department logos. The flower is made of spoons as a reference to spoon theory, and in order to retain identity with the previous logo. The shade of purple is also retained from the old version of the logo.

Figure 1: Old Version of the DSA Logo (left) and new version (right)

Figure 2: BIPoC (left) and Womens' (right) Department Logos (these are my favourite of the department logos)

A new branded banner and flyers were bought for the department, as well as new merch.

Merch

Merch has been ordered and received from Bluegum: bucket hats, and bags. For O-Week merch is being sold at well below cost – \$5 + QPay fees for hats, and \$2 + QPay fees for the bags (or bags can come free with a hat or cup purchase). The proceeds from this will go towards our events budget. There are also keepcups on order but those have not yet arrived. For the moment, the primary purpose of the merch is to spread awareness about the DSA, rather than for fundraising.

Figure 3: Merch designs, left to right: bucket hat, bag, and keepcup

O-Week

The DSA has run a successful O-Week, mainly consisting of events to assist students in getting EAPs. During Market Day, the Officer ran an open Zoom call for any online students who wanted to participate and learn more about the club.

Website and Social Media

The DSA website has been updated with current information, and the various social media channels have been kept up to date and managed. Various events and requests from ANU staff have been posted on the Facebook page as well, in order to bring them to the attention of potentially interested students.

The DSA's current primary communications channels are the Facebook page, Facebook group, and discord server. As a short term project for term 1, we are starting a mailing list. This will allow us to communicate with more students. For ease of access to information and support, a Linktree has been created with links to all our social media pages, contact details, and links to our mailing list sign up and spoons space access request form. The linktree is available here: <https://linktr.ee/ANUDisabilities>

Spoons Space

As we have re-gained access to funds, we have started stocking the Spoons Space with food, which is kept in the kitchen cupboard and fridge. We have opened a respectful and mutually beneficial relationship with our neighbours surrounding the space. The dishwashing machine in the kitchen is still broken, but I am in discussions with our neighbours who occasionally use the kitchen on how to address that.

Students can request access to the Spoons Space using this form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSer0wMrnhQwxmAnbjZHp6wzjK8XOeEpDVmvVHRV0iClLyN5hw/viewform> or by emailing me at sa.disabilities@anu.edu.au.

Spoons Space: Accessible Entrance for ANU's Student Pantry

The ANU is opening a pantry for students (with food and supplies) in the area which was previously occupied by the RRU. I believe that ANU Thrive are primarily in charge of this endeavour. We have made an agreement that students with mobility affecting disabilities will be able to access this pantry via the wheelchair accessible door to the Spoons Space.

Spoons Space: Officer Office in the Spoons Space

The ANUSA office is not universally physically accessible. While the lift is working again now, that isn't always the case, and the doors are not automatic. As such, I will be running my office hours out of the Spoons Space for the foreseeable future. In aid to this, I will set up the storage closet in the space to be used as an office.

4. Administration

Elections and Committee Updates

We ran a successful election for the appointment of the new Social Officer, Robin Ng, and Publicity Officer Charlotte Croghan, who were both elected 18/01/2022. We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new committee members. The elected secretary for 2022, Druhv Phutela, resigned from his position. Nominations for DSA secretary are currently open, and the secretary will be elected on the first DSA collective meeting of the academic term (04/03/2022). If you would like to nominate please do so via this form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSef_00EwN-BZIExuls0vhdK1PzRoXJOZP1thI3F0llblwbLDg/viewform

The 2022 Treasurer is Cody Nugara, and the Deputy Officers are Maddi McCarthy and Mira Robson. These three were elected in the final meeting of the academic year of 2021.

Financial

We have successfully gained access to the bank account! Here is a summary of collective expenditure and income, as prepared by the DSA Treasurer Cody Nugara.

Since 01/12/2021

Money Spent

O Week Related expenditure	\$265.40
Signage	\$93.39
ANUSA Baseline Refund	\$1
Total	\$359.79

Money Payable

O Week Related expenditure	\$237.52
Spoon Space related expenditure	\$100.93
Merchandise	\$2552.00
Total	\$2890.45

Grand Total \$3250.24

Timesheet

The officer has worked an estimated 210hrs over the summer period (avg. 3.5hrs on working days), with time being mainly spent on advocacy and campaigning, administrative work, social media management, and graphic design. Hours in subsequent periods should be lower as we have a social and publicity officer now. It is my hope that by front loading as much work as I could do over the summer and laying groundwork for future periods, I can reduce stress for myself and the DSA Committee during semester.

Environment Collective Officer Report – SRC 1

Freya Brown

Introduction

The Environment Collective has launched into 2022 with continuing momentum from 2021, as well as fresh energy for a year of radical activism. Over summer the EC made a change to the structure of the executive team and prepared for the year ahead. O-Week was a success, despite ongoing Covid-19. New EC members have joined and we are looking forward to building EC campaigns.

Summer

2022 marks the 50th year anniversary at the Tent Embassy. On January 26, thousands of people protested at the Invasion Day rally. The EC provided support for the protest in terms of marshals and promoting the event, including promoting resources created by the Indigenous Department. Thank you to Katchmirr and the Indigenous department exec for their work in the 2022 Invasion Day rally. I was unable to attend because I was in Naarm, but heard from everyone who was there that the day was really powerful, with great attendance and sent a strong message to the government.

During the summer, the structure of the executive team changed. Elise officially stepped down from Officer and a by-election was held where I was voted in uncontested. Both Elise and I are doing a Co-Officer role within the EC for a flatter structure and more even distribution of workload. Conveners have been elected for the roles of Outreach (Mai), Education (Satara) and Social and Design (Angel).

O-Week

The EC had great success during O-Week. Conveners and volunteers had many excellent conversations with students during the Department Fete and Market Day, onboarding lots of keen first years and other interested students to the Collective. The drinks at Badger social event also went really well, with a turn out of about 25. We had great conversations about radical environmental activism and got to know new EC members better. The thrift market stall was also a success. We had a huge amount of clothes donations, most of which was sold, and leftover clothes were donated to the op shop. Throughout O-Week we sold EC merch and were sold out of tote bags by Thursday. The money raised from the thrift market and merch sales in 2021 and 2022 will be donated evenly between Mulligan's Flat Woodland Sanctuary and Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network. The final O-Week event was the nature walk through the Botanic Gardens, which had a turnout of about 15. At this event, we had really positive conversations about the places where we grew up, connection to land and how First Nations land rights is integral to environmental justice. Overall, O-Week in the EC involved lots of good conversations, social events and getting people excited for the year ahead.

Upcoming

The EC has its first official meeting on Monday 21st February which will be held on Zoom for Covid safety. During this meeting, the EC will establish our campaigns for the year, an approximate timeline for these campaigns and working groups. We plan to continue the Fossil Free ANU campaign, develop a better outreach program, host educational activist workshops and build a stronger sense of community within the EC. Last year, the Op Shop Ball had to be postponed due to Covid. We will attempt to run this again during ball season in term 3 and will continue our relations with the previous facilities we had booked. We are also in contact with a few land-care organisations and hope to run a land-care day for the EC soon. I am so excited for what the EC will do in 2022.

Expenditure

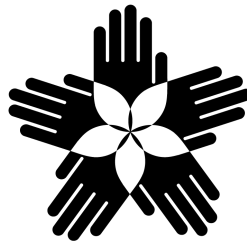
Expenditure since the 1st of December 2021, as of 18 Feb 2022:

Purpose	Items	Total
Bank fees	Debit card fees: \$9.00	\$9
O-Week	Printing: \$135.42 Supplies: \$58.50	\$193.92
Social event	Food & fizzy drink: \$53	\$53
Merchandise	Production: \$481.80	\$481.80
		\$737.72

In 2021 we made \$440 from merchandise sales throughout the entire year, and as of 18/2/22 we have made \$974.75 from merchandise & thrift market sales from O-Week. Cumulatively, we have \$1414.75 from 2021 and 2022 O-Week sales.

The Enviro Collective conveners and the working group involved in planning the thrift market stall have elected to donate this amount, split evenly, to Mulligan's Flat Woodland Sanctuary and Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network. As of writing this, this amount will be \$707 to each organisation, but the final amount may be greater as some direct payments from the thrift market are still coming through.

Reference N



ANU BIPOC DEPARTMENT

ANU BIPOC^[1] DEPARTMENT OFFICER REPORT

CHANEL NGUYEN

Student Representative Council 1
23 February 2022 6:15PM

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Supporting BIPOC Artists

In November, I launched an artist call out to the BIPOC collective interested in designing new merch for our department. The new designs included prints and tote bags which were officially launched during O-Week. I would like to congratulate the artists - Naushaan Ahmad, Sashini Liyanage and Alexander Sarsfield for their creative contribution to our Department.

O-Week

During O-Week our department ran 6 events.

Department Fete:

This was a very successful event where we were able to explain what our department does as well as discuss plans to do for the rest of the year. We gained a lot of sign ups and social media follows with many students expressing interest in being involved in our department.

Autonomous Queer X BIPOC Dept. Collab Painting:

As this event was not publicly advertised, we had a very small turn out which allowed for an intimate discussion to take place. Moving forward as a department, to ensure greater engagement and participation we would prefer to have all social events published via our social media platforms.

Market Day:

Similarly to the Department Fete, this was a successful event with a lot of engagement and interest in our Department.

Indigenous Dept. x International Student Dept. x BIPOC Dept. Picnic & BIPOC Jewellery Making Event:

This was a successful collaborative event with approximately 25 to 30 students in attendance. Students were able to enjoy socialising in a comfortable setting, nibbling on snacks as well as making phone charms, necklaces and bracelets with the tools provided by our department. I hope to plan more cross-department collaborations like this in the future.

Chai & Chats:

This was a really successful event and we had maximised ticket sign ups. It was really good to see engagement with both new first year students and students who had previously been involved with our department come together for this event. Collective members were able to socialise and engage in important discussions surrounding topics of race and identity.

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

Racism Report 2022

The BIPOC Department Racism Report released last year was an incredibly impactful report that provided an insight into racism on campus and how the ANU can do better to support BIPOC students. Our department is committed to ensuring the safety and inclusion of all Bla(c)k, Indigenous and People of Colour students thus, we will be working towards a second Racism Report.

Chai & Chats

Chai and Chats will be planned bi-weekly during the semester at various cafes in and around campus. These autonomous meetings provide an outlet for our Department members to discuss their experiences in safe and welcoming spaces.

Autonomous Alternatives

Autonomous Alternatives was first launched last year as many members of the BIPOC community, particularly those living on campus do not participate in going out or drinking for cultural and religious reasons, many BIPOC students stay in on a Thursday. Our Department wants to provide an engaging alternative to staying alone in their dorms or at home. Autonomous Alternatives will include activities like movie nights, art workshops and study sessions.

"Picture a scientist documentary"

Our Department is working alongside BIPOC female identifying ANU students to be part of the discussion panel of the film "Picture a scientist". The documentary is about the intersectional discrimination in sciences and STEM and is scheduled for the 8th March.

Proposed social events:

The BIPOC Exec. has had various enthusiastic discussions about what kind of social events we want to see happen this year. Some proposed ideas we are currently drafting are a Y2K themed party, an Open Mic event and a BIPOC Ball. With the success of last year's BIPOC Ball, it highlighted the importance of having a community and creating space that celebrated being BIPOC. We plan to host another BIPOC Ball that will be set to happen in the first half of the second semester.

BIPOC x ANU Dance Club Collab

The BIPOC Department and ANU Dance Club are collaborating to host an event that illuminates cultural dance genres taught by BIPOC members from the Dance Club. This will be a non-autonomous event that is set to happen in Week 4.

Indigenous Dept. X BIPOC Dept X Science Society Collab

This cross collaboration looks to promote the Science Society's Coffee Catch-up events that are run weekly and provide a casual, social setting for autonomous groups to meet and chat with others. The Science Society has previously organised Women in STEM Coffee Catch-ups for a few years but expressed interest to include more groups for upcoming events including; BIPOC, Queer as well as Women in STEM.

BIPOC Safe Space Petition

The ANU BIPOC Department is spearheading an initiative to have a physical, autonomous space on campus for all BIPOC identifying students. Prioritising an autonomous space for marginalised students is completely possible, as we have seen with other ANUSA-affiliated Departments such as the Women's Department and Queer Department. The space is intended to be used for collective meetings, organising, studying and to allow community discussions in a comfortable, safe setting.

During O-Week Department Fete & Market Day Stalls, our department collected roughly 70 signatures in support of this initiative. 96.3% of students who were interested in signing up to be involved with the BIPOC Department had voted yes when asked if they were interested in having a BIPOC Safe Space on Campus. Students were also asked what they wanted to see in the space and the responses included; having great community building discussions, a place for people to be themselves, judgement free, inclusive LGBTQ+ space, space to learn and improve cultural awareness. An additional petition link will be launched on the 23/2/22 to support this initiative for those who were not present during O-Week.

FINANCES: INCOME & EXPENDITURE

INCOME

	Amount
ANUSA Baseline Funding	+\$ 10,000.00
2021 Profit	+\$ 3,870.89
2022 O-Week Merch Sales	+\$ 520.91

EXPENDITURE

Purpose	Item Description	Amount
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Artist Payment for Merch Designs	PAYMENT FOR ARTIST #1	-\$135
	PAYMENT FOR ARTIST #1	-\$135
	PAYMENT FOR ARTIST #1	-\$175
MERCH	PAYMENT for Prints from Bytes n Colours	-\$119.42
O-WEEK	JEWELLERY MAKING MATERIALS & TOOLS from Spotlight	-\$182.00
	PAINT from Officeworks	-\$37.00
CHAI & CHATS	COFFEE from Coffee Lab	-\$25.00
TOTAL		-\$808.42

TIMESHEET

Since handover, I worked 9 hours in November and December 2021. In January I worked approximately 11hours and in February I worked 54.5hours - most of these hours were dedicated to planning and running events for O-Week. For a more detailed breakdown of my hours free to email me at sa.bipoc@anu.edu.au.

[1] BIPOC is an abbreviation for Bla(c)k, Indigenous, People of Colour

Reference O

HOT PEOPLE ATTEND NATIONAL CONFERENCE!

NUS Delegate Report - Sinead Winn

SUMMARY

- WTF actually is NatCon?
- Conflicts of interest (all girlbosses have them)
- So like, what actually happened?
- Why was it worth it to go?
- Why did it suck?
- Overall vibes?

WTF ACTUALLY IS NATCON?

TLDR: National Conference (or 'NatCon') is the Annual General Meeting of the National Union of Students. If you know anything about trade unions, it functions pretty similarly to the annual conference of a trade union - elected delegates attend to vote on the Union's 'National Platform', which is a document that outlines the values that will govern its operation for the coming year.

Instead of workplaces electing delegates, university campuses do, and the number of delegates is decided based on that campus' EFTSL (equivalent full-time student load). The more full-time students a campus has, the more delegates they are afforded, and the more votes each individual delegate carries. ANU has an EFTSL of about 18,000, meaning we send five delegates.

Like in any representative body, over time political groupings of students formed what we now call 'factions'. Similar to how in parliament an electorate elects a candidate that caucuses with a party, campuses elect delegates that caucus with factions. These provide broad groupings for students to identify with, and ensure that the NUS is governed more by politics and policy than by popularity (as this can often become the key decider of campus elections).

There are four main factions involved with the NUS. The first - and easiest to grasp - is Socialist Alternative. We all know them, we've all been yelled at by them. Socialist Alternative are revolutionary Marxists who hold the core belief that issues of class supercede social issues (such as those dealt with by autonomous collectives and department officers), and that the only way to successfully support marginalised voices is through violent anticapitalist revolution.

(I find this a bit fatalistic, personally). They hold a very limited percentage of floor ('floor' is the colloquial term for the overall grouping of delegates elected from all accredited campuses) - less than 10% - and hold 2/30 of the voting positions on the Union's Executive.

The next is the Grassroots Independents (and despite their name, the delegates elected from the Grassroots ANUSA ticket this year are not members of this faction), colloquially referred to as the 'Grindies'. The Grindies were formed when the Grassroots, a semi-Greens aligned broad left faction mostly based out of NSW, allied itself with the National Independents. The National Independents had no specific political alignment - they were independent delegates who understood that the more they voted together on motions, the more power their votes would have. The Grassroots and the National Independents amalgamated to form the 'Grindies', who have no specified political alignment but are a broadly left-wing group of students whose key identifiers are that they don't caucus, don't bind, are against caucusing and binding, and believe that party politics have no place in student unions. The Grindies make up about 20% of floor and hold 1/30 voting positions on the Union's Executive. (These might seem like discrepant numbers, but that's what happens when you don't caucus and bind to achieve your goals).

Brief interlude on caucusing and binding - all other factions caucus, meaning that they get together and all members of that faction discuss how their delegates and representatives will vote. (Note - unless a party declares a 'conscience vote', this is how parliamentary voting works too!) When a decision is reached, the delegates and representatives 'bind' - meaning that they pledge to all vote the same way. This is a key concept in union organising - the more people who stand (and thus vote) together, the more power those people's votes have, and the more change that can be created. Socialist Alternative, Student Unity, and National Labor Students all caucus and bind.

The next faction is Student Unity, often referred to simply as 'Unity' or 'Labor Right'. Student Unity is the student wing of the Australian Labor Party. To be a member of Student Unity you must be a member of the ALP, and their views broadly align with that of the Labor Party (and mostly that of the Right faction of the Labor Party, as the Left broadly aligns with the last faction I will discuss). Because they largely align with the Right, these are the people you hear chanting about the ALP on floor, and because they think the ALP is the saviour of mankind, you won't find them challenging the party line. They make up a majority of floor at approximately 50%, largely due to the knowledge base of campaigning and union organising that comes from being involved with the Labor Party. Because they hold a majority, Unity comprises 20/30 voting positions on the Union's Executive and hold the position of National Secretary, this year Deakin's Emily Sagolj.

The last faction - and for transparency's sake, my faction - is National Labor Students, usually referred to as 'NLS' or 'Labor Left'. Despite the 'Labor' in its name, you don't need to be a Labor member to join, and they largely align with the Left faction of the Labor Party. Their key identifier is the belief that 'we can do both' - this refers to the competing theories of change that are always a key debate at Conference, whether protesting or lobbying is more effective in creating change for students. They make up approximately 20% of floor and comprise 5/30 voting positions on the Union's Executive, including National President (this year La Trobe's Georgie Beatty).

At National Conference 2021, I was honoured to be elected to the National Executive as a general member (similar to an ANUSA Gen Rep, but on a national level). I am one of the 5/30 NLS votes on the 2021 NUS Executive.

ANU is almost overrepresented on this year's Executive as a campus - across all factions and independents, we have five votes out of thirty. These were elected at National Conference and are:

- Myself, National Executive, NLS
- Beatrice Tucker, ACT State Branch President, independent
- Ella Hickey, National Queer Officer, SU
- Alex Nancarrow, National Executive, SU
- Grace Hill, National Executive, SA

We also have an ACT Education Vice-President, a non-voting Union organiser that assists the State Branch President on local issues. I was the ACT Education Vice-President in 2021, and this year it's ANU Environment Officer Elise Chua.

All of these positions are also elected at the National Conference, after the National Platform has been decided. However, as floor percentages become clear long before the conference occurs as they're announced as part of campus election results, these positions are often negotiated for between the factions before the Conference itself. There are two main reasons for this. The first is simple efficiency - we have three days to debate hundreds of pages of policy, holding thirty individual ballots would knock out the entire conference and be pointless and exhausting when we already know which way people are going to vote. The second is to prevent the faction with just over 50% - Student Unity - from being able to sweep the entire Executive. Negotiating for certain positions allows Office Bearers to be more evenly dispersed and this helps ensure that there is still a broadly left-wing voice on the Union Executive.

This was a very long sojourn into NatCon and the NUS, but I think everyone should get involved with their union, and sometimes the 'point' of the NUS can be obscured by the on-the-ground stupol of it all. Broadly - the NUS is so important, and if I have to type out a few pages of stupol wonk so that it's more accessible for people, I'm more than happy to do it.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ALL GIRLBOSES HAVE THEM)

For transparency (and because I want y'all to take this seriously) I'm going to take a minute to declare a couple of conflicts of interest.

- I am a member of National Labor Students, and I caucus and bind with them (although I hope this is common knowledge at this point, I've said it so many times)
- I am a member of the ACT Labor Party, and I caucus with the ACT Left and ACT Young Left.
- I am a sitting member of the NUS National Executive and attended Presidents' Summit, and this report has been written after attending both Presidents' Summit and two National Executive Meetings.
- In my role on the National Executive, I sit on both the Fee Waiver Committee and the Budget Review Committee. I am also the appointed NUS Public Officer.

I hope that's everything that's relevant, but if I've forgotten anything it's just the ADHD, feel free to ask me about anything else at SRC or via email at u7126156@anu.edu.au.

SO LIKE, WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED?

Very little, TBH. This was my fourth ZoomCon (as I've affectionately taken to calling them), having attended Education Conference 2020, National Conference 2020, and Education Conference 2021 online as an observer.

This NatCon, most states created 'State Hubs', which were little internal mini-Conferences organised by each state individually. Because the timing of NatCon is after residential college contracts finish, this was pretty impossible for the ACT, so I spent my week on Zoom alone (Fs in the chat pls). The conference ran over three days - 13th -15th December 2021 - and opened about twenty minutes late each day due to the tech complications of hosting a hybrid conference (as conference Chair and 2021 National President, ANU's Zoe Ranganathan, was based out of the VIC State Hub).

If you want a play-by-play of each policy that was debated and who moved and spoke on it, I've included the link to Honi Soit (USyd's university paper)'s live tweet thread, which details

each motion, its mover, its speakers, and their factions. It's a fun read (I'm in there a few times!), and in total honesty at the time of writing this report, it's been two months since the actual Conference. I can't remember what I did yesterday, let alone what I did two months ago. Anyway, play-by-play links below!

- DAY 1 - https://twitter.com/honi_soit/status/1470177317448126465?s=21
- DAY 2 - https://twitter.com/honi_soit/status/1470537364896288768?s=21
- DAY 3 - https://twitter.com/honi_soit/status/1470903320730427402?s=21

WHY IS IT WORTH IT TO GO?

I cannot stress this enough - decisions are made by those who show up.

If you think the NUS isn't doing enough for you, it is so worth it to get involved. Getting involved at the NUS level provides so much insight into how unions work in general, and can also give you skills in organising, lobbying, and creating change. Attending National Conference - and like, actively participating, not just leaving the Zoom on in my office while I worked like I did in 2020 - increased my understanding of the union's national operations, and connected me with activists all over the country.

I'll also stress - getting involved in ANUSA is great and helps ANU students directly. ANUSA provides the services that you and I use every day, and helping provide those services is a massive fucking undertaking. But the real change that happens on the national level is incredible to watch (even if it's hard to listen to because SA is screaming a lot), and realising that it is *systemic* issues, faced by people like me all around Australia, that create most of the problems on our campus really reaffirmed my personal commitment to the student movement.

Because I was a delo in a ZoomCon year, the 'social' side of NatCon that people often highlight was very played down. I personally believe this is for both better and worse. Sometimes the social side of these events is fucking overwhelming (ADHD brain said 'shut it down boys!'). However, getting to actually connect with Presidents and Office Bearers at President's Summit reaffirmed my belief in national solidarity and really made it easier to start organising those national campaigns that have been somewhat lacklustre these past few COVID-saturated years.

Last pro is that unlike in ANUSA SRC's, I was allowed to swear as much as I liked. This led to my calling John Howard 'one of the biggest anti-union pricks in the history of forever', which was a real proud moment for me TBH.

WHY DID IT SUCK?

My God, the bureaucracy. My God, the fucking yelling.

I've said it before and I'll say it again - any student association/union meeting that involves more than an hour of debate is inaccessible. Both because you know, no one wants to do that, and also because it is genuinely hard for neurodivergent people, people with medical issues, people with mental health issues, and other disabled students to sit through that much fucking arguing, especially on Zoom with the onset of COVID-induced screen fatigue. I have a long-standing issue with ANUSA SRCs that run past 8pm, and National Conference is essentially three days of non-stop ANUSA SRC.

Maybe it's undemocratic of me, but my biggest suggestion to improve the efficacy of NatCon would be to streamline the debate, streamline the motions, and have a more consultative process in terms of writing and moving motions before they reach conference floor. Ideally, this would both mean less bureaucracy and less yelling, and that more independent delegates would have the institutional knowledge to write and move motions accessible to them. I'd love to chat more about this idea (I very much vibe it), so if you wanna hear more, shoot me an email at u7126156@anu.edu.au!

OVERALL VIBES?

I really, really hope that the Issue Of Reaccreditation Past does not continue as a post-COVID trend. If you are choosing to re-accredit to our national Union based on KPIs that they met for our individual university campus, and not because you genuinely believe in collective action - let's have coffee. I wanna talk you through some stuff.

The point of the national Union (of ANY union, actually) is not what the Union can do for you as an individual. Unionism is not an insurance policy or an investment, it's a philosophy. We contribute our accreditation fee knowing that it goes toward helping all students in Australia, not just students at ANU. If you think that we should 'keep ANU money here at ANU', or that 'SSAF should be voluntary' - how very economically conservative of you! Have fun with the ANU Liberal Club - you shouldn't call yourself a student activist.

In case I haven't made my position explicitly clear - I believe ANU should re-accredit to the NUS next year with no KPIs. I believe ANU should go through the fee waiver system to pay a suitable amount in accreditation (as our SSAF bid is always fucked by university management)

that goes toward our national Union not because we are asking them to improve things at ANU, but to assist them in the national campaigns that we don't have the organising power for.

I also don't think Factions Are Bad, or that 'faction' is a dirty word. ANU prides itself on its 'grassroots' approach to activism, but personally I think this just leads to what is effectively a popularity contest for important student union positions that actually have a huge impact on the everyday lives of students. Sure, there are some independent activists - particularly on this year's ANUSA Executive - who are fucking fantastic at what they do, and who I'm proud to have voted for. But what I've seen happen time and time again is BNOCs from colleges, UniLodge, Griffin and clubs thrown into student activism without the proper support or upskilling to adequately undertake an ANUSA role. I know that whenever I felt lost or that I wasn't undertaking my role to the best of my ability, I had and still have a community to both support me and hold me accountable to the philosophy of a practical approach to democratic, socialist, feminist unionism. I personally think this is a very good thing. Factions help make student unions more activist - you align your vote with values and beliefs, not with individuals.

NatCon's labyrinthine bureaucracy is the biggest criticism levelled at it and it's often attributed to the factionalisation of the Conference (this is literally on the NUS Wikipedia - go look it up for a laugh). My vibes are that actually, it's the other way round. I have massive issues with said labyrinthine bureaucracy and the accessibility issues it creates, but in my experience, factions help solve this issue, they don't create it. Factions provide both a level of legitimate focus on policy and ideology, and a space for genuine grassroots student engagement with campus issues. Having factions means that an effective consultative process on National Conference policy (such as the one I suggested, wink wink) could be implemented to save everyone the headache of the yelling and the labyrinthine bureaucracy.

I have no doubt that there are self-serving people in student politics. I've met them - I've been accused of being one of them. But in my experience, these people actually steer away from factions, because factions will hold them accountable. An ANU BNOC with aspirations of Prime Minister is going to be far more successful running without acknowledging any real values, to play into their college vote as best they can, rather than collaborating with people who genuinely have a vision for their student union that's furthered by their shared passion. Factions also provide a crucial space for those of us who may not actually want to be elected representatives but who still want to be involved to share their views and contribute to change through the power of caucusing and binding. ANUSA's official committees and some of the ANUSA departments are incredibly insular, making it very hard for passionate student activists to get involved without feeling like the last kid to get picked on a primary school sport team.

If you're already vaguely aware of stupol, your impression of the NUS probably has a lot to do with NatCon, unnecessary fighting, and SA-induced headaches. These things are all very much a part of NatCon, and I wish they weren't. The real work of the NUS - the work that won us a lowered Age of Independence, that stopped fee deregulation twice, that saved compulsory SSAF - is done by the Union Executive, mostly the Office Bearers, who come to the table and set the fighting NatCon is famous for aside to make real change. With the exception of Socialist Alternative (who don't believe in change, just in #TheRev), I've met and worked with brilliant activists from all factions who spend 95% of the year working behind closed doors to improve life for students across the country. Have a bit of faith - I promise we do know what we're doing.

TLDR: My vibes are re-accredit, and re-accredit without KPIs, because it's the right fucking thing to do. My vibes are that 'faction' is not a dirty word, and y'all have got to stop treating it like it is. My vibes are stop trying to have the most politically correct, feel-good position, and once we re-accredit for 2022, come to the table with the intention of actually contributing to change, not just criticising it.

As always - I LOVE talking NUS, so if you made it this far, congrats, and let's have coffee! I don't care if we agree or disagree factionally, if you believe in or want to know more about the NUS, please come be my friend. I ran on the policy of remembering that delegates are actually not just elected to attend NatCon and have a yell - we are your elected Union Representatives, and I want to represent your Union. Additionally - as a member of the National Executive, I'm in NUS meetings each month. If you want to know what's going on, want to find out more about what's going on, want to table an item for discussion, or just want to get my vibes as an NUS person on something - ALWAYS feel free to contact me. I'm not here for me - I'm here for YOU.

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MOBILE: 0474 849 514

MESSANGER: Sinead Winn on Facebook

Reference P

SRC 1 NUS Delegate Report

Christian Flynn, and on behalf of Phoenix O'Neill and Luca Corby

23/2/2022

Every year, the National Union of Students holds its National Conference (NatCon), where it discusses its platform for the year ahead as well as electing its Office Bearers.

For full disclosure, I was a member of the Grassroots Independents (Grindies) faction as an NUS Delegate in 2021. I caucused with them in the lead-up to NatCon as well as volunteered to be a negotiator for their faction.

I want to spend a bit of time on this as it is the side of NUS that we discuss and critique the most that is not often well understood. Negotiations involve all four factions discussing with each other what they would like from each other for the year ahead. These four factions are Student Unity (SU), the Labor Right faction, National Labor Students (NLS), the Labor Left faction, Socialist Alternative (SAlt), and the Grassroots Independents (Grindies), a broad-based loose collection of left-wing students. Ben's President Summit report has in-depth discussion of these four groups, and I point you to that for further information.

Practically speaking, there is little to no discussion of policies, campaigns, or plans for the year ahead in these negotiations. There are only two questions that everyone discusses: how many votes does your faction command on the floor, and what are you willing to trade for the positions that you want.

Insofar as there are discussions around what policies and campaigns will be pursued for the year ahead, those outcomes are created before the conference even occurs. The conference necessarily be

The negotiations themselves become a dogfight where numbers of votes and delegates are thrown around, but progress is rarely made. To be blunt, SU controls the floor. SU usually have over 40% of the conference floor, giving them command of the floor.

NLS, despite their protestations that they maintain pressure on their more conservative faction to be more left-wing, has a strong incentive to always work with SU. This means that alternative arrangements of the NUS, such as a bloc of the other factions to prevent SU dominating the floor, are generally unlikely. NLS usually signs something called the "sweetheart deal" with SU, where NLS gives all their votes to support SU across most positions at the NUS. NLS receives the national president position in return.

Where the Grindies fit in with this is that they usually receive two OBs, one of which is always Education Officer. I support Grindies candidates in as many positions as possible, as I generally find myself politically aligned with them. I do note that I believe a key part of being a grassroots organisation is taking the time to listen to those grassroots. In the case of ANU, that was our decision to pursue a State Branch President position. As a majority of independent, left-wing students were elected as NUS delegates, then I believe we should retain

As the overall vote counts rarely adjust, then the composition of the OBs remains relatively unchanged. This does create stability but does not lend itself to a dynamic and competitive student union. Most damningly of all, our national representatives are not democratically selected. Electing representatives to then elect more representatives is not democratic – the latter exists purely to serve and represent the interests of the former. Nowhere in that equation do ordinary, stupid-unaligned students factor in. I don't believe that ANUSA's SRC should elect the executive in general elections, and I struggle to think of situation where less, not more democracy, improves the functioning of bodies.

I spend all this time on negotiations in this report because I want to make it clear that this is the definitive part of the conference. Decisions are pre-arranged between factions and then executed. The

conference itself serves no function other than to rubber-stamp the backroom dealings that are endemic to NatCon and NUS more broadly.

The conference itself was not particularly noteworthy or interesting. There are long and unproductive “debates” upon which the vote is generally predetermined by each caucus, making most discussion superfluous and performative. The effect that changing the NUS’s platform has on the real-world is equally questionable. The NUS is primarily a lobbying body, which specialises in media releases. There is little to no focus on grassroots organising, or indeed on any other building blocks for national campaigns. This is important because necessarily, the tools for which the NUS can enact change only become media releases and lobbying directly with politicians. Interestingly, both actions are helpful for putting your name and face everywhere that might be important if you want to rise through the ALP’s ranks.

I could go into detail around what was debated, but the sheer number of motions moved in each session made it hard to keep up. There was also constant debate, none of which seemed to ever illuminate the key issues.

At the end of this report, I cannot say in good faith that it is necessarily achievable for a delegate to do something meaningful at NUS – as such, I don’t know what an NUS Delegate can truly offer to students by running for a position. NUS delegates are not empowered to work towards change on their own. Delegates who sit with no faction are left entirely in the dark about the machinations of NUS. The entire structure is indeed built around the belief that factions are critical to the functioning of NUS. It is the stupor equivalent of the structurally enforced two-party system that we see in much of the Anglophone world. In this situation, delegates do not do much on their own. Instead, factions try to achieve things, yet factions spend most of their time on who gets what position anyway.

I do believe that ultimately, there is value in retaining the ACT state branch president position for whomever the ANU’s delegates wish. Our local representatives should be people that are generally democratically supported. I’m proud that Beatrice Tucker is our ACT State Branch President and that I voted for them to take on that role (and equally so in the case of the ACT Branch VP, Elise Chua). As a delegate, that is what I can feel proud of contributing towards.

Reference Q

National Union of Students Presidents' Summit Report

Ben Yates, General Secretary

This report is perhaps surprisingly comprehensive. There are two reasons for this.

Firstly, ANUSA needs to have a serious conversation about our future with the NUS this year. To do this, I feel it is important that all reps get the ability to understand the NUS in a comprehensive and detailed way. Most of the NUS is governed by customs that aren't written in any constitution, by-law or meeting minutes. I wanted to make this report candid in a way that most discussions of the NUS are not. Often, NUS reports and other documents are voluntarily censored because the NUS operates with a culture of opacity and secrecy. This culture is maintained by those who want to use the NUS for their own careers and personal advancement.

Secondly, the conference was an eye-opening insight into an ambitious but broken organisation. It has considerably shaped how I am thinking about the NUS and I hope to share some of that with reps.

If reps don't want to read a lot of background and description, I would suggest they skip to the 'where to from here section' towards the end.

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1. Background on the NUS
2. The Summit
3. The State of the NUS
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5. Conclusion

Background on the NUS

That National Union of Students (NUS) is, nominally at least, the peak body for students in Australia. Its members are student unions, guilds and associations like ANUSA. It is run by a national executive and team of national office bearers. Student unions pay the NUS accreditation fees which give them the right to send voting delegates. Last year ANUSA paid in the region of \$10,000 in accreditation fees.

The NUS cannot be discussed properly without explaining the factions that run it. A faction is essentially a political party. It is distinct from tickets in the way they operate at ANU in that factions have a continuing life year after year whereas ANUSA election tickets generally have lifespans contiguous with the election and no true 'membership' structure. In contrast, NUS factions are highly organised and have comprehensive internal structures. With the necessary caveats that these are *my opinions* on them, the factions are:

Student Unity

A faction affiliated with the right-wing faction of the Labor Party. Year after year, they are the largest faction at the National Conference of the National Union of Students. Their politics range from centre-left politics to relatively conservative politics, with a strong attachment to 'pragmatism'. Members have a virulent attachment to the Labor Party and alum of the faction fill the ranks of the federal ALP. The faction advocates for service-oriented student unions that have genial relationships with management. The faction often opposes or scorns activist mobilisation and oppositional stances to University management. Many in the faction dissent from left-wing positions on the police, the Israel-Palestine conflict among other issues. Some in the faction identify with the left while others label themselves as moderates. The faction has a history of relatively friendly relationships with Liberal-aligned students.

Lest this be read as a myopic attack on the group, I will say I was impressed by the work of several Student Unity members, including the 2022 Ethnocultural Officer who presented a sophisticated and comprehensive vision for the year and showed off a plan to create a new peak body for International Students to replace CISA (more on this later). Equally, I briefly spoke to members from La Trobe Student Union who ran an impressive oppositional campaign in 2021 against their University's attempts to create a second apolitical, management-friendly student association.

National Labor Students

A faction affiliated with the 'left' faction of the Labor Party. They are typically the second or third largest faction at the National Conference. Their politics range from mildly radical to conspicuously centrist with a median converging around lobbying-focused but activist-friendly attempts to reform inherently broken systems. They chiefly contrast from student unity in a greater use of language of the left, namely a nominal affiliation with 'socialism'. Their actions often appear constrained by their members' personal and (importantly) professional interests in the ALP but they do take left-wing positions on some political questions. However, the faction has a tendency to try to 'have its cake and eat it too', that is endorse leftist arguments for the inherent corruption of various socio-economic structures while also intently focusing on working within those same structures. Politically this is not wholly unjustifiable but few in NLS go to the effort of making the arguments to justify this strategy. More often, it appears they promote an intently moderate brand of politics of fixing only what is easily fixed and gaining the maximum personal return on broken, corrupt systems. Like Student Unity, careerism eats away at every political scruple of the organisation. Ironically for an organisation that prides itself on its commitment to unionism, the organisation, like the 'left' of the ALP, refuses to use withdrawing their labour as a means of achieving their goals; many members are quite content to criticise the ALP and go out to campaign for it in the same week.

Again, for the sake of acknowledging these groups as diverse, I was impressed by the NLS affiliated National Disabilities Officer. Equally, the NLS affiliated National Queer Officer provided a perspicacious analysis of the role of police in Queer spaces. I understand NLS members were also involved in the La Trobe Student Union campaign I mentioned above.

Socialist Alternative

Socialist Alternative (SA) were not present at the conference besides brief online appearances by ANU's own Grace Hill, a member of the NUS National Executive. I won't go into SA's politics but will say that SA has been systematically kept from office-bearer positions over the past two years by the Labor factions. To the best of my knowledge, this is chiefly the doing of Student Unity. While this is a welcome reprieve from the allegations of diverse and dangerous misconduct that have often chased SA office-bearers, SA NUS office-bearers have historically made comprehensive use of the offices to which they are elected, running consistent and energetic campaigns. Few other groups occupy office-bearer roles with the same enthusiasm. SA's national network also makes them uniquely able to make use of the national nature of the roles. While I share as much sympathy for SA as most other students, their removal has, I believe, contributed to the growing irrelevance and absence of the NUS.

Grassroot Independents

The Grassroot Independents or the 'Grindies' are an amalgamation of two groups that existed until 2018: the National Independents and the Grassroots Left. The former group was made up of mostly WA independents, Greens and Labor affiliated members as well as (at the time) ANU independents, while the latter group was made up of radical left elements, particularly from universities in Sydney. It remains very obvious that the Grindies are a coalition of these two groups rather than a cohesive single group. There remain clear disagreements within the Grindies, particularly over questions of how student unions should engage with university management.

While I have a great deal of respect for many members of the Grindies and found myself very closely aligned politically with many Grassroot and independent aligned attendees from Sydney at the conference, the organisation is less than impressive. The calling card of the Grindies is its nature as a non-binding faction. This means that each member can vote how they wish and is not bound to vote

how the whole group decides to vote. On balance, I consider this to be an organisational approach that is well suited to the student movement. It allows the Grindies to put forward a political position in favour of campus autonomy (rather than one-size-fits-all campaigns and strategies) which I strongly support.

However, the organisation does not live up to its promise. Most members (correctly) identify the lacklustre nature of the NUS and are not particularly interested in it and are therefore not particularly interested in the Grindies. It is therefore a somewhat neglected organisation. Equally, Grindies do act as a faction and their elected leaders have in the past acted in a manner not dissimilar from other faction leaders. It seems to me that many past Grindies leaders have abandoned the reformist intention of the organisation – to break down the factional stranglehold and demand an accountable and democratic NUS – as soon as they personally stood to benefit from the Grindies acting like any other faction. Furthermore, all structures of the NUS are set up or managed on the assumption that all participants are faction members. The Grindies have, by necessity or by neglect, come to function in a way not distinct from the other factions with the exception of members occasionally exercising their right to vote separately from the caucused ‘consensus’ of the Grindies. For illustration, this occurred about three times out of hundreds of votes at the NUS national conference. Otherwise Grindies votes were cast by the ‘faction head’.

I don’t consider an assessment of the Grindies to be an assessment of its members. Over the past three months I have come to be deeply impressed with many activists who are at least nominally members of the Grindies, especially those from NSW campuses who are steeped in a sophisticated and erudite tradition of grassroots organising. Equally, I have found some Grindies to be bureaucratic, careerist and occasionally relatively conservative.

While I am not a member of the Grindies, I attended the Grindies’ caucus before the NUS National Conference and spent most of the Presidents’ Summit with Grindie or Grindie-adjacent attendees.

The Summit

The NUS Presidents’ Summit is a gathering of the NUS leadership and leadership of member student unions. It is designed to be a forum to share and collaborate as well as to train student union leaders. The Summit took place over two days at RMIT in Melbourne. ANU had a relatively large number of attendees. Myself and Christian attended on behalf of ANUSA. Beatrice attended on behalf of ANUSA and in their capacity as the NUS ACT State Branch President. Sinead Winn attended in her capacity as a member of the NUS National Executive, while Grace Hill made a brief appearance online in the same capacity. Ella Hickey attended in their capacity as National LGBTQIA+ Officer.

The Summit schedule is available [here](#) if reps are interested.

Why did I attend

It is not necessarily intuitive why I, as General Secretary, attended this conference. The event invitation is extended to Presidents and General Secretaries at all unions as well as all members of the national executive of the NUS. While some other unions have general secretaries that have roles with a slightly different profile to my own, I suspect the rationale is that the conference is intended to cover managerial and administrative topics that are connected to my portfolio. The conference does not do this as much as I might have imagined but it also provided a valuable opportunity to discuss governance, administrative and organisational questions with others. Above all though, the conference is a political venue that discusses and (to a limited extent) shapes and directs the NUS for the coming year. However, I do think my orientation towards accountability and democratic access as a General Secretary proves to be a useful skill in the NUS space.

‘Its Time for Change’ Campaign

The first day started with presentations from the NUS National President, Georgie, and National Secretary, Emily, on the NUS’s key campaign for the year. This campaign has been titled ‘It’s Time for

Change' in an explicit reference to Gough Whitlam's election slogan 'It's Time'. At the outset, this is indicative of the political orientation of the NUS: purporting to represent students while framing such representation in terms that are absolutely palatable to the ALP's electoral fortunes.

The contents of the campaign were tolerable if uninspiring. There are five demands:

1. Change the age
2. Climate justice
3. 100% SSAF
4. Duty of care
5. International students

The first campaign is a deeply important one to reduce the Centrelink age of independence. Billy, the National Welfare Officer, is leading this campaign. This campaign is a rare one where NUS can honestly claim to have been a leader rather than merely a content house producing media statements. While the campaign is important and worthy, I raised concerns to Billy that the strategy is focused on (1) the ALP adopting the policy, and (2) the ALP being elected to government. This leaves a narrow path to victory and makes the campaign's success dependent on the capricious whims of ALP electoral politics. I hope that Billy is able to build a campaign with engagement and momentum that can persist beyond the election, no matter who is elected to government.

The second campaign is evidently a good cause however it has been lumped onto the portfolio of the Education Officer given that the NUS has now twice failed to reinstate the position of Environment Officer, which was removed by Student Unity and National Labor Students and continues to be kept from returning by Labor aligned delegates. I have confidence in Luc, the National Education Officer's, ability as a climate activist but these campaigns will not receive the attention they deserve until the NUS has a paid National Environment Officer.

100% SSAF is an interesting campaign. Christian and I both raised concerns about this campaign as SSAF is an inherently broken system that gives universities control over student unions. This is inconsistent with Student Unions' material nature as unions defending students' interests. The demand is that 100% of SSAF goes to student organisations. There are a number of practical concerns I have with this model. It is ultimately not completely apparent to me why the approach of 100% SSAF is preferable to a return to Universal Student Unionism, the system that preceded the Howard Government's introduction of Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU). Under Universal Student Unionism, student unions could levy fees directly on students. This removed the university as a 'middle-man' able to meddle in the institutional independence of our unions. The fact ANUSA must have Constitutional amendments ratified by ANU Council and sign SSAF agreements with the university is a testament to the way VSU has broken student unionism. Luc Velez made an interesting argument that 100% SSAF is an intermediate step and I remain willing to be convinced by the campaign but I have concerns to be remedied first.

Duty of care was a quite bizarre campaign. The campaign draws on a New Zealand law reform effort that introduced a duty of care for universities for student welfare. This campaign errs in a number of ways. On a tactical level, the framing is poor. Duty of care is legalistic language with no immediate connection to students' material conditions – students experience institutional betrayal, abandonment, insecurity and so forth, not a need for a duty of care even if such a reform might remedy some of these problems. Secondly, the language of duty of care is already prominently used by Extinction Rebellion, promoting the *Sharma v Minister for the Environment* decision. Thirdly, the campaign focuses around a discrete legal reform rather than a holistic political analysis of universities as communities with chains of accountability. Fourthly, the language is technically confusing, given that universities very much already can be found to have a duty of care. Finally, the particular law reform relies on students seeking tortious remedy to loss incurred by a breach of duty of care. Suing is an expensive and inaccessible process. With Lauren, USyd President, we negotiated a shift to this being branded as a demand around 'student rights' but it remains to be seen if this shift will be followed through by NUS.

The international students demand was again odd. The demand is simply framed as 'It's time for international students'. Of course, I strongly support campaigns on international student issues but I must admit I was left unsure about what this campaign actually is. Equally, I am concerned that international student issues will fall out of the NUS's advocacy quickly given that they are less popular to the major political parties who are satisfied with exploitative models of international education. For instance, I worry that NUS's on-going advocacy for free education will leave international students by the wayside on the grounds of free education *for all* being a 'unrealistic' goal.

These five demands are fine. Not inspiring, not exhaustive, not commendable and not sufficient, but fine. But the key problem is the NUS has no clear theory of change. As best I could gather, the hope is to present these demands to politicians in the hope that, out of the goodness of their hearts, they will endorse the NUS's demands. There is minimal attention given to building student support, mobilising students and creating conditions where politicians are forced by student power to acquiesce to demands. The reality is this is probably indicative of a strategy designed to enable NUS officebearers to go 'lobby' ALP parliamentarians in such a way to create warm personal working relationships to shepherd them forward in their careers.

As the exception, Luc, the National Education Officer, presented a vision of genuine, radical student activism grounded in grassroots mobilisation and democratic consultation. In some ways, Luc's ability to fulfil his plans are totemic of the success of a reformist approach to the NUS. If Luc is able to succeed this year, then perhaps the NUS is not beyond help. More likely though, I expect Luc's organising ability and political approach will be scorned by those who run the NUS.

Officebearer presentations

Other office bearer presentations were made. Some highlights:

Womens: the womens officer presented a campaign revolving around the release of the National Student Safety Survey. The officer proposed creating scorecards for each university on a number of SASH and student safety points.

Queer: the planned campaigns of the Queer/LGBTQIA+ Officers seemed on balance underwhelming. Many of their key causes (all-gender bathrooms, queer safe spaces) are campus-based issues where the NUS is ill-equipped to help. The officers both briefly cited other causes including the religious freedoms bill. In organising the snap rally on Sunday 6th February we got some promotional support from Jordy, one of the officers. However, key national queer campaigns, such as the growing union push for paid transition leave, were largely absent. Nonetheless, the Queer Officers seem to be starting the year strong so hopefully this will carry through the rest of the year.

Disabilities: The disabilities officer proposes a number of campaigns around accessible activism and the Royal Commission. Ultimately, like most autonomous NUS officebearers (with the exception of Womens and Queer), the disability officer is unpaid, hamstringing their ability to do meaningful work.

Ethnocultural: The Ethnocultural Officer will work on a number of interesting anti-racist campaigns. He also spoke about an effort to replace the Council of International Students Australia, an unrepresentative, conservative and corporatised national body with a new advocacy oriented body. This is an exciting prospect.

Discussion around NUS Priorities in 2022

A discussion occurred on the second day about key priorities for the NUS in 2022. Each campus got the chance to provide its key priorities. Christian, Beatrice and I articulated ours as follows:

1. *Accountability structures that extend beyond the closed loops of NX and natcon. Ensuring that opportunities to provide feedback on the direction of the NUS are regularly and systematically organised and seek to engage with students outside the typical cohorts the NUS engages with.*

2. *Campaigns that continue after the election and don't rely on a Labor win while planning contingencies for a Liberal win.*
3. *An orientation towards campaigns that prioritises engaging students over engaging politicians. Activism isn't a dirty word.*

A discussion ensued about the point about transparency and accountability raised by a number of organisations, especially those run by independents/Grassroot Independents. Early in this discussion I raised that I would like the NUS to start more comprehensively minuting their National Executive meetings. Bizarrely, this was one of the most divisive moments of the summit, sharply cleaving labor aligned attendees from independents and Grindies. A number of arguments were raised relating to the accessibility of long meetings, whether pre-determined (factionally negotiated) outcomes were positive, and whether the or not minuting was valuable as a form of information transmission. I was initially confused by this discussion as it seemed to be conflating the question of whether there should be discussions with the question of whether those discussions should be minuted. I realised that what was apparent to most others in the room was that presently there isn't a lot to minute at NUS meetings. Most outcomes are pre-negotiated and discussion is a formality. At the end of this discussion there seemed to be marginally more openness to the idea of direct accountability to member organisations and I do note that Georgie (President) has put National Executive meeting reports in the NUS Presidents Google Drive, at least creating some level of transparency with member organisations.

Surrounding Events at Conference

After the first day of the conference, there was a dinner with all attendees. There is certainly a place for informal events at these sort of conferences but the dinner was a display of the worst of toxic, bro-sy culture. It was disturbing to see some attendees pressuring others into drinking. The chosen venue was loud and cramped. I was grateful that Beatrice pointed out to an organiser towards the end that it was a very inaccessible and unsafe space. Unfortunately, ANUSA delegates and executives have been reporting for many years about the appalling nature of NUS drinking culture and the inaccessibility of its events. These events are like this by design.

Besides the dinner, the sidelines of conference proved a great opportunity to talk to other attendees, discussing many of the similar problems our unis face.. While this report has a largely negative tone, I will emphasise, on an individual level, most of the participants are lovely people with the best intentions. Unfortunately, the institutions within which they operate produce highly adverse outcomes.

The state of the NUS

Ultimately the discussion of minutes and transparency, while a discussion of a minor bureaucratic point, revealed a few important points.

The senior leadership of the NUS continue to consider themselves as accountable to factions rather than member organisations. Factions undermine accountability because organisational management that would otherwise be managed through open, equitable and accountable governance structures are managed through factions and their leaders. This makes the governance of the organisation as accountable as the internal structures of factions. It also hides the day-to-day governance of the organisation from stakeholders who decline to affiliate with a faction. The solution to join a faction proposed by many within the factional system is no solution at all.

To merely say that factions are the problem is reductive. The problem is not that people self-organise into political groupings. People self-organise into formal or informal groupings within almost all large organisations. The problem is that the political groupings that dominate the NUS wholly mis-manage it.

Approaching the NUS from outside the factional system is near impossible. Information about the day-to-day operations is dispersed through factional networks. From outside these networks, information about schedules, processes and so forth will come through at the last minute making preparation impossible. For factions, this information is often disseminated long before through internal channels. At one point, the NUS President said "we're all part of factions" in order to justify a less transparent management approach. Despite the desperation of many Labor-aligned students to

characterise it as a union like a trade union, were any trade union to operate like the NUS, it would be considered an outrageous, undemocratic farce.

From a campaign perspective, the NUS has had few wins in recent times. The NUS has tended to focus on press releases and occasional non-disruptive campaigns such as petitions and social media campaigns. Often, NUS are late additions to campaigns with more credible and resourced organisations behind them. Purported 'NUS wins' are more often the wins of trade unions and other civil society organisations like ACOSS and The Greens that the NUS releases a media statement to endorse. Of course, working with other organisations is fantastic but this trend causes the NUS to exaggerate its own impact.

Most troublingly, the path to fixing the NUS is unclear. In her book *Fixing It*, an account of the ALP in opposition during the Howard years, Annabel Crabb describes the Labor party as an organisation 'addicted to fixing outcomes', in the sense of predetermining outcomes before they are officially decided. This habit rings through the NUS thanks to the influence of the Labor Party's junior ranks. Every decision of consequence is discussed and negotiated between factions and the outcome fixed so that by the time the official decision takes place, the discussion is nothing more than political theatre. The candidate speeches for office bearers, discussions on motions at NatCon, and apparently the discussions at National Executive all fall into this category. A good argument means nothing at the NUS. We are forced to use more disruptive means.

Where to from here?

ANUSA pays money annually to the NUS in the form of accreditation fees. It is generally the choice of the SRC whether we pay this and how much we pay. As the ANUSA SRC, if we accept that the NUS is falling short, we have a number of options before us. First, we could say that the NUS is imperfect but its problems are tolerable in light of its benefits. Second, we could continue to attempt to improve the NUS. Third, we could abandon the NUS and disaccredit.

Option 1: The NUS is worth it

This is more or less the approach we took last year. We accredited unconditionally. To some extent, delegates were elected on various reformist platforms but there are limitations to what delegates, as opposed to ANUSA as the member organisation as a whole, can do. This more sympathetic approach was arguably more justifiable during the height of the pandemic. Missteps and delays are more tolerable in the midst of a crisis.

Option 2: ANUSA attempts to improve the NUS

This option involves ANUSA as an organisation (as opposed to individual ANU NUS delegates) trying to improve the NUS. In the past this has been done through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), criteria that ANUSA says the NUS must meet in order to for us to pay affiliation. These comprised 'exit KPIs' – that must be met if ANUSA is to pay any money – and 'assessible KPIs' that determine how much we pay.

Option 3: ANUSA disaffiliates

This involves ANUSA simply declining to pay any money to the NUS. This would mean the NUS delegates elected at our elections this year would be observers without any voting rights.

My view

I went into Presidents Summit with little sympathy for the NUS. I left it with a better sense of who within the organisation shares my values but also even less sympathy for the organisation.

I am sceptical about whether we should use KPIs going forward. I think there may be scope for limited usage of KPIs for very basic matters. NUS office-bearers have previously violated the autonomy of ANUSA departments and engaged in unacceptable conduct during their times in office. I think if the

NUS tolerates this sort of conduct, we should boycott it. In a governance sense, I think this is best achieved through an ANUSA policy with on-going force.

My greater scepticism towards KPIs comes from a political argument. The problems with the NUS are political problems, not governance problems. The problem is the right-wing strategies and careerist objectives of the overwhelming majority of the NUS's leadership. This is not something suitable to be fixed with KPIs. Equally, there are credible arguments that KPIs are a form of ableist productivity ethics.

However, I equally reject the argument that we should accredit simply as a matter of principle. This argument, often put forward by Labor-aligned members, typically suggests that unionism is an inherently politically good thing and therefore it is politically wrong to stop paying our 'union dues' (affiliation fees). Often this comes with the accusation that disaccrediting is 'scab' behaviour. This is indicative of a common error in Labor political thought that conflates institutions with political actions. Solidarity and worker power are politically good. Unions are good when they uphold solidarity and worker power. This conflation causes many Labor-aligned individuals to back unions even when they betray their members interests. Applying this analysis to the national student union, the question is whether the NUS builds solidarity and student power. My answer is that the NUS actively undermines solidarity and student power. The organisation redirects the political will of students into tepid ALP-friendly advocacy. That this purports to be the national voice of students undermines the power of students mobilising on a grassroots level.

I want a national union for students, but the NUS is none of those things. It is not national, but rather representative of the segment of universities with an affiliated union and the even smaller segment of students who take an interest in those unions. It is not a union in any material sense given that it undermines student power rather than building it. It is not an organisation for students so much as it is an organisation for Labor members who also happen to be students.

I think we have two options. One is to take a more invasive approach than KPIs to effect internal change. We need political demands and KPIs are not the tool to do this. KPIs are corporatist tools to promote efficiency and bureaucratic outcomes. I think we need to make clear demands about political positioning and concrete actions and establish that our accreditation is conditional on this. The other option is that if we make the judgement, based on the NUS's performance this year, that the organisation cannot be changed, I am not confident there is any argument to accredit.

Some might call this a 'scab' argument. I would respond that this is an ahistorical accusation, innocent to the rich history of campaigns against bureaucratic and undemocratic union management. I'm a trade union member. I believe in the power of solidarity and unionism. Unfortunately, I don't see that belief reflected meaningfully in the NUS.

Conclusion

I'm glad I went to the summit and I do think it is in the remit of General Secretary's to continue to attend. The ANUSA General Secretary is designed to be a trenchant advocate for due process, fairness and substantive democratic equity within the organisation. These skills translate healthily to advocacy within the NUS's ranks for a more democratic union. I would however caution that no ANUSA executives should attend alone and our attendees should be mindful that the spaces are often inaccessible and bluntly, quite unpleasant.

I welcome further discussions on the question of the NUS, both from representatives and from all students.

Reference R

SRC 1 President's Summit Report
Christian Flynn
23/2/2022

I was fortunate enough to spend two days at this conference in early February. I was initially reluctant to attend the National Union of Students (NUS) Presidents' Summit, however, other presidents had gone from ANUSA in years gone by and had got something out of it. I think that I received value for my own benefit as President as well as for the Association in general. I've broken my report into parts based on what outcomes/takeaways I have from the two days. I refer you all to Ben's exhaustive report which provides a much better summary of President's Summit. Thanks Ben for writing that so I didn't have to.

Value in connecting with other campuses

I personally did find that it was useful to meet some other presidents and OBs from other campuses. Compared to descriptions of in-person NatCons in previous years, Presidents' Summit is clearly a place where there is space to discuss things more informally. I think I made some valuable connections that could be important going forward.

Value in connecting with the NUS Office Bearers

At the end of the day, while I want to stress that I admire the passion and commitment of all students that engage in unionism, I was not entirely sure that I could align with all the OBs in their visions for the roles.

I would like to note an obvious exception for Luc, the Education Officer. Luc shows an incredible commitment to discussing issues that matter to our campus and understanding what our needs are. Luc shows a keenness to work with whoever is on the ground and deserves a special commendation for spending so much of Market Day at the Education Committee stall. An NUS of people like Luc would be vastly different to the organisation that we currently deal with.

Ability to contribute to national campaigns

I think that power comes from strength in unity. However, what does it mean to have a national union if that national union is not working constantly to cajole those campuses to agree with each other. Ultimately, the factions have created camps where disagreeing sides are generally unwilling and uninterested in forging ahead together to create meaningful change. Instead, collaboration is focused on securing support for campaigns that mostly align with ALP talking points. I also have serious reservations about the approach to campaigns that most OBs seem to take. I do not believe that campaigns should be handed down from representatives to those that they are meant to be representing. Campus issues should be discussed and THEN national campaigns should be built. At presidents' summit, this was consistently backwards. Obviously, after a whole summer of planning these campaigns, pivoting the entire campaign in a different direction is unlikely.

I am a fan of some of the campaigns being developed, and I'm keen to work with Luc over the coming year. I'm hopeful that where it applies to ANU, we can find a way to work towards goals that are too big for one campus to fix.

Intrinsic value of being a part of a national union

I am a supporter of unions, and I am equally a supporter of a national union. There is no world where I would be against the base concept of a national union. Thus, for me the question becomes what value a national union holds in a practical sense. Unions are not inherently good and must be critically analysed to understand if they achieve their aims. Ben has provided an in-depth analysis of this, and I point you towards his report for further information on that. My brief two cents on this are that it is not

enough that a union exists to justify membership within that union. All organisations must prove their worth, and can never merely rest on their own existence.

Conclusions about the future of ANUSA in the NUS

I don't think that the NUS is a complete waste of time. There is always going to be some value in participation – Australia tertiary education is a huge beast, and the more allies you have to talk to about the issues in the sector, the better. My personal opinion is that I struggle to see that value outweighing the time and money that NUS demands – notably, the benefits that NUS provides are not solely achievable through the NUS; other options exist. Why large accreditation fees and the stress of negotiations and deal-making are necessary for any of the outcomes I've provided above evades my understanding.

Are alternatives possible? Perhaps. Lack of accreditation to the NUS does not prohibit other forms of connection to campuses, and indeed collaboration. I'd even suggest that operating outside of the NUS would give campuses more room to achieve national goals. I don't seek to answer the question of what ANUSA should do in this report, but I do hope to begin a conversation about this.

For full disclosure, I have worked with and been a member of the Grassroots Independents (Grindies) faction of NUS.