

# Executive Meeting: Minutes



Held	VUWSA Boardroom, Wednesday 24 October 2018, 6.00pm
Meeting number	18
Present	Marlon Drake, Rhianna Morar, Tamatha Paul, Jack Donovan (via Skype), Connor Macleod, Geo Robrigado
Apologies	Beth Patterson, Ella Hughes, Paddy Miller
In attendance	Sam Withers (Association Secretary), Matt Tucker (CEO)
Minutes recorded by	Sam Withers (Association Secretary)

**Meeting opened at 6.01pm**

## Part A

### Procedural Items

#### 1 Welcome

<b>Discussion</b>	Marlon welcomed Executive Members and those attending.
-------------------	--

#### 2 Karakia

<b>Discussion</b>	Marlon led a karakia.
-------------------	-----------------------

#### 3 Apologies

<b>Discussion</b>	Apologies were received from Beth, Ella and Paddy
<b>Resolution</b>	THAT the apologies from Beth, Ella and Paddy be received. Marlon moved, Geo seconded. MOTION PASSED.

#### 4 Minutes from previous meeting

<b>Discussion</b>	Minutes from the past two meetings were handed around. Members reviewed them briefly.
<b>Resolution</b>	THAT the minutes of the last two meetings be passed. Marlon moved, Geo seconded. MOTION PASSED

#### 5 Matters arising from action points

<b>Discussion</b>	The task allocated to Geo to put together VUWSA's submission on the RTA Amendment was completed. Geo talked about it in Part A.
-------------------	---

#### 6 Declarations of interest

<b>Discussion</b>	No declarations were received.
-------------------	--------------------------------

**7 Part B of the Agenda**

<b>Discussion</b>	Nothing from Part B was moved to Part A.
-------------------	--

**8 Urgent general business arising**

<b>Discussion</b>	No urgent general business.
-------------------	-----------------------------

**Substantive Items****9 President's Report**

	<p>Marlon described the last two weeks as hectic, particularly with the name change. He talked about Student Voice and the planned expansion. It came out of budget discussions and the next step is to talk to rep groups and then put a plan to UC.</p> <p>Marlon gave big shout-out to Tam and Geo for the rental campaign launch. He also mentioned that NZUSA moved out of their office recently. He discussed the handover for next year with Tam.</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Marlon is preparing for a couple of media things with Mitchell Alexander from Newshub. The subject is mental health.</p> <p>There will also be a second release of the Don't Guess the Yes campaign (DGYT). This time around Hospitality New Zealand has partnered with VUWSA and has bought billboards around the city so VUWSA's name will be out there. This will be during O-Week 2019.</p> <p>Tam mentioned that the Queer Support Co-ordinator was confirmed today which is a win. Marlon had a driving role in securing this position.</p>
--	--

**10 Student Equity and Diversity Committee Meeting Report**

	<p>At the meeting the SEDC 5-year plan was discussed. Caryn from Student Academic Services was present. SAS wants to partner with VUWSA. As Paddy will be away for the rest of the year and Komal is not trained, Tam will be the lead on this.</p> <p>Caryn also talked about the Staff Action Plan and how it could be adapted for students. Going beyond standard groups to groups like tutors was discussed.</p> <p>UniQ, Vic UFO (University Feminist Organisation) and VISA (International Students Association) were present.</p> <p>The equity and diversity strategy is very important as it permeates all of the university, and all of the 7 main representative groups.</p>
--	---

## 11 Residential Tenancies Act Submission Drive

	<p>Geo talked about how the submission drive was about getting stories of how bad flatting is for students. Geo and Tam spearheaded the drive in all 3 campuses, but lamented the fact that the drive took place at the end of the tri when not many people were around.</p> <p>Overall they got 35 submissions which is low, but each submission was substantial so that was positive. He thanked Matt for creating an efficient system for collecting the submissions which allowed them to read them as soon as they were entered.</p> <p>Tam sent the submissions to MBIE. The submissions will inform what MBIE say to the government. Sam asked if this was for a Select Committee, and the answer was that it wasn't. The bill hasn't been drawn yet – at this stage the government are just seeking advice.</p> <p>Tam thanked Geo for single-handedly organising the drive, and that 35 submissions was a hard number to get at the end of the year.</p> <p>Geo mentioned that Te Aro students were happy to have VUWSA there.</p> <p>Marlon and Geo also attended the Healthy Homes Workshop. They were seated at a table with property managers who didn't really understand, or attempt to understand, the issues. It got more and more intense as the workshop went on. They were really only concerned with their own interests.</p> <p>Geo said that he should let Finn Carroll know, the new Campaigns officer for 2019, that these will be the people he will be dealing with.</p>
<b>Resolution</b>	

## 12 Submissions on Bills before Parliament

	<p>Tam talked about stats from the submission drive. 96% of respondents were against rent bidding, and wanted it prohibited right out. The proposal for rent-increases was once per year, which is better than the current once per 6-months. She also talked about licensing for boarding house operators for international students.</p> <p>Jack asked whether it was worth creating a policy on submissions. Marlon said that for submissions to select committees it could be beneficial and to talk to Hannah about a template.</p> <p>For the submission on the Crown Mineral (Petroleum) Act Tam talked about how her and Raven made it together. Tam thanked Raven for her commitment and knowledge. They commended the Government's ban on offshore drilling and talked about how it was important for students.</p> <p>Connor asked whether students do have a position on the CMPA. Marlon said that VUWSA has adopted a position based on the organisation goals, as opposed to adopting a position based directly on the student voice. He said that this was not an uncommon practice.</p>
<b>Discussion</b>	

	<p>Geo asked if we submitted on the Education Amendment Bill. Marlon said that we did and that we lobbied NZUSA for 2 students on University Councils, but that this didn't go through.</p> <p>Rhianna asked if someone from VUWSA wanted to speak at the pro-choice march (abortion). VUWSA's position is that we are pro-choice. Rhianna said that she (and everyone else) was busy and suggested that Beth or Ella speak.</p>
<b>Resolution</b>	

### **13 Engagement Vice-President 2019.**

	<p>Josephine Dawson was elected as EVP for 2019, however she has decided not to accept the position. She wants to stay on as an employee, in her current role of Advertising Co-ordinator. Her reasons were her own.</p> <p>Tam, as President for 2019, needs to find someone to be the Acting EVP until a worthwhile by-election can be held next year. An election held now would be a waste of time as nobody will be around now or after exams.</p> <p>She has already talked to the current and new Executive about this. She needs to find someone now as she, as current EVP, has to do handover to a new EVP at the same time as she gets her own handover as incoming President. Tam mentioned that she hasn't found anyone yet.</p>
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>As Josephine was elected unopposed, there is no second candidate to offer the role to. Tam did not think that promoting one of the runner-up officer candidates was fair to the winning officer candidates, as the winners would then have someone who they beat suddenly thrust into a position above them.</p> <p>Sam asked whether a winning officer could be promoted instead and then have a runner-up officer promoted to officer. Tam replied that she asked around about this but nobody was interested.</p> <p>Tam is seeking Executive permission to simply select someone, who has not been elected to any position, to be Acting EVP until a proper by-election can be held.</p>
<b>Resolution</b>	<p>THAT the Executive give permission and free-reign to Tam to select an Acting EVP.</p> <p>Marlon moved, Geo seconded. MOTION CARRIED.</p>

### **14 Pipitea Marae plan for O-Week**

	<p>The plan is for VUWSA to use the Marae in Pipitea to stage concerts in O-Week. Matt said that he was cynical until he visited. He said that after visiting he liked the venue. He said that it had issues but also said the Hunter Lounge had issues. He mentioned that there was a hotel next door and was unsure on noise control issues/requirements.</p>
<b>Discussion</b>	

	<p>Rhianna asked why we were considering the marae at all. Matt said it was a much easier venue to manage. She mentioned issues with cultural areas in the marae and Matt said those areas wouldn't be used.</p> <p>Tam said that it was like a big school hall with a stage. There was a good backstage area and better infrastructure. Connor asked if there would be room for a safe room and the answer was that there would be.</p> <p>Matt said that he wasn't sold yet but using the Hunter Lounge would mean having to deal with the multiple exits and having to hire security.</p> <p>He also wanted to delegate authority to Tam or Rhianna to lead discussion on this. It was agreed by consensus that everyone was happy to give it to Tam. Marlon said that he won't be President anymore come O-week.</p>
<b>Resolution</b>	

## 15 NZUSA

	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Discussion was around the 4 votes that VUWSA has in the NZUSA Congress and how they should be allocated. Geo, Marlon, Tam and Rhi are attending. The first proposal was as 4 people were going, each person would get 1 vote. It was mentioned that ultimately all votes will be on behalf of the Executive.</p> <p>Marlon suggested that 2 votes be given to the old exec and 2 to the new, represented by Tam and Geo and Rhi. Connor said that this didn't matter as all 4 votes would be the same anyway, regardless of who makes them.</p> <p>The final decision was 2 votes to Marlon and 2 votes to Geo.</p>
<b>Resolution</b>	<p>THAT of the 4 VUWSA votes in the NZUSA Congress, 2 be given to Marlon and 2 be given to Geo.</p> <p>Connor moved, Tam seconded. MOTION CARRIED.</p>

## Part B

Nil.

## Part C

<b>Resolution</b>	THAT the Executive move into Committee. Marlon moved, Geo seconded. MOTION CARRIED.
<b>Resolution</b>	THAT the Executive move out of Committee. Marlon moved, Geo seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

## 16 General Business

<b>Discussion</b>	Laptop computer for Joseph
-------------------	----------------------------

	<p>SRC Joseph Habgood had submitted a request for a laptop computer instead of a desktop, and to have this docked to a couple of monitors. This would allow him to use a computer when out of office (e.g. at meetings). This is a capital expense.</p> <p>There was a request document handed around. This document outlined how the current plan was to replace one desktop with a laptop system every year. Most computers VUWSA has are leased from the University which costs us more.</p>
<b>Resolution</b>	THAT Joseph's laptop purchase request be approved. Marlon moved, Rhi seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

**Meeting closed at 7.22pm.**

**Signed as a true and correct record**

---

Marlon Drake  
VUWSA President

---

Date