



NAME	Alice Lyall
POSITION	Campaigns Officer
REPORT PERIOD	1 <sup>st</sup> January – 30 June, 2015
HOURS WORKED	307
HOURS REQUIRED	254.25

**Priority Goals:**

**Goal 6 – Public Issues:** To be the critic and conscience of the University and society, by promoting discussion and action on issues concerning students.

This goal is basically the reason I chose to run for VUWSA. I care so passionately about advocating for students that this goal has definitely been what has been driving me in my work this year.

The majority of my work this year has been preparing and organising for our local body campaign. Because this campaign has required a lot of behind-the-scenes organising and preparing I haven't been the most visible executive member. However, there are campaign launches in the next couple of weeks and I'm very excited about this. One of my personal goals for the year was to be a part of running a really professional campaign and this is what is definitely happening.

One of the big successes of my year was Newtown Festival. This year for Newtown Festival, after the success of running a bus service last year, we sponsored a stage. Along with this we ran an event in which we asked students what a "Student Friendly Wellington" meant to them. Without any prompting from us, the majority of answers were that student bus fares should exist. This was such a boost. Proof that students really do care about the issues we campaign on.

I also think it's important to remember the work gone into these campaigns from previous executives. The most significant example of this to me was when we organised the Fairer Fares Cardboard Bus for a photo opportunity. The bus was created by a past executive, made out of student signatures calling for Fairer Fares. It was really great to put everything into perspective.

**Goal 4 – Services:** To provide quality, cost effective services for the benefit of members, and, where appropriate, students.

Services are such an important part of what VUWSA is and what we provide to students. Being able to provide these services to students is such an important thing. Though my role is not necessarily service focused, a large part of it is supporting other executive members in their campaigns and roles. Not only is my role as Campaigns Officer focused on this, my position as a member of the Engagement Team is very much tied in with helping other executive members in their projects, where they intersect with helping students.

I am the happiest in my time with VUWSA when I am providing these services to students. I love being able to do good things, and I really discovered this year that I am the happiest in my role when I am doing this. It was not something that I necessarily expected, but I am happy to have discovered it.



**Other Goals:**

**Goal 5 – Activities:** To support social and cultural activities for any by members and students, particularly through Clubs.

Activities is something that I didn't really realize I would be so passionate about when I started with VUWSA. I understood that I sat within the engagement team, but did not realize how important events are. I have been very involved in events through OWeek and now Re-OWeek. Having taken on the role of volunteer coordination for Re-OWeek.

## General Tasks and Initiatives

**OWeek** – During OWeek I spent a lot of time packing O-Bags and helping at events such as the Toga Party. I also spent most of OWeek working on the VUWSA stall.

**Staying Informed** – As Campaigns Officer, my role is to be able to run both proactive and reactive campaigns. Therefore, it is important that I stay informed on issues that concern students so that we are ready to take action.

**Budget Day** – On Budget Day I was part of a group who watched and researched the budget, ensuring we created the best press release possible.

**Salient Column** – I have written one column in Salient, focusing on being a member of the executive.

**Stress Free Study Week** - During Stress Free Study Week I ran a number of shifts as well as took part in the very large job of cleaning up on the last day.

**Trainings** – I have attended a number of trainings as a part of the executive to ensure that we have the skills to succeed.



## Representation

**Executive Meetings** - I attend fortnightly executive meetings.

**Engagement Team Meetings** – The engagement team regularly meet to discuss plans and projects.

**Local Body Working Group** – The Group initially operated on a larger scale with myself as the convener, but it has since been reworked into a smaller group with Jonathan, Rory and I working on the campaign together.

**Submissions** – VUWSA drafts a number of submissions. With the help of Anya and Rory I also wrote a submission on the review of the Emissions Trading Scheme. (An issue that I am very, very passionate about. I would recommend not asking my opinion if you don't want me to talk about it for twenty minutes without a break)

**Policy Committee** – I sit on VUWSA's Policy Committee and have a part in reviewing and drafting policy. I am currently in the process of reviewing a number of policies.

**Strategic Planning** – I sit on the strategic planning working group and have been taking part in executive-wide fortnightly, strategic planning workshops.





## Strengths

**Embracing New Challenges** – A lot of what I am doing at VUWSA is quite new to me. This has not stopped me embracing the challenge of doing something new. I enjoy all of the new things that VUWSA brings to my life.

**Supporting Others** – A large part of my role, both as the campaigns officer and as a member of the engagement team is to support other executive members in their roles. I always jump to help others with their projects. It is important to make sure everyone is supported and have the help they need to succeed.

## Weaknesses

**Being shy**- I am a naturally shy person. It is often not at all apparent to people that I am shy because I am still outgoing and extroverted. Being shy is more something that I have an internal battle with. I don't think it has impacted in my role at VUWSA, but it is something that I personally have to keep under control so that I can be the best exec member possible.

**Balance** - I've struggled with finding a balance with my VUWSA work. This is something that I found the most difficult during busy University periods, but I am confident I now have it under control.



**Overall Rating**

I think this year has gone really well so far. I feel confident in my role and responsibilities. I have been quite behind the scenes in my role so far, as I prepare for our local body campaign. This is something that I knew would be the case when I began this role, so it's not a worry to me. I have adjusted really well into other parts of VUWSA life and very much enjoy my time with VUWSA. I also enjoy supporting other executive members and taking part in providing services to students. Though I have struggled with balance, I have made the changes that I needed to make.