



## EXECUTIVE HALF YEAR REPORT

NAME	Rory McNamara
POSITION	Clubs and Activities Officer
REPORT PERIOD	1 January – 30th June 2015
TOTAL WEEKS WORKED	26
HOURS WORKED	226.0

### Reporting on Priority Goals:

#### Constitutional Goal 5

**Activities: To support sporting, social and cultural activities for and by students; primarily through Clubs and Representative Groups.**

1. During the reporting period I have reinforced relationships with clubs, societies and faculty groups ensuring that are successful on campus and have large membership bases. I provide hands-on support to clubs that come to me for help such as assistance provided to clubs with their funding applications. I have also meet with club executives to gain a better understanding of how to be responsive to various club's needs.
2. One of my fundamental roles is to chair and sit on the VUWSA Clubs Council, which helps to look at funding applications by clubs. I then take these points and the recommendations that have been made to the VUW Sponsorship Panel. The Sponsorship Panel then approves or declines applications for both clubs and individuals.
3. A major goal I have been working towards is to help the faculty societies with their annual balls and events. These are the flagship nights for these societies so it is really important that these are planned well and are run without incident. By assisting the groups I can ensure there is less likelihood of incident.

## Reporting on Other Goals:

### 1. Goal 6

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

A large part of my role has been to advocate on behalf of Students and Clubs to the University. Many of the services the University offers are ineffective and punishing to students

- (a) As the Clubs and Activities Officer I am always in communication with University services such as Vic Venues. An aim of mine is to make these more accessible for students and as easy as possible. These services are vital to the healthy running of clubs and improving them helps to promote a more vibrant and rewarding campus.

## General Tasks and Initiatives

I have taken on many roles and tasks to support the running of VUWSA and ensuring the student body has an amazing student experience.

### 1. Ensuring large sporting clubs are well represented.

I have made a point of being able to help the larger sporting clubs with difficulty they have occasionally had. These clubs support a large number of students and are vital to the Universities environment. These clubs with such vast student numbers can occasionally be overwhelmed with the work needed to be done, as such I have assisted them in funding applications and assisting with the management of the clubs.

### 2. Provided students food and support during stress free study week.

I helped VUWSA provide over 7000 meals to students, as well as engaging with the student body and providing them with support.

### 3. Helping with the free flu shots campaign.



#### 4. Helping to ensure VUWSA'S O-week was a success.



#### 5. Representing VUWSA at ANZAC day memorial service.



### Representation

#### 1. VUWSA Sports and Cultural Council

As the Clubs and activities officer I am the chair of this council. The council has members from a wide variety of clubs and helps to look at funding for clubs. The council then makes a list of recommendations to the VUW Sponsorship Panel.

#### 2. VUW Sponsorship Panel

I am a member of the VUW Sponsorship Panel, we look at all the applications for funding by clubs and individuals. The club funding applications are the same as those that the VUWSA Sports and Cultural Council, and the panel looks to me for guidance from their perspective. The individual applications are for those who have been selected to represent Wellington or New Zealand at the highest level.

### **3. VUWSA Executive Meetings**

As a member of the VUWSA Executive I attend bi-weekly meetings in which the executive discuss the direction and governance of the organization. I am a vocal member at these meetings which are crucial to the running of the organisation.

### **4. Regular catch ups with Campus Services**

As part of my role I regularly meet with representatives from the VUW. This includes Raewyn Clarke who is the VUW clubs manager, we talk about the best ways in which we can support clubs and ensure they are having the best possible experience. Also Karl Whalen, who is the Manager Recreation Services we meet to help co-ordinate events together and to ensure VUW and AUWSA have a good working relationship.

## **Strengths**

### **1. Co-operation**

a. My role requires that I must have an effective and close working relationship with other members of the Executive, staff members and the University. I have done this very well ensuring that the University and VUWSA have a great relationship. My co-operation means that I am always willing to work with anybody and assisting VUWSA when is required and also when difficult.

### **2. Passion**

a. I am always focused on the opportunities that my role produces. I am driven to do the best at my role as well as having a genuine interest in what I am doing. My role is a little bit different from other members of the executives, this means that a lot of what I do can be self-led. Being passionate about what I am doing ensures that my projects are achieved well for VUWSA.

### **3. Diplomacy**

a. I excel at being diplomatic and impartial. I have also been very good at making decisive choices and being able to express other options. This helped me easily when assisting with disputes within clubs. It also means that I am very much an important part of VUWSA by ensuring that people are able to work together effectively and quickly.

## **Weaknesses**

### **1. Work, Life and Study balance**

a. One of my main issues has been trying to maintain an effective work, life and study balance. Occasionally I have found this to be almost too much. I am working on getting better scheduling and ensure that my time management skills are better. I am sure this will be much less of a problem in the future.

### **2. Productivity**

a. My role can be frustrating with much overlap at times and therefore I sometimes am not as effective as I need to be. I am working on ensuring that I have a better understanding of the process of VUW and understanding how to achieve my goals. This will help be to be much more productive in my role.

### **3. Planning**

- a. I can sometimes have a struggle with the broad planning of the organisation and the VUWSA processes. By working in the strategic planning that is happening at VUWSA I am gaining a much better understanding of how to be an effective planner.

### **Overall Rating**

Overall I am delighted with my role here at VUWSA. It has been a challenge and an experience like none other. The first part of my year was hard as I was in China on a job internship for the first two months of the year and as such I have had to spend some considerable time catching up.

I feel I have contributed greatly to the Victoria University of Wellington and VUWSA, tirelessly working to improve the student experience.