



NZUSA National Executive Emergency Meeting

Friday 13th August 2020

4:00pm – 5:15pm

Zoom

Agenda

1. Karakia and Welcome

Present: Jack Manning (OUSA), Dallin Niuelua (ASA), James Brodie (SAWIT), Andrew Lessells (Younited), Stefan Biberstien (MUSA), Matthew Schep (NZUSA), Mamaeroa Merito (TMĀ), Isabella Lenihan-Ikin (NZUSA), Sam Blackmore (LUSA), Jacob Patterson (MAWSA), Ali Leota (TP), Emma Rogers (AUSA), Noho Parata (TMĀ), Taylah Shuker (VUWSA), Helen Vea (Unitec), Sam Smith (NZUSA)

2. National Communication

- NZUSA and TMĀ on the Tertiary Education COVID Response Committee
- We have started a google document that has region-specific and provider-specific information about COVID-19 responses – Presidents have been asked to update this documents where possible as new information comes to light
- The live google documents is not to be shared around, but the information in it can be used to inform students about the changing situation.
- Please keep the Facebook chat free from clutter, it should only be used for important matters at this stage

3. Provider Responses

- VUWSA – Immediate issues is around extensions for assignment and open day/graduation. The comms from the Uni have been good so far
- LUSA – Key issue is streamlining communication from the Uni to the students. Major decisions will be held off until Friday.
- SAWIT – Communication has been good from provider. Preparations underway for multiple scenarios. Still unsure about the accommodation situation.
- AUSA – Health and counselling moved online. Waiting for Friday's decision.
- ASA – Prepared emails for students range of situations. Students told to stay put in accommodation. Health and counselling online (except testing). May use Facebook live to update students.
- MUSA – Independent Massey halls will to follow orders from Massey re: accommodation next year – trying to get MOU for rest of 2020

- MAWSA – Non-essential students services working from home. Scattered comms from Uni at this stage, especially having campuses at different alert levels
- OUSA – Classes cancelled on Wednesday 12th Aug to transition lecture theatres, libraries etc to alert level 2 – all student text was sent. Different divisions have different levels of face-to-face teaching.
- Younited – EIT was in the process of reviewing COVID-19 response, but are not implementing the findings at this stage. Comms are slow from provider. Still face-to-face learning but are preparing for online learning. Not much student voice or engagement.
- Unitec – Waiting for Friday announcement. All classes cancelled on Wednesday. All student support services online.
- TMĀ – Meeting with all Exec tomorrow (Friday). TMĀ AGM is planned for two weeks' time in Rotorua.
- TP – Exec are meeting tomorrow. Students and Pasifika student reps are wanting to be involved in decision-making so they can inform their students.

4. Student Voice

- Try to bring other student representatives (Māori, Pasifika etc.) into decision-making, or ensure they are consulted and kept up to date
- Student voice – question asked should NZUSA, TMĀ, TP send an email to providers outlining their student voice requirements under the Pastoral Care Code. General support – mainly for providers who are falling short. Letter will be sent to President before being sent to the institution. We could get MOE to help with wording.
- There will be different tones to the letters (ka pai, nearly there, do better etc.)

5. Masks

- Masks – keep an eye out to see what arrangements are being made for students to access masks

6. Accommodation

- Payment of accommodation – we will need to decide if we want to take a national stance on this issue after tomorrow's announcement
- It will also depend on the guidance accommodation providers give their students (eg. encourage to leave)
- Moving around country – government will issue guidance for students wanting to return home

7. Mental Health

- Crunch point in the term for students – already high stress
- Potential to push forward government's free access to mental health services for tertiary students – will need to ensure student input (including Māori students) in the design of those services
- Keep National Office up to date with any issues/changes with student mental health services on campus

8. Grades

- Another area we could negotiate nationally
- We may request statistics from providers about how average grades fared in semester 1 2020 compared with semester 1 2019. Will also need to consider students who dropped out/withdrew from courses

9. Action Points

- Please fill out their section of the provider response table on the goggle document

- Decisions need to be made regarding masks, student accommodation, mental health and grades when we know more about the government's COVID-19 response
- NZUSA, TMĀ and TP will prepare letters to send to providers re: student voice
- We should aim to meet weekly with our next meeting being on Monday 17th August to discuss our next steps.
- Keep the google document handy as it will be updated regularly:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gUvPqk1TP4LZNlgEyxROC9NdzFg0Ni6jM2PrdjQuSc/edit#>

Meeting closed 5:15