



Equity and Wellbeing Advisory Group (EWAG) Charter

Category: Governance
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Approved By: Executive Committee
Contact Person: The President

Introduction

The purpose of this charter is to clarify the role and responsibilities of the UCSA Equity and Wellbeing Advisory Group (EWAG). The UCSA EWAG will help to ensure all students have a voice within the UCSA, will create a sense of belonging on campus for all student communities and specifically to further develop diversity and inclusivity in the UCSA's decision making.

Policy Statement

The UCSA EWAG is responsible for providing student feedback to the Executive Committee and Chief Executive regarding students' needs and any issues surrounding equity and diversity within the student population. The UCSA EWAG's aim is ensure that the UCSA hears all student voices and initiates actions and programs to create a stronger sense of belonging for all students on campus.

Procedures

Membership

The UCSA EWAG Committee will usually consist of 7-14 members but no less than 7, excluding the permanent seats allocated by the President's delegate and Equity and Wellbeing Representative.

The UCSA EWAG Committee should comprise of members:

- a) with an appropriate range of skills and experience to best represent student voices; and
- b) who identify with or have an interest and proper understanding of, and competence to deal with the current and emerging concerns of various students on campus.

Members can include (but are not limited to):

UCSA Equity and Wellbeing Representative
UCSA President's delegate
Te Akatoki Tumuaki/President or Delegate

Pasifika Community
Students with disabilities
Mature students
Gender equity
Mental health advocates
LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual +)
International fee paying students
Representatives from the general student body

Nomination

Applications will be sought from a variety of student groups across the campus and will be open to the full UC student population. Applications will be advertised on UCSA media.

Selection

The selection panel will consist of the UCSA Executive President or their delegate, the UCSA Vice President, and the UCSA Equity and Wellbeing Representative. If necessary, interviews will be carried out and successful candidates will be announced within one month of applications closing.

Rotation

Each member of the Committee must be an enrolled student of the University of Canterbury at the time of application and throughout their term on the Committee. Each member is appointed for one academic year term; at the end of which they are eligible to apply for reappointment.

Responsibilities

The UCSA EWAG is responsible for providing advice and making recommendations on issues of diversity, inclusiveness and student wellbeing to the Executive Committee.

Additionally, EWAG will provide advice to the student representatives on the UC Central Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee (CEDAC) to enable them to articulate student opinion on diversity and equity issues involving UC.

The UCSA EWAG may also function as a reference group on UCSA materials, policies, and events as well as for CEDAC when looking for student perspective.

Each member of the UCSA EWAG is able to suggest agenda items.

Chairperson

The position of chairperson of the UCSA EWAG Committee will be held by the UCSA Equity and Wellbeing Representative and/or UCSA President's

delegate. The chairperson of EWAG will provide an update at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Secretarial Support

Meetings will be minuted and will be circulated among the Executive Committee.

Meeting Regularity

The UCSA EWAG will meet a minimum of four times a year (usually twice a term) with an expectation of a meeting duration of no more than two hours. The committee shall have its first meeting by the end of term one.

Attendance

Any student can attend a EWAG meeting and may bring an item to the agenda by giving one week's notice in writing to the chair. The student will sit in attendance only and may have speaking rights.

As a member of this committee, the opportunity may arise to sit on CEDAC if chosen by the UCSA representative on CEDAC.

The programme will include the above functions but is not limited to.