



POLICY FOR LIFE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

University of Otago Pacific Islands Students' Association

Ratified: June 2023



POLICY OVERVIEW

Life Members of the University of Otago Pacific Islands Students' Association (UOPISA) was initiated in 2022. This Policy outlines the eligibility criteria, nominations process and privileges of UOPISA Life Members.

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of electing Life Members is to:
 - 1.1.1. Recognise the outstanding and prestigious contribution individuals have contributed to UOPISA and its member associations, and;
 - 1.1.2. Keep a true and accurate historical record of Pacific student leaders who have shown outstanding service to the Otago student community, and;
 - 1.1.3. Retain engagement with historic Pacific student leaders who are able to support and foster the growth of emerging Pacific student leaders currently studying at the University of Otago.
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2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. 'Life Member' is:
 - 2.1.1. An individual acknowledged and elected by their peers for demonstrating outstanding community service, prestigious leadership skills and commitment to their Pacific cultural identity, and;
 - 2.1.2. An active member of the Pacific student community, usually through their engagement with Pacific student associations or equivalent groups.
 - 2.2. 'Prestige' is:
 - 2.2.1. A widespread respect and admiration of this person on the basis of their active community service and leadership skills.
 - 2.3. 'Alumnus' is/'alumni' are:
 - 2.3.1. Former University of Otago Pacific students who have either graduated or moved on from the university. Usually, they will have had an affinity with a particular student association, college or discipline.
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3. ELIGIBILITY OF LIFE MEMBERS

- 3.1. A Life Member must:
- 3.1.1. Be a Pacific student currently enrolled in or an alumnus of the University of Otago, and;
 - 3.1.2. Have held an elected leadership position on UOPISA or a member association for the period of twelve month, and;
 - 3.1.3. Have made a significant contribution to UOPISA and its affiliated member associations, and;
 - 3.1.4. Have demonstrated outstanding community service, prestigious leadership skills and commitment to their Pacific cultural identity, and;
 - 3.1.5. Accept the nomination and meet a majority quorum vote by UOPISA affiliated member associations at the Annual General Meeting.
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4. SELECTION CRITERIA

- 4.1. The nomination of a Life Member involves:
- 4.1.1. Nomination by an individual who is a current elected member of UOPISA or a member association prior to the Annual General Meeting, and;
 - 4.1.2. The nominator must justify their nomination verbally at the Annual General Meeting in the year of nomination.
- 4.2. Nominees and nominators must be physically present at the Annual General Meeting.
- 4.3. There are no floor nominations.
- 4.4. Voting will be consistent with the Constitution, including voting within member association groups and having two group votes either 'for', 'against', or 'abstained'.
- 4.5. Only two Life Members can be elected at any Annual General Meeting.
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5. PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS

- 5.1. Life Member privileges include:
- 5.1.1. Receiving an invite to attend any of UOPISA's main events, including Leadership Weekend, Pacific Awards Night and the Annual General Meeting, and;



- 5.1.2. Being provided with allocated seating at specific public UOPISA events.
- 5.2. A true and accurate record of Life Members' names and contact information will be held by the Secretary-elect.

Any changes to this Policy will be discussed internally with input and advice from the UOPISA Standing Committee, composed of representatives from our affiliated member associations. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this document, please contact the Secretary-elect at secretary.uopisa@gmail.com and your inquiry will be dealt with in confidence.