

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Table of Contents

Treasurer	3
Secretary	5
Academic	7
Environment	8
International & Residences	10
Mature & Postgraduate	11
Discount & Sponsorship	13
Events	14
Assist	16
Equity & Access	17
Sport & Health	18
Women's	19

Treasurer

From the 30th of November 2018 to the 30th of September 2019, the NDSA has expensed \$89,984.92 while earning a revenue of \$96,669.62. This \$6,684.70 profit reflects a gain of \$5,920.09 on the previous year's profit of \$764.61 (from 30th of November 2017 to the 30th of September 2018).

As of the 30th of September 2019, the NDSA has a cash balance of \$38,240.09. Note that this cash balance excludes major expenditure relating to club award night, end of semester party and wellness week, which is planned before year-end (30th of November 2019). After taking into account that expenditure, the NDSA expects to have a cash balance of approximately \$25,000 at year-end.

Events

Expenditure on events is expected to be on par with the budgeted amount of \$72,000 by year-end. A loss was made on both mid-year events (Toga Party and Once Upon a Murder Mystery), yet this is not unusual and was the case in 2018 and 2017. Note that Once Upon a Murder Mystery was the first event of its kind (replacing the NDSA Cocktail Party), and that may have been a factor in its profit loss.

The 2019 NDSA Ball saw an increase in revenue of \$910.00 from the previous 2018 NDSA Ball, reflecting an additional 24 tickets sold. This outcome confirms the continued popularity of the NDSA Ball and may support a case for higher expenditure in the future.

Free Food

Free food expenditure is lower than last year, with the NDSA conscious of the importance of food sales in ND club fundraising.

Marketing

Expenditure on marketing has followed prior year trends and increased once again this year. This increase is driven by merchandise and public relations expenditure, allowing NDSA to reinforce their presence and promote greater student engagement.

Welfare

Welfare expenditure has been stable as compared to last year, with the Equity and Access portfolio and Sport and Health portfolio being the notable exceptions. The Equity and Access portfolio has seen its expenditure more than doubled, with a record number of events promoting inclusion and respect amongst the student body. On the other hand, the Sport and Health portfolio has seen expenditure fall, due to the unfortunate yet unavoidable cancellation of Founders cup.



Academic

Academic expenditure has been historically low and is stable as compared to last year. An exception is the Environment portfolio, which has seen an increase in spending.

Clubs

Club funding expenditure remains low in proportion to the funds available, as has historically been the case. The lack of requests may reflect a greater level of financial independence for ND clubs.

Internal Expenses

Internal expenses expenditure has fallen considerably as compared to last year. This fall is explained by costly office equipment being purchased in the previous year and a desire by the NDSA to minimise expenditure not directly benefiting ND students, as seen by notable reductions in office supplies and EFTPOS/bank fees. Website maintenance, on the other hand, has seen an increase in expenditure as the NDSA works to create a reliable and streamlined digital portal for ND clubs and NDSA representatives.

Sponsorships and Discounts

Revenue from the NDSA discount program has significantly fallen as compared to last year. This fall has prompted NDSA to restructure the program for next year.

Mat Stasak
Treasurer 2019

Secretary

In 2019 the Secretary's role has been more active in formulating policies and guiding other Council initiatives. This includes assisting with changes to the NDSA Constitution, which will result in a more streamlined Council structure in future years, with smaller committees to focus on different aspects of students' experiences on campus, and enable better representation for students. This year I have also drafted or amended NDSA policies including our Communications Guidelines, Financial Assist Policy, Events Guidelines and Circular Resolutions Guidelines. These developments or changes have all been made to help the NDSA help students and to increase transparency and accountability of NDSA decision-making.

This year I have also been a student member of the National Student Board and as part of the Board I have focused on increasing student engagement on campus. The Board has held three of four meetings already this year, with the most recent taking place on the Sydney Broadway campus where members from both campuses could meet together. The Board is working on a number of initiatives and is in a very strong position for next year's student members to continue the work of constantly reviewing and improving students' academic, social and pastoral experiences of university.

This year I have really focused on sending out agendas and writing up minutes and actions arising from the minutes as early as possible. This has allowed Councillors to properly engage with the business of each meeting, and to remain on track with their ongoing and new actions every fortnight. Once minutes are passed by the Council and signed by the President they are uploaded to the NDSA website for all students to see. As required, I have also kept records of Council attendance and records of decisions passed by Circular Resolution so as to increase transparency over who makes decisions and why. I have also assisted as the secretary for both Clubs Council and the Equity & Access Committee, and I have been the main point of contact for clubs seeking NDSA approval for their events during our Clubs Director's extended leave of absence.

While the role of Secretary is very administrative, I have taken an active role in organising the Special General Meeting and more recently the NDSA elections and election events. The elections are underway at the time of writing, with an encouraging number of candidates



contesting all but four roles on the 2020 Council. There has also been a lot of interest from first year students which promises well for the Council and the NDSA over the next few years.

While the workload has been challenging, and has often involved a lot of reorganising to fit around Councillors' capacity and availability, the work that has been achieved by the entirely volunteer NDSA Council this year is remarkable. I look forward to seeing what will be achieved for students by the Council in 2020.

Lauren Italiano
Secretary 2019



Academic

2019 has been an incredible year for the Academic team. After taking on the role of Academic Director has been a great learning experience and has added great value to my undergraduate degree at Notre Dame. As Academic Director I was able to act and provide assistance to other students regarding academic issues. I had the opportunity to sit on several university committees such as the Student Affairs Committee, Academic Integrity Reference Group, Deans Consultative Committee and be an observer on Academic Council. The Academic team followed up many issues and concerns that arose from the 2018 Academic Survey. On the Student Affairs Committee NDSA was able to guarantee no students will sit exams in the Drill Hall until fans are installed for summer. The textbook policy was followed up through the Learning and Teaching Committee and NDSA had created a resource list on their website to aid students in finding textbooks. Through the Learning and Teaching Committee, the President and I have aimed to rid paper assessments and have recorded lectures in the future. These are two priority goals of the NDSA, which I hope will be achieved in the next council. Having student representation on student boards and student-based committees has been a goal of NDSA, this has slowly been achieved through the invitation to Academic Council and the increase of Dean's Consultative Committees in several schools.

It has been a great pleasure to be part of NDSA. I would like to thank my officers for being a great group to work with and motivate each other and to the rest of the NDSA council thank you for your support and laughs over the past year.

Kaitlin Thorpe
Academic Director 2019

Environment

Sustainability Working Group Fremantle

Met with and contributed to the Sustainability Working Group Fremantle, in establishing and implementing their website and the Campus Energy Challenge. This working group comprises of individuals from the different faculties of the University of Notre Dame.

Sustainability Event – City of Fremantle

Prepared for a Sustainability event, having met with the Sustainability Officer at the City of Fremantle. A detailed event plan will be handed over to the incoming Environment Officer. It is expected this event can be planned from the beginning of the year, to give sufficient time to prepare, as well as work with the Events team. The aim is to engage students in sustainability and improve their relationship with the City of Fremantle throughout their university experience. As a town university, this is imperative, as we all share in the Fremantle community.

Cutlery for Prindiville Hall

Replenishment of bamboo cutlery for Prindiville Hall throughout the year.

Moving Prindiville Hall

The layout has been discussed with NDSA members and University Staff. In particular the table tennis table, which could be better placed to avoid obstruction for other users of the space. While the furniture has not yet been moved, it is anticipated in the coming weeks, or will be done over Summer for the beginning of 2020.

Furniture is often moved to accommodate, larger groups. Prindiville Hall needs to be reset on a regular basis. Adding more furniture has also been considered, budget and style permitting, adding more for peak times would be ideal.

Fastening of Appliances in Prindiville Hall

After appliances in Prindiville Hall kept going missing, they were fastened thanks to Campus Services.

Coffee Cup Recycling Bins

This initiative is in progress and is yet to be decided on its potential inception.

Sustainable Working Group

- Campus Energy Challenge
- Sustainable transport options for students
- Improve end of trip facilities for students

- Work on transport accessibility with the Fremantle Council

Increase 'Green' Spaces

Discussed the increase of street plantings and instalment of parklets with NDSA Executive and City of Fremantle Mayor. This could be worked on further in preparing quotes and presenting options to the NDSA Council and Fremantle Mayor.

Eloise Ashton
Environment Officer 2019

International & Residences

This year was a big one for residential, study abroad and international students and it was a pleasure to work with them during 2019.

This year saw the introduction of a new Alcohol Policy which greatly affected Notre Dame residents. I monitored this transition closely and, as the NDSA had hoped, the policy was a success in all three residential halls. Students can now enjoy a drink in a safe and supervised environment on our campus and that's a huge step forward for Notre Dame.

All new staff began supervising our residential halls this year and they have brought a new style of leadership. New events, catered meals and increased communal activities are only some of the fantastic additions that have been made by the 2019 residential staff.

2019 was also the first year that Notre Dame's International Office was in operation. This office is entirely dedicated to working with international students and providing them with opportunities to get involved on campus and meet new people. It has been a fantastic addition to the university.

Being the International & Residences officer in 2019 was a pleasure and I am thankful to have positively influenced the lives of Notre Dame students through this role. Meeting new students from around the world and sharing Australia with them is always an honour and the NDSA gave me many opportunities to do just that. I look forward to being a part of the 2020 council and hope that the NDSA continues to bring positive change to the lives of international, study abroad and residential students.

Grace Cuddihy
International & Residences Officer 2019

Mature & Postgraduate

In 2019, the NDSA has extensively advocated for our student community and has seen some immense success as we have engaged with both internal and external stakeholders. All individual council members have worked tirelessly to implement new initiatives that have been possible with the introduction of new roles and internal structures. Our team has successfully worked to improve the various aspects of university life and it has been a great opportunity to serve on the council for a fourth year!

As Mature and Postgraduate Officer, the most significant contribution I have worked on developing in 2019 relates to the implementation of a designated space for parents at Notre Dame. Although the parents room is still a temporary space, ongoing collaboration with university staff has promised a more permanent space with even better facilities, to ensure that students feel comfortable in bringing their kids on campus and allowing a more stable balance between university and parenthood.

Hosting events such as coffee catch ups and study nights have provided a space for all mature age and postgraduate students to network and find common ground in navigating the demands of tertiary education. I have also supported the University's Mature Age Network through attendance at their events and engaging with the mature age community at Notre Dame. I believe that the value of this network is still somewhat unrealised in the Notre Dame community, and I hope that in the future more students participate in their events so as to make the most out of their time at University. Perhaps future Mature and Postgraduate Officers can work on developing greater contact with this network and collaborate in hosting events that will be meaningful to our student community.

As Mature and Postgraduate Officer, I have also continued in regular contact with the Council of Australia Postgraduate Associations, an organisation which we have been affiliated with since 2018. This national exposure and contact will only continue to grow as the NDSA becomes more involved with this organisation. I hope that in the future an NDSA council member can be elected to the CAPA Board, allowing even greater speaking and engagement opportunities on a national level that will raise the status of the NDSA as an organisation truly capable of meeting the demands of our postgraduate students.

I have made a conscious effort to attend as many NDSA meetings and events as my schedule permits and have attended the July graduation ceremonies as a student representative. Being a member of the NDSA ultimately extends to being an active member of the Notre Dame



community, and this involvement throughout my time here has helped me realise the impact of student governance on truly shaping your university career.

Given that this role is only in its infancy, having been introduced in 2018, I believe that there is incredible scope for this role to evolve and expand and become more influential and substantive in addressing the needs of the student community as contacts and relationships with internal and external stakeholders increase and yield more progressive outcomes. I hope that the new Mature and Postgraduate Officer makes the most of this incredible opportunity to make a difference in the Notre Dame community.

Macy Gregson
Mature & Postgraduate Officer 2019

Discount and Sponsorship

Running the Sponsorship & Discount program for the NDSA was an absolute blast this year, the portfolio is still very new so there was a lot of learning and adjusting to be done but there is exciting potential for the future. The majority of the work for S&D is done in the summer holidays prior to semester one, this is when we reach out and contact as many businesses as we can to negotiate discounts. This stage of finding new partners and engaging with existing discount partners was successful, with highlights including establishing partnerships with Mojos and Freo.Social. S&D ran into problems with selling the program to students, there weren't enough relevant discounts for students to justify the purchase. However, in order to convince larger and more prominent businesses to partner with us we needed more students joining the program. Once we discovered this problem it became apparent that immediate action was needed. To solve the issue, we changed the way the entire program was constructed. Discounts will no longer be limited to a small group of paying students, now ALL students will receive ALL discounts! This is a huge change that puts the program in a great position to grow, benefit students financially and enhance the student culture around Notre Dame. We were happy to have UniBank supporting our students and the NDSA by being the main sponsor for Wellness Week. I am excited to see where the program will grow to in the near future.

Maneesh Kelly
Discount & Sponsorship Officer 2019

Events

We began the year by welcoming new students to Notre Dame. Our Semester One Orientation Day followed a summer, tropical theme with Mouat Street filled with fresh faces, free food and inflatables. The fun continued with the 'After Party' held immediately after 'O-Day'. Hosted at the Bar Orient, the After Party was an amazing opportunity for students to interact with each other, as well as our returning students that attended O-Day on behalf of a Club.

The 'Back to Uni' event was held during the first few weeks of Semester One with the theme surrounding 'Toga Party'. Attendees donned a white sheet at the Federal Hotel, as they celebrated the beginning of a new year at university. This event was well attended and the costumes were very impressive!

Later in Semester One, the Notre Dame Student Association, in collaboration with the Performing Arts Association of Notre Dame Australia, held a Murder Mystery Night titled 'Once Upon a Murder'. This event was a new addition to the NDSA calendar and we were delighted to welcome guests to Prindiville Hall as they scoped out the liars and tried to guess who killed Snow White! Impressively, the murderer went unnoticed and it was amazing to see how everyone embraced their character.

The Semester Two Orientation Day celebrated the new mid-year intake students, and feedback showed that it was the most well-attended Semester Two Orientation Days. 2019 was the 30th anniversary of the University of Notre Dame and as such, this O-Day revolved around 'decades'. Different sections of the Drill Hall were transformed back in time to the eighties, nineties and naughties with arcade games, photo booths and 'throwback' music. The nostalgia surrounding this event evoked a sense of pride within guests, as they were becoming apart of the new chapter in Notre Dame's history.

During Semester Two the annual NDSA Ball was hosted at the Hyatt Hotel. The theme of 'Yule Ball' was exciting for all Harry Potter fans as the ballroom was filled with the four house banners, a 'Hedwig the Owl' lectern and a Platform 9¾ display. Guests were able to dress up as Hogwarts students in the photo booth and dance the night away on the dance floor. This sold-out event was a highlight of the year and it was fantastic to see so many Notre Dame students in one room.



Many free food events were also held throughout the year. As well as BBQs, the NDSA, for the first time, hosted a free pancake event, which was widely accepted by students. Having worked closely with the Red Frogs, this event was very successful and engaged many students.

Whilst we would have liked to host more events in 2019, the events we did host were successful and proof of the importance of 'quality over quantity'. Many hours of hard-work were put into connecting Notre Dame students with one another, and with the NDSA, and we are very grateful for all the support we received. We can't wait to see what's in store for future NDSA events.

Olivia Trahair
Events Director 2019

Charlotte Lee
Deputy Events Officer 2019

Assist

This year I have had the pleasure of continuing the legacy of the previous Assist Officer. It has been an honour to assist Notre Dame students during times of financial distress and to help them navigate difficult times in their lives. The Assist Grant has been instrumental in helping many students deal with unexpected financial emergencies that are preventing them from being fully engaged in their studies.

This year we collaborated with Counselling to streamline the Assist Grant application so students can now access funds in a more comfortable manner. This means that students can approach on-campus Counselling who then provide a recommendation to the Assist Officer and the NDSA Executive. This prevents students from having to retell their story which can be harmful to their wellbeing and we are confident that this will lead to more Assist Grants in the future.

During Semester 1, I continued the Jacket Swap initiative where students can freely borrow provided jackets when needed. I also had a sleeping bag and socks drive for St Patrick's Community Support Centre.

In Semester 2 the Food Pantry was launched. This is located upstairs in Prindiville Hall and has a wide variety of non-perishable food items available to students to take as needed. It is aimed at those in need but also for those who forget or cannot afford lunch. I also began to put together an information pamphlet of where students can seek help and student-friendly services around Fremantle.

This was my first year on the Student Association and I am proud of the work that has been done this year. I am positive that the role of Assist Officer will grow and develop beyond the Assist Grant and will continue to help all students going forward.

Heather Urry
Assist Officer 2019

Equity & Access

2019 has been a year full of amazing achievements for equity and access students. In early July of this year it was finally announced that after a year of campaigning, Notre Dame would have a non-binary bathroom on campus. This was a huge step forward towards making UNDA a more inclusive and supportive environment for all students and I'm so glad that I could be a part of it.

We also celebrated our third IDAHOBIT day this year in collaboration with the brand-new LGBTIQ+ and allies club 'Stripes' and Student Counselling, and it was an astounding success. We raised over \$90 for the Aboriginal Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation, \$400 for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and \$80 for the Jeans for Genes organisation. This will be our second year holding an event for Bandanna Day and we hope to continue this event and others, such as our Sorry Day BBQ, into the new year.

The Equity and Access sub-committee launched this year and inspired a review of Equity exams, Learning Access Plans (LAP) and the ease of accessing them. A survey has been created to collect more feedback from students on what could be improved, and groundwork has begun on building the case for recorded lectures for students with certain LAPs.

In all, we have come a long way this year, but our hard work is not over yet! Next year should be full of even more advancements in the area of equity and access, as the role will finally be divided so that three distinct representatives from each community (LGBTIQ+, ATSI and Diversabilities) will have their voice heard and valued on NDSA's Welfare Team.

Benji Rabeling
Equity & Access Officer 2019

Sport & Health

This year saw Sport and Health start to develop some bases for exciting changes in 2020. Sport and Health, in conjunction with the Welfare team, brought to the students two successful Wellness Weeks. In Semester 1, Wellness Week an extremely successful events providing free morning yoga session followed by a breakfast, show bags and in addition to a number of exciting freebies targeted and promoting physical health. After such a fruitful breakfast in semester 1, semester 2 Wellness Week brought students a DIY breakfast bar. With the success of both events and with an aim to provide students with more regular opportunities to get involved in events that promote physical, 2020 will see the commencement of an exciting initiative, Wellness Wednesdays.

This year has been an enormous learning curve. Much planning, many discussions and networking has occurred to start building the foundations for what looks to be an exciting 2020 with many new events in store. The transition of the Sport and Health role from an Officer to a Director role will open new doors and bring about a greater scope, further expanding the range of possibilities within the role. I am proud of the work done in 2019 and sincerely look forward to 2020. Watch this space.

Bree Macaulay
Sport & Health Officer 2019

Women's

Overview

This year has seen many positive events take place that have help raise awareness of key issues that concern women and equality in our society, but have also celebrated achievements of women. This role took on events and ideas that were instigated in 2018 when the role was introduced and also expanded on them.

Having a continued position on the Vice Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Addressing Sexual Assault & Harassment on Campus has also provided an opportunity for the student voice to be heard on how to deal with these issues from an administrative level. It has been extremely beneficial providing insight on how to engage students and staff on this issues and ensuring change in happening.

Women's Day 2019

The theme for this year's International Women's Day was #BalanceForBetter this was a great way to engage all students, as it was inclusive and could not be interpreted an 'exclusive event for women' as some people unfortunately assume.

What worked well:

- Having the cardboard cut outs of famous women – engaged students who might not usually care as they were intrigued to see Beyonce in the middle of Bateman's court yard
- Collaborating with the Young Soroptimists Club – we were able to work together to put on out Cake stall
- Craft activities – bracelets worked well along with having signage to prompt conversation between people
- Notre Dame Lecturer speaker – any speaker would have been great, having Leigh Straw was lovely as a lot of students look up to her as a respected lecturer at Notre Dame and she was able to relate to our student body
- 'A woman that has had a positive influence on your life' – this was a simple way to make people reflect on how women play an important role in all of our lives and perhaps prompt people to show gratitude to these people on this day
- Captain Marvel Raffle – this possibly could have had more advertising but did work quite well to engage more students and also raise more money along with the cake stall

What could be improved

- Having more than one table for people to take part in craft activities – at once point it seemed hard for people to join in as the table was full and it was mostly NDSA
- Having a more obvious area for people to take photos with the cardboard cutout figures
- Having more outside organisations come – unfortunately there were quite a few organisations already booked for women's day, earlier planning would have helped this
- Bateman does work well to ensure more students see the event taking place, however having this event in Prindiville hall with more seating and lunch facilities perhaps would have encouraged more people to hang around for longer and take more time being involved in activities.

Craft, Cake & Communicate

This was an extremely positive event that was held multiple times throughout the year. I believe this helped the messages stick and showed a commitment to starting conversations with students which are often difficult. Having this event in the separated but open area of Prindiville Hall allowed students to see what was happening and made them feel more encouraged to sit for a bit and take part in some of the activities. Having posters with conversation starters about positive relationships & colouring in which addressed issues in abusive relationships in a positive way e.g. “dogs against domestic violence” and displaying these on the walls ensured the purpose of the event was clear.

I believe this could be run more regularly as it is low cost and encourages continued conversation between students.

Vice Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Addressing Sexual Assault & Harassment on Campus

It is vital that we still have a student women's representative on this committee. The University is well aware of the issues that need to be addressed, however they key issue now is how to engage students and staff in programs which help institute lasting change. Having student opinion on what programs will work best for our student body is also extremely important.

The progress we have made on this committee has also seen the University introduce the role of a Respect Officer on staff and wanted student representation on the interview panel for this committee. This shows how the university and student representatives can work together to ensure positive change is occurring at the university. I believe the future Women's



Representative can continue to have a positive influence on this committee and future planning put forth by the university.

Tessa Harris
Women's Officer 2019