



2024 SEM 1 REPORT



Notre Dame Student Association | Fremantle WA



2024 Council

Executive:

President: Eric De Sousa

Vice President: Georgia
Camford

Treasurer: Lana van Wyk

Secretary: Mikaela de Kok



Directors:

Events: Japneet Kaur

Environment: Julia Watson

Marketing: Taniesha Rickets

Sport & Health: Bless Ranola

Environment: Julia Watson

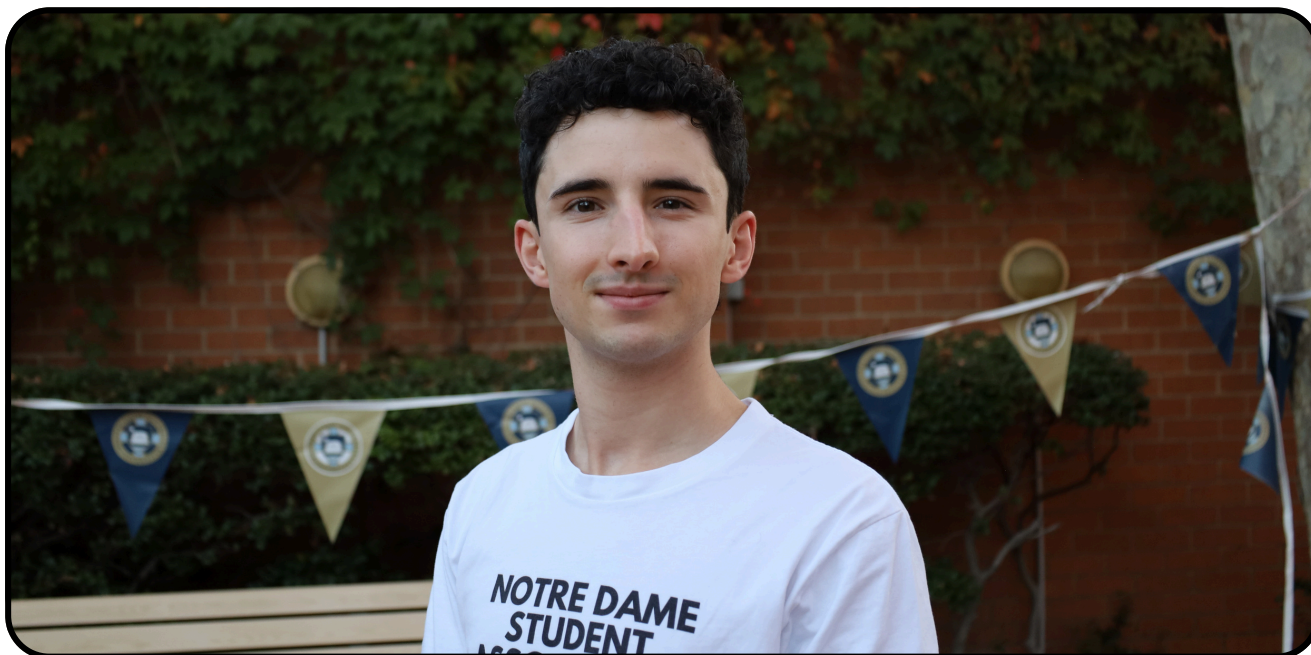
Community chairs:

Academic: Tharushi

Kannangara

Welfare: Elizabeth Lee

Clubs: Sophia Giuffre



In semester one the Notre Dame Student Association ran more activities, had more members and reached more students than ever! Starting off the year we invested heavily within the council with development days as well as new council initiatives aimed at rewarding our hard-working council members to ensure our team was ready for the year ahead. Starting off strong, UNDA had one of the largest orientations in its history! I, alongside the council, created a "First Years Guide" for new students available via our website. In week one we had our social event with over 120 attendees, making it one of the most successful social events we've ever hosted! Moving on throughout the semester we have seen more Academic and Welfare events such as therapy dogs, DIY study pack and pot painting events, hosted than ever, thanks to our amazing Academic and Welfare Councils. More recently, we have announced and released tickets to our annual ball. With over 300 tickets being sold on the first day it is our fastest selling ball ever! Furthermore, we increased the frequency of the Free Student Pantry restocks and have just introduced a free Share the Dignity vending machine in Prindiville Hall that will provide free menstrual products to students. Within the executive, we have been working hard to better understand SSAF, its introduction and what students want. We have set up a new page on our website that helps explain SSAF, what our position on its introduction is as well as what we have found out from the university on it. We have set up a new anonymous feedback box and petitions page to allow us to better represent the student voice. This feedback has been used to report infrastructure issues around campus, communicate feedback around SSAF to the University as well as discuss other issues and concerns. We are excited for semester two and what it will bring. We will continue listening to student feedback and representing your interests and concerns to the University. With SSAF's proposed introduction in semester two we will be working closely with other students to ensure it is used safely and responsibly in exactly the way students want it spent.

Vice President's



Report



Dear Stakeholders,

I am pleased to present the Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year 2024. It is with great pride that I share the remarkable achievements and financial milestones we have accomplished over the past year.

Treasurer's Report

The NDSA started off strong with a \$35,000 grant for semester 1 from UNDA. The subsequent funds have been utilised to put on free events for students, such as therapy dogs, pot painting, study care packages and more, while also subsidising tickets to our social events. The full \$35,000 was spent, majorly due to paying deposits for our upcoming NDSA ball in August. We expect to receive those funds back from ticket sales to cover the two additional payments. There is currently \$9,672.57 left in the NDSA bank account which is leftover from funds we had continuing from last year, highlighting that we have been investing the money into free events on campus to contribute to a positive and inviting on campus experience for commencing and current students.

I also took on the task of organising the free food events on campus. We had food such as Pretzel and Dominos and it was a special treat for those students on campus. The free food was a big hit with lines being from the Prindiville hall kitchen all the way to Prindiville hall entrance from Mouat Street! Additionally, I created little bags of lollies and chocolates with a sweet note wishing students all the best for their studies. These were received well, and the feedback I received was that it made students' day.



Secretary's Report



Dear Students,

I'm super excited to introduce myself as the Secretary for 2024! My name is Lana and I'm a 2nd Year Nursing Student. I'm so honoured to have been selected as the secretary this year and have already had so many opportunities to contribute to the Notre Dame community.

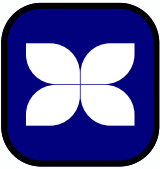
During the Sem 1 Orientation day, I had the opportunity to MC at the Commencement Ceremony of the Festival Day, and volunteer with the NDSA stall. We were able to organise things such as therapy dogs and Get Chunky. It was so amazing getting to meet the new students and tell them a little bit about ourselves. Going forward into the rest of the year, particularly with the implementation of SSAF and many changes coming around, I will be working hard with the rest of the council to make sure that the transition is smooth and that students are able to gain as many benefits as possible.

I'm very excited for the upcoming ball that the council has been working hard to plan and hope that I'll be able to meet more of you lovely students throughout this semester.

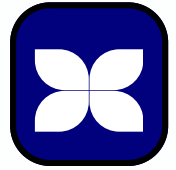
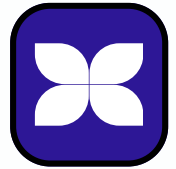
Kindly,

Lana van Wyk





Committee Reports



Academic Committee Report



In semester one, the NDSA Academic Committee embarked on a proactive approach to enhance student academic experiences at Notre Dame. We commenced with a development day at the beginning of the year, bringing together all committee representatives to strategise and plan for the upcoming semester.

Throughout the term, the Academic Committee organised a series of impactful events aimed at supporting and enriching student learning. These included 'Tips and Tricks for Education Students, designed to provide practical insights into academic success. We also hosted an Academic Week featuring a step-by-step guide to creating LinkedIn profiles, a career planning and networking workshop, and strategies for mastering lecture notes effectively.

To foster a supportive academic environment, we introduced meet the NDSA Academic council, study care packages for nursing and education students, giveaways, exam care packages, organised study nights, and hosted a casual mixer on philosophy and theology. We have also collaborated with NDSA welfare and many other clubs at Notre Dame such as Education society and TLG. These initiatives were well-received, fostering increased engagement and participation among students.

Our committee members actively engaged with students, responding to a growing number of inquiries and concerns regarding academic matters. Additionally, our representatives served as student representatives on various university boards, ensuring student voices were heard and considered in important decisions.

Looking ahead to semester two, we are excited to introduce new initiatives aimed at further enhancing the student academic experience. Plans include installing whiteboards in Prindiville student hall to encourage collaborative studying and launching a placement and workplace support grant to facilitate student career development. We will also hold a networking event for the Arts and Science students and a giveaway for Health Science students.



Welfare



Committee

The semester commenced with our Welfare Committee Development Day, led by myself and supported by Deki Choden, our dedicated Welfare Deputy. The day focused on team bonding and goal setting. Our goals are to;

- foster connections and friendships through smaller, regular events;
- boost morale within the Welfare Committee through supportive check-ins;
- enhance our social media presence;
- raise awareness about Notre Dame's wellbeing support services.

Additionally, we had the opportunity to participate in a professional development workshop led by our Senior RESPECT Officer, where we delved into how to be a good support person and explored the range of wellbeing services offered at Notre Dame. Throughout the semester, our committee grew closer, working cohesively to achieve our objectives. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the entire committee for their hard work and dedication last semester; it's been inspiring to see everyone's commitment to our goals.

We focused on enhancing student welfare and community through engaging initiatives. Partnering with the Academic Committee, our first event "Meet Your NDSA Representatives" kicked off with a blast and featured creative activities like painting stations and friendship-making opportunities, complemented by summer ice cream treats.





Welfare Week in week

three was a standout success, highlighted by free food, DIY Self Care Packages, fresh coffee from Inner Bean, pot plant painting, and an International Women's Day Breakfast in collaboration with the University. The semester continued with regular events fostering new friendships and strengthening bonds, including many visits from our therapy dogs and their volunteers from WA Companions. We are proud of our achievements this semester, which saw our social media presence gain almost double the amount of instagram followers we started with, showcasing our vibrant community and more regular Instagram reels.

Collaborations with Chaplaincy and the Multicultural Student Association enriched university events such as mindfulness activities for St. Patrick's Day, letter writing for International Happiness Day, and Harmony Day, supporting international students and promoting inclusivity.

Looking ahead to Semester Two, the Welfare Committee is eager to build on our successes with more engaging events. Our goal remains to ensure every student feels supported and valued within Notre Dame's vibrant community. Keep an eye out for more wellbeing support awareness, therapy dog visits, free sweet treats, Instagram giveaways, and opportunities for on-campus connection!



Clubs Committee Report



In Semester 1, I as the club chair, have already achieved my goal by being able to interact and get to know as much as I can about all the student clubs we have on offer here at Notre Dame. We have had many new clubs starting up this semester or clubs re-starting after a few years of hiatus. New clubs that have started this year include the Multicultural Student Association (MSA), International Relations Society and the Health Science Society. Clubs reviving this year include the Education Society and the Architecture Notre Dame Association (ANDA).

We have had so much club participation over this past semester, with food stalls and events being held by many clubs. The Education Society has held raffles that had some great prizes for our Education students, especially those about to go on their placement. The Journalism Society held a Taylor Swift themed quiz night in March, which was a fun-filled night with some great prizes. The Multicultural Student Association held food stalls and events for our international students during Harmony Week and some great activities on Open Day.

Clubs Committee Report

This semester has allowed me to get to know how all our student clubs are run. During our clubs committee meetings, I was able to speak to club presidents and executive teams and hear about all the great work they have been doing for their club members and the Notre Dame students. I am extremely pleased with what all student clubs have achieved in Semester 1 and I cannot wait for what Semester 2 has in store!





Department Reports





Events



Semester 1 of the NDSA was so much fun with the council being along side. It has given me a chance to have a major development as a person in general. In the start of the sem I organised a bubble tea catch up for the international students to get to know uni life and the NDSA better. Apart from that, I also organised a sundowner which was a massive hit! We had a wonderful time and the tickets were all sold out and great feedback from students as well. recently, we have been preparing for the annual NDSA Ball, it has been coming well as of now and people are getting tickets and we have just a few left. It's all so exciting!



Marketing Director's Report



As Marketing Director this semester, I managed the NDSA social media, posting photos and videos for events related to welfare, environmental initiatives, and the academic club. During Academic Week, I made a reel engaging with students on campus, asking them which degree they thought was a red or green flag. Furthermore, I also helped market the winner of the Academic Week giveaway and advertised the study packs. For welfare, I helped advertise wellness packs and the support dog on the NDSA Instagram. I also had meetings with our Environmental Director, Julia, to organise some marketing for containers for change bins that will be implemented around campus. I took photos of the bins and posted about the initiative on the NDSA social media. Committee members' headshots were outdated on the website, so I organised a time before a meeting to take individual headshots and group photos. At the beginning of the semester, I attended the sundowner event, did photography, and advertised it on social media. I created a Google Drive link and put it in the bio so students could access the photos. The biggest marketing effort this semester was for the NDSA ball. I made posts advertising the ball and stories about the ticket giveaway, urging students to buy tickets. Besides marketing, I volunteered to be on the ball committee, where we are organising decor, photographers, and photo booths. I also attended Open Day to help with the NDSA stall.



Sport and Health Report



As the newly elected Sports and Health Director this semester, I set an ambitious goal during the handover and orientation day for newly elected officers: to make the Founders Cup a reality this year. Together with other NDSA members and the Sports Coordinator in Student Life, we managed to secure a venue and create a budget plan for the entire event.

The event was initially scheduled for April 8th, 2024, during Week 7 of Semester 1, at the Fremantle Netball Association Courts. Our preliminary budget was \$2,150, covering venue, food, equipment, awards, and prizes. Unfortunately, we did not receive enough sign-ups from staff and students to justify proceeding with the event. Consequently, we cancelled the venue without any issues.

Looking ahead, the council agreed to postpone the Founders Cup to Semester 2, Week 3. The event has been rescheduled for multiple days between August 5th and 9th and will take place at ND6. This schedule has been approved by the NDSA council and Chris, the Student Life Sports Coordinator. The budget for Semester 2 remains unchanged from the initial plan. We are eager to start advertising and recruiting staff and students to participate.

Additionally, the poster for the Founders Cup has been edited and is ready for approval and posting. I hope to receive support from the Academic Coordinator and Clubs Coordinator to help invite students to this event. I am excited for Semester 2 and committed to making this event a success.





Environment Director's Report



During semester 1 of 2024 as Environmental director, I spent most of my time dedicated to implementing the Containers for Change (C4C) initiative on campus. This project has been in the works for many years, and one of my goals coming into the role of Environmental Director was to finally get it up and running. The C4C program is a government initiative that aims to reduce the number of recyclable containers that end up in landfill by collecting said containers and offering a 10c return to the organisation/individual that donated it. After much collaboration with Notre Dame Campus Services and the City of Fremantle, I am happy to report that C4C collection bins will be on campus from semester 2 2024. These bins will be located in Malloy Courtyard, Drill Hall Courtyard, and the Education Courtyard. Upon the completion of the St Teresa library renovation, I plan to have an additional collection bin located in Bateman Courtyard. If students notice that the C4C bin is full, they can scan the QR code sticker located on the bin to alert us that it needs to be collected. I would please encourage all students to do this in order to keep the program running smoothly. The 10c refund from each container donated will be given back to the NDSA to help fund other initiatives for the Notre Dame students.

In my role I have also worked within the NDSA to offset the carbon emissions of flights for the executive council's trip to the Notre Dame Sydney campus. With the current ecological crisis, it is essential that we all play our part to reduce our carbon footprint. Offsetting the carbon emissions for the domestic flights taken by the NDSA executive is one way that we are reducing our negative impact on the environment.



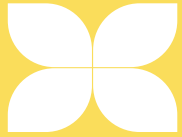
Environment Director's Report



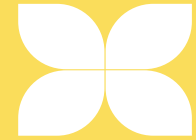
I have also been working with the President of the NDSA; Eric De Sousa, to encourage the University to implement a Sustainability plan. The University of Notre Dame does not currently have a Sustainability plan in place and given the current climate situation we believe it essential that one is implemented. To do this we are collecting data from students to show their interest and commitment to ensuring a more sustainable future for Notre Dame. By presenting the University with this data, we hope to highlight the voices of the students and encourage them to take action. On the NDSA website there is a petitions page where the Sustainability petition can be found. I would please encourage all students to read it and sign it.

Going into semester two, I hope to introduce collection stations for other recyclable goods including batteries, pens, highlighters, markers, and empty white-out containers. By providing an accessible drop off point for these recyclable goods on campus, I hope to decrease the overall number of recyclable items that end up in landfill. By working together, we can all help to make a positive impact on our planet.





NDSA Semester 1 2024 Report



Thank you for your continued support!



Notre Dame Student Association | Fremantle WA

