

Date: 25/05/2026

Time: 8:30-9:00

Location: Whare Auaha – Waimarie 018

Present: Anne Kaninteang, Chelcie (Zhexi) Zhang, Coral Peat, Darius J Harris, Hyunsung Yoon, Liam Moore, Sam Rajnikant, Zara Weissenstein.

Apologies: Eligh Ashby

Absent: Sam Dryden

Meeting opened at 8:30am

Appeal regarding Postgraduate Engagement Representative voting procedures

An appeal was received by the LUSA president at 10:47am, Friday 22nd May, after election results were announced for the by-election for Disability Rep and Postgraduate Engagement Rep. While this appeal does not include the 10 signatures required from LU students as mandated by both the LUSA Constitution and the LUSA Elections Policy and Procedure, the executive will still consider it in its entirety in good faith.

The concern was regarding voting process used for LUSA elections, specifically that all Lincoln University students are permitted to vote for all roles, including those for specific groups of students, in this case postgraduate students. The appellant noted clause 26.1 of the LUSA Elections Policy and Procedure, which clearly states that *“All Lincoln University Students are able to vote, and only vote once for each position”*. They stated that this was vague as it appears to address voting rights generally rather than clearly specifying eligibility criteria for constituency-based representative positions.

LUSA’s policy allows all students to vote for all executive roles as, while some reps may focus their efforts on certain groups of students, the entire executive still represents the student body as a whole on committees, and governs LUSA as an incorporated society, which all members (students) should be able to vote for, to ensure collective responsibility of LUSA as an incorporated society.

Furthermore, as stated above, the LUSA Elections Policy and Procedure states that:

- *26.1 All Lincoln University Students are able to vote, and only vote once for each position.*

The LUSA constitution also states that:

- *B4.4 Eligibility: Subject to the restrictions in clause 8.1, any current Lincoln University Student shall be eligible to vote in the elections of the Association...*

Clause 8.1 states that Lincoln University Students’ Association recognises, as its primary stakeholder group, all students enrolled at Lincoln University, provided that only Students that pay a student services levy as part of their Lincoln University enrolment fees are eligible:

- (a) For election or appointment to the Executive;*
- (b) To vote on any resolution or business of the Association; and*
- (c) Receive student services from the Association,*

unless the Association by ordinary resolution at a General Meeting determines otherwise.

This clause does not restrict students’ ability to vote for all roles on the executive.

Under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, we must follow LUSA’s constitution and related policies, as a matter of Constitutional Supremacy. This means that legally we must allow all Lincoln University Students to vote for all roles as our governing documents state.

Motion: that LUSA notes the concerns of the appellant regarding constituency-based representative positions; however, ultimately resolves to confirm the election of Carolyn Mavretish for the role of Postgraduate Engagement Representative for the remainder of the 2026 executive term.

- Moved: Zara Weissenstein
- Seconded: Anne Kaninteang
- **Passed (Unanimously)**

Meeting closed at 8:50am

These minutes are a true and accurate reflection of what occurred, signed by Zara Weissenstein on behalf of Te Rōpū Ākoka O Te Whare Wānaka O Aoraki, Lincoln University Students’ Association, witnessed by Eligh Ashby on 26.05.2026.



President
Zara Weissenstein



Secretary
Eligh Ashby