

# WORONI

Australian National University Student Media

2019 AGM Editor-in-Chief's Report

Noah Yim

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## 1. Introduction

My name is Sang Yeop (Noah) Yim, the Editor-in-Chief of ANU Student Media. I got involved with Woroni for the first time in my second semester of 2017, and this organisation has taken me to places to I would never have imagined. Since then, I worked as a subeditor in two different portfolios, and became the News Editor in 2018. Woroni is a special organisation that attracts many different people from so many different walks of life within the ANU community, and I am so grateful to have been involved with it and have occupied the positions that I have.

In particular, it has been a rare privilege to work with the numerous boards, editors, subeditors, past editors, contributors and audiences of this Association.

Woroni is a leader in Australian student media: we are the only such organisation with regular TV, Radio and Print content, and have the largest team in Australia. This is particularly impressive, considering that every single team member is a volunteer within Woroni. It is an organisation that is founded on the passion, talent, and enthusiasm of volunteer subeditors and editors.

The last year has been a highly innovative time for Woroni: the organisation has developed and matured. This report will cover the Association's activities over the past year and provide some insights into the future.

## 2. Constitution

We have slightly amended our constitution since the last AGM. This process was led largely by the former Editor-in-Chief, Mia Jessurun, and our Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Ben Lawrence. I would like to thank them for their tireless work.

The amendment allows the Association to be more flexible with our publication, both in terms of how many publications we are able to put out per semester and the character of those publications.

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This amendment was made after hours of consultation with relevant stakeholders, such as current editors, subeditors, and former editors who were intimately involved with the layout process for the newspaper.

These amendments were passed by the members of the Association at a Special General Meeting last semester by an overwhelming majority. The minutes of that meeting can be found [here](#).

Since this change, we have converted from a newspaper to a magazine format. The changes that came with this will be expounded later in this report.

### 3. Policy

Our Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Ben, has conducted a policy review since entering his role at the start of second semester in 2018. We have a highly comprehensive, homogenous, and organised body of policy. This is due in large part to Ben's continued efforts, as well as the rest of the board.

I would like to thank Ben for his tireless work on the Association's policies as well as his reliable and highly productive functions in every other element of his role as Deputy Editor-in-Chief over the past year.

### 4. Finance

Please consult our Managing Editor's report for a more detailed look into Woroni's finances over the last year. I would like to thank Jonathan Tjandra, who is currently on his second term as this Association's Managing Editor, for his dedication to the Association. He has brought professionalism, reason and gravitas to the role and has been an invaluable asset to the Association.

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## 5. Marketing

We have advertisers both online and in print. This provides a valuable source of revenue for the Association.

We have found that since the opening of the Kambri precinct and our transition into a magazine, our publications have been doing very well. We have set up agreements with many central hubs in the new space, like Harry Hartog and the National Health Co-op, to deliver and distribute our magazines to allow for greater visibility. We have found that both editions of the magazine so far have had high demand with a limited supply within a few days of distribution.

## 6. Social Media

### Facebook

Facebook has continued to be our strongest social media platform in terms of reach and user engagement over the past year. We have almost reached ten thousand likes on our Facebook page, making us the second largest student media organisation in the country in terms of Facebook likes.

We have published every single conventional content piece, news piece and TV video that we have produced over the past year on our Facebook page and we've seen continued growth on the platform.

Our Woroni Radio Facebook page allows for a different platform of engagement for listeners and stakeholders of Woroni Radio. It's a page that has been performing strongly and continues to see growth.

### Instagram

The past year has seen a revitalisation of Woroni's Instagram presence. Due to the growth in our Art portfolio in the past year, we have been able to regularly share content that our Art team produced for the print publications. It provides another medium through which

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our audience can engage with the Association's work and allows us to showcase the student talent that Woroni fosters.

## Twitter

Twitter was a relatively dormant social media platform in the year before, but it has started to come to life and thrive this semester, especially in news reporting and sharing. We have begun incorporating more innovative, fast-paced, and market-driven reporting practices such as live tweeting from meetings and events. Due to this, it is a platform that we can continue to expect growth for, creating yet another platform on which we can reach more audiences.

## 7. New Magazine Format

The new magazine format was one of the most difficult tasks that lay before the organisation at the start of the year.

The Association worked hard over the summer break to create a format for the magazine that could deliver a reader experience that was consistent to our other portfolios, but still be new, fresh, and exciting. In particular, I would like to thank the Content Editor, Alisha Nagle, and the Art Editor, Georgie Kamvissis, who worked with me to design the new format. They were able to work across ordinarily debilitating international time zones to coordinate the entire process and ensure a high-quality publication.

Since publication, we have received overwhelmingly positive feedback on the magazine. I believe that the quality of each publication has improved since the newspaper.

No discussion of the magazine format would be complete without again thanking the previous editors who worked to make this a reality. In particular, I must direct particular gratitude to the previous Editor-in-Chief, Mia Jessurun, and the Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Ben Lawrence, who oversaw the entire consultation and constitutional reform process. Furthermore, I would like to extend thanks to the Editor-in-Chief of the first semester of

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2018, James Atkinson, and the previous Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Nathalie Rosales Cheng for their continued support throughout the process and laying the groundwork to ensure that this change could happen.

## 8. Website

The Association also launched a [new page](#) on the Woroni website dedicated to news. With this move, we were able to streamline the news consumption experience. This came after consultation with website audiences, the Association's news team, and editors.

The new page is an exciting new platform with which our teams can communicate more meaningfully and effectively with the student base.

Furthermore, the administrative sections of our website have been significantly streamlined. As the operation of the website began to mature and accumulate years, we found that some information in the administrative sections of were presented in a way that were too clunky and unwieldy due to the sheer scale of the information.

I'd like to thank ED., the hosts of our website, for their constant support and ingenuity. They were very cooperative and easy to work with in designing the new page. Furthermore, they are extremely helpful in the maintenance of the website.

The website has been doing very well: in the past month alone, we had almost 13 000 website visits.

## 9. New Office

We have started moving from the Barry Drive office to the one in the Di Riddell Student Centre in Kambri.

It was, and still is, a difficult transition due to the scale of activity, scope, number of stakeholders, and novelty of the Kambri precinct. However, the team has settled in well in the new office.

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We now have a separate office space and a radio studio.

I would like to thank the Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Ben, for his organisation and coordination of the moving efforts.

Special mention must also be given to the Radio Editor, Steph David, for her organisation of the move into the radio studio. This new studio is a considerable expansion from our previous one, which requires more equipment, logistics, and set-up. She handled the entire procedure with grace, knowledge, and a cool professionalism.

## 10. Archiving

### Publications

We have continued to make bound annals of our past newspapers, which have been in publication since 1950. They are organised by year and represent important reminders of the Association's long history. Not all of our publications are on Trove, and these are the only copies that remain.

During this archiving process, we have found and restored a few of Woroni's front covers for the enjoyment of staff and students alike.

Furthermore, over the past year, we have uploaded our newspapers and magazines onto Issuu – this allows for digital archiving as well as another medium through which audiences can interact with our publications.

### Past Editors

Ben, the Deputy Editor-in-Chief, has compiled [a list](#) of Woroni's former editors from 1950. Woroni has a long history of celebrated alumni and it is a way for the Association and audiences to remember and acknowledge the work of individuals into this organisation and the talent that Woroni fosters.

## 11. Collaborative Publications

### Publications

Early this year, Woroni and ANUSA launched the 'Student Survival Guide' in O-Week of Semester 1. The booklet was designed to serve as a welcome guide for ANU students.

The content was sourced and edited by ANUSA, and the layout done by Woroni.

It was a resounding success and I would like to thank our Managing Editor, Jonathan, for laying out and creating graphics for the Survival Guide.



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## Funding changes

In the last round of SSAF negotiations, Woroni was allocated the Collaborative Publications budget, through which other organisations and individuals on campus can receive funding through Woroni for publications.

This moves publications such as *Bossy* and *Shout* to receive their funding through Woroni rather than PARSA and the ANUSA departments as they did before.

We have already made communications with *Bossy* and *Shout* to ensure that their work will be largely unaffected by this funding change.

## 12. Alternative Publications

### Creative Anthology

We have continued with the publication of creative anthologies: the 2018 anthology was published at the start of this year.

This provides a unique platform for the ANU community's purely creative pieces to be showcased in a publication dedicated to the medium.

Team members have been busy preparing, sourcing, and making the next anthology.

### Zines

Woroni operated a submission period for students' zines at the end of last year and printed a select number of them for distribution and dispersion within the campus. They proved very popular and are yet other platforms provided by Woroni on which students can share their work with the wider campus community.

## 13. Services

### Photography

Woroni offers photography for free to student societies and groups. It is a highly sought-after service and also provides excellent experience for our own photography subeditors.

### Equipment Hire

Equipment hire is by far our most demanded service. Woroni rents out TV and radio equipment to students and student groups for free.

It is a valuable way for the Association to give back to the campus community and maintain its place as a cornerstone of the ANU student experience.

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## 14. Art

The Art Editor during the second semester of 2018 was Sophie Bear, whose term extends to the end of the first semester of 2019. Sophie graduated from university at the end of last year, and Georgie Kamvissis was appointed under the casual vacancy.

I would like to thank both editors for their work.

Art has always been an important portfolio within Woroni due to its unique place on campus: it is one of the only forums on which members of the ANU community can share their art.

The portfolio became even more important with the transition to the magazine, as it provided for more platforms and opportunities than the newspaper did. The portfolio has risen to the challenge and exceeded all expectations.

We have a dedicated art team that provides graphics and artworks for the magazine, and another branch of the team that accepts and curates artworks that the ANU student community wants to share.

I am proud of how the portfolio has functioned and look forward to even more growth in the future.

## 15. Content

Alisha Nagle has been the Content Editor in the past year.

The Content portfolio is responsible for sourcing, editing, curating and publishing content in the magazine and on the website. This portfolio hires the most subeditors of any portfolio within Woroni and requires masterful management. Alisha has been a fantastic editor over the past year.

The team has adapted well to the new magazine format and has produced works of incredible quality due to the more relaxed pace of the publication cycle.

## 16. News

I was the News Editor from the second semester of last year after the previous News Editor resigned.

I dramatically reduced the size of the news team to improve inter-team interaction. The team performed well.

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Bella Di Mattina recently resigned from her role as News Editor after having occupied it since the start of the year. I would like to thank her for her work. The position is currently open to a casual vacancy, due to be filled imminently.

The portfolio transitioned well into the new magazine, and it has been exploring with new, innovative formats of news presentation to match the medium and style of the magazine.

## 17. Radio

Radio has experienced a great change due to the office move. Zoe Halstead resigned from the Radio Editor role halfway through the last semester of 2018. Steph David filled the casual vacancy and has been an indispensable board member ever since.

Steph coordinated the equipment purchase and design of the new radio studio given a limited time frame.

Since then, Radio has performed exceptionally, and is host to numerous radio shows and podcasts that ANU students hold. Radio is a rare portfolio to have alongside a print publication and TV portfolio in Australian student media, and it is a testament to Steph and the Radio Editors before her that Woroni Radio has such a strong presence on campus.

## 18. TV

William He started as the TV Editor in the second semester of last year. He has since graduated, and Julia Faragher has been in the position since.

William and Julia have overseen a renaissance in Woroni TV in their terms. They have dramatically bumped up the production capacity of the TV team and majorly restructured the internal governance of the team.

This makes Woroni TV quite easily the most consistent producers of content in Australian student media. Since July 2018, our TV videos on Facebook have received over 50 000 minutes of viewing and average 1800 views on each video.

We have also begun conversations with the Canberra Short Films Festival to create some relationship to further enhance the ANU student experience and maintain a central presence in videography in the ANU community.

## 19. Elections

At the end of last year, three positions on the board were up for election: News Editor, Managing Editor and Radio Editor. I was elected as News Editor, Jonathan Tjandra as Managing Editor, and Steph David as Radio Editor.

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At the end of this semester, TV Editor, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Content Editor and Art Editor will be up for election.