



# Editor-in-Chief's Report

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## 1. Introduction

Hi there! It's Liam, Woroni EIC from Semester One 2022. What a semester it has been! I am incredibly proud of the work each Editor, Sub-Editor, Contributor and everyday ANU'er has done to support Woroni this past year. After emerging from Canberra's lockdown in Semester Two 2021, Woroni's physical presence has come back alive with our office chairs, magazine stands, studios and dance floors full. This has been made possible by the extraordinary efforts of our largest and dare I say, most passionate Woroni Team to date. I wish to use this report to highlight the areas of Woroni's work I have had the most visibility. Namely, the work of the Sem1 2022 Board and the whole-of-organization priorities I sought to pursue these past six months. So grab yourself a pinot, some brie and have a read.

## **2. Work of the Board**

Firstly, I adore our Board this semester. Each inimitable member brings a wealth of creativity, wisdom, passion and kindness that has been able to push Woroni forward to places I didn't think we could reach. To Vy, Ben, Sian, Karolina, Juliette, Clara and Saad - thank you.

### **a. Policy and Constitution**

Following recommendations from the 2021 Boards, the DEIC Vy has led a reform of our Constitution to better reflect the working realities of Woroni. I refer you to their report for details. These changes were passed at a Woroni OGM and are currently with the ANU Council for consideration. I especially would like to thank Vy for her outstanding work in driving this reform. It is not always super 'sexy' stuff, but the nitty-gritty of this reform will give future boards better guidance and flexibility when executing their roles.

### **b. Finances**

For a detailed report of Woroni's finances, I refer you to the Managing Editor's report. I do want to say what an exceptional job Ben has done, not only over the past six months but during their entire time on the Board. They have consistently, diligently and thoughtfully carried out the important work of managing Woroni's finances. Thanks to Ben, every portfolio has been able to pursue the projects, publications and events they have wanted to.

### **c. Events**

Of course, no annual report in the 2020s would be complete without mentioning COVID-19. Thankfully, following the relaxation of restrictions, this year we have been able to host some extraordinary events to bring the Woroni community back into physical spaces. From our extensive O-week event offerings, print edition launch parties, "Turn It Up" concerts, "In Conversation With" media career nights and Woroni's sponsoring of community events including the 2022 Big Night Out, our

Editors have helped to facilitate some truly awesome experiences for ANU Students. I would particularly like to thank Saad and the entire Radio team's commitment to putting on events for our community.

#### **d. Hiring**

At the start of this year, we implemented a more holistic hiring process, coordinating closing dates, advertisement and interviews between all portfolios. This included the Exec running targeted social media video and graphic ads promoting all available positions and a new central online hiring page. These led to increased engagement and interest in Woroni positions compared to previous hiring rounds. I am incredibly proud of the talent Woroni has been able to bring together this semester through this new hiring process.

#### **e. New Positions**

Our Semester Two board has introduced three new positions to our Woroni Team including a:

- Senior Photographer
- Senior News Investigator
- Senior TV News Producer

We also recommend the introduction of three additional roles for Semester Two 2022:

- Photojournalist (Sub-editor)
- Marketing and Communications Manager (Senior Sub-Editor)
- Marketing and Communications Assistant (Sub-Editor)

I believe these new positions will enhance Woroni's cross-portfolio collaborations, whole-of-organization communications and provide ANU students with more opportunities to participate in Woroni and enhance their media skills.

## **f. Portfolios**

Every single Editor has brought a unique vision for each portfolio to our Semester Two board.

*News* has continued its terrific record of bringing timely, factual and relevant journalism to our community with an increasing use of Instagram and video platforms to communicate their reporting.

*Radio* has delivered a strong program of shows this semester including many that have been distributed as podcasts through our new Spotify platform.

*TV* has engaged deeply with ANU community groups this semester including Halls, societies, faculty and IHAC to deliver video products to advertise cultural events and initiatives. In addition to this, they have continued developing original content including current-affairs projects created in close partnership with *News*.

*Content* has produced three extraordinary editions so far in 2022. Under the leadership of Karolina, content has sought more diverse, engaging and dynamic contributions to help bring our magazines back into vogue following limited readership during 2021's lockdowns. This has been accompanied by a strong online content presence with particularly good engagement through Instagram.

*Art* this year has produced amazing pieces for our magazine and website that have been increasingly shared as stand-alone posts through our social media.

## **3. Editor In Chief Priorities**

It has been one of the great experiences of my uni life being EIC this semester. Engaging everyday with the extremely talented members of Woroni has been such a joy. Thank you to the 2022 Board and ANU community for giving me this opportunity. Here are a few of the projects I focused on with our Exec, Board and Senior Sub-editors over the past six months.

## **a. Website Development**

We are getting a new website! At the beginning of the year during our financial forecasts for 2022 our Board decided to create a significant line item for a refresh of our current website. Such a refresh seeks to make our site more accessible, user-friendly and aesthetic to better showcase students' work. We contacted multiple potential contractors and have decided on one to begin the project in August 2022.

## **b. Marketing and Communications**

Throughout this semester, we have tried to make our social media posting more consistent, personable and engaging. We have nearly tripled our posts on Instagram, created a News instagram template and utilized a "LinkIn Bio" software. Our Editors and SSE's have been encouraged to regularly post on Woroni's FB and Insta stories to show the 'behind the scenes' of Woroni's projects. This has led to increased awareness and interest in Woroni throughout the ANU community and has especially helped us to engage with new ANU students.

## **c. Senior Sub-Editors**

A key goal of the Board was to bring together our SSEs into a working group. Woroni is at its best when portfolios are collaborating. Whether that be through print, video, online, events, podcasts etc. Bringing together all SSEs has helped to facilitate more collaboration between teams and allow the Exec and Board to hear from the SSEs directly about how Woroni as an organization is going. At the moment, we have fortnightly meetings chaired by the EIC. Each meeting is led by a different portfolio and focused on how other teams can collaborate with that portfolio.

## **d. Organizational Culture**

After a turbulent year in 2021, our Board sought to re-engage Woroni members through our aforementioned events and by creating an inclusive, supportive and empowering culture at Woroni. Our Board has

actively encouraged communal use of our Kambri office (including getting new PLANTS!). We provided a welcome kit including introductory slides to Woroni for all Sub-editors. Our Exec have also lined up new diversity and sensitivity training to ensure every member of Woroni is actively thinking about their relationships and treatment of Woroni members and those in the wider ANU community when conducting their work.

## **e. Stakeholder Relationships**

The establishment of the new Student Services Council composed of all ANU SSAF recipients has prompted significant consultation between ANUSA, PARSA, Observer and the ANU. We have always sought to advocate for the cause of quality and inclusive student media services on campus.