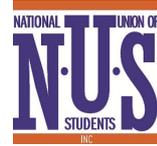


**Report from the National Ethno-Cultural Officer:
Michael Bezuidenhout NX1**



Groete met eendrag.

I am in the process of creating a list of the details of all campus based ethno-cultural reps and have begun to introduce myself, offer assistance and get to know what they want and need out of NUS.

I am halfway through organising my travel to attend as many O-weeks as possible to launch the 'racism is...' campaign (ETHNO 11.10) and talk to students about deregulation and its impact on CALD students (linking in to the Demand a better future campaign and individual NUS memberships) (ETHNO 11.3).

I am also in the process of setting up meetings with both student organisation and university stakeholders while on their campuses for O-week to create a dialogue on how to better cater for the varied needs of CALD students (ETHNO 11.7) and to provide support to help build collectives (ETHNO 11.4 & 11.8).

Given the other ethno-cultural and NUS campaigns already running in O-week I am hesitant to also launch the ethno-cultural student survey at the same time, mostly as I have concerns that the vast majority of respondents would be brand new first years with limited experience of racism or cultural services, support and representation in a university context. However, I am still committed to running the ethno-cultural survey throughout semester one and releasing the 'Ethno-cultural state of the Union' report in semester two. I think the most effective way to get people to complete the survey is to provide it online using SurveyMonkey and then request that campus student organisations and ethno-cultural collectives distribute the link to their members.

Similarly I plan to conduct the ethno-cultural university audit over semester one to list the services and representation available to ethno-cultural students across Australia with its outcomes also presented in the 'Ethno-cultural state of the Union' report.

I plan to launch the 'Cross Campus Ethno-Cultural Network' in Semester two utilising the contacts made during the audit. The Cross Campus Ethno-Cultural Network will be a formalised structure consisting of a Facebook group, a regular national phone meeting schedule, and the capability for physical state-branch meetings. I want to heavily tie this group to the National and State NUS ethno-cultural departments because otherwise as we have seen with EANs things can get a bit out of hand.

I should have the multicultural calendar finished within the next few days. I plan to provide it as a publically available google calendar so that student organisations can use it to plan celebratory events, provide extra support, and be aware of particular sensitivities etc. I hope to have enough time to also provide the calendar as a .pdf file with each day as a single page describing that days significance to relevant

cultures so that it can be displayed on campus to help students be more aware of other cultures.