



17 November 2021

R S Bicknell

By email: fyi-request-17103-aef86608@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear R S Bicknell

We refer to your information request dated 9 October 2021 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (Act), which was transferred in part to us from Victoria University of Wellington on 19 October 2021. You have requested information regarding Southeast Asia Centre for Asia Pacific Excellence (SEA CAPE) expenditure in 2018, 2019, and 2020.

We set out our responses to each of your questions below in relation to the information held by the University of Otago.

Total amount of money spent on hospitality (lunches, dinners, event catering etc.) by SEA CAPE in 2018, 2019, and 2020

The amount spent on hospitality per year (which includes catering, entertainment, and travel) is as follows:

Hospitality	
Year	Amount
2018	\$583.20
2019	\$317.89
2020	\$592.76

Total amount spent on alcohol by SEA CAPE in 2018, 2019, and 2020

Information regarding alcohol purchases is not recorded separately in our financial reporting systems. Costs associated with expenditure on alcohol are included in the hospitality field. Your request for the provision of this information separately is refused in accordance with Section 18(f) of the Act, as to provide the information would require a substantial amount of research and collation that would affect the effective administration of the University.

Total amount spent on international airfares by SEA CAPE in 2018 and 2019, broken down by class of travel

There was no spend on international airfares by SEA CAPE in 2018 and 2019. Therefore, this aspect of your request is refused in accordance with Section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist.

Total amount spent by SEA CAPE on memberships of any private club memberships for staff associated with SEA CAPE (including the Wellington Club or Northern Club)

There were no private club memberships purchased for SEA CAPE members. Therefore, this aspect of your request is refused in accordance with Section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

Total amount of funds spent on salaries by SEA CAPE in 2018, 2019, and 2020, broken down by role

The amount spent on salaries per year is as follows:

Salaries	
Year	Amount
2018	\$14,282.62
2019	\$56,778.73
2020	\$54,221.98

We have provided the total amount spent on salaries. Detailed information regarding salaries is withheld in accordance with Section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Total amount of funding spent on hotels by SEA CAPE in 2018, 2019, and 2020, broken down by hotel

The amount spent per year on hotels is as follows:

Hotels		
Year	Hotel	Amount
2018	Hotel name not recorded	\$260.00
2019	Hotel name not recorded	\$545.13
	Abel Tasman Hotel	\$52.92
	Four Points by Sheraton	\$247.46
	Mondello Kaikoura	\$126.41
	Copthorne Hotel	\$130.08
2020	Hotel Ibis Wellington	\$175.73

We trust that this information will be helpful.

If you are not satisfied with our response to your information request, section 28(3) of the Act provides you with the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.

Yours sincerely



Kelsey Kennard
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar