Student Voice

Objective 1
Effective, Independent Representation

Provide the student voice within the University and AUSA by promoting student views on representative issues, supporting and developing these perspectives, and advancing a principled student-centred approach to decision making and student affairs.

Actions

Training and Institutional Knowledge: The AUSA Executive will be well-trained and have access to a comprehensive knowledge base building on both better document management and access to core institutional knowledge.

Healthy Democratic Elections: Increase participation through improved election turn-out, with a goal to have 25% of members participating in elections by 2015, and all positions promoted and contested each year.

Central Committees, Senate, and Class Representatives: AUSA will have close relationships with all central committee members and the student viewpoint is conveyed to the university through a connected network of class reps with information flow to and from students via the class rep network and the Staff Student Consultative Committees.

Executive Committees: AUSA subcommittees will operate in a flatter governance structure by effectively exercising their delegated authority to consider debatable issues in a more consultative environment.

Objective 2
Accountability and Open Governance

Ensure that AUSA promotes effective and efficient management and accountability to its members, as well as ensuring its governance structures and procedures are democratic, free and fair.

Actions

Regular Reporting: The President will provide a written work report on their activities each week. Other paid executive members provide a written work report at least fortnightly. Portfolio holders provide quarterly work reports.

Annual and Half Yearly Executive Reports: Each year a half-yearly report be presented at the winter general meeting and an annual report at the autumn general meeting.

Contact with Students - Student Forum and Other Avenues: Increase contact and communication with students to ensure that they are fully aware of all opportunities to participate in AUSA. The Executive will assist by providing publicised regular office hours, communication through websites and other media, and public speaking, promotion, and outreach.

Issues of Student Interest: AUSA will promote and represent the views of members both nationally and internationally on matters that concern or are concerning students as members of society.

Communications Strategy: Increase communication with students to ensure that student issues and concerns are brought before AUSA and dealt with at the appropriate level.

Campaigns of National Significance - University of Auckland Students: AUSA will promote and lead successful campaigns that promote the needs of students and are driven by student needs relating to Auckland and the University.

Campaigns of National Significance - All Students: AUSA will promote the interests of University students nationally within an effective national tertiary student organisation.

Campaigns of University Significance - AUSA Profile: AUSA will be recognised by students and their primary hub for services, assistance, and representation.

Financial Sustainability: AUSA will maximise the benefits to members by minimising reliance on Service Level Agreements, and by promoting self-sufficiency through improving returns on investments from student-owned assets whilst upholding sound financial practice.

Accessible Financial Reporting: Audits and financial reports will be completed in a timely fashion and are readily available for consideration by members and the executive on or before the date they are due.

Financial Monitoring: Regular reports on financial health of the association are provided to the executive on a monthly basis.

Prudent Financial Planning and Projections: The outgoing Executive will recommend a budget to the incoming one, and the budget will be adopted before the beginning of semester one, accompanied by a half-year budget report.

Return on Investments: The ratio of income from AUSA investments to the University Service Level Agreement will be 2:1 by 2015.

Running a Balanced Budget: AUSA run neutral budgets without deficits and without compromising the quality and scope of the services of the association.
Objective 3
Welfare and Education

AUSA will promote the social wellbeing of students by passionate advocacy of education issues, promoting the expansion of welfare services, through a solid commitment to understanding the needs of our student members.

Actions

Advocacy of Education Issues: AUSA’s advocacy of education issues is respected, well-researched, and well-supported by students.

Expansion of Welfare Services: AUSA will continually address the position of students as the only group in society forced to borrow to live by constantly expanding the level of welfare of support to students by AUSA, the University, and other groups.

Understanding the Needs of our Members: AUSA regularly engages with members and understands the drivers of student poverty, hardship, and other student welfare issues, addressing these at all times.

Student Activities: AUSA will develop and promote the sporting, social, and cultural life of students regionally, nationally, and internationally through a diverse range of events and activities, with an emphasis on increased partnership with affiliated bodies and key groups.

Sporting: Students at the University of Auckland will participate in strong inter-university sport tournaments which, along with sporting clubs, deliver win at national and international sports tournaments.

Social: AUSA events and festivals will achieve high patronage and develop a reputation of quality.

Cultural: Students will enjoy a diverse array of cultural events and activities led by AUSA in cooperation with cultural clubs, societies, and other student groups.

Affiliate Bodies and Key Groups: AUSA will identify areas to improve in the delivery of events and activities, working in partnership with experienced groups to mutually improve the events and activities on offer.

Student Amenities: AUSA will enhance the long-term viability and provision of student-owned campus amenities whilst engaging and involving students through quality amenities that reflect and support student interests.

Measuring the Viability of our Services: AUSA will have in place mechanisms to measure and ensure the long-term sustainability, financial or otherwise, of its student amenities.

Monitoring the Needs of our Members: AUSA will have in place mechanisms to measure the level of student satisfaction with student amenities and respond to issues in an appropriate timeframe.

Provision of New Services: AUSA will respond to measurements of viability and satisfaction in student amenities by providing new amenities where student needs are not met.

Objective 4
Partnership and Engagement

AUSA will be a catalyst for social change by building strong relationships with stakeholders through active participation and cooperation with bodies that advance and advocate the interests of students.

Actions

Be the Critic and Conscience of the University: AUSA will act as the critic and the conscience of the University on all issues.

Improved Relationships with Parallel Organisations: AUSA will maintain strong and enduring relationships with parallel organisations such as NTM and AUPISA based on open communication and mutual respect and perspective.

Defined Relationships with Other Student Representative Groups: AUSA will maintain strong and enduring relationships with other student representative groups such as faculty associations and satellite campus associations based on open communication and mutual respect and perspective.

Networking with Other Organisations with Student Involvement: AUSA will maintain strong and enduring relationships with other organisations with student involvement such as unions and other NGOs, based on open communication and mutual respect and perspective.