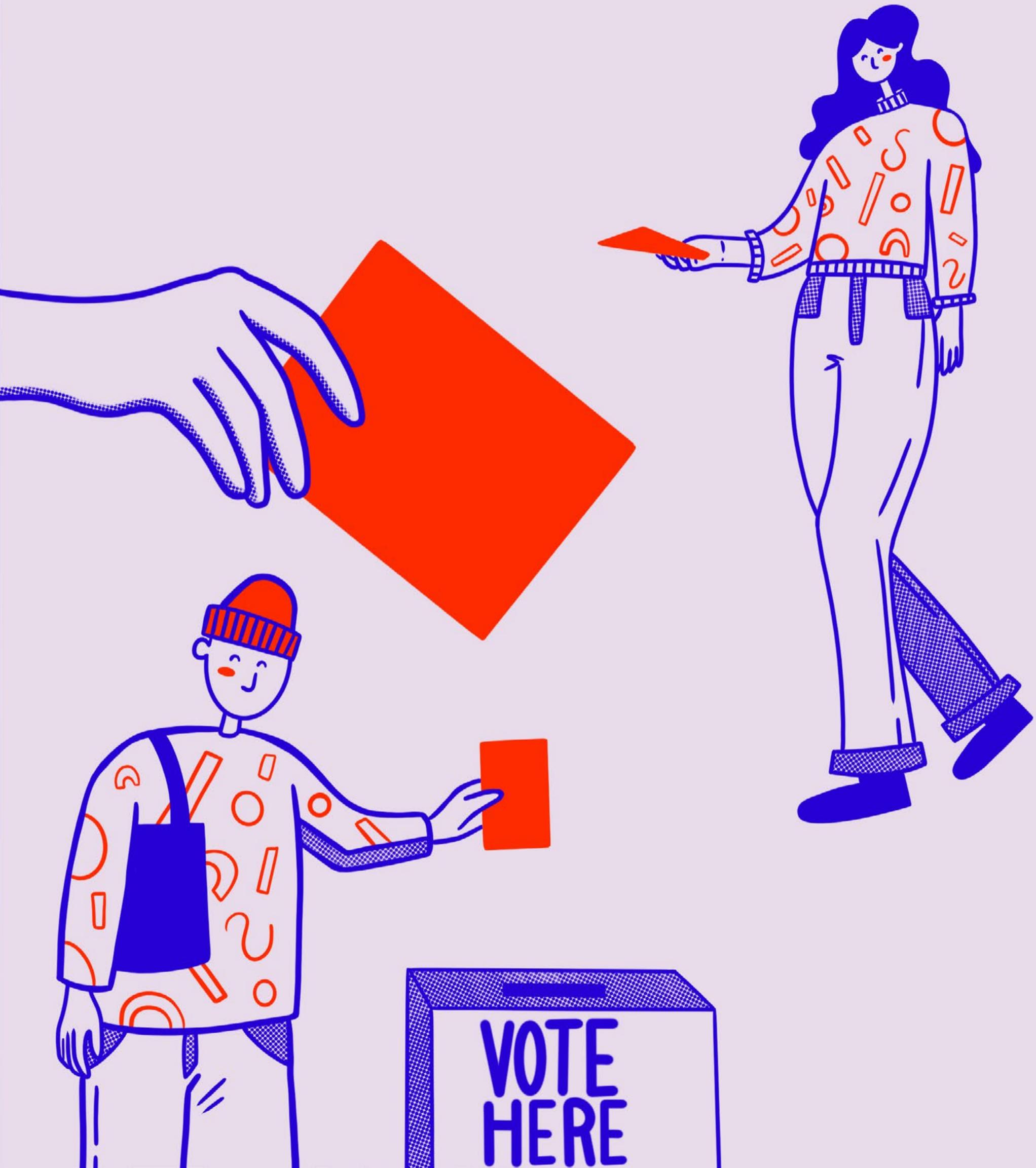


CRACCUM

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND STUDENT MAGAZINE

ISSUE 19, 2020



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Vote in the Damn Elections, Y'all!

Cam says:

This week, you'll be voting for the AUSA executive for 2021. The executive are an important group of people. They act as a mediator between students and the university, wield influence over student policies, and have control over welfare grants, student spaces, and events on campus.

The elections this year have seen the largest number of candidates running for the executive in modern times, and while I commend the efforts of the association to encourage students to run for leadership, I do worry if in this situation, we might see quantity over quality.

To take on any position in the executive, you're probably best to have some previous leadership experience – faculty associations, clubs, church or personal ventures. You should also have an understanding of the issues facing students, and an idea of how AUSA operates. It's not enough to see an open role and say you want it. You should know the issues facing students and have ideas on how to make a positive impact.

The current executive this year have been highly effective considering the circumstances. Half of the executive is currently missing due to their positions being uncontested last election. It's not left them in a great position for continuity.

I have two things I ask of you this week. Firstly, vote. It's good practice for the other important election in October and you should because you can.

Secondly, read up on the candidates. Have a brief scroll through their Facebook pages or ask your mates who they're voting for. Vote for someone you think is quality.

Catch you after the break,
Cam



Dan says:

VOTE IN THE AUSA ELECTION YOU EGGS!!!!!!!

I know it's easy to think that they're not a big deal, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Honestly, unless you're graduating at the end of this year, these elections will have more of an influence over your day-to-day lives than the real election. Yes, I'm serious.

That's because the AUSA and the AUSA executive are responsible for loads of things which directly affect student lives. Among other things, AUSA:

- organises O-Week
- owns and runs Shadows
- controls the funding for hardship grants, deciding what the criteria are, how much can be awarded, and who can access them
- have a seat at the university council, where Dawn Freshwater and other big-wigs discuss big changes coming to the university
- own a bunch of land for some reason

That's just a few of the things they do; there are so many more that I had to cut.

In essence, these elections are going to decide who is in charge of all that stuff for the next year. That's massive for students. You're giving a heap of money (literally millions of dollars; you can find their annual turnover online), assets, and buildings, to a bunch of students. It's important that they're the right ones.

Please vote in the upcoming election. Have your say on how you want the university to be.

Sincerely (or at least, as sincerely as anyone can be during election season),

Dan

After Fighting Executive's Attempt to Abolish the Role, AUSA Campaigns Officer Candidate Runs for Position Unopposed

JUSTIN WONG AND DANIEL MEECH

**** UPDATE:** This article was initially published online in Issue 18 of *Craccum*. *Craccum* would like to acknowledge that Oliver Murphy was not given an opportunity to respond to comments in this article. The page has been updated to include his comments; we apologise for the error **

Oliver Murphy is running for the position of AUSA Campaign Officer unopposed, after proposed changes to scrap the position were voted against in a special general meeting. Murphy is running a minimal campaign and he has not announced any policies. Instead, Murphy seems to be pinning his election hopes on the fact that there are no other candidates for students to vote for.

The Campaigns Officer is paid 10 hours a week, and is responsible for engaging students and organising the AUSA elections each year. AUSA planned to scrap the position, saying the role was effectively doubling up on another role that already existed - the Engagement Vice-President, who is also responsible for engaging students and organising the AUSA elections. They wanted to save the money and use it elsewhere in the budget.

However, when students were asked to vote on whether they wanted to scrap the role in an online Special General Meeting held this week, Murphy and Young ACT President Felix Poole, who had nominated Murphy for the role, convinced students to vote against the motion.

They said that, in their opinion as students, they believed the role was still necessary to increase engagement across campus. The motion to remove the position was subsequently defeated 69% to 31% (there must be a 75% majority for any changes to the constitution to pass).

Murphy will now be running for the paid role of AUSA Campaigns Officer unopposed. It is the only role in this

year's election which has gone unopposed.

While Murphy had set up a Facebook page to promote his candidacy, it did not outline any policies he would enact if elected. It only called for people to attend the special general meeting to support keeping the Campaigns Officer role, and endorsed Arts Students Organisation President Daniel Barraclough's candidacy for AUSA President.

Murphy had declined to send a short candidate biography, which would have introduced himself and told students what work he would do if elected into the paid position, when asked by AUSA.

He and Poole did not state in the special general meeting that Murphy is running for the position if it was not removed.

Two students who attended the meeting were "surprised" to hear that Murphy was running for the role, and were even more surprised to hear he was running unopposed. Both students voted in favour of keeping the role, but said they would not have voted the same way if Murphy and Poole had made it clear in the meeting that Murphy was running for the position unopposed.

Another student who attended the special general meeting speculated to *Craccum* that Murphy had probably run for the Campaigns Officer role (and advocated for it not to be disestablished) purely so he could "cash in on an easy 10 hours a week, no work required, no job references". "The irony of the campaigns officer not bothering to run a campaign is hilarious," they said, "honestly, it's so fucking cheeky".

However, Murphy, in a statement to *Craccum* disputed this notion, stating that "during the SGM, not only did I argue for

why I believe that the position is important and can benefit the organisation, but I also outlined what that role could do. While it is true I did not mention that I was running for the position at the SGM, it was no secret, and mentioning that I would only have strayed from the debate from the argument that the position is important regardless of who fills that role”.

Murphy went to further state “the fact that this is the only uncontested position is not my fault, and the barriers in place that discouraged others from running only shows that I deserve the role. I took a risk running for that position and although I have not run a large campaign, I have done a lot of work talking to AUSA members to convince them that the position must be saved at the SGM. I fought to keep that important position not because it was uncontested, I chose to run for it and to save it before I knew if anyone else was running for it. This was not a grand scheme that my criticisers seem to be trying to make it out to be.”

A Facebook page calling for people to vote no confidence in the Campaigns Officer vote was created shortly after the meeting. A no confidence vote would force a re-election, during which other candidates could challenge for the role. The page said it was important students had a choice in who their Campaigns Officer was; it has since been removed.

Murphy told *Craccum* he is pleased to see the position remain in the executive. He believed that there is no conflict of interest for Poole to support retaining the Campaigns Officer role at the meeting.

“He [Poole] stated that he’s always considered the role to be important, as have others, and I think the fact that he thought I would be a good choice for the role doesn’t change that.”

Murphy also said he is open to the chances of facing a new electoral process.

“The position was a risk to run for, and if other people were committed to getting the position they would’ve got in and

fought for it.”

“If it [a re-election] happens it happens, it’s an important position that has an opportunity to do good, regardless of who is in it.”

Poole told *Craccum* he also does not believe there’s a conflict of interest in him advocating to keep the role, whilst also nominating Murphy for the Campaigns Officer role. He says there is no need for there to be another election.

“They are two separate democratic processes. I support keeping Campaigns Officer and I support Ollie [Murphy] for Campaigns Officer. I see them as two separate things and I just happen to support both positions.”

“He [Murphy] essentially had to go through a Special General Meeting and publicly talk about his position and publicly try to keep the role. I think he’s got the democratic mandate to do the job.”

AUSA Acting Treasurer-Secretary George Barton said it was pleasing to see student democracy in action even though the membership didn’t vote through removing the Campaigns Officer role.

“The membership rejected the role’s removal out of a desire to increase student engagement and that has to be respected.”

“I hope the role fulfills that mission next year.”

Other proposed constitutional changes by the current AUSA executive included establishing a Postgraduate Officer on the executive, as well as disestablishing the Satellite Campuses Representative and Design Officer roles. Students voted in favour of all these changes, but voted against disestablishing the Campaigns Officer role after Murphy and Poole spoke for just short of 15 minutes on the issue.

Student-Led Initiative Seeks to Increase Youth Engagement With Politics

ELLA MORGAN

A group of Victoria University of Wellington students have established a new civics education platform that aims to inform youth about politics.

Simplified, like its name, seeks to present politics in a simple and understandable way.

The platform covered topics from how the Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) system works, to the referendums New Zealanders will be voting on this October. Short clips are posted to social media explaining these topics, while their website contains more in-depth information about key areas of politics.

Speaking to *Craccum*, the *Simplified* team highlighted how they aim to address low youth voting rates and increase engagement with politics.

“If you look at statistics from the last election, 30% of youth didn’t vote as many of us are aware of, so I think it’s really key that students do turn out to vote, and do influence elections, because we’re a key demographic,” says Tim Ng, one of the platform’s Creative Directors.

Last election, 30.73% of enrolled voters aged 18-24 did not vote. For voters of Māori descent, this figure was even higher at 38.16%. Notably, electorates situated close to universities in Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin have some of the lowest rates of youth enrolment. In the Auckland Central electorate, where the University of Auckland sits, only 30% of 18-24 year olds are enrolled to vote.

Sam Howard, Media Director and Video & Graphics Editor, and Alex Johnson, Creative Director, said media coverage in some areas of politics is lacking.

“I know that when I was looking to upskill myself in political awareness, I couldn’t really find a platform that had information that was accessible for someone with no foundation,” says Howard.

“A lot of [media content] at the moment is just opinion pieces, and pieces which are trying to provoke a reaction from you, and it’s not a good place for young



people to start when they’re starting to learn about politics,” Johnson says.

Johnson and the *Simplified* team point to events like the School Strikes 4 Climate as evidence that youth are interested in political issues, and hope that their platform can allow young people to explore politics further.

To ensure the information they provide is accurate and unbiased, *Simplified* content draws from a range of sources such as peer-reviewed academic articles, government websites and the Electoral Commission. “You can’t fit everything about politics in a one minute social media clip, so we make sure the audience is aware of that and that they have opportunities to go out and explore further,” says Niva Chittock, Creative Director.

While the platform regularly posts content related to the upcoming election, they aim to keep promoting civics education long-term.

“We are going to continue on past October 17th, because we feel that political awareness is just as important during a time of no election, because that’s when the changes that affect our lives are being made,” says Howard.

You can find *Simplified* on Facebook (facebook.com/simplified.nz) and Instagram (@simplified_nz), and check out their website at simplified.org.nz

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24-Hour Online Tests Replaced With Time Limits for Semester Two

JUSTIN WONG

Time limits will be imposed on all online Semester Two tests and exams up to September 20th.

This arrangement is different from Semester One, which allowed students to complete their tests and exams online within a 24 hour period.

Under university guidelines, Semester Two online tests would start as stated on the course syllabus and would include a time limit. While most tests are scheduled to start after 1pm, some courses would have different start times to accommodate students at different time zones.

The university has said this does not mean students in these courses would have more time to complete the tests, and the tests would be set to ensure they can “complete the set tasks within the time available”.

Auckland University Student Association (AUSA) Acting President Emma Rogers said the university is not recommending the 24-hour period because it was first used to cater for the assessments of all students during the first lockdown, as some need to move overseas, which left the university no time to prepare.

“All off-shore students are now accounted for with their own learning plan, and unlike the first lockdown the university had somewhat planned for this.”

While Rogers does not think that the 24-hour time periods were removed because of academic misconduct, she believes the university will focus on



testing in a way to prevent that from happening.

She also said AUSA are in constant talks with Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) John Morrow and the university on the arrangement for the rest of the semester’s assessments.

Although New Zealand moved to Alert Level 2 on Monday, online learning would continue until the end of the mid-semester break on September 21st.

Under Alert Level 2, only those who have activities that need to be done on campus can access the campus, but they are required to record their movements using the NZ COVID Tracer App or the Check-IN attendance record service.

Residents of student accommodation are allowed to return to their halls and flats, and the Recreation Centre would also operate under Alert Level 2. Students could also pick up books from the library using click and collect services.

Health and Counselling Services, Munchy Mart, and UBIQ would continue their service under Level 2 as they were under Level 3.

University Launches Trials for Monitored Remote Assessments

BRIAN GU

The University of Auckland has contacted students for trials of Inspera, a software set up to monitor digital assessments, as it remains forced to plan for an extended lockdown scenario.

A small group of students were contacted by an official university email address administered by Academic Services asking for participants in this remote trial.

Inspira advertises itself as providing “increased security for your high-stakes assessments”, through features including webcam and microphone recording.

Furthermore, the software will lock the student’s browser down for the period of the assessment. The assessor can also review recordings in case suspicious behaviour has been flagged.

Currently, the university’s planning accounts for Auckland being in Alert Level 1 when the second half of semester commences, which allows for exams to be conducted in person. However, it would be logical to believe the university would look to *Inspira*, or similar tools, were there to be any further changes in alert level necessitating remote learning.

“We will provide as much advanced notice as possible of any required changes to current plans so that staff and students can make their own plans with confidence,” Vice-Chancellor Dawn Freshwater told university staff via email last week, regarding Alert Level changes.



Earlier in the year, privacy concerns were raised as a similar software, *Examsoft*, was introduced at Otago University to conduct examinations, although it also introduced a grade steep boost similar to Auckland University.

According to Otago Daily Times (ODT), “hundreds of students signed a petition about privacy and other concerns,” while others also expressed “misgivings about what they see as the intrusion of ExamSoft software.”

As of writing, the University of Auckland has said they have no plans to adopt *Inspira*, or any other digital assessment solution for tests or exams. However, it has also abstained from announcing the 24-hour grace period that was implemented for assessments in Semester 1.

Craccum was unable to reach the university for further comment.

Trolley Bandits Defend Actions Amid Backlash from “Carlaw Karens”

ELLA MORGAN

Tensions are brewing at Carlaw Park Student Village as residents are divided on the morality of stealing shopping trolleys from Countdown.

Since the beginning of Semester Two, increasing numbers of trolleys have been taken from Countdown on Quay Street, and ended up abandoned in the basement carpark of the residence.

Debate over the trolley issue came to a head as residents made anonymous submissions to the “Carlaw Confessions 2k20” Facebook page. One anonymous commenter made a plea for residents to return the trolleys so they can be used by people who need them in store.

“How about y’all stop being lazy asses and just carry your groceries home. Show some integrity!”

Since the submission was posted, a number of residents have defended their actions in taking the trolleys.

“Supermarkets are capitalizing the fuck out of these lockdown periods, so I’m struggling to see how 10ish missing trolleys are going to make a significant difference,” reads one submission.

The argument continued on the page for days, with one commenter labelling those speaking up about trolley theft “Karens”, while others said residents should stop arguing over trolleys and go back to “writing thirsty confessions and dissing our flatmates”.

#291

Dear Carlaw, I like being free wondering the streets. I like my new home in the carpark, thats to the residents that gave me this freedom. The supermarket was a dirty place. Lots of my fellow friends are sick of the covid germs from most of you. Yours Sincerely - The now free trolley that lives in the carpark xoxo

A number of Carlaw residents told *Craccum* that the trolleys can be repurposed and are often reused by residents. “I can just chuck all three of my flat’s rubbish bins in the trolley and take them down to the rubbish room in one go,” says one resident. “Otherwise I have to fuck around and make two trips, and it stinks down there.”

A Countdown spokesperson said it is not unusual for trolleys to go missing from time to time, but they should not be taken away.

“We’d of course encourage students not to take baskets or trolleys away with them as this is actually theft, and it also disadvantages anyone else who needs to use a trolley or a basket when they shop with us.”

Countdown collects any abandoned trolleys, and customers who spot any that seem out of place should report this by calling 0800 40 40 40.

WHAKARONGO MAI! / LISTEN UP!

What do Auckland students want to see from the AUSA next year?

The Auckland University Students' Association (AUSA) is instrumental in providing support for students, advocating for students and making the university experience an enjoyable one. With AUSA elections coming up, *Craccum* spoke to three students about what they'd like to see from next year's AUSA Executive.

Christina *, 20, Postgraduate Arts

"Before this year I didn't really know what student associations could achieve. However, this year the AUSA have made some really valuable gains for students. The support that has been available from the AUSA throughout the COVID-19 pandemic has no doubt made a difference to so many students, and I would say successfully advocating for the grade bump policy has been one of AUSA's biggest successes this year."

"I would like to see the awesome work the AUSA is doing continue with the new Executive. They need to keep the needs of students at the forefront of their decisions, something the current Executive has done an excellent job of. I am worried by some of the policies coming out from candidates that seem to focus on making superficial changes on campus that don't address some of the underlying issues students experience at university. To be an effective student association, the fundamental needs of students need to be at the centre of your focus."

Jamie *, 19, Law and Arts

"My link to AUSA started at the peak of reports of white supremacy on campus. I appreciated that AUSA was not afraid to defy the desires and statements of the Vice-Chancellor to ensure that a diverse student body

was heard. This is something that I had not seen in other student representative bodies such as that of the Student Board of Trustees Rep at my high school or the Law Society Reps who I feel in the past had allowed staff to bulldoze without consultation, wishing to make some full year law papers closed book for example or allow some lecturers to cultivate a particularly competitive and nasty law culture. I felt that AUSA was a place of support, where they would see your point of view and uphold students no matter what."

"My wish for the Executive is that they are responsive to pressing issues, including the rise of the far-right on campuses, solutions to bullying and harassment as well as continuing to define a student culture which is defiant and not afraid to speak up for the underdog. We are currently seeing trends around the world where Arts faculties are losing funding, and where staff infighting around climate change prevents university acknowledgement of climate change. These are issues I would hope AUSA is willing to represent student voices through as well."

Ben *, 21, Commerce

"If candidates want my vote in the AUSA elections, they're gonna have to do better than making a Tik-Tok, or making promises they can't follow through on. I want an Executive that is going to push the university to listen to us. I want strong, competent leaders. The COVID-19 experience taught us that we really need someone speaking up for us and being persistent in communicating our needs, so that we are taken seriously."

This year the AUSA have made some really valuable gains for students. The support that has been available from the AUSA throughout the COVID-19 pandemic has no doubt made a difference to so many students.

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**Whakarongo
Māi!**



feature.

Tackling Youth Drinking: An Interview With Sober House Project

KEEARA OFREN

Where were you when you felt pressured to drink? It's a question that shouldn't have to be asked, but is one that almost everyone has an answer to, or a cautionary tale to match. In a world where social drinking, weekend hangovers and alcohol memes are the norm, it is a hard reality to face when we realise this is the same world where casual alcoholism and drink driving is an issue seemingly met with denial. Lockdown has revealed patterns of what can be alcohol self-medication, or a social atmosphere where it is hard to say no, even when we may see the harms of alcohol around us.

Prince Albert of Saskatchewan in Canada knows this all too well, with a reputation of alcohol abuse and crime in the Canadian press. While New Zealand seems worlds away, there are painful truths we may consider as an overlap of issues from the trauma of colonisation. Youth involvement in gangs, teen alcohol abuse and domestic violence have all been news staples here. How to tackle these issues has been a source of political sparring, but in Prince Albert, a group of students, backed by their First Nations communities, raise an empowering way to create safe zones in their community.

Sober House Project is a community initiative inspired by the stories of these students along with Harold R. Johnson's book, 'Firewater'. Johnson, a Cree criminal justice lawyer, examines alcohol as a tool of colonisation and raises a future where rehabilitation and safe zones from family violence are created out of community led mutual aid, where indigenous people are

at the forefront. Sober House Project's message is for people to raise signs of an eagle symbol outside their home or community centre, meaning that this place is sober and free from alcohol abuse and the potential for violence. They also have online and in-person spaces to support those who are rehabilitating and share events which aim to spread awareness about sobriety.

It is my pleasure to interview Linden Howlett and Camryn Corrigan, founding members of Sober House Project, all the way from Canada. They raise the ultimate question: Can we take on the mission to help create safe spaces against alcohol abuse?

Describe Sober House Project in three words.

Howlett: Inspiring, important, movement.

Corrigan: Exciting, happy, hopeful.

feature.

What are the aims of this initiative?

Corrigal: We aim to show people that being sober is normal and you can have fun being sober.

Howlett: The aim is to open people's eyes about the negative impact of alcohol, to show people that they are numb to the cries for help from the people who matter the most. Our aim is not to vilify those who drink, it's to empower those who don't.

What drives you and other community leaders?

Howlett: Our stories and past drive us to change the world, so others won't have the experiences I did.

Corrigal: Honestly, it's the things you see happen with alcohol in our communities, like public intoxication and fights. I want to work to drive these issues out of our beautiful cities.

How did you get involved?

Howlett: Tracy and Mrs. L (founding members) are sisters that were reading Firewater. This led to them talking about it and getting passionate, they brought the book to our attention and the passion grew into Sober House from all of us.

Corrigal: I am one of the original Sober House members. We all were sitting at a Students Against Dangerous Driving meeting in school and the idea was brought up and it skyrocketed into what it is now.

What role do you think young people play in being able to raise awareness about alcohol abuse and empowering initiatives like Sober House Project?

Corrigal: People will listen to youth; we notice problems in a certain way. So, when a young person speaks out, it's special.

Howlett: Youth are the foundation of change. We are walking into the future, meaning, we need the future generations to acknowledge and accept the change we hope to create. If they aren't willing to change, then neither will the world.

Knowing one's limits and being sober can be unpopular in youth social culture. Why do you think this is unpopular and how do you think this could change?

Howlett: Youth in Prince Albert for example, are exposed to alcohol earlier and earlier. Five years ago, there were at least activities and recreation that could entertain youth, now most of the entertainment is gone, however there is still multiple liquor stores, that accompanied by the fact that adults and all over media show "having a good time" with liquor, thereby showing youth that they can entertain themselves with alcohol. How to change that? Maybe if we were able to show youth how to be kids and have fun without substances.

feature.

Today, there are many memes and causal attitudes about drinking when depressed or stressed. There might also be a sense of carelessness around binge drinking or driving whilst drunk. What do you think encourages these attitudes towards alcohol?

Howlett: People drink to have fun and when you drink a lot of the time, you start to not have fun anymore and you start drinking to forget. People are numb to it now and even find humour in it because of how they relate it to themselves.

Which factors have contributed to the success of Sober House Project?

Howlett: I believe by gaining the voices of the youth, and speaking up, nobody expects youth to take a stand or have opinions.

Corrigal: The documentary was for sure the biggest contribution for us, as it made it easier to show people what we do.

What has been the feedback of your peers or community?

Corrigal: We have had great community feedback seeing signs pop up in windows around town.

Howlett: I had some peers who encouraged and even helped with the movement, and then there were those who viewed me as an outcast, some of whom were supposed to be my friends, but those who don't support

you in something you have passion for are just getting in the way.

New Zealand media has similarly raised issues of alcohol abuse in youth communities, especially in rural areas. Do you think a similar initiative could work in New Zealand?

Howlett: I believe if there are people suffering from alcohol abuse or the impact it has on communities and families, then it will spark a passion and people will fight for what they believe in.

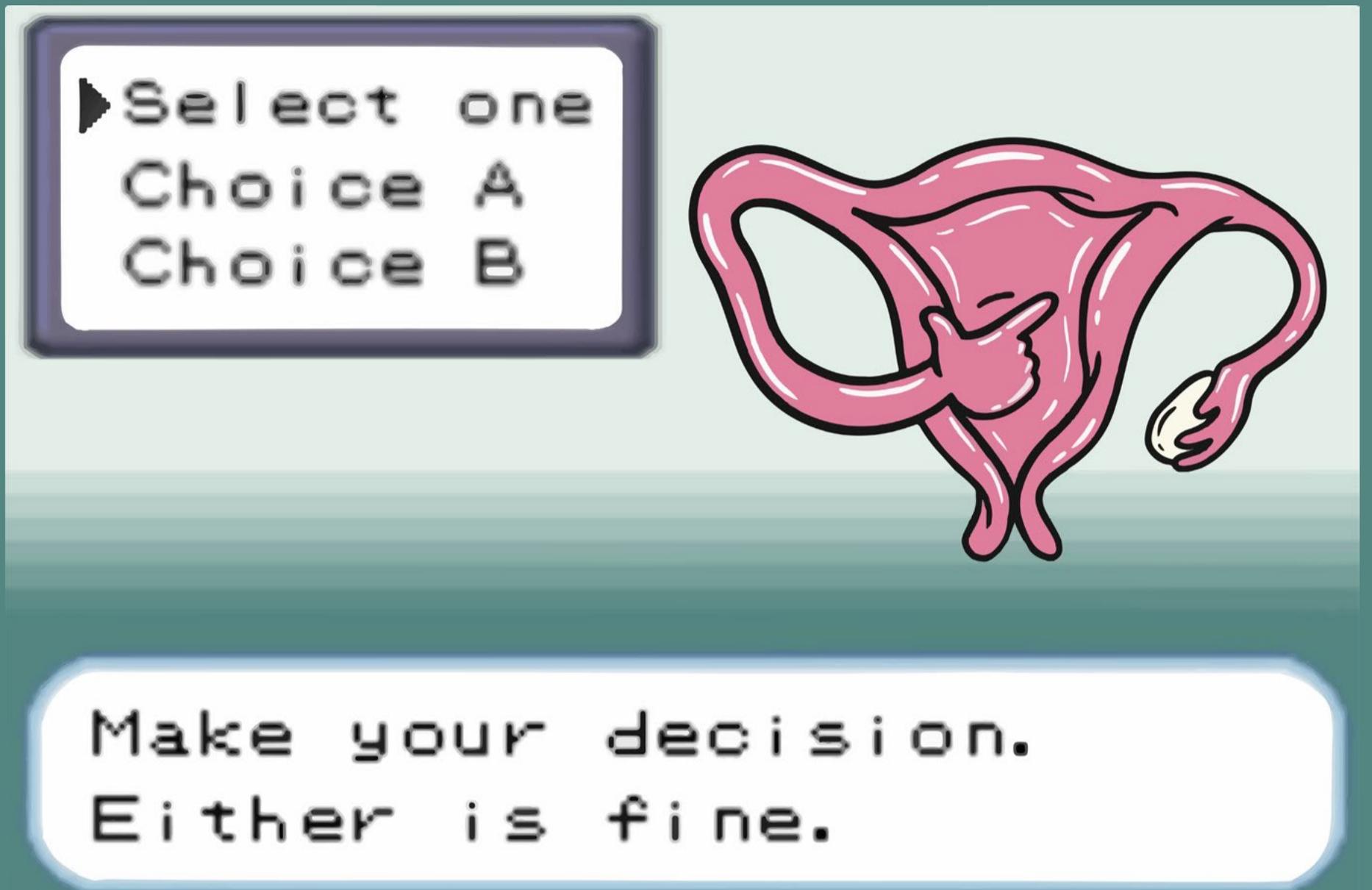
Corrigal: I think similar or even the Sober House Project itself would work in New Zealand if someone were willing to take on the challenge and spread the word...

Do you have any words of solidarity with our student community here in Auckland?

Corrigal: Alcohol isn't needed for fun.

Howlett: To those who share a vision of a brighter future, I urge you to fight for what you believe in, despite what peers will think, despite what society thinks, we are the generation that will incite change in this world. There is no more sitting around waiting for change, it is time to change it ourselves and for our children and our children's children.

feature.



How Has Abortion Access Changed Since the Abortion Law Reform?

CAMERON LEAKEY

On 18th March 2020, the *Abortion Legislation Act 2020* was passed in New Zealand. The bill, sponsored by Andrew Little, brought about long needed changes to the process of accessing abortion in New Zealand. Abortion has now been removed from the *Crimes Act 1961*, and made accessible for any person who is under 20 weeks pregnant. Close to six months on from the law change, I spoke with Jackie Edmond, Chief Executive of

Family Planning, to find out what's changed now in New Zealand and how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected access during this time.

The law change passed on 18th March 2020 and in the week following, New Zealand entered lockdown for the first time. It was a challenging time to begin the process of implementing the new law, however, it did

ILLUSTRATION BY JULIA ZHU

feature.

provide opportunities for *Family Planning* to support people seeking abortions during the lockdown. The law now allows anyone to self-refer for abortion, where previously, they would need to be signed off by two certified consultants and provide a reason for the abortion. *Family Planning* themselves only offer abortions in Tauranga, where they are contracted to do so. In the rest of the country, abortions are provided by the District Health Boards (DHBs).

Family Planning are accessible and knowledgeable on where to go to when you need an abortion. Consultations during lockdown were virtual or completed over the phone and those seeking abortion were now able to go home with the required medicine after one appointment. Abortions are an essential health service and so at Alert Level Four, it was the usual process – just now with PPE gear and masks. However, the lockdown added further complications for many processes. The new law changes have meant that DHB providers and Family Planning have had to adapt to new legislation and processes, whilst also navigating the COVID-19 pandemic. Edmond tells me that many women were also concerned about being able to have consultations privately when at home during the lockdown and this added extra stress.

The new law has made huge changes to how people can access abortion in New Zealand and Edmond is confident that with time, providers will adapt to the law further and abortion will be more accessible where it is needed. Already, the process is more streamlined. However, there are still barriers, the largest being geographic access. Currently, there is no local abortion provider in South Auckland and most people seeking

abortion have to travel to Central Auckland, even where this process is a consultation and a prescription for the necessary pills. Furthermore, some GPs and primary care practitioners conscientiously object to providing abortion services. While this is allowed under the law, these medical professionals must inform patients of this and direct them to the closest abortion service. In future, Family Planning hope to further provide abortion services, but will need the funding and contracts to do so.

There is further work to do in increasing safe access for all reproductive health needs. Firstly, the current legislation has no provisions for safe zones. A ‘safe zone’ around an abortion clinic provides safety for those accessing abortion from protestors. Unfortunately, this is still an issue seen around abortion clinics today. Edmond would like to see better access and funding for relationship and sexuality education as well as better funding for IUDs and more testing for STIs. Lastly, Family Planning themselves have not had a funding increase for twelve years and, as wait times for appointments can sometimes take weeks, it is vital that their funding increases to support reproductive health in New Zealand.

Finally, Edmond tells us her advice for those who want to access abortion or other reproductive health needs: There is lots of information on the Family Planning website or abortion.org.nz. You can always ring us for an appointment, and we do appointments over the phone! If you know you need an abortion, you can ring the Auckland abortion provider directly and refer yourself.

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AND **REFERENDUMS**

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**ELECTORAL
COMMISSION**
TE KAITIAKI TAKE KŌWHIRI



feature.

Sharing the Load

COLLATED BY LEVI TURNER

Trigger warning: Includes mentions of abuse, suicidal thoughts, alcohol

During the first semester of 2020, remote learning forced the Tuākana Arts programme online. In order to continue fostering a sense of community (without *kanohi ki te kanohi*), Tuākana established a Facebook page, where they began to reach out to teina through videos, photos and personal stories. Much of these online interactions focused on overall *hauroa*, ensuring that teina had a hub to talk about and give space to their wellbeing. During remote learning, many of the hardships that teina were already facing were exacerbated. Levi Turner, a Tuākana mentor, saw an opportunity to collate and share some stories about facing and overcoming hardships with teina. He explains, "The aim of the exercise from my point of view was to collect stories from everyday people who have gone through a trial that someone else might be able to relate to and share it with our teina in the hopes that they might see that they aren't alone in their struggles. I notice a lot all over campus that a lot of students feel lonely, are anxious, depressed, hopeless and don't know where to turn. I did this initiative this way to shine a light in a way, and hopefully students will get something from someone else's story and perhaps even share their own."

Clara's Story

Back in 2014-2015 I wasn't doing well: I failed classes multiple times, lost my scholarship, had my first real bad breakup, members of my family passed away, and I had been in some dark and abusive situations. I couldn't tell my family I was failing uni, they were so proud of me

being there in the first place. I didn't want to admit I was failing when people saw me as smart. I didn't want to burden my friends with my personal issues. I didn't want to disappoint anyone so I pretended everything was fine. Then my academic standing got so low I was told to leave uni for a year before attempting classes again. I didn't know where to go from there and I couldn't hide it.

So I left for a year. I worked where I could to support my family, I saw the doctor and started medication and counselling. It took time to realize the expectations I placed on myself weren't helpful, that I needed to be truthful to the people I love so they could support me and in turn I could support them. I needed to find a way to remove myself from people and situations which caused me harm, and with the help of professionals I did.

A year came and went. I was able to start uni again, only part-time for one semester to improve my standing. I threw myself into it and for once admitted to people I needed help where I could. I surrounded myself with people who also were focused on getting through their classes.

After four semesters, I was able to graduate. I am now in postgrad study and have found an area which excites me. I am better mentally and have developed strategies and a community to help me when things get rough again.

Sometimes I think back to those years, and I am thankful for the lessons I learnt, and where I am now.

It might take a while and it might not be the way you planned it, but you can get there. You will get there.

feature.

Gabby's Story

A few months ago my partner & I split up. That's it in short. What made this a monumental change in my life is that we had been together for 12 years. He left me due to me cheating on him. What made this a mental health challenge for me is the guilt that plagued me for the days, weeks & then months to come. At the time of my partner walking away I felt empty. Battered. Undeserving. Unworthy. I felt ugly. Ungrateful. These are just a few words to describe the overwhelming dark feelings I harboured since it happened. Guilt over ran me. It still does.

So to give you a bit of background: Most of my adult life has been, in my humble opinion, relatively successful. Having worked for a large bank for close to 10 years, owning a home at 19 then building our second home at 25 my life has been largely built around ambition & goal setting. I haven't faced a lot of upset or down turn in my 31 years of existence. I haven't really suffered any mental health issues in my life. I had always thought people who suffered them had genuine reason and I didn't think a break up, no matter how huge it was, would render the start of some fairly dark & life changing thoughts. If I was left alone I started to overthink things, I started to wonder if people would care if I was alive or dead. I used to beat myself up for thinking so dramatically and that it was selfish of me to think this way. But I didn't know how to stop it. I had to give myself a strict routine to adhere to so I didn't fall off the wagon. I stopped drinking for a while in case alcohol triggered dark thoughts that I would severely regret in the morning. I lost a lot of weight, weight I didn't have to lose. I felt stressed a lot. It dawned on me that breakups can be a lot harder on people than I originally thought. I count myself lucky we didn't have kids involved and I take my hat off to men and women that manage on throughout life with kids involved.

I'll give it to you raw. For about a month I woke up every day wanting to kill myself. All I did was the bare minimum to get me through my days. I didn't make any extra effort because I didn't see the point. I was fortunate enough to have some friends that still loved me. My strong contingent of friends are the backbone of me being able to write you this today. I was plagued by financial difficulty for the first time in my life. I was plagued by guilt every second of every day & I was plagued by thoughts I didn't think I could change. One day, I thought to myself; this isn't me. I am not this person. Someone said to me, I did a horrible thing but I'm not a horrible person.

I decided to start changing my thoughts. Remembering some of my successes which were driven by ambition to do well in life but instead I changed to do just....doing life. I didn't have to be the best at it. I decided to take responsibility for my actions instead of feeling sorry for myself. This story isn't one where I suffered a mental illness as such, I don't really know what it is. But I feel like there is light at the end of the tunnel if you can change your chain of thoughts. It's a lot easier said than done. I'm 4 months on and still struggling. I guess I just value life a lot more now. I had to wake up and feel optimistic, not the opposite. I decided that for everything bad there was at least one good thing. I decided that I couldn't dwell on past mistakes but I had to play the cards I've now been dealt. My cards are still pretty shit haha but I'm learning to be patient. I know good things are on the horizon, I just need to stay positive. Live every day. Be thankful for what I have. All the cliché things people tell me. I hope this has helped? I haven't told anyone this and I really hope that it will make a difference to someone who may be in a difficult place. I believe in the power of the mind and heart. Suicide is not something I take lightly now. And I would like to help people in any way that could be struggling in any capacity. It can really get you down if you let it. Know that you're never alone.

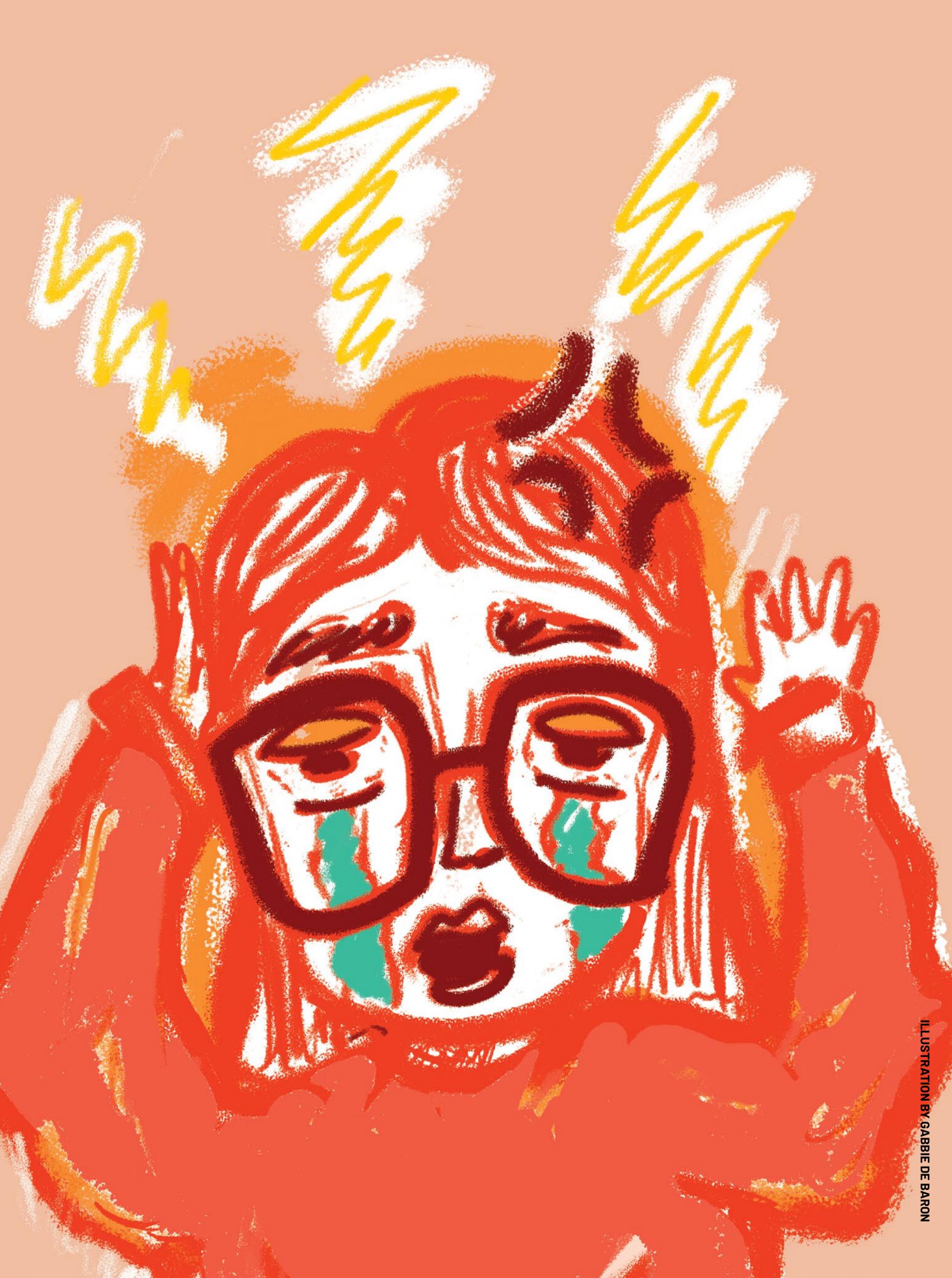


ILLUSTRATION BY GABBIE DE BARON

feature.

Student Response To Remote Learning 2.0

MADELEINE CRUTCHLEY

In a less than ideal turn of events, the re-emergence of COVID in Auckland pushed UOA campuses back into remote learning mode. After a couple of glorious weeks on campus, with access to lecturers, tutors, supervisors and Munchy Mart, we're back to destroying our backs as we try to study in bed. Craccum spoke to more than fifty students, to find out how the quick transition back into remote learning has affected university work.

What aspects of remote learning have you found most challenging in Semester 2?

Overwhelming, students reported that a lack of motivation was their biggest challenge in completing their work during remote learning. Students also cited poor mental health as a difficult road block, adding that uncertainty about the future (including the potential return to campus, the changes to course formats and deadlines and adjustments to grading rubrics) was exacerbating their stress. One student stated, "Learning has been difficult since we are still not 100% sure whether assessments will be online or not. I would much rather have everything online at this point than risking my health and travelling to the university. I don't drive so public transport is my only option, which has made me scared of whether to even go to university." Several students carried this sentiment too, with an element of concern about returning to university during the pandemic.

Some students also highlighted that issues of access were making remote learning more difficult, with common issues including poor wi-fi, technical difficulties, having to share devices, lack of access to online resources and quiet spaces for focused study. One student highlighted the difficulties of

managing their studies with their responsibilities at home, explaining "Supervising homeschooling has drastically reduced time for study and my access to a shared device with kids at school using it." The lack of communication from lecturers and the university was another prevalent issue, with some feeling like the information they were receiving in semester one was clearer. Others felt overwhelmed with information, concerned about missing important details and changes. However, some students clarified that the communication and course delivery depended on the paper; one said "Some papers are presenting us with adjustments to due dates and expectations. Meanwhile others have simply started recycling old lectures from past years but not giving us any sort of indication as to their new requirements in terms of tutorials. It's just plain to see what papers are run better than others."

Several students also expressed frustrations over elongated lecture recordings, suggesting that it was taking much longer to run through content and that some lecturers were purposefully exceeding time slots. One said, "Lecturers have tried to be accomodating and break them into smaller parts - but this often ends up taking more time than the two hours, and it's hard to keep focus for such a long time period. I think our

feature.

lecturers have been doing a great job, but there's a natural tendency to load a whole lot more information into a lecture when it's recorded online with no space for questions."

Other challenges that students highlighted included extended screen time, lack of schedule, lack of adjustment time (with the absence of 'teach-free' days), absence of time with tutors, the recycling of old course content, the lack of practical work and feelings of isolation.

Are these challenges the same, or different, from the Semester 1 challenges? How are they the same/different?

Largely, students reported that many of the issues they were facing were similar to those in semester one. Many, however, also added that they were finding it more difficult to cope with the challenges in the second round of remote learning. Students attributed this to the fast and unexpected switch to online learning, lack of adjustment time, lack of clear communication, increase in anxiety and worse mental health.

The major difference students highlighted was the lack of certainty; one said "At least in lockdown version 1 it was pretty clear that uni would be entirely online for the rest of the semester. There is so much uncertainty this time - we could come out of lockdown soon and then it could happen again. I don't know what to prepare for regarding assessments and exams if we do them online." Other differences that students pointed to included the lack of a grade boost and the adjustment to 24 hour test periods.

However, a few suggested that they felt they were more prepared for the study techniques they needed to use during remote learning, with the lack of motivation being their main concern. Some students expressed appreciation for the increase in live tutorials and

lectures, suggesting that this change made it easier to stay on track. One suggested that their lecturers were adjusting better, stating "My lecturers are making the effort to make lecture recordings that are easier to follow," while another said "Lecturers seem to be getting sloppier because there's this ethos that it'll all be okay again soon."

How has remote learning affected your motivation to complete university work?

Nearly all students that responded to Craccum's survey disclosed that remote learning had negatively impacted their levels of motivation. Some students suggested that being separated from other students, tutors and lecturers, with a lack of discussion, made learning more difficult. One stated, "I have no motivation. Normally being around the other students would allow for collaboration and further motivation but without that it's been incredibly demoralising." Some suggested that the absence of campus lifestyle was draining their motivation. Uncertainty was once again highlighted as an issue, with students feeling less motivated due to the lack of information about assessments later in the semester. Other hits to student motivation included feeling overwhelmed by the amount of work and admin, feeling like workloads had increased, distractions and responsibilities at home. One student said "There are so many distractions at home - I'm partial to the Netflix binge, or disappearing into the Youtube hole. Motivation is definitely more difficult to find. At the same time, remote learning has provided much more time to complete assignments as I can rearrange my class schedule to fit as needs be."

One student expressed frustration at the lack of control they had over their courses, stating "Seething UoA did not extend the dates to withdraw from courses. The lockdown was announced 2 business days after the cutoff. I would have done less/different papers if I knew I was in for more remote working." Another suggested

feature.

that this lockdown period has made them contemplate transferring universities.

Motivating factors that students highlighted included support from their friends, live and interactive course elements (zoom and live lectures) and the pressure of deadlines. A few students suggested that their motivation had remained the same, with one saying that remote learning “made [uni] easier because my disabilities make in person study difficult.”

Do you think the university has offered sufficient support?

Students were quite divided on the amount of support that they felt was being offered from the university. Those who felt the university was not doing enough to support the sudden move to remote learning highlighted a lack of communication, lack of clarity on the rest of semester, changes to test rules, lack of a grade boost, disregard for mental health and the absence of adjustment time. One student said “Absolutely not. I'm getting more in debt every day because of the lockdown, I'm constantly very stressed. Some of my classes have mandatory labs and technical components that don't run on my computer, meaning I'll have almost no training on the system before our first test. Some of my papers are full year, affected by both lockdowns and we don't even get a grade bump.” A few felt that the support offered in semester one was more comprehensive, with one student stating “I think there was sufficient support last semester, with the grade bump and 24 hour tests/ exams. However, so far this semester it doesn't seem as though much has been done to alleviate the stresses of the abrupt shift to online learning.”

Some students suggested that their struggles and frustration were more dependent on individual courses, expressing concerns about the communication from lecturers and increased workload in particular papers. Other students felt that their struggles during remote

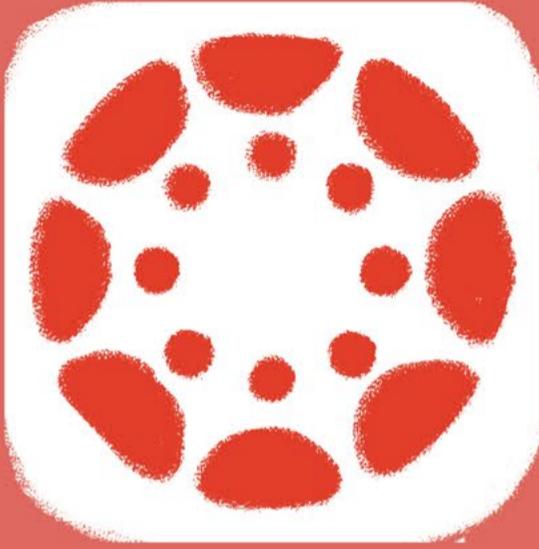
learning were more personal, including the lack of motivation. One said “ I don't really know what support is available. I could just motivate myself more. I don't have issues with laptops or internet access and I know they have supported students well with that.”

If we were to go back to remote learning at a later date, what changes would you like to see to the current process?

The suggestions that students presented for improving remote learning were wide ranging. The most popular suggestions included clearer communication from both the university and course convenors, reinstating longer test periods (some suggested 2-4 hours, some advocated for the return to 24 hours), another grade bump, adjustments to coursework and the integration of more live elements (Zoom lectures, tutorials etc.). One student stated “It would be useful if lecturers outlined a timetable of when classes and tutorials would be posted at the beginning of a lockdown so it wasn't as easy to fall behind. On the whole though, I think lecturers are doing a good job as the situation is new for them too. I'm a bit concerned with online exams in terms of equity issues: a three-hour window might not provide sufficient time for students dealing with additional issues at home. Hopefully, we don't need to go back to online learning once Covid-19 is out of the picture: the best model for a university - a place of active learning, a place to make connections and deliberate ideas - is clearly in person, and I miss it!”

Some other student suggestions involved creating more consistency across papers, utilising more flexible due dates, incorporating teach-free days, the ability to drop papers without affecting GPA, remaining online for the rest of semester and improving the quality of lecture recordings. One student refused to answer Craccum's question, asserting “i aint gonna even manifest we do remote learning again so i shall offer no changes, apologies xoxo”.

WHICH REMOTE LEARNING APP ARE YOU?



CANVAS

- Knows deadlines for each course off by heart
- Refuses to share notes
- Completely distraught with less than an A



ZOOM

- Always late to everything
- Apologises in first line of their emails
 - Instagrams while missing a tutorial



GMAIL

- The friend everyone uses for support
- Sticking to a lockdown schedule
- Wanna do Chloe Ting abs on Facetime later?



PIAZZA

- Put your phone down
- Step away from the drama
- Shut up



NETFLIX

- Constantly stressed
- Texts their friends about being stressed
- Never does anything to alleviate stress



YOUTUBE

- In bed until 12 on a good day
- Has given up on passing this semester
 - Spent the extra Studylink money on a Nintendo Switch

2020



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RNZ'S THE SERVICE

AVINASH GOVIND

9/10: *Cold War, Hot Stories*

RNZ's recent podcast, *The Service*, serves as an exploration of a period of New Zealand history framed through the lens of an individual's journey to understand his family's role in the era. In this journey, **John Daniell**, the show's co-host, presents a vivid and compelling account of the Security Intelligence Service's (SIS) operations during the Cold War that retains a sense of reminiscence of the period.

Though much of the podcast is centred on Daniell's investigation of a story which his step-father told him, prior to passing away, about a specific operation undertaken by the SIS during the period; *The Service* expands beyond this premise, instead delving into a wide array of SIS operations. Despite being set during the Cold War; *The Service* also engages in discussions surrounding the contemporary state of intelligence community, including an interview with Helen Clark on the state of the Five Eyes intelligence sharing agreement.

In approaching stories of espionage and intrigue from the perspective of an individual's desire to understand their parent's work; *The Service* is able to maintain a grounded, somewhat charming quality as it deals with relatively heavy subject matter. In totality, the show serves as a remarkable piece of both investigative journalism and narrative non-fiction.



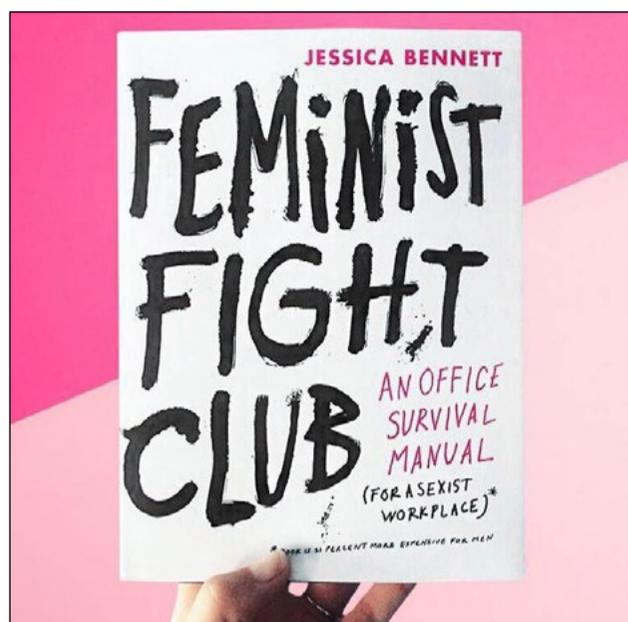
KILLING EVE SEASON THREE

SANCHITA VYAS

This year, we were treated to an early release of *Killing Eve's* third season, a show that for long has been defined by its cut-throat thrills, deadpan humour, and of course, the electrifying chemistry between two sensational leads. After a painful season two ending, Villanelle (**Jodie Comer**) and Eve (**Sandra Oh**) are not only left estranged from each other, but also from their own selves. These women are no longer only defined by their intense relationship, but are rather presented as individuals with their own desires and mistakes to make amends for.

It truly is a season of loss and healing, and while admittedly scattered and sometimes slow-paced, the cheap thrills (that we all love) have been exchanged for deeper storylines that navigate complex familial relationships. As Villanelle begins the search for her family, she transforms from our wickedly beloved assassin to a girl who is trying to find out where she came from, who her family is, and what that means for her today. This poignant exploration of her past poses the question: are we an inevitable reflection of our upbringing?

While Eve and Villanelle do not share many scenes together, it has always been the way that they long for one another that is most powerful. Their moments together this season are less exciting, but undeniably sincere, as they fall into each other's lives under the most dire circumstances only. As Villanelle puts it plainly, "I think my monster encourages your monster." They are arguably the best kind of "monsters"- vulnerable, brazen and compelling. The fourth season is already in the works and I can't wait.



FEMINIST FIGHT CLUB BY JESSICA BENNETT

GABBIE DE BARON

9/10: if we could do better for the NON-straight-white-females? Please and thanks!

Initially written as “an office survival manual for a sexist workplace”, it still correlates to dealing with sexism as a student and, generally, sexism. The book actually identifies the ridicules of sexism (not just for the white woman, it *lightly touches on topics* for the LGBTQIA+ community and the BIPOCs too). It also addresses the emblematic figure of ‘the man’ to begin with.

The 2016 sixfold book, gapes the personal experiences endured by Bennett’s personal ‘Fight Club’. It classifies numerous embodiments of sexism and how it can be approached individually and collectively. It helps process empowerment from anger and aggression to intellectuality, confidence, and unapologetics. Plus, it’s written in layman jargon – and we ALL need to breathe from the heavy words sometimes – but also uses relevant terminology in sexism and politics! I’ve personally used a lot of its recommended approaches, even in uni especially towards the patronizing professors, the him-itators, the bro-proprietors, and the mansplainer groupmates.

Sadly, I do have a complaint: that hopefully, there’s a sequel that’s written by a racially and gender diverse collective with *their* firsthand experiences and not just a rephrasing by *one* white woman... Yet, this is considered as a win, and a byway towards change and taking charge.



YOUTH WINGS

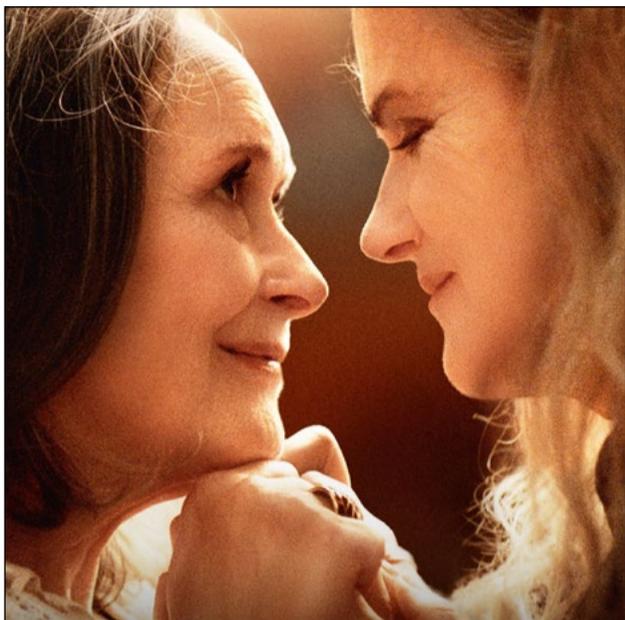
LACHLAN MITCHELL

In hindsight, perhaps starting out with the most punishing episode –Young Act – of *The Spinoff’s* mini-documentary series on the youth wings of New Zealand’s main political parties was not my smartest idea. Immolating myself in my garage might have been less painful than that.

Youth Wings is a Quibi-style dip into the faces of New Zealand’s youth politics, or at least those who can stand being on camera; in the order of NZ First, Labour, the Greens, ACT and National, respectively. All this culminated in a half hour clip of a debate hosted by **Toby Manhire**, where the goal was more to see these personalities interact on stage than to gauge the future of New Zealand politics.

Cringe is an essential element of viewing, but it is still warming. **Young NZ First’s** faith in Winston Peters’ honesty can be seen as naive, but it speaks to the viewpoint of a region that has been utterly let down by successive governments. The respective dual-reps for the **Young Greens**, may come off as shortsighted in their insistence on rejecting Westminster parliamentary structure, but their empathy and commitment in long-term betterment for all is unquestionable. Even **Young Act** came off as witty and close to human at points, a testament to *Spinoff’s* editing.

Funnily enough, it was the reps of the small parties that seemed the most vibrant and connected to our political reality. Those with the greatest chances of influencing our future, **Young National** and **Young Labour**, were most concerning; to have no belief in anything but the party line, at such a young age, is deeply cynical and rather saddening.



DEUX, DIR. FILIPPO MENEGHETTI (2019)

LACHLAN MITCHELL

Deux, known as *Two of Us* in its English release, sounds like the epitome of artsy cliché when first described: two French lesbians on the senior side of middle age have been carrying out a love affair for decades, which faces new boundaries when one of them has a major stroke. But director **Filippo Meneghetti** knows that.

Rather than waxing lyrical about the importance of their love, or how their sexuality is revolutionary and all that, main character Nina (played to perfection by **Barbara Sukowa**) keeps the audience in check and asks Madeline (a grand performance of stares and eyebrows by **Martine Chevalier**) who cares about a couple of old lesbians in this day and age, angry at being denied the chance to live their life to the fullest when Madeline is afraid to out herself, years after her husband has died. Madeline immediately has a severe stroke.

Rather than being a movie that is so gushingly romantic about lesbian lives to the point of unintentional cynicism, it takes a humourously melodramatic tone - it becomes a game of cat and mouse, as Nina sneaks around their apartment to try steal away precious moments with her love, convinced she is the only person Madeline needs.

This is primarily a movie about dignity and autonomy, with the evolving love of family and the romance of two old lesbians as the method of looking into that; well worth the watch.



SPUTNIK, DIR. EGOR ABRAMENKO (2020)

THOMAS GIBLIN

Sputnik, the feature film debut from Russian director **Egor Abramenko** is one of the most intriguing films of this calendar year. It's a creature horror film that follows in the footsteps of *Alien*, *The Thing* and *Videodrome*. While acknowledging its influence(s), it is sharply set against the oppressive totalitarian regime of the USSR during the height of the Cold War adding to this feeling that we don't know what's going on. This feeling of confusion at points clouds what is, for the most part, a well-crafted sci-fi horror as it doesn't seem to know what it wants to focus on. It's a film about an alien coming to earth, but the rest of the film awkwardly sits together.

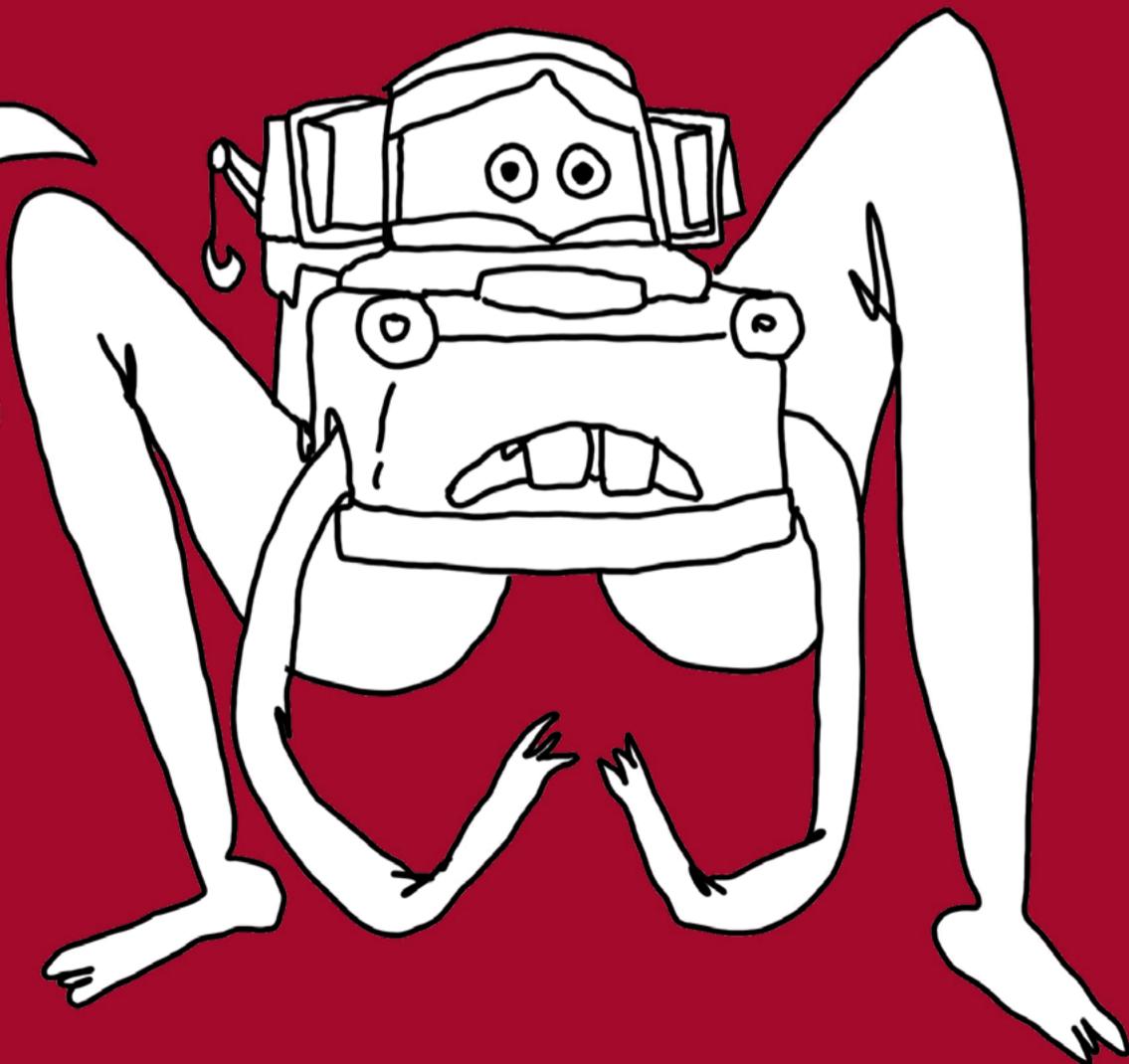
Much of this awkwardness stems from the CGI work on the alien, that never seems real. The creature design is wonderfully simplistic, but the CGI pulls you out of the film so when you are meant to be horrified, and they are moments where you are horrified, but often it comes from the absence of this alien. The two lead actors played by **Oksana Akinshina** and **Pyotr Fyodorov** certainly do sell and ground these moments best they can. However, it still feels like a missed opportunity to create something truly horrifying.

Although there are flaws in this film, what makes it intriguing and rather exciting to film lovers is a single vision rarely seen in its originality, ambition and scope. Abramenko proves there is life left in a genre that has been rinsed dry and for this, he is certainly a filmmaker to keep an eye out for.



Mater... what are we?

I... I don't know...



Frightening McQueen: An Exposé on the Absurdities of the *Cars* Universe

OSCAR ZAMBUTO SHOWS THAT IN THE REALM OF CARS, TERROR IS A HIGHWAY, AND ELDRITCH ABOMINATIONS RIDE IT ALL NIGHT LONG.

At the time of writing, we are nearly halfway through an already frantic semester two, and I must say, I am losing sleep. Over what, you may ask? Never-ending political unrest and scandal? Living through one of the deadliest and most devastating economic crises of all time?

The thought of having to turn up to yet another Zoom tutorial at 9am? The answer is, perhaps surprisingly, none of these. Instead, my insomnia which no number of Headspace Sleepcasts can cure, is caused by the nonsensical nature of the universe created by the 2006 Disney-Pixar smash hit, *Cars*. In a world where uncertainty is rife, Lightning McQueen and his stupid friends do little to assist. The franchise, which includes the much-maligned sequels of 2011 and 2017, throws up more questions than answers about biology, law, history, automotive intercourse, and the place of humans in the universe. Behold, a series of questions and observations which keep me up at night:

- In the *Cars* universe, it is shown multiple times that buses and taxis exist. However, the question must be asked – why? Whom are they transporting? Other cars, who can transport themselves? It is an undisputed point that humans do not exist in the *Cars* universe, so this renders sentient public transport completely redundant and utterly absurd. However, I propose that the public transport seen in the films are in fact relics from a time where humans once existed in the *Cars* universe, and what

we are seeing on screen is in fact a post-apocalyptic world where cars have somehow acquired human sentience. Perhaps a 4th year engineering student got a bit too lonely on a Friday night and thought his Mum's Mazda Demio was looking mighty fine.

- In *Cars 2*, the viewer is confronted with a religious conundrum. In one scene, we see the Car Pope in a procession, surrounded by adoring fans. Of course, any reasonable child watching at this point would think, "hang on a minute, surely the existence of a Car Pope implies Car Catholicism, and therefore Car Jesus?" Is there a suggestion of the two-tonne Car Jesus still being crucified on a wooden cross? Theologians, answer this question: did Honda Civic Jesus die for our sins, or our treads? Indeed, one may then ask, "what car would Jesus have been over 2000 years ago when the first combustion-powered car was built in 1876? Would he have been a horse-drawn carriage?" And, indeed, why does the Pope need to be transported in the Popemobile if the Pope himself is a car?
- In a similar vein, in the first film we are introduced to World War II veteran, Sarge. Now, if there was a World War II in the *Cars* universe, of course, any right-thinking person would infer the existence of Car Hitler and Car Stalin. Does the existence of *Planes* allow for the Japanese Empire's kamikaze

pilots in-universe? Did Car Hitler commit the same atrocities and crimes against car-manity? Also, what does a war fought by cars even look like? A demolition derby?

- Biologically, the *Cars* universe makes no sense. How does reproduction work? Obviously, I have already hypothesised about the origin of automotive sentience, but how does a car come to be without a human agent? Why do they have teeth if they don't eat? If they have tongues and eyes, this implies the presence of all other organs in the cars' interiors. This begs the question, when Lightning McQueen gets a new paint job at the end of the first film, is this akin to getting a tattoo, or getting a new skin? Which appendage determines the biological sex of each car? Is getting a tyre change the equivalent of a limb transplant, or potentially even a temporary amputation? I think, if I'm honest, I've overthought this one. Perhaps tyres are just shoes, and a car's paint job is just its outfit... but, if this is the case, when Lightning McQueen has to finish the race at the start of the first film with only three tyres, wouldn't this be extraordinarily painful since he's scraping the equivalent of his bare foot against asphalt at 250km/h?
- Next, I would like to consider the sports industry and legal frameworks of the *Cars* universe. In the first film, Lightning McQueen is brought to trial in a Car Court. Of course, the existence of an automotive judiciary implies the presence of an automotive legislature – a *carliament* of sorts. While we know nothing of car law outside of the Radiator Springs jurisdiction, this question remains unanswered. In

terms of sports, Lightning McQueen is a professional race-car driver, right? WRONG. He is actually an endurance runner, as racing must be considered as the automotive equivalent of athletics. In line with this assessment, and returning to my first point about the assumption of human sentience, I also propose that Lightning McQueen's signature lightning bolt decal suggests that McQueen has acquired the life force of 20-time Olympic gold-medallist Usain Bolt. Ka-chow.

In conclusion, there remains a multitude of unanswered questions surrounding the absurdities of the *Cars* universe, but sometimes questions are better left unanswered. Does Lightning McQueen have a car insurance policy, or a life insurance policy? Does it even matter? Overall, it has been a *carthartic* experience expelling all of these thoughts, and hopefully I will be able to sleep at night without wondering if Lightning McQueen has a penis.

“Did Car Hitler commit the same atrocities and crimes against car-manity? Also, what does a war fought by cars even look like? A demolition derby?”



Looking Back on the Exuberant Fashion of *Fight Club*

ANTHONY SALUS APPRAISES THE FASHION WITHIN THE FIGHT CLUB REALM, AND HOW IT ELEVATES OUR INTERPRETATIONS OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN THE STORY.

Fight Club. Some celebrate David Fincher's masterful aesthetic style and regard the film as a subject of study. Others consider Brad Pitt's physique an icon with prestige akin to that of the modern-day Adonis. Nonetheless, over two decades later, the film still commands cult followings in all aspects of its composition. However, as most of the world is locked down into a state of sweatshirt-wearing claustrophobia, examination into the exuberant fashion of *Fight Club* offers some much-needed escapism and nostalgia. So, let us ponder over some of the style choices Tyler Durden and company makes as they roam through the late-capitalist urban landscape.

Aside from the cryptic frame inserts which mirror the Narrator's insomnia induced hallucinations, we are first introduced to Tyler Durden in his soap-making business

attire. Effortlessly comfortable in his 70s style floral patterned open-collared silk shirt, layered with a symbolically red checkered sport-coat, Durden's appearance contrasts against that of Edward Norton's more insipid character immediately. Adding to the timeless appeal, his tinted glasses are a motif still enjoyed by stars from the likes of Robert Downey Jr. to Jeff Goldblum. Certainly, the use of wardrobe is a manifestation of character, and here it is perhaps the Narrator's outfit that is more telling. Wrapped in grey-toned business wear so mundane it only serves to achieve commercial utilitarian purposes, the tediously repetitive lifestyle and mind-space of Norton's character is likely one identifiable by many. Yet, dressed in fire hazardous synthetic blazers and ill-fitting shirts seemingly inspired by the Michelin Man, it is no wonder his life is presented as a zombified existence. So, with a few style cues from

arts.

costume designer Michael Kaplan who has worked on other projects such as *Miami Vice*, *Blade Runner* and the recent set of *Star Wars* films, we too can inject a provocative buzz into our current lives.

Red Leather Jacket Tyler

Perhaps the signature Tyler Durden look, he dons a slim leather jacket worn in with wrinkles that suggest the perfect individualised fit. Comparable to both the rebellious image of James Dean from the 50s and Saint Laurent's Fall 2020 woman's collection, this outfit suggests a liberated attitude more than anything. The vivid redness of his jacket stands out against the rest of the film's grimy aesthetic as well as foreshadow the violence which ensues. Layered underneath, his patterned shirt is one third undone, from the bottom. Then, torso down Durden opts for a non-constricting pair of baggy side-stripe pants. Interestingly, while his style still feels surprisingly modern, many viewers of the film two decades ago did not find his choices as appealing. Like how the film did not gain commercial success against audiences of its time, the fashion choices are also arguably not wholly cohesive with the late 1990s or early 2000s trends. But, it is the very feeling of *anemoia* or indiscernible nostalgia some of us feel when seeing the style of an alternate reality on display in *Fight Club* that adds to the overall allure.

Buzz Cut, Gucci Loafers

Towards the tail end of the film, Tyler wears possibly the boldest statement fit of all: fur coat, meshed shirt, 70s inspired flared pants and a pair of brown Gucci loafers. On the accessories front, his spherical sunglasses are reminiscent of Michael Jordan's infamous Oakley phase during the '90s. Grooming-wise his previously spiked up choppy cut is now buzzed clean, fitting for the leader of an anarchic organisation. However, notably Durden's stylistic tendencies should not inspire excessive indulgence into luxury and possible wastefulness. This is especially

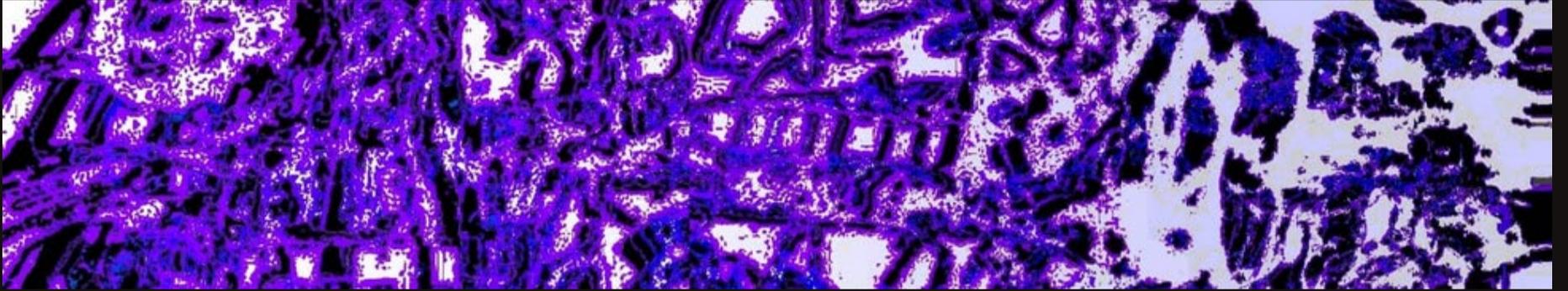
significant considering contemporary problems of fast fashion and discussions on the use of animal fur in the industry. Michael Kaplan points to low-cost thrift stores as the source of the Gucci loafers. The set of jackets and coats Brad Pitt wears in the film are grime ridden and repurposed. Although lavishly dressed, Tyler Durden does not embody a rich man engrossed in luxury. Instead, his articles of clothing exist in a balanced state between physical deterioration and fashion iconography throughout the decades. In short, all the choices the Narrator lacks the confidence to wear.

Marla Singer

The antithesis of Tyler Durden's theatrical colour palette, Marla Singer's wardrobe is dark and macabre. Similar to the penniless and thrifted approach of Tyler, Marla's clothes are distressed as is her psychological state. When discussing the character of Marla with Helena Bonham Carter, Michael Kaplan suggested channeling the highly stressful essence of Judy Garland from the classical Hollywood era. While some cues from the old world inspiration carry forward, her outfits are predominately more akin to the fashion of grunge movements. However, to those with a discernible eye, when Marla first talks to the Narrator, she wears a post-apocalyptic Rick Owens coat. Nonetheless, Marla's costuming is an eclectic collection of styles and sub-cultural influences across the years.

There is a certain irony in reminiscing and exploring the element of fashion in *Fight Club*, a film which critiques our social obsession with consumerism. However, as we appreciate the flamboyance of Tyler Durden, in fact Edward Norton's character is the one most consumed by a product-centric lifestyle. The Narrator proclaims before a change in ideology, 'I had ... a wardrobe that was getting very respectable, I was close to being complete'. In this sense, aside from the intrigue of examining the costume design of *Fight Club* from a nostalgic perspective, the overriding style takeaway is an attitude of freedom.

LOCAL MUSIC REVIEW



⋆ - AIIA

<https://aiia.bandcamp.com/album/-11>

REVIEW BROUGHT TO YOU BY FERNANDO BRAVO.

States of being move with the tides, repetition marking the passage of time. Shadows sprawl outwards to stretch predictably, blending into yesterday, forecasting tomorrow. All memories, experiences, tasks meld into one, replacing themselves in memory banks. There are no surprises, time is recycled, ⋆ by AiiA is heard in the background.

Distorted pillars jut through shifting clouds, periodically drawing the sound outwards. Layers collapse over each other harmoniously, cycling through the foreground and background. Ridged synths form the earth, irregularly changing the terrain but never straying too far. Heavenly bells ring above, chimes bouncing off the pillars and fading, shifting the focus momentarily before circling around and returning. These cycles continue semi permanent, occasionally echoing off each other; as has been time, in ebb and flow, freed from expectations and interruptions.

Observation recalls much, not all. The temporary nature of being and knowing demands acknowledgement, itself characteristic of the relationship one experiences with living. Emotions carry a weight ascribed by a hormonal meat skeleton, but earth holds no feelings - from stardust to forecast singularity, the earth exists, to the limits of human cognition. ⋆ presents the earth as a timeline occurring to a listener observing; as beings and civilizations become, expand, increase and collapse, everything will be, has been and was. Occupying an infinitesimal space within an incomprehensibly large place is destined, the way the space is occupied is not.

This track serves to fill a void of thinking, a lack thereof, or whatever one wants; it is not destined to anything besides existing within physical technology, to someday cease to be a series of ones and zeroes and another day cease to be a memory. Also works well for studying as do most if not all ambient tracks that I have come across in the past.

95bFM Top Ten

1	She's Gone Away Midnight Riders Meets Naram Rhythm Section (NZ)
2	Gaslight Coxin Club (NZ)
3	Smile and Wave kmtip (NZ)
4	Assume No Romance (NZ)
5	Freebleeder Cootie Cuties (NZ)
6	Sô Rite Phodiso (NZ)
7	Somebody Else imugi (NZ)
8	More/Marsh P.H.F. (NZ)
9	Warwick The Bats (NZ)
10	The Rock (and the Stars) Gregor



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Conflict and Communication

FLORA XIE

We've been through two lockdowns now, so I wouldn't be surprised if tension ran a little high within your bubble. It's hard to always enjoy the company of the same people since sometimes they can get on your nerves when you're also dealing with online learning, and there's no escape from them. Conflict is something that we all want to avoid, but is inevitable in relationships with others.

So, how can we most effectively and sustainably communicate with others when we're all frustrated?

The four ways that people typically respond to behaviour that is threatening to their relationships are exit, voice, loyalty, and neglect. These can be grouped into either positive or negative, and direct or indirect.

Exit is a direct negative response, involving criticism, abuse, or threatening to leave. This is what happens at the climax of basically every teen romcom: the protagonist gets into a shouting match with their best friend or romantic interest, and leaves them.

On the other hand, voice is a direct positive response, where attempts are made to improve the situation,

offering solutions to the problems, and engaging with others to make changes. This could be us and the university, but they playing.

Loyalty is a positive but indirect response, involving passively waiting for improvement in the situation, forgiving wrongdoings of the other person, and supporting them despite their hurtful actions towards you. If you're anything like me, this is what it's like to work on a group project where the groups are assigned by the tutor.

Neglect is an indirect negative response consisting of ignoring others, avoiding and withdrawing from discussions of problems, and letting things fall apart. Neglect is perhaps the worst response of the four, as its withdrawal aspect is the strongest predictor of negative

outcomes like divorce in married couples.

While you'd expect the positive responses to be beneficial and the negative responses to be detrimental, that's actually not always the case.

Why? Well, in the short-term, loyalty may be beneficial for your relationships as you're restraining your negative reactions and expressing optimism instead. You're softening the blow of the criticisms you're delivering by gift-wrapping and sugar-coating them.

However, resentment will build up in the long-term. The issues you want to address aren't being addressed because the other person isn't taking it seriously, and problematic behaviour continues on.

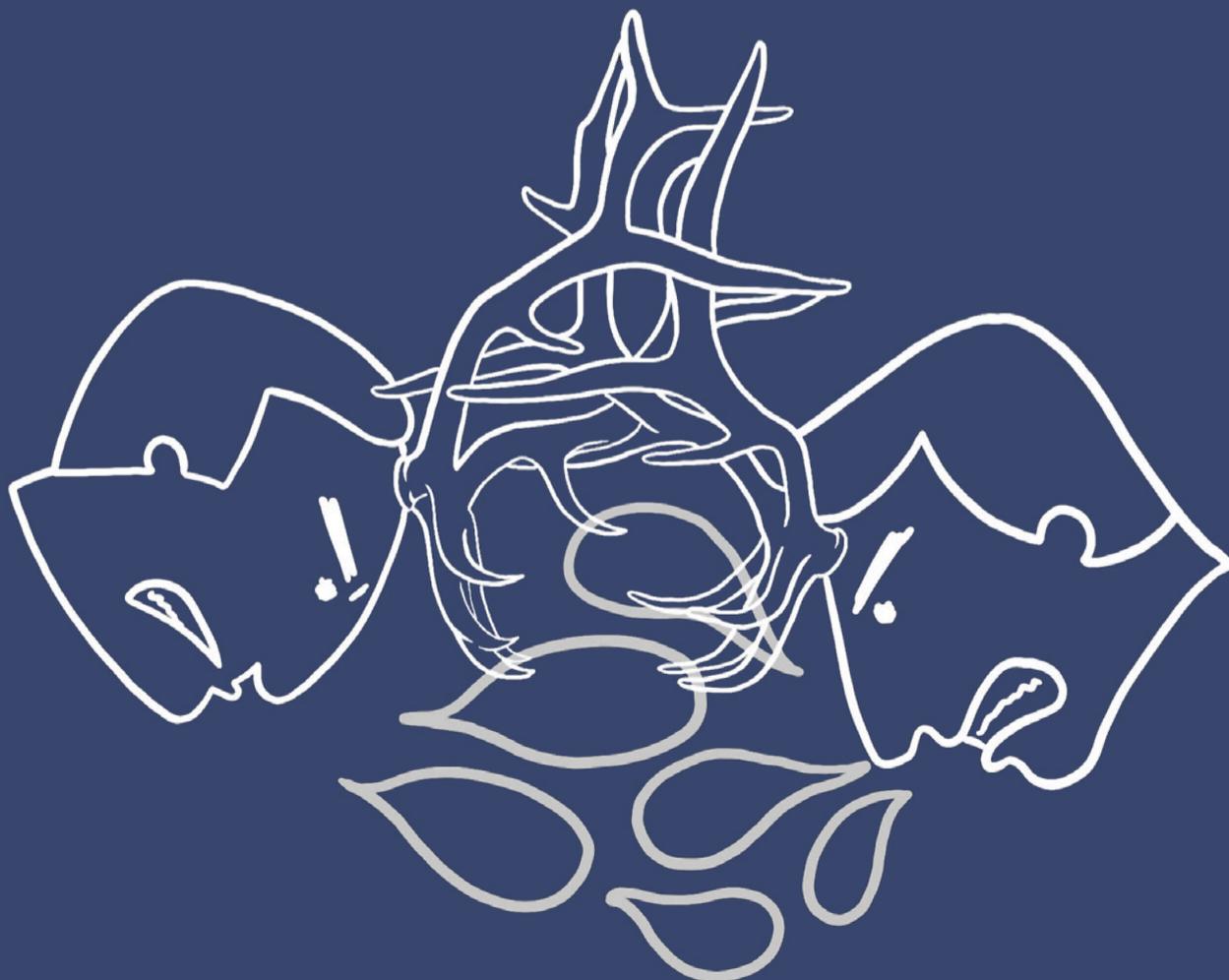
A negative direct response may actually be more beneficial in the long-term, because communicating the seriousness of the problem can lead to greater efforts

from the other person to make changes, and thus leading to greater satisfaction in all the parties involved.

Different communication strategies should be used in different contexts. Taking a direct approach may be most beneficial when there is a problem that can be solved. Fighting with your close others isn't always bad, and it may well be better than sitting idly by in hopes of the situation getting better.

Good communication is key for any relationship to work, but communication and relationships are both two-way streets. What matters is how you decide to initiate a discussion, or respond to conflict and negativity.

The next time someone shouts at you about a problem they have, think about these different approaches and consider whether it's necessary for you to shout back. Remember to take a second to breathe and process the situation before you act.





Dinner and a Movie

XZADIA JOHNSON (@ChefXzadz for more recipes)

2020 has been a spicy year for all of us; we've all had to learn to adjust to a whole new way of life. There is a lot of talk about having to use our spare time, particularly during lockdown, to be productive - to organise, fix and polish all aspects of life. But what about giving ourselves permission to just relax?

Whether it's your first year or last, we all know the stresses that come with being at university. I say, instead of adding additional pressure on yourself, use this time to do things that make you happy! This may include picking up a new hobby - running, sewing, coding, even perfecting a Tik Tok dance? Alternatively, it could be as simple as letting yourself sleep until noon sometimes - a personal favourite of mine.

As we get further into the semester, and settle into remote learning, it's easy to slip back into panic mode and pile on the pressure once again. Instead, the remainder of 2020 should focus on self-care. Of course, keep up with your responsibilities, but be kind to yourself! You're stuck with you forever, so you better start getting friendly!

I selected cooking as one of my relaxing lockdown pursuits. I enrolled in an online culinary course, started

a food insta, and had the opportunity to collaborate with a popular New Zealand food brand. This meant that almost every day I was creating a new and delicious meal that kept myself, and my flatmates, very full and most importantly happy! So now, I've just finished my first test of the semester after studying furiously, and while I should get straight into all of the other assignments vying for my attention, I will instead take a quick visit to my happy place - which means concocting a delicious and easy vegan meal (and then a well deserved nap).

If you're also in need of some post-assignment comfort food, feel free to follow my super easy, delicious, affordable, (did I mention easy) Vegan Spicy Cauliflower Tacos with a Cilantro Cashew Crema!

I often like to pair my meals with a movie, as you would with a wine! These spicy tacos deserve to be complimented by an equally spicy movie, so this week

lifestyle.

I'm recommending a classic guilty pleasure – Twilight. Okay, hear me out! Not only did the Tik Tok Twilight dance trend get me feeling nostalgic, but everyone needs a periodic dose of Stephanie Meyers' schmaltzy 'masterpiece'. Also, who doesn't love a bit of aggressive blinking from Kristen Stewart? This movie has it all! Romance, action, heartache (don't even get me started on when Bella tells Charlie she's leaving). It's got a lil something for everyone. Don't come at me, I said what I said, give it a chance and thank me later.

So off you go, enjoy your tacos and the 8th Wonder of the World. Have a great mid semester break, stay safe, and be kind!

Ingredients

Cauliflower:

- . 1 large cauliflower
- . 1 tsp paprika
- . 1 tsp garlic powder
- . 1 tsp onion powder
- . 1 tbsp oil (optional)
- . 1/2 cup hot sauce (I used Frank's Red Hot)
- . Pinch of turmeric
- . Salt
- . Pepper

Cashew Crema

- . 1 cup soaked cashews
- . 2 tbsp nutritional yeast
- . 1/4 cup non-dairy milk
- . Juice of 1 lemon
- . 1 tsp garlic powder
- . Pinch of paprika
- . Salt

- . Cilantro
- . Splash of water

Tacos (toppings to taste)

- . Soft tacos
- . Lettuce
- . Tomato
- . Red onion
- . Cilantro
- . Chilli flakes

Instructions

Cauliflower

1. Cut cauliflower into bite sized pieces, and in a large bowl combine with oil, paprika, garlic powder, onion powder, and half of the hot sauce. Mix thoroughly.
2. Place marinated cauliflower pieces onto a baking tray and cook at 250 degrees for 20-30 minutes, until cooked through and slightly crispy. (Alternatively, this can be done in an air fryer)
3. Remove the cauliflower from the oven and toss in remaining hot sauce, making sure each piece is coated.

Cashew Crema

1. In a blender, combine all ingredients and blend until creamy and smooth. Add more milk/water if too thick.

To serve

1. Thinly slice desired toppings.
2. Heat tortillas in a pan (oil optional).
3. Once heated, add cauliflower, toppings, and a drizzle of the cashew crema.

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HUMANS OF UOA

The Rise of Sarah Foster-Sproull; Performer and Choreographer.

LOUISE BARNES

Coming soon to New Zealand is 'Venus Rising,' the first ballet show back on stage amid a global pandemic. Louise chats with UoA's very own internationally renowned performer and choreographer who has created her own piece for the production; Sarah Foster-Sproull.

As a Lecturer of Dance Studies, Sarah is proof that talent can be sitting right under our noses within our large university whānau. For 2017-19, she received the title of Creative New Zealand's Choreographic Fellow and is also the Artistic Director at her own company, Foster Group Dance. Recently, she has taken on a new role as Choreographer in Residence for the RNZB, and is the first woman to do so.

"It's crazy given that it's 2020, but that's the reality," she says, reflecting on her pioneering achievement for her gender. Socially, ballet is perceived as a female-dominated industry as women are featured leaping across stages in feminine grace. But by all means, this does not mean that it's a profession promoting feminism, as men are traditionally known to have roles of leadership as directors and choreographers.

Sarah praises RNZB for its inclusivity regarding being the first female in this position, and specially mentions Artistic Director, Patricia Barker, and her vision supporting feminism within the company. "This year, prior to the whole COVID-19 situation, Patricia had

programmed an entire year of female choreographer work, [making us] the first in the world to do that. So being part of that big vision is very cool."

I asked if she, too, includes that vision in her works. "As a feminist, that is definitely in my approach to working with diverse communities of students and practitioners within my work." She explains how she incorporated a feminist approach in the performance *Orchids* from her own company. "I made an all-female work of performers from the ages of 9-60. It's an intergenerational cast

"... Patricia had programmed an entire year of female choreographer work, [making us] the first in the world to do that. So being part of that big vision is very cool."

lifestyle.

of all females," which was well received from all audiences.

Being a choreographer wasn't always on the charts for Sarah, having enjoyed an 18-year career as a professional dancer. I wondered if there was a defining moment when she decided to be a choreographer, to which she replies it was just a gentle recognition upon the opportunities she undertook.

"I paid the bills by being a performer, freelancing, teaching, doing other complementary jobs, as well as building a portfolio career, but I made the transition to a choreographer through a series of pull opportunities that I had when I was living in the UK. I then moved back to NZ to focus on my choreographic practice and rein my skill a little bit."

When I ask her if she ever had any doubts, Sarah admits she had been close to taking a few wrong turns. "Oh yeah, I mean, I thought it would be an excellent idea to go to law school instead of being a dance practitioner. So, I went to law school, started taking classes and I absolutely loved it! But I did have a moment of going, 'oh, I have already given 15 years of my life being a dancer and I did that for a reason'. So, I transitioned back."

She pauses to reflect on what she is doing now, "I went into postgraduate research as an adult student and I now teach undergraduate and postgraduate students. I believe that everyone has an individual pathway and it's really important to think clearly about what you want to achieve and how best to achieve that. For some people it's by going straight through undergraduate to postgraduate and for others it requires a break or some

travels for life experience."

Given the current global pandemic makes travel infeasible, Sarah instead recommends to take this opportunity in the world's pause to invest more time into education and learning. "A lot of students want to travel and perform, but if they can't do that for the short time being, then it's fine to stay and continue to study for a while. I don't see the harm in that. In fact, I see it as being incredibly smart."

Since RNZB utilizes homegrown talent, this breadth of travel was not needed in order to quickly get the company up and running again following national outbreak control. "I went to Wellington for two weeks to make it work," Sarah explains. "The company was pretty proactive about getting back into theatres for live performances, so it's pure luck that I get to be involved in a company that is so proactive with their approach."

She pauses to reflect before responding about the process of creating her own piece in *Venus Rising*;

"I believe that everyone has an individual pathway and it's really important to think clearly about what you want to achieve and how best to achieve that."

Ultra Folly, amid peculiar circumstances. "It was a very fast process initially, so we had a couple of different approaches. I got together some of my friends in Auckland who are professional dancers from a range of backgrounds. It was a combination of a ballet dancer, one hip hop dancer and one contemporary dancer."

"We took some visual inspiration and made some material around those ideas before teaching it to the dancers. I also had some of my own choreography that I added, and even some of the dancers made up their own choreography as well," she says. "It was a very swift process of whipping it into shape and putting it into order before refining and developing the content. Talking about scenes, layering and details."

Venus Rising was not the only project she was working on at the time. She casually mentions Zoom issues while communicating choreography for the City Ballet in New York. "We are on Zoom, and I am in my office trying to conduct rehearsals - it's quite classic. This morning we had every technical issue possible! We conducted rehearsal over Zoom and that crashed, then WhatsApp, which crashed, and went back to WhatsApp which sometimes worked and then didn't." We laughed at this together with a mutual sense of recollection for the feeling and sense of frustration when technology isn't going our way.

It made me think whether given the circumstances, the whole ballet would be conducted virtually? "Yes!" she clarifies. "There's lots of things going on with communications in the Zoom rehearsals because not only are we in different time zones, we are in erratically different environments," she exclaims. "The dancers were on the rooftop of an apartment in New York, I'm in

my office. My accent is very Kiwi so the dancers have to keep asking me to clarify what I'm saying, which meant I had to keep texting in my instructions."

She reflects on the experience and states that "it's a big experiment but what I understand about making choreography is that everything is a big experiment, and you just figure out how to do it by doing it." Which is exactly the attitude we should all have in such unprecedented times.

This brought me to my last question citing if Sarah believed that anyone can dance. "Absolutely! The dance study programme is a big family and really embraces all styles of dance from all backgrounds. I've been witness to the fact that anyone can dance through having seen it with my own eyes. It's a way of expressing - you just need to find your dance!"

Show some support for Sarah and RNZB by purchasing tickets on sale for Venus Rising now. It arrives in Auckland from the 17-19th September at Kiri Te Kanawa Theatre, Aotea Square. Don't miss it!

"We took some visual inspiration and made some material around those ideas before teaching it to the dancers."

Horoscopes - What You Need to Spend Course Related Costs On

CRACCUM'S RESIDENT ORACLE GLORIA HOLE RECENTLY PURCHASED AN EXPENSIVE NEW PSYCHOLOGY TEXTBOOK, OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT STUDYLINK THINKS. IT JUST SO HAPPENS TO COINCIDE WITH THE FACT A LARGE CRACK ON THE SCREEN OF HER PHONE HAS DISAPPEARED...

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 19)



Being stuck at home all day for classes will leave you hungry for an adventure.

Perhaps it's time to pick up a new physical challenge, and spend the money on a surfboard or some climbing gear. The world is your oyster, so go out there and conquer it!

TAURUS (APRIL 20 - MAY 20)



If you didn't like Auckland to begin with, how are those feelings doing now after a lockdown? Time to splash money on fuelling up the car and getting on out of here. Trust me - it's course-related stress relief.

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUNE 20)



This week, you'll miss the thrill and drunkenness of hitting town. The stars have the perfect solution for you though - get a karaoke machine! You'll be belting out your favourite tunes all night. Plus, you won't have to suffer from getting groped by a stranger.

CANCER (JUNE 21 - JULY 22)



What fantastic item will you be spending course-related costs on this week, you ask? Perhaps you should take a look at those accumulated unpaid parking fines before you start dreaming, the stars recommend.

LEO (JULY 23 - AUGUST 22)



This week, you open Netflix to find that your best friend's family have changed their password, locking you out of their account. Well shit. Desperately, you try to reason how you can fill the gaps left in your day, and discover there is no other solution but to take out money for your own subscription. Or, find yourself a bf/gf whose family own one.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22)



This week, you'll realise money can't buy you happiness. But it can buy you loads of alcohol, and that's probably the closest you'll get in 2020. Optimism and positivity is fucking overrated in horoscopes.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22)



This week, you'll open your eyes to how shit your internet is at home. Being around campus all the time, you must have just never noticed it, but now working out of home, your life is dictated around when your connection chooses to cooperate. Course-related mobile data fees it is for you then!

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21)



Be careful not to fall target to false internet advertising this week. Whether it's a penis enlargement surgery that entices you, or hot Asian singles in your area, don't do it - it's a trap! Too late? Well, it looks like the time of year to file for some course-related costs then. :(

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18)



This week, an exhilarating experience will leave you craving a frozen coke of all things. Unfortunately, your bank balance is so desolate, taking out course-related fees is the length you'll have to go to for your special treat.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21)



A need for a reminder that you're a good person will force out your charitable side, and make you donate to Masterton Primary's year 6 school camp (or whatever other fundraiser Facebook decides to burden you with). Being a poor student with limited means really does get in the way of that though - so it looks like you'll be making some IOU donations with the help of Studylink.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19)



The second lockdown has already made you give up on this year, and look forward to starting the next one off with a bang. With all the New Year festivals having their first release, it's time to fork out your (or Studylink's) cash!

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20)



This week, you'll be spending your course-related costs on textbo.. On textboo... Sorry, it's so stupid, I can't even bring myself to make that joke. Book your next Kiwi holiday, you deserve it. Cook Islands travel bubble anyone?

the people to blame.

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International Students Officer

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Postgraduate Student Officer

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Queer Rights Officer

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Women's Rights Officer

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PRESIDENT

Anamika Harirajh

NOMINATOR: GEORGE HENRY BARTON

SECONDRS: EMILY ROSE LORRAINE
MCDONALD, EMMA ROSE ROGERS



Kia ora, my name is Anamika and I'm excited to be standing as a candidate to be your AUSA

President and Council student representative for 2021.

The University is undergoing significant changes as it sets new goals for the next 5 years and deals with the severe impacts of Covid - 19. As your AUSA President and Council Representative, I want to ensure that students are at the forefront of every major decision that is made.

I have been fortunate enough to be on the AUSA Executive for two years now, first as the Women's Rights Officer in 2019, and currently I am serving my term as the Welfare Vice President. During this time, I was privileged enough to be a part of the same team that was able to deliver compulsory lecture recordings, free sanitary products for students in need, and even a universal grade bump for every student across every faculty as we dealt with the adversity that arose during the Covid Lockdown. I want to use my experience to build on these wins - ensuring that student voices are truly heard in the key decisions that lie ahead.

Vote Anamika - for AUSA President and for Council Rep!

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ANAMIKA4PRESIDENT/](https://www.facebook.com/ANAMIKA4PRESIDENT/)

Arsh Garcha

NOMINATOR: PRABHI DUGH

SECONDRS: JAYNA PATEL, STEPHAN
PARINAS



Hello all, I'm Arsh Garcha and I'm currently in my second year pursuing a degree in commerce. I

come from a diverse background and I am beyond grateful for an opportunity to campaign for AUSA President. For me, the University of Auckland is a place where I can come to learn and grow. It would be an absolute privilege to be a part of the community in a position where I can try to make it a better place than it is already. I'm not here to promise big things and to promise world changes but what I CAN do is bring my values to the table to make small changes at a time. Some values I strive for are respect, responsibility, resilience, and community thinking. Upholding these values will ensure that everyone is catered for, whilst creating a safe and developmental environment for all students to achieve and strive for their most potential with success. I want to be able to discuss our problems and enable everyone to have a voice; to make sure minorities are heard. My priority is student life, to not only survive exams, lectures and early mornings, but to enjoy that university experience, our beautiful campus and our amazing programs. If you're on board with my vision and would like to help create an uplifting atmosphere in our community and student life, your best option would be to vote for me (no pressure).

Thank you and best of luck with your further studies .

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/1201126843554492](https://www.facebook.com/events/1201126843554492)

Daniel V Barraclough

NOMINATOR: SAMUEL SNELL
SECONDRS: ERIKA SOFFEE, ARYANA NAFISSI



Hi guys, Daniel V Barraclough here and I'm proud to be nominated to become your

AUSA President for 2021. I never thought I would end up at University, let alone become a candidate for your student government. I was born and raised in Manurewa, left school at 16 to chase that bread (qualified baker) travelled Asia working for a djembe trope (African hand drum) before I finally made it to University in 2016. I am current Arts Student Organization President.

During my time at University, I have seen the problems of bureaucracy, inertia and an unwillingness to push for real change in how students engage with the institution they give so much of their time and money too. As ASO president I have seen the best of student leadership, I have also seen what can happen when you have student leadership unwilling to speak truth to power, in a constructive forward thinking way. This is why I am running to be your AUSA President, **If you want solutions and not slogans, then I am your choice for president in 2021!**

Policy objectives:

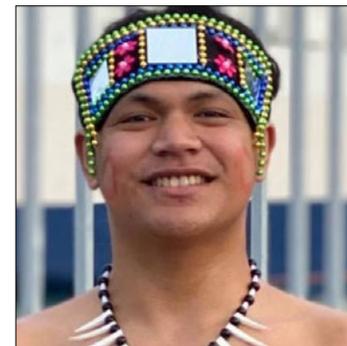
- Transformation of student culture
- Reducing Transport costs
- Improving Student spaces
- Incorporating Te Ao Maori

More on Facebook

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BARRACLUGH2021](https://www.facebook.com/barraclough2021)

Peter Loma Malifa

NOMINATOR: PAULINA TAPUA'I-SOTI
SECONDRS: GRACE LOTO-ASO, TALI LUAMANUVAE



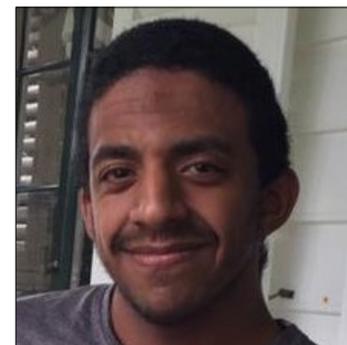
My name is Peter Loma Malifa and I am currently running for AUSA President 2021. Leadership

involves working with consideration of everyone around you. It's not just a title, it's an opportunity for one to grow and also learn from those they are leading. Alongside one of my fellow peers who is running for Education VP, our values are simple – Respect, Trust & Truth. These are values that we happily uphold while running. I believe that is important that the students have a significant contribution to the policies we make as a student association. We cannot cater to students if we don't understand what our students need. I see myself as a proud Pasifika, Bred-in-South Auckland, voice of the Ocean. What makes me stand out is my voice – a 20-year-old, Samoan Tokelauan Male who has seen injustice within society. Standing up as President, that needs to change! Not only for me; but for all those who have helped me to be the person that I am today. You can keep up to date with my campaign (along with Paulina Soti) through our Social Media handles:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VOTEPETERANDPAULINA/](https://www.facebook.com/votepeterandpaulina/)
[HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/LLXMOANA/](https://www.instagram.com/llxmoana/)

Salim Alzubaidi

NOMINATOR: FAHAD ALRIYAMI
SECONDRS: ALI ALSHAMI, AHMAD DUAIS



I am Salim Al-zubaidi, and I am running for the president of the AUSA. Throughout this year, I think a lot of us understood how important and effective the AUSA could be. I viewed this as an opportunity to give back to the community

and make our voices heard. I believe two qualities are essential for the role of the president; listening and adaptability. I plan on being a president who listens to everyone's opinion. I believe in working with the faculty association and any association involved in the issue at hand to guarantee we are allocating our resources on the most central issues. I plan to work closely with the other executive members to provide with all the resources needed to achieve their goals. As a person,

I would make sure the team would shift priority to continue supporting students to the best level. Lastly, I would like to focus on increasing the involvement of students from different backgrounds in the AUSA. The purpose of that is not only to maximise the AUSA ability to get stuff done but also to make the AUSA serve the university's diverse community effectively.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SALIM-FOR-PRESIDENT-2020-101760431651852](https://www.facebook.com/salim-for-president-2020-101760431651852)

EDUCATION VICE-PRESIDENT

Ahmad Umar

NOMINATOR: TALHA ZIA
SECONDRS: SAAD SIDDIQUI, MAHIN ALI

Kia ora everyone! My name is Ahmad and I am running to be your next Education Vice President.



I have been on campus for over four years and have been involved in various students club to improve student life on campus.

The wellbeing of a student is vital for success as an individual and as a student. However, I aim to ensure the high levels of AUSA works are maintained and improved to ensure students are receiving the finest education.

My passion to help and listen to students sets me apart from other candidates. As your Education VP, you will find me very accessible and ready to listen to students' needs. Previously I have helped students through the AUSA Free seminars and UniGuides, however now during this pandemic, I am ready more than ever to assist students to achieve their goals and a world-class degree from the University of Auckland. Peace.

[FB.COM/AHMADUMAREVP](https://www.facebook.com/AHMADUMAREVP)

Alan Shaker

NOMINATOR: NATALIE DOLAN
SECONDRS: DANIEL BARRACLOUGH, ZARA ALI

Kia ora!

My name is Alan Shaker, and I am running to be the next Education VP of the AUSA.



Coming from a refugee and minority background, the value of education is instilled within me. This has influenced my career aspiration to become a secondary school principal, where I can give back to the beautiful community I call home. Growing up in South Auckland, I have seen first-hand the academic disadvantages that can arise in negligent institutions. In saying that, I am extremely passionate about this role- meaning I will go above and beyond for students.

Now more than ever, we need diversity, transparency and a powerful student voice. That's why I have a clear and consistent vision of always putting students first! Putting YOU first!

As an EVP for the ASO, I have liaised with UoA Schools Outreach, promoting stronger connections with lower-decile schools. As a result of these

experiences, I know what it takes to make a meaningful impact in an academic setting. Building on the great work AUSA has done, let's work together for a more engaging and responsive university! Check my campaign for more about me and my policies

Ngā mihi nui,

#VoteShaker #PuttingStudentsFirst

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VOTESHAKERAUSA](https://www.facebook.com/voteshakerausa)

Hadi Nouri

NOMINATOR: HADI NOURI

SECONDRS: JOYCE-ANN MOEHAU, PARSANGI

Josh Ellwood

NOMINATOR: EMMA ROGERS

SECONDRS: GEORGE BARTON, EMILY MCDONALD



As EVP, I'll shape AUSA into a more personable organisation. AUSA already offers incredible

services and advocacy, but it's out of touch with the people it's supposed to embody. Doing this role right relies on thousands of healthy student relationships with AUSA, which will be founded on respect and trust. By making AUSA more accessible - in every sense of the word - students will be more able, and willing to shout out for help. Forming these genuine relationships hinges on coherent physical, digital, and social access to AUSA.

As a Global Studies (Global Politics and Human Rights major) and Law student, I get a kick from helping others. I work as an academic assistant for students with learning difficulties, an ESOL camp leader each Summer, and have volunteered for organisations striving to make Auckland a more inclusive city. I aim to leave people happier than how I found them, and that makes me such a PiScEs.

Having already been a member of the Student

Council this year in my capacity as President of AUGSS, I've got an insight into what's working, and what really isn't. The previous AUSA Exec did excellent groundwork. Now it's time to get accessible.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JOSH-ELLWOOD-FOR-AUSA-EDUCATION-VICE-PRESIDENT-109668764183871/](https://www.facebook.com/josh-ellwood-for-ausa-education-vice-president-109668764183871/)

Louis Wu

NOMINATOR: ANNIE MEI

SECONDRS: SUYASH KATHURIA, ZECHEN KONG



Kia Ora!

I'm Louis, and I'm running to be your Education Vice-President for 2020!

I have a passion to help the community, and I'm humbled to have been given the opportunity to represent the voices of other students on various committees, working groups, faculties, and panels. I've been a class representative 10 times and faculty representative eight times, and every single time voicing the ideas and concerns of students always takes priority; we as students should be spending the majority of our time at university, so it's important that we get our voices heard.

My plan as EVP is to ensure that the relationship between the student community and the university is strengthened and developed on; there's a lack of relationship and dealing with issues when it comes to the students, so I aim to bridge the barrier between the university and student community. There is a lack of forum for students to voice their issues to the university, and I aim to implement a new system that will help deliver those issues faster to the university and emphasis on the urgency.

Change is caused by either inspiration or desperation, and I hope to inspire others to make a change!

[HTTPS://FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/S/VOTE-LOUIS-WU-FOR-AUSA-EDUCATI/305629780496558/](https://facebook.com/events/s/vote-louis-wu-for-ausa-educati/305629780496558/)

Paulina Tapua'i-Soti

NOMINATOR: PETER LOMA MALIFA
SECONDRS: GRACE LOTO-ASO, TALII LUAMANUVAE



Talofa Lava and Warm Pacific Greetings,

My name is Paulina Tapua'i-Soti

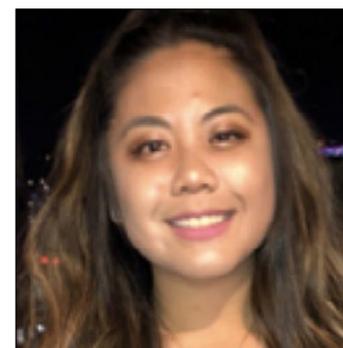
and I am running for AUSA Education Vice President 2021. Leadership to me is service. I believe the power is not in my role, or my title or those of the other executive roles. Power is in the voices of those who we represent and serve, YOU. The students of the University of Auckland. My goal as the EVP would be to advocate for your voices in word and action, by implementing policies that cater to and are representative of ALL our student body, and not just a specific group. Yes, I'm thinking of our disabled community, our ethnic minorities, our LGBTQ community, our Arts and Science faculties, our campuses outside of our City Campus and so many more. For more information about myself and my campaign please visit, like and follow these links;

[INSTAGRAM.COM/PAULINASOTI](https://www.instagram.com/paulinasoti)
[INSTAGRAM.COM/LLXMOANA](https://www.instagram.com/llxmoana)
[FACEBOOK.COM/VOTE-PETERANDPAULINA](https://www.facebook.com/vote-peterandpaulina)

It's not about what you can do for me. It's about what I can do for you.

Vanessa Falcunitin

NOMINATOR: EMILIA SULLIVAN
SECONDRS: CAITLIN LORIGAN, SOPHIE REEDY YOUNG



Hello everybody! I'm Vanessa, and I hope to represent you as the new AUSA EVP. Firstly, as EVP for the

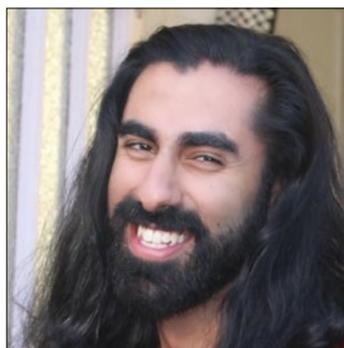
Auckland Law Students' Society, I am equipped with the necessary skills for your academic needs. I have worked with AUSA this year and I am familiar with coordinating events, being a team-player and the work behind an executive body. I know that AUSA is more exposed to a wider range of issues and this is why I want to continue to make a bigger difference as the voice for all students. Secondly, my main goal is to enhance what this year's executive has achieved. I will continue to foster and grow the relationships with University faculties and all associations to ensure that student perspectives are considered in all decisions. I will implement an efficient class rep system where class reps will be my first pin-point for feedback on how to improve the grey areas for further learning development. I will focus on accountability, communication and inclusiveness to improve your educational experience at the University.

[HTTPS://FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/S/VANESSA-FOR-AUSA-EVP-2021/1222025321481156/?TI=ICL](https://www.facebook.com/events/s/vanessa-for-ausa-evp-2021/1222025321481156/?ti=icl)

ENGAGEMENT VICE-PRESIDENT

Ashkeerat Singh

NOMINATOR: SAMUEL SNELL
SECONDRS: HYEON JOO KIM, LINDA HUANG



Kia Ora team!

My name is Ashkeerat Singh, or Ash, and I want to be your

Engagement Vice-President for AUSA in 2021!

Currently I am a fourth year Science and Arts student majoring in Biology, Physiology, and psychology.

AUSA have done an amazing job at rallying student engagement for the past few years and that is

something I'd love to continue. As the current President for the Student Association of Medical Sciences and Event's Co-ordinator for the University of Auckland Cheerleading Association I am well versed in interacting with other faculties and associations and how to improve student engagement.

My main focuses are on making transport more affordable for students, improving the resources available for students' mental wellbeing in order to better their academic and social experiences, as well as improving the student/staff relationship. I also want to work closely with the Queer Rights Officer and Women's Rights Officer to improve marginalised groups' student life.

That's why I need your help to not only continue the awesome work that AUSA have achieved over the years but also improve the underlying issues that affect a student's experience at university. One day at a time.

Ash x

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ASH4ENVP/](https://www.facebook.com/ash4envp/)

Karthik Subramaniam

NOMINATOR: VAISHALI SANKAR
SECONDDERS: ADARSH RAMASUBRAMANIAM, HEMANTH KARNAM MANJUNATH



Hey folks!! This is Karthik Subramaniam, a current Masters Student but a future Construction Manager. As an International Student from India, I had many expectations and wishes flying all over my mind. Though all those were shot dead by COVID-19, I managed myself to get in various activities took place in the University. I was appointed as the Treasurer of Engineering Postgraduate Student Association. With awesome experience I am getting from EPSA, I confidently applied for PGSA buddy

Leader and was successful in becoming the Overall Co-Ordinator of PGSA Buddy Program. In the meantime, I also managed to volunteer other AUSA buddy events and could develop some valuable contacts.

With all these boosting my confidence, Now I am here as the Candidate of AUSA Executive. All the experience I got in various associations and other sources would definitely help me in performing well as an AUSA Executive. I assure that, I would be a firm representative of all the students in our University.

So kindly support me in getting elected as The Engagement Vice-President of AUSA.

Makayla Muhundan

NOMINATOR: VIVIEN WHYTE
SECONDDERS: ISHIE SHARMA, LEO ANDERSON



Kia ora! My name is Makayla, and I am a third year Law & Commerce student, and I'm super excited

to be running to be your AUSA Engagement Vice-President for 2021!

As demonstrated over the past few years, AUSA has been able to create some amazing movement for us students, (we're talking things like the grade bump and compulsory lecture recordings and so much more!) I am running for this role as I would love to continue this momentum to create a better campus for us all! I am super passionate about making sure our student voices are heard, and I would love to further improve the student experience for us all through this role.

My three key policies I would implement if elected are 'Empower', 'Synergy' and 'Action'.

- Empower addresses how we can provide changemakers the tools they need to create movement in the community

- Synergy will establish more avenues for collaboration between groups to maximise impact on our community.
- Action will provide mechanisms to ensure that issues students care about will be championed.

Check out my Facebook event: "VOTE MAKAYLA FOR AUSA ENGAGEMENT VP 2021!" for even more about myself and my policies!

Hope to have your support!

Matthew O'Connell

NOMINATOR: SAM PARKER
SECONDDERS: COLANAH FIGGINS, AZITA NAFISSI



Kia ora everyone! My name is Matthew, and I'm running for AUSA Engagement

Vice President for 2021! The role of engagement vice president is an important one as it involves championing issues that students care about. If I'm

elected, I want to take action on three key student issues. These are better mental health support for students, more political engagement on campus, and a more robust student volunteer system to support those in need.

There is no doubt that 2020 has been chaotic - but it's time for change. I'd like to see more support for mental health as three free counselling sessions won't suffice. In terms of political engagement, I'd like to organise more political events on campus, so that politicians are held accountable by us students. And finally, I'd like to see a more robust student volunteer system. Covid-19 has hit New Zealanders hard and in the last year, students have kindly offered their support to others. I'd like to create a more robust student volunteer system that would ensure student support is coordinated and directed to the right places. I hope I can earn your vote so that we can tackle these big issues and much more together!

[HTTPS://FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/S/VOTE-MATTHEW-FOR-AUSA-ENGAGEME/751607548985055/?TI=ICL](https://facebook.com/events/s/vote-matthew-for-ausa-engageme/751607548985055/?ti=icl)

WELFARE VICE-PRESIDENT

Ishie Sharma

NOMINATOR: TERESA LEE
SECONDER: LAWRENCE GAO, RILEY STEVENSON



Kia ora, ko Ishie tōku ingoa.

I'm Ishie and I'm super hyped to be running to be your Welfare Vice President for AUSA 2021! I'm in my third year of a Law and Global studies conjoint and Munchie Mart muffins are my favourite snack! :)

The role of Welfare VP resonates with me because when university life takes its toll, the first people we reach out to is each other. Therefore, I am an advocate

for creating safe spaces cause kindness really does keep the world afloat, for inclusivity because it's not about being a voice for the voiceless, it's about passing on the mic and for manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and kaitiakitanga.

This is reflected through my policies and I look forward to sharing more on how I plan to

- improve our response to student welfare
- include more diverse policies
- inspire students supporting students

My experience comes from being a Resident Advisor, being on the National Welfare Committee

for UN Youth, co-founding the Auckland University Global Studies Society, volunteering at the Auckland Community Law Centre and having undergone physical and mental health training. I have experience and a vision that's backed by a plan for AUSA Welfare VP 2021.

Come check out my FB page where you can get to know me, my policies and other fun stuff:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ISHIEFORWVP/](https://www.facebook.com/ISHIEFORWVP/)

Aroha mai, aroha atu.

Joshua Watson

NOMINATOR: RHEA YIIN
SECONDER: DION WHARERAU, NASAIH KOSASIH

Kia ora Tip-pity Top Kickers!

I am running for VP with the hopes of making your life's a little easier. Uni has its struggles. Unfortunately, a lot of them are unrelated to the degree your studying.

For me, it has been the external influences for the most part; mental health, social life, physical wellbeing, financial struggle, motivation, etc.

As a welfare vice president, I to communicate with you guys on how I can alleviate these for you!

Nga mihi



Laura Shekouh

NOMINATOR: JAYNA PATEL
SECONDER: JASON ZHAO, KARISSA TRAINOR

Hi to the person reading this, my name's Laura and I'm running for AUSA's Welfare Vice-President!

Just a few random bits about me, I'm studying mechanical engineering, I'm a huge fan of tennis and cars and I got 3 crazy dogs back in Welly.

I'm a big believer in equality and respect. I



genuinely believe that most situations are always better off when all parties involved have respect for one another which is shown through actions (such as listening) but also mentally in terms of how they see one another. For students within the welfare sector, I am really keen to be that person for you. I will make sure that when an application comes through or with issues, that I fully understand their situation and what they need from me. I want to be a strong link for the students and will focus on making the students circumstances understood so that we can make a decision that will always be beneficial to the student.

All I can promise to you guys is my willingness to help and support. I want every student to feel like their circumstances are being treated with such values.

Michael Heard

NOMINATOR: MARIA KHAYDAR
SECONDER: SHRESTANEEL, EMMA GUNN

Kia ora! I'm Michael and I'm here to celebrate what makes you, well, you.

I'm a third-year Psych and Commerce student who cares about you and what makes you different. I'm a huge supporter of 'celebrating diversity'. Diversity to me needs to be spoken about more and understood. Every single person is different and it's those differences that makes the world special.

Some of the things that I want to tackle:

- Health and Counselling - UCHS needs to be revamped so that people feel comfortable asking for help, and that will take all of us.
- Spaces on Campus (E.g. Queerspace) - Need to be upgraded and celebrated to encourage all members of each community to feel welcome.



- Mental Health Advocacy - Every single student needs to feel safe, and that means being able to talk about these things and opening up the discussion. Events that support that cause are one of my major focuses.

I'm just someone who cares. Someone who dislikes politics, but someone who is willing to go the extra mile for you.

Vote for Michael for Welfare VP 2021!!!

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/361722378156888](https://www.facebook.com/events/361722378156888)

Natalie Dolan

NOMINATOR: RUBY CADMAN
SECONDER: ALAN SHAKER, JAY MARSHALL-MAKAEA



My name is Natalie Dolan and I am campaigning to be your Welfare VP for AUSA.

With student life becoming increasingly difficult in a post/current COVID environment and with inequality on the rise, AUSA has a duty to address issues around student mental and physical health and access to education. The rules of the game have changed drastically in the last six months, and assistance available to students needs to reflect this. This is why the University of Auckland needs a powerful representative student voice campaigning for more comprehensive and relevant welfare policy.

Within the AUSA, I will use my voice and position as a loudspeaker, amplifying the concerns, criticisms and knowledge of those who need it. I will be vocal against policy that jeopardises the wellbeing of students, and will rise to needs and expectations of those who seek help to continue their study or otherwise. As someone who has spent four years at the University of Auckland, worked in multiple different executives, and has had the

privilege of being a GTA, I believe that I have a strong knowledge of the students, culture and institution, and could make a tangible difference.

Ngā mihi,

Natalie Dolan

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NATALIE-DOLAN-FOR-AUSA-WELFARE-VP-105755761247797/](https://www.facebook.com/natalie-dolan-for-ausa-welfare-vice-president-105755761247797/)

Stephanie Lim

NOMINATOR: EVA MILLA
SECONDER: IMOGEN SUTTON, SACHINI GUNASEKERA



Kia Ora, I am very excited to be running for AUSA Welfare Vice-President for 2021!

The community at UoA is something I believe needs continual support, with equity at the forefront of university decisions. In my role as Welfare VP I hope to achieve many goals, including the encouragement of club activities and to improve on and implement initiatives that provide support to students.

As the current Co-president of the Marketing and Design Collective I am all too aware of the challenges that university clubs face. Aligning with the 5-year strategic plan that the university is currently working on, I hope to encourage club activities and foster a feeling of community for all students at UoA.

I will always advocate for student wellbeing and equity!

Follow my campaign page on Facebook for further updates on my goals as Welfare VP!

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STEPHANIE-FOR-AUSA-WELFARE-VICE-PRESIDENT-100639161765067](https://www.facebook.com/stephanie-for-ausa-welfare-vice-president-100639161765067/)

Weaam Bassiouni

NOMINATOR: SHANAY RAMPHAL
SECONDER: PRITIKA CHAND, PARIS SEU

Weaam Bassiouni- To be your next Welfare VP for AUSA

This role is about YOU, and YOUR wellbeing.



In 2021, I will be a third-year Global Studies student, thus I am well informed with how the university operates and what changes we can do to support your needs. My goal is to ensure the university is providing students with safe, enjoyable and supportive spaces to study, work, and live.

UoA has the highest student fees of all the universities in NZ, it's about time we start seeing them

put to good use and that you are being represented and supported.

This will be achieved through:

1. Taking measures to ensure your wellbeing and mental health is a priority.
2. Cultivating a culture of equality and inclusion as well as a community which empowers and supports one another.
3. Investing in facilities, projects and resources which not only make University an enjoyable place to be but are sustainable too.

Your welfare should be at the heart of everything we do as a Students' Association. A vote for me is really a vote for you because you come first!

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WEAAMB-YOUR-NEXT-WELFARE-VP-FOR-AUSA-101116971716973](https://www.facebook.com/weaamb-your-next-welfare-VP-for-AUSA-101116971716973)

TREASURER/SECRETARY

Faataualofa So'olefai

NOMINATOR: CARSON PIKE-TAVAI
SECONDER: HAISLEY BELL, ANNABELLE RYAN

Talofa Lava. As a fourth-year conjoint student, there isn't much left on my 'Before-I-Graduate'



Bucket List; I've worked for 3 different faculties, stayed at OGGB until 11pm, and cried for 10 minutes before carrying on with my assignments. I've learnt that when an opportunity pops up, you grab it with both hands and give it 130%.

This year I will be running for the role of Treasurer - Secretary for the AUSA Executive 2021 and I am confident that I will do the students of UoA justice. As Treasurer-Secretary my voice will echo the demands of the student body in Executive and Advisory Board

meetings. My priority will be to prioritise you as a student through the effective allocation of funds in the AUSA strategy to enhance the student experience. Event management? That's child's play - I can guarantee that the best events are yet to come.

My moral is to be the Good Samaritan in private as much as you are in public - that is, putting in the mahi needed to see our students succeed regardless of race, getting out of my comfort zone and accepting reprimands, and offering to help others when it's within my means.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ALOFAFORAUSA](https://www.facebook.com/ALOFAFORAUSA)

John Golena

NOMINATOR: RAPHAEL ANGELO
GANNABAN
SECONDER: LUIS LANADA, ALVIN JANG



Everyone is equal in my eyes, and I don't see myself above someone else. In this role as treasurer I will communicate and update you on what the council is planning. Creating a clear communication between you and us. I am very easy to contact, all my notifications are turned on in my phone. I am the friend that responds before you even finish typing your message. I've worked as a daycare teacher, an art tutor and a juggle a youtube channel & 4 instagram pages of different art disciplines (One for art, architecture, music, styling). I can document tasks to do, as well as carry them out like butter. A treasurer's job is to keep the council up to date on what has been decided, for future reference as well as coordinate finance. I am not afraid to talk with people no matter who they are, to share and to learn from, and as treasurer the people connection, and communication is crucial.

If you would like to connect with me, you can direct

message me on Instagram

[HTTPS://INSTAGRAM.COM/HOIJAHN](https://instagram.com/HOIJAHN)

Shiyong Xu

NOMINATOR: OJAS SHUKLA
SECONDER: ALTHEA TARROSA, NIKI
MENZIES



Kia ora everyone, my name is Shiyong, and I am running for the role of AUSA Treasurer/Secretary in 2021! I'm running for this role because with things constantly changing, I want to help bring all students together. I think that students from different backgrounds can benefit from AUSA and I hope to contribute to this by helping with the organisation and financial situation of AUSA in this role. I am a great candidate for this role as I am heavily involved with the university community, being a Uniguide and on the executive team of a few different cultural clubs. I also have two years of previous experience as a treasurer, so I am familiar with managing the budget for each event. If you think I am the right candidate then vote for me to be your Treasurer/Secretary for 2021!!!!

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/3245762232140150/](https://www.facebook.com/events/3245762232140150/)

CAMPAIGNS OFFICER

Oliver Murphy

NOMINATOR: FELIX POOLE
SECONDER: DOMINIC DAVIDSON, JOSHUA MANDENO

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICER

Abirrhani Rajagopal

NOMINATOR: LIKHITHA SATRASALA
SECONDRS: JESSLYN WOO, DIVYA ROSHIN



Hello everyone! My name is Abirrhani Rajagopal and I am running for the role of International Students' Officer

for the year 2021. Having been an international student myself on campus for the past three years, I have come across several difficulties in terms of accessibility and inclusion. I was able to get past through them over time and I strongly believe that they have developed a great sense of maturity in me. I appreciate the help received over these years and it is now time for me to do my part.

If elected as the International Student Officer, I will:

- address the issue of increasing international students' fee
- increase the proportion of international students' in university accommodation
- provide assistance with private flatting issues (visa, local guarantor, etc.)
- increase the integration of international students with the local community
- consult both the university and local industries regarding the limited number of scholarships and summer internships available for international students

Above all, staying away from family can be difficult especially with the unprecedented challenges resulted by the COVID-19 outbreak. If elected as the next International Student Officer, I will work hard with other officers towards ensuring equal access to educational, health and social services for all students.

For more information, follow this Facebook page:

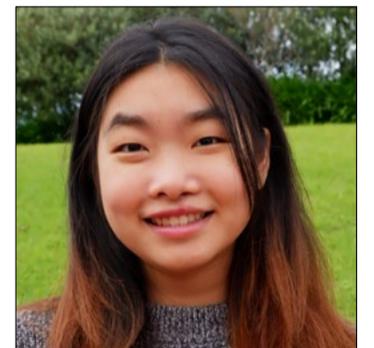
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ABIRRHANI](https://www.facebook.com/ABIRRHANI)

Amber Hazelton

NOMINATOR: ROCHELLE DE BEER
SECONDRS: TOM WONG, KATE BIERNE

Emmy Jusakul

NOMINATOR: NICOLE BRENNAN
SECONDRS: RODRIGO MIRANDA, MARCELO PRATES KRAS BORGES



Kia Ora and Sawadee-ka! My name is Emmy, and I am from Thailand. I am a second-year

Commerce student running for the International Students' officer role. Leaving your home country to study abroad takes a lot of bravery and commitment. As a candidate, I have the vision to make the transfer as seamless as possible. One of my most significant policies includes supporting international students' well-being by promoting events and activities, aiming to create a sense of community and belonging. To enhance our learning to the full potential, I have a plan to introduce subtitles on lecture recordings. For the cultural aspect, I also have ideas for a sports event and food festival.

During my high school years, I was a member of the student council from which I developed my leadership and interpersonal skills. I will listen and be vocal about your issues. I will fight for equity so that international students have the same support and opportunities as domestic students.

For further information, you may follow the 'Vote for Emmy Jusakul as AUSA International Students'

Officer' event on Facebook. Thank you and Kob Kun Ka!

Habilash Kumar Vilvam Parthasarathy

NOMINATOR: ANJANA ARUL
SECONDRS: KANNAN SUBRAMANIAN,
MUTHURAMAN ARUMUGAM



"Innovation distinguishes
between a leader and a follower."

-Steve Jobs

I firmly believe in this quote
and try to work out in my life too. I will innovate the
committee by becoming an international officer. I
never make a false promise, but I'll do more than you
expected.

Please follow this page for more information and
don't hesitate to reach me for any help.

Thank you

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AUSA-INTERNATIONAL-OFFICER-ELECTION-
CAMPAIGN-104657234691984](https://www.facebook.com/AUSA-INTERNATIONAL-OFFICER-ELECTION-CAMPAIGN-104657234691984)

Kevin Guo

NOMINATOR: MANAV SHARMA
SECONDRS: MAITREYI CHAKRAPANI, LY
CINDY NGUYEN



My name is Kevin, and I've been
an international student in New
Zealand for over 10 years. I am
running to be the international students' officer not
only because I want to be their voice at this university;
I want them to thrive as individuals in New Zealand
despite the challenges they face.

I want new students to feel welcomed around
campus and in lecture halls, I want to inspire them
to get involved in our clubs and societies, I want to
encourage them to come to our parties and events.
Most importantly, I want them to feel that the University
of Auckland is a home away from home.

I have big goals and I have the skills and experience

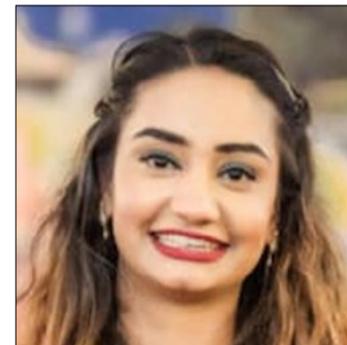
to tackle them. Volunteering on a missionary trip in
Tanzania taught me compassion and humility, working
as a construction project coordinator taught me how
to plan and execute any task, working as a swimming
instructor for pre-schoolers taught me how to
communicate effectively, even with the most difficult
individuals.

I truly believe we can make UoA a better place for
domestic and international students alike. So if you
want a better 2021, you better Guo for it.

[FB.ME/VOTEKEV2021](https://www.facebook.com/votekev2021)

Muna Dhakal

NOMINATOR: LAURA NEMENTZIK
SECONDRS: PRARTHITA DASGUPTA, JYOTI
ARYAL



Hello, Muna here! I am an
international student at the
University of Auckland. I am
running for the position of International Students'
Officer in the AUSA Executive Elections 2020. I might
not look as pretty in real-life as in this photo, but this
is only headshot photo I had. I am currently a graduate
student at the Centre for Brain Research. I did my
undergrad from UoA. Apart from being in the lab, I
love to talk about different cuisines, cultures, cultural
backgrounds, meet new people and simply observe
how despite the diverse backgrounds we all are united
by this institution, this place and things beyond! As an
international student myself, the starting journey in a
new land isn't always easy but over the years I have seen
all the opportunities and help available at the university
to make us feel at home. To make the transition/journey
at UoA even more beautiful, to reach out for those help
and opportunities earlier than I did and to be the voice of
international students at the university, I decided to run
for this position (also I need part-time job). If you weren't

anyways going to vote, might as well vote for me?

Shanaya Crasto

NOMINATOR: NAYA TODD
SECONDRS: ASHLEE SANNAZZARO-
CAMERON, SIMONE MURPHY



Kia ora. I'm Shanaya, and I'm running for International Student's Officer. As international students, we have paid thousands and traveled miles to be here, so we deserve to be heard. Hence I want to take on this role to represent all our voices on hot topics that matter to us:

Finances- Moving to a new country can break the bank, and I think we can all agree that the university could do more to make it easier. I want to propose more scholarships and hardship grants for international students and assistance with finding part-time jobs given our lack of local experience.

Communication- For some of us, English is not our first language, and it can be hard when trying to participate in class discussions or understand Kiwi references. I say that the university should adopt more inclusive teaching styles that cater to a multi-lingual/cultural classroom.

Wellbeing- Having to learn remotely this year, whether it be from inside or outside New Zealand, has been stressful. The international support staff is seen as the one-stop-shop for all issues to do with international students. I propose that the university spends more on training its support staff so that we receive catered pastoral care.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SHANAYA-CRASTO-FOR-AUSA-INTERNATIONAL-STUDENTS-OFFICER-103268338166271](https://www.facebook.com/shanaya-crasto-for-ausa-international-students-officer-103268338166271)

Talha Zia

NOMINATOR: ISHITA CHAWLA
SECONDRS: MAHIN SHEIKH, AHMAD UMAR



Kia Ora Whanau! I'm Talha Zia from Pakistan, and I'm running to be your 2020 International Students' Officer!

It's my final year here at UoA and during my time here, I have experienced several issues as an International Student ranging from getting on-campus accommodation, securing work opportunities to the lack of financial support and scholarships available for international students.

In my term as an ISO, I want to serve as a resilient voice that represents the International Students at the University and the International Committee by raising their concerns and bringing it forward at the relevant forum; build a strong working relationship with AUSA staff to administer events to support International Students.

During this pandemic, various international students have experienced financial hardship due to job attrition and/or paucity of anticipated financial support from their sponsors. People experienced that the process for financial support offered by UoA is quite complicated. There is a need to streamline the process of such support to reach the requester promptly, at the right time.

My vision is to foster clear communication and collaboration among the University and its International students in an effort to raise awareness on the University's diversity and support their representation.

Varsha Ravi

NOMINATOR: BARAK GOREN
SECONDRS: JANKO SCHNEIDER, SHEREEN LEE



Kia ora e te whanau, My name is Varsha, and I'm running to be your next ISO for 2021.

Originally, I hail from Botswana+India, but I now have the privilege of calling Tāmaki Makaurau my home for the past few years. As an international student(IS), I recognise the strength in diversity and am passionate about enhancing engagement with IS' to ensure that we are integrated into the fabric of our university. To achieve this, my policies aim to work closer with cultural clubs in creating better platforms that celebrate our identity and diversity - implementing Auckland University's whakapapa and kaupapa of togetherness. In particular, I will advocate for improved economic policies which sustain IS enriching our experience at UoA. As a Law-

Global Studies student, I have gained the valuable skills+experience required for ISO. Being a co-founding member of AUGSS 2018 - 2019 and having worked as a Leader under the Uniguide Programme, these have provided me insight into the inner functions of the University, which I hope to transfer into my role as ISO to navigate the system to advocate for our needs.

"I am because you are"; "Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi".

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VARSHA-RAVI-FOR-AUSA-ISO-2021-107247371098964](https://www.facebook.com/varsha-ravi-for-ausa-iso-2021-107247371098964)

Zheu Si

NOMINATOR: YUHANG SUI
SEONDRS: ERIC, YUAN LIU

Zhuoling Chen

NOMINATOR: ECHO CHEN
SECONDRS: WENHUI LIN, YURN ZHOU

POSTGRADUATE STUDENT OFFICER

Emma Cooper-Williams

NOMINATOR: ROSA HENDERSON
SECONDRS: NEIHANA WAITAI, MONICA JUDGE



As a postgraduate student I know that the transition from undergraduate to postgraduate studies can be different for everyone. I would create events where postgraduate students can engage outside of a classroom setting. I would hold events where postgraduate students could discuss their research interests with one another, perhaps allowing them to feel more connected to the postgraduate journey. I would make sure that postgraduate students' voices are heard

at meetings, making sure that I represent the range of perspectives that are present in the postgraduate student population. As a woman who is also disabled and a part of the rainbow community, I would want look at ways that I could gather perspectives so that they could be represented alongside undergraduate voices. Having these perspectives gives me more insight into what students face, and I would like to further explore what students need and want, such as spaces that are inclusive including the postgraduate lounge and check that this is fit for the purpose of student use. Being a new position, I am committed to making the role what it should be, that is serving the needs of postgraduate

students and representing them the way they want to be.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EMMA-COOPER-WILLIAMS-FOR-POSTGRADUATE-STUDENT-OFFICER-2021-106556124500628](https://www.facebook.com/emma-cooper-williams-for-postgraduate-student-officer-2021-106556124500628)

Jet Tonogbanua

NOMINATOR: CJ HE

SEONDERS: SOPHIE PEUNG, RIPI KAUR



Coming to New Zealand as a full-paying international postgrad student was tremendously hard.

I felt isolated living in a beautiful country while pursuing a PhD in Education. Fortunately, I was able to connect with other postgraduate students through the Postgraduate Student Association (PGSA) where I volunteered and supported their advocacy. I felt so happy to serve a higher purpose and to be of help to other postgrad students. This time, I want to be able to serve them even better and be able to amplify the services that our dedicated faculty PGSA's have done over the years. As an AUSA Postgraduate Representative, my key advocacy it is to empower our volunteer postgrad students who are committed to providing our students with a smooth, joyful, and a rewarding postgraduate study.

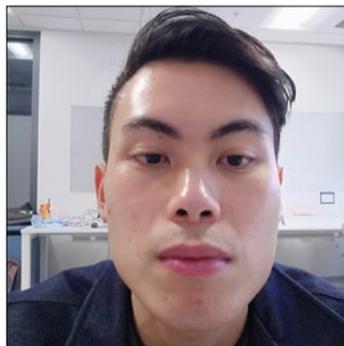
Kia Kaha, we are all in this together.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JETAUSAPGREP/](https://www.facebook.com/jetausapgrep/)

Luis Miguel Camacho

NOMINATOR: DANNY MCDUGALL

SECONDER: SAAWAN KUMAR, SNEH PATEL



Hello everyone, I'm a PhD Student in the Faculty of Science and I look to continue the building of community we have for our postgraduates. This will be in the form of events specific to us postgraduates but also in the wider sense to engage with the wider university. I want our

facilities to remain stocked with refreshments and continue to be a safe and supportive space. With that said, I also want to increase the services available to postgraduates for mental wellbeing, especially during these unforeseen circumstances. As COVID-19 has halted a lot of our research I will also engage in discussion to increase the duration of extensions for hand in dates and scholarships. Let's keep making the university a great place for us all!

Sasha Smith

NOMINATOR: DANIEL GAY

SECONDER: JUSTYN FIELDEN, HANNAH ADAMSON



Why I am running: I feel as though I only recently, in the past few years, learnt to use my voice and to stand up for what I think is right and fair, and I want to use my voice for others who can't and for those who just accept things as they are. For postgraduates I feel that the facilities, resources and events could be better, and I want to be able to add your opinions and thoughts to better these for you. I don't want to just use this position for betterment in just the University of Auckland, but for all things related to your study such as; studylink and the government. One thing I think that is unfair that I really want to work towards is to put pressure on the legislation behind postgraduates and student allowance, it is unfair that postgraduates do not get access to this vital resource and it can also discourage people from enrolling in postgraduate study. I want to use my unbiased opinions and open mind to help postgraduates achieve the best they can, by having resources and events to use.

Thank you for your time,

Sasha Smith

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SASHAFORPS02021](https://www.facebook.com/sashaforps02021)

Stefy Gi Peediakal

NOMINATOR: ABI THAMPI
SECONDRS: ALJO ANAND, ASHLY JOSE



Kia Ora everyone,

My name is Stefy Gi Peediakal and I'm a second year PhD student in the School of Chemical Sciences. I am running for the role of Postgraduate Officer in the AUSA elections. I understand how it is being a student and especially how the transition from undergrad to postgrad could be overwhelming at the same time stressful. It is quite unfortunate to mention that the most isolated students in the university are the postgraduates!

I would like to appreciate PGSA for taking the initiative to represent the interests of postgraduate

student to the University. However, being a postgrad is a challenge as we know and I hope to be a friendly face, a compassionate ear, an approachable colleague, a helpful contact and your defensive voice.

I wish to bridge postgrads of a myriad of interdisciplinary faculties, thus providing an opportunity for learning, peer-guidance and networking. I also wish to setup events and mentorship between postgrads and postdocs. Overall, I hope to have a happy, vibrant postgraduate community that is well supported during the ups and downs of postgraduate studies.

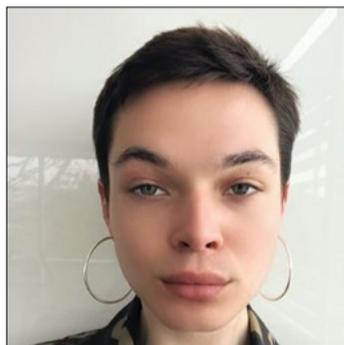
If you believe I can bring changes to our community, do vote for me as your POSTGRADUATE OFFICER

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VOTE-4-STEFY-GI-PEEDIKAL-POSTGRADUATE-OFFICER-2021-101115231720120/](https://www.facebook.com/vote-4-stefy-gi-peediakal-postgraduate-officer-2021-101115231720120/)

QUEER RIGHTS OFFICER

James McKinnon

NOMINATOR: JED ROBERTSON
SECONDRS: HONGWEI LUO, MILANETA PELLETT



Tena koutou, my name is James McKinnon and I am running for the position of Queer Rights Officer

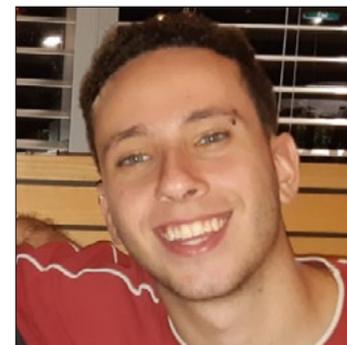
in 2021. My vision is simple- I want to bring the Queer community on campus together, so that the LGBT+ student body at the University of Auckland can learn, grow, and connect with one another. As QRO, I will make the Queer community into a more visible, stronger and empowered collective, and ensure that we will present in all wider discussions at university. I promise that our voice will be heard and that we will always have a seat at the table. Additionally, I will transform Queerspace into a radically Queer and creative environment. Queerspace

will be more than a common area or place to study, as it previously has been. There will be fashion and drag shows, art exhibitions, discussions and talks, support groups, and most importantly, it will centre around a kaupapa of inclusivity, diversity and accessibility. University is a place for everyone to discover new ideas and theories, but as QRO, Queerspace will become a space for you to discover yourself, and your community- our community. For more information, please visit my Facebook page at

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JAMES4QRO2021

Lavi Abitbol

NOMINATOR: LAVI ABITBOL
SECONDRS: ROSIE HAYDEN, SHERRY ZHANG



Kia ora koutou, my name is

Lavi (He/They) and I am a third year Law/Arts student (majoring in Politics and Psychology). These last two years, I have been active as an Education member of the Rainbow Law Executive. These are some of my policies:

1. **Advocacy:** Continuing Victoria's hard mahi, I want to push the university to write down their commitment for the completion of gender-neutral bathrooms by 2025. I plan to utilise the Queer Student Council for this.
2. **Education:** I want to improve queer understanding for staff and students. Running workshops for staff (e.g. importance of pronouns), and Halls (to make them a safe space for queers), as well as educational campaigns around university.
3. **Culture:** To build a sense of queer community, I want to collaborate with different Rainbow groups across university for social events. I want to have Queer Spaces in each campus. As well as that, I want to push for Halls to have Queer Student Representatives as points of contact for students.

I am always actively trying to learn more about different queer identities and experiences. If you have anything you would like me to address, flick me a message!

Arohanui,
Lavi J

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LAVIFORQRO2021](https://www.facebook.com/LAVIFORQRO2021)

Ruby Cadman

NOMINATOR: LIAM DAVIES

SECONDDERS: ELISE BAILEY, KIAN ADAMS



Kia ora koutou katoa! I'm Ruby Cadman and I'm taking the leap of running to be your Queer Rights Officer. I am running

on a platform of experienced, hardworking, and collaborative representation. Queer advocacy and community is my biggest passion, and I have been working at this since I was sixteen. I created and ran my high school's first LGBTQA+ group, I have been running RainbowYOUTH's high school age peer support group for the past 2 years and I am currently the Equity representative for two campus groups. I have 5 main policies which are all based on strengthening and building up our community. They include redecorating QueerSpace with art and murals from UoA queer artists, queer nights out at Shadows, and advocacy forums to ensure issues from all corners of our community are listened to and acted on. In order to find out my other policies and learn more about me, search up "Cadman for Queer Community" on Facebook and Instagram.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS OFFICER

Aria Shiyi Zhang

NOMINATOR: ZANE CHAUDH

SECONDDERS: CARSON PIKE-TAVAI,
MONIQUE OLIVER

Kia ora,

I'm Aria Zhang and I want to be your Women's Rights Officer in



2021.

Women's rights are a driving force behind everything I do. Growing up in a multicultural environment means I have international advocacy experience where I have both amplified the collective female voice and advocated for individual women. In

China, I volunteered for the Peking University Legal Aid Association and sat on the board of directors for the Western Students' Union. Currently, I volunteer for the Equal Justice Project and the Citizen's Advice Bureau.

I believe in the power of unity but I also celebrate personal connections, and I want all UoA women to feel seen, supported, and safe. I will continue our battle against period poverty, while conscious of waste and sustainability. I want to use the AUSA platform to highlight existing female-focused clubs and associations, and then take it further. I want to ensure that our women are safe and protected from harassment and sexual aggression. I will establish a weekly office hour where everyone can drop by for a yarn, tea and sweet treats.

Check out my campaign page for more information on me, my policies, and some subpar humour:

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/ARIAWRO.](https://tinyurl.com/ariaawro)

Chantal Dalebroux

NOMINATOR: NIAMH FERNS
SECONDRERS: MADELINE PENEWI, JINGSHU XU

Hi, I'm Chantal Dalebroux and I'm running for Women's Rights Officer 2021. As someone



who considers social justice and equality advocacy extremely important, I feel like I could bring a lot to the role with my passion and understanding of women's issues. I strongly believe that as a University, the aim should be on supporting our various communities and making campus feel like a 'home away from home' for every student. Among other things, my planned policies for the role include: making sure the University is a safe space for all those in toxic household environments,

highlighting women's mental health particularly around eating disorders, continuing the previous WRO's push to advocate for a culture of consent on campus, and bringing the topic of female reproductive health to the forefront of campus awareness. The link to my Facebook page for campaigning is:

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DALEBROUXFORWOMENSRIGHTS2021](http://www.facebook.com/DALEBROUXFORWOMENSRIGHTS2021)

Divya Somashekarappa

NOMINATOR: KARTHIK SUBRAMANIAM
SECONDRERS: MURALIPRASAD RAVISANKAR, CHAITHRA KHARVI



I am Divya Somashekarappa, Running for Women Rights Officer AUSA 2020 elections. I

am a master's student pursuing Data Science. What do I stand for? Equality, liberty and Freedom. I believe gender equality demands a radical transformation in the way we think at the individual and institutional level about women, their bodies, their sexuality, and their lives.

If elected, I will continue to listen and do my best. I aim to create a forum where women can discuss collaborate and overcome the day to day issues they face at university or just being able to discuss anything that women want. The word feminist is more wrongly Feminist is not someone who puts women over men. It is just someone who expects both to be treated the same way.

I also promise lots of fun activities , collaborations and events. As new as this is for me I would look forward to listening to ideas that all of you have and to seek suggestions and improvements. I promise to be reachable to everyone at the university and to hear and be heard.

Give me a chance to do my best for you all! See you all at the Voting !!

Ishita Chawla

NOMINATOR: ISHITA CHAWLA
SECONDRS: TALHA ZIA, OLIVIA MAHEY

Jayna Patel

NOMINATOR: LAURA SHEKOUH
SECONDRS: HELEN MENG, STEPHEN PARINAS



Hey Guys, my name is Jayna Patel and I am running to be the Women's Rights Officer at AUSA.

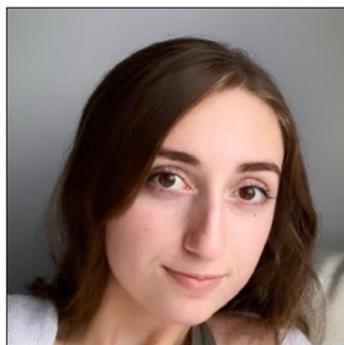
As a self-identifying woman in a degree that "men are meant for," there have been times where I have been in a gender divide situation. As a Women's Rights Officer it would be my job to ensure that ALL women at UoA don't have to go through this. Having a great community where women can feel comfortable as who they are is the ideal university environment that I want to achieve. I want to support all women to be confident in having a strong voice.

G.D. Anderson once said, "Feminism isn't about making women stronger. Women are already strong; it's about changing the way the world perceives that strength." I agree that every woman is strong in their own way, but feminism to me is not just about women empowerment but gender equity. Every gender should have the same rights and opportunities.

I don't believe any of the other candidates running for this role are better or worse than each other, as women we can all inspire one another. I will do my best to fulfil what I hope to achieve.

Nicole Brennan

NOMINATOR: EMILY TALBOT
SECONDRS: EMMY JUSAKUL, NATHAN BOND



It's time to take some steps

forward! What a crazy 2020 and now we're planning on getting back on track as a community. I'll fight for the Women's Space getting a **FACE LIFT** with a mural competition done by fine arts students along with more events, **FREE** Washing/drying in uni accommodation, and Working with Feel Good Period in growing fundraising/promising for **FREE** tampons across campus.

Currently running for AUSA's Women's Rights Officer as a second year Politics/criminology student (Whoop, Whoop!), I have hung out in the plain Women's Space, lived in Uni Accom that doesn't seem to fully care/provide relief, and be in situations where I didn't know what my options were due to lack of information being advertised. I would like to see some change and help build a strong team to create policy in bettering **OUR** student experience.

Not throwin' away my shot, **please search:**

[VOTENICOLEWRO](#) on facebook or [NICOLESPAGES](#) on instagram for more information/to follow my campaign! :)

Tazrin Haque

NOMINATOR: ANNA LINES
SECONDRS: MADDY CRUTCHLEY, ALISON ACUZAR



Hello, I'm Taz. I'm a Bangladeshi science student. I'm running for women's rights officer. Why vote

for me? Being from Bangladesh I've seen the inequality women face every day, no choice on; what they want to study, who to marry and so on. If anyone is experiencing this I want to make our institute a place these women can reach out for help. I want to raise awareness, and have every option possible ready for women of ALL colour.

Being in science I've also realised higher education

roles are male dominated. I want to make Auckland university an environment where women can be who they want to be, where women make their own decisions, have someone to talk to, be able to reach for help, and achieve great things. Our woman prime minister is loved by the world. There should be nothing stopping women from conquering the academic world.

Women are amazing and it's time the world realised that. If you want to reach out, you can message me on [FACEBOOK](#) or [INSTAGRAM @TAZRINHAQUE](#) or if you see me on campus just approach me I promise I'm friendly!

Trisna Claney

NOMINATOR: SAMUEL HILL
SECONDRS: JACK JULIAN, JADE SEO

Hi, y'all! My name is Trisna Claney, and I am very excited to be running as a candidate for the role of AUSA Women's Rights Officer in 2021.



I was born in the beautiful island of Bali, being raised in Auckland by an Asian mother and a Pākehā father. Thus, I wandered my way through life as a bicultural woman. I began my university journey determined that I would enter med school and become a doctor. It was within an incredibly challenging first year that I realised I wished to do many other things before taking the plunge into the world of clinical medicine. I am now studying a conjoint degree, doing a Bachelor of Health Sciences and a Bachelor of Arts. I happen to be the current Equity Officer for the Arts Student Association, and I am also a student representative for the board of studies in the School of Population Health.

The key policies that I would like to work on in the

University are:

Revitalising Women's Spaces in the University as I hope University can be a safe space or if need be, an escape for people who are having difficult domestic circumstances.

Supporting single mothers who

Vivien Whyte

NOMINATOR: FRANCES REVITA
SECONDRS: ISABELLA MUIRHEAD,
ANGELINE XIAO

Kia ora, my name's Vivien Whyte and I'm a second year studying a Bachelors of Science/Music.



I have always been passionately involved within the intersectional feminist community – from advocating for reproductive justice, being in consent club and working as a consent guardian to volunteering with the Auckland's Women's Centre and National Council of Women. These have collectively given me a breadth of experience and skills that will make me an effective WRO both on the ground and at a governance level.

My focus as WRO will be to empower all wāhine, foster safe spaces for us and increase the WRO's and womxn space's accessibility to students. I'd see safe spaces for womxn both strengthened on campus and fostered online. I would work with student associations to create spaces for womxn within each faculty, as well as create more opportunities to celebrate their work and achievements. I will promote healthy korero around sex and consent education, and would like to see the consent workshops/training readily available for students. But most importantly, I'm here to work with and support you!

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VIVIEN-FOR-AUSA-WOMENS-RIGHTS-OFFICER-100713905090805/](https://www.facebook.com/vivien-for-ausa-womens-rights-officer-100713905090805/)

BRING CHANGE

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<https://tinyurl.com/voteUOA>

Cast your vote in the 2020 AUSA Election and each day we'll draw a winner from the daily prize pool! From an Apple Watch to a Nintendo Switch, we have three prizes daily to give away.

