

CRACCU

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND STUDENT MAGAZINE

ISSUE 18, 2020



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AND **REFERENDUMS**

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Nostalgia Isn't What it Used to Be

Cam says:

Man those rose-tinted glasses are great, aren't they? This week, we're getting nostalgic. And, although we didn't plan this edition to be released during a Level 3 Lockdown, it might just be the best time to get nostalgic, considering what we're all living through right now. What else can we be but nostalgic for simpler times when we're all largely confined to our homes.

So let's go back, reminisce, remember a different time. A time where the words, lockdown, alert level four, self isolation and work-from-home had very different meanings. Where you'd come home from school, grab your best after school snack (I'm a fan of a Le Snax or a Roll-up) and chuck on Disney for the remainder of the afternoon.

While Dan's editorial talks of a more recent nostalgia, I'm going to speak of growing up when the Disney Channel first got added to SKY TV. It was the most exciting thing in my young life and I was such a stan for it. Going back into the Time capsule for this edition did expose how cringe these shows really were, though when I was 8, they were the best. Suite Life of Zack and Cody, Hannah Montana, Kim Possible, and Wizards of Waverly Place, Iconic. Now Cody's on Riverdale, Hannah started Twerking and Selena's all grown up. Thank god that Kim Possible is still the bad ass feminist icon she was when I was young. How can you not grow up to believe women can do anything when Kim saved the world on the daily.

Maybe I'm biased, maybe it's what everyone thinks of the time they grew up, but the shows of this era were some of the best.

Cheers,
Cam

Dan says:

This week is all about reminiscing about the past.

The topic means a lot to me, especially as it relates to my time at university. I've been at university for almost five years now. I've seen a lot of ups and downs in my time, a lot of change. When I first started, Antalya was the biggest food vendor in town. JB HiFi on Queens St let students play on the FIFA demo in their store. Overheard was the biggest page at uni.

All those times are behind me now though. They're all forgotten. But I don't want to forget them. That's why it was important to me that this week I wrote something poignant. Something smart. Something touching.

Instead, I rewrote the words to the chorus of Nickelback's Photograph. Enjoy:

*Oh, whoa, whoa, whoa, God, I
Every memory of sprintin' to the law desk
Tryna hand my essay in with only minutes left
It's hard to say it
Time to say it
I'm still here, I'm still here
Every memory of workin' till the new dawn
Every time I fell asleep in tut-or-i-als
It's hard to say it
Time to say it
I'm still here, I'm still here
Oh, whoa, whoa, whoa, God, I'm so old.*

Thanks,
Dan



Students Worry of Funding Cuts to School of Social Science

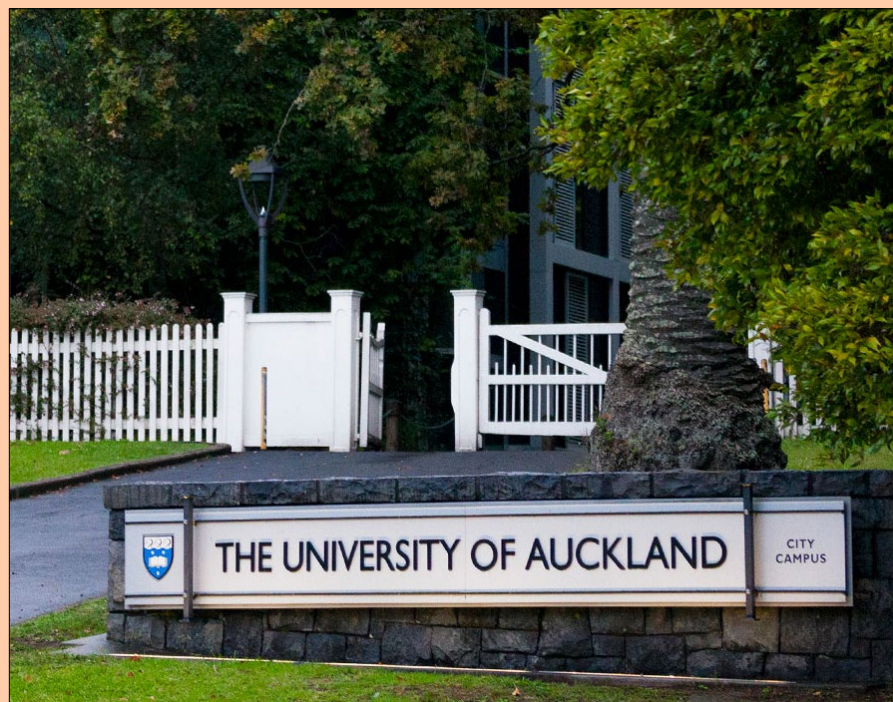
CAMERON LEAKEY

Concerned students are preparing a letter to Simon Holdaway, Head of the School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts, following rumours of significant funding cuts to the School for 2021.

The letter, circulated by students from the Faculty of Arts, has appeared on University Facebook pages such as Overheard and True Overheard and asks students to digitally sign the letter in support of maintaining funding for the School, citing a 2% increase in student enrolments in the last year. The rumoured cuts include decreasing the number of courses available in the School as well as reducing the number of available Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) contracts.

The University, in an email to Craccum, clarified that incorrect conclusions might have been reached following discussions from the University Senior Leadership team about the financial situation and Strategic planning for the University. It assured Craccum that "Classes have not been cut, there is no decision to have lectorials, and we are protecting jobs for GTAs, particularly in first-year courses". The email further stated however that the COVID-19 pandemic had an effect on the University's financial situation and this would need to be "taken into consideration in 2021", with the University maintaining a priority on providing "world-class teaching and learning".

However, students in the School, told Craccum that they learnt of the rumoured funding decreases from



numerous academics within the Faculty as well as through discussions at Student-Staff Consultative Meetings. The Arts Student Organisation (ASO) told Craccum they were aware of the alleged funding cuts and had been informed of them by various Faculty of Arts staff members. ASO said that "whilst we understand that COVID-19 has a devastating effect on the country's economy and the finances of the University, the current approach of looking at cutting papers and student-facing staff is an incredibly short-sighted approach". ASO further stated that "cuts to academic products offered to students should be coupled with cuts to professional staff salaries and other superfluous expenses the University current maintains, even if such cuts are little more than symbolic."

The Head of Social Sciences, Professor Simon Holdaway, will now meet with concerned students next week to discuss their concerns.



AUSA Executive Nominations Announced

ELLA MORGAN

Auckland University Students' Association (AUSA) has released the provisional nominations for their Executive positions last week.

Five candidates are running for the position of President, making it the first time the position will be contested in five years. Anamika Harirajh, Peter Loma Malifa, Salim Alzubaidi, Arsh Garcha and Daniel V Barraclough will be campaigning for the presidency.

Over 60 candidates have been nominated for the 12 existing and proposed Executive positions. However, if a proposal to change AUSA's constitution is passed, the positions of Campaigns Officer, Satellite Campus Representative and Design Officer will be disestablished, and the Postgraduate Students' Officer

position will be established, making the Executive to a team of nine.

Notably, 15 candidates are running for the position of International Students' Officer, making it the most highly contested position in the election this year.

Campaigning opened last Monday, and will be taking place online and in-person, provided that Auckland's COVID-19 Alert Level is lowered.

Voting will begin on the 31st of August and close on the 4th of September. Students will be able to vote online through the university's *Engage* platform. The AUSA will provide further instructions regarding voting on their social media pages.

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The Rising Trend of Student Surveillance

AVINASH GOVIND

Near the start of the 2020 academic year, the University of Canterbury implemented a machine-learning based system, known as Analytics for Course Engagement (ACE), to aid the university in identifying and helping students that may be at risk of being unable to successfully complete their coursework. This year, the system was only used in the university's 100 level courses, equivalent to Stage 1.

ACE initially gives each student an individual engagement score for each of their courses, on the basis of their engagement with a range of online

learning materials on LEARN, a system similar to CANVAS, the University of Auckland's online learning platform. Using these scores, a machine-learning algorithm is then trained to determine a band of engagement scores which is indicative of the level of engagement that is needed for the successful completion of a course.

Students whose engagement scores lie outside of this band are initially sent an automated text message encouraging them to increase their level of engagement. If levels of engagement do not change following their automated

ILLUSTRATION BY GRACE WANG

message, the students are directly contacted by a member of the university's staff to discuss the situation.

Notably, ACE does not use the performance of students in assessments, such as mid-semester tests or assignments, to determine whether they may be at risk of failing their coursework, but rather focuses on their level of engagement with educational material.

When pressed about potential privacy concerns on One News's Breakfast in July, Catherine Moran, the university's Academic Vice-Chancellor, pointed to the transparency of the systems, noting that "students are fully aware of [ACE]" and that "the [engagement levels of students] appear on their LEARN page".

Though students have the ability to opt-out of viewing their engagement scores, they do not have the ability to opt-out of ACE itself. Regardless of the preferences of students, with respect to their ability to view their engagement scores, their scores are collected and monitored by the university.

The University of Canterbury's implementation of ACE comes amid a recent growth in the use of digital surveillance within educational institutions across the world. During this time, a range of tools have been implemented to monitor student behaviour, both online and in-person.

In 2019, over 200,000 students across the United States attended campuses which used the services of Degree Analytics, a firm that analysed the Wi-Fi signals of students in order to flag unexpected behavioural changes, which, the universities contend, may be indicative of academic or personal issues.

Similarly, near the start of the COVID-19 pandemic,

a range of Australian universities, including the University of Melbourne and the University of Sydney, implemented an exam surveillance tool called ProctorU. Concerningly, ProctorU used the webcams of students in order to film them within their homes, as a means of deterring them from cheating. Some reports also indicate that the tool could be used to monitor the keystrokes of students.

In the development of such tools, privacy advocates and digital ethicists have raised concerns over both the normalisation of surveillance tools. Similarly, some educational experts have questioned the benefit of forcing the adoption of such tools, often at the expense of the independence of students.

Given that universities have, historically, served as an arena of intellectual and social development, both inside the classroom and out, the development of these systems appears to signal a desire by some administrators to impart a level of academic uniformity that is likely to ripple out beyond the confines of a university setting.

"Concerningly, ProctorU used the webcams of students in order to film them within their homes, as a means of deterring them from cheating."

AUMSA Establishes Rainbow Communities Representative Role

CAMERON LEAKEY

The Auckland University Medical Students' Association (AUMSA) have established a Rainbow Communities Representative on their Executive following a Special General Meeting (SGM) at the beginning of Semester Two.

The SGM was held following a petition by Medicine students for the role to be created to advocate for and support LGBTQ+ students in the MBChB programme. The motion to establish the representative role passed 189 for to 16 against.

Josh McCormack, a third-year Medicine student, led the petition, which was signed by several hundred medicine students. Following the SGM, McCormack will act as Rainbow Communities Representative until elections are held for the executive at a later date.

McCormack was previously involved in the creation of a Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) Rainbow Student Network which is currently the only LGBTQ+ club on Grafton campus. He was Co-President until assuming the Rainbow Communities Representative role at the beginning of August and has now stepped down from the Co-Presidency. McCormack says it was important to create the Rainbow Student Network as a club "for queer students by queer students" that would act similarly to organisations such as Rainbow Law or Rainbow Engineering. Previously, there has been no active queer student organisation for FMHS students.

McCormack, in his capacity as Rainbow Communities representative, will now advocate for LGBTQ+ issues and more inclusion of rainbow health concerns in the Medicine curriculum. These initiatives include lobbying

for course content that focuses on LGBTQ+ health – including knowledge of HIV and PrEP for queer men – as well as including LGBTQ+ health questions in progress tests and assessed clinical scenarios. McCormack would also like to see a Medicine Stein that would celebrate and fundraise for the rainbow community.

Trecia Wouldes, Associate Dean (Equity) for FMHS told Craccum that a student group existed for LGBTQ+ Students in the faculty and that student services also provided support for queer students. Wouldes indicated that since becoming Associate Dean (Equity) in 2018, she has prioritised supporting LGBTQ+ activities and ensuring that queer students feel 'safe and valued' as all students should.

AUMSA President, Anneke Tomkins, told Craccum that "AUMSA is extremely excited to announce the addition of a Rainbow Communities Representative to the AUMSA Council. Over the past few months, the FMHS Rainbow Student Network have strongly advocated for the addition of this role in order to gain an equitable standing for the Rainbow community. Within a medical context, patient's identifying with the Rainbow community continue to face discrimination which in this decade is simply not acceptable. The addition of a Rainbow Communities Representative to the AUMSA Council will provide a platform of advocacy to help educate the wider medical cohort on the issues the Rainbow community face in order to increase future doctor's awareness of these inequities in hope to mitigate them. With full support behind the Rainbow Communities Rep, the AUMSA Council are eager to see what the future holds in terms of the imminent positive changes this role will bring".

Auckland Experts on the Government's COVID-19 Response

JESSICA HOPKINS

For many of us, Lockdown 2.0 and the return of COVID-19 has been difficult. While us at Craccum feel gutted to be off campus and back to Zoom University, researchers have determined the best strategy to stop the spread of COVID-19, and get us back the freedom of Level One as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, some have turned to conspiracy theories, undermining the health response and even protesting the lockdown restrictions. There's a lot of misinformation floating around, and in times like these, it's best to turn to the experts.

The University's Vice-Chancellor Dawn Freshwater told *Newshub* that the findings of a report published by the Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment on New Zealand's COVID-19 response shows the importance of university research.

"The Government cannot address the challenges of COVID-19 alone and research and innovation will be critical to addressing the challenges we face as a nation."

So what are Auckland's experts saying about the Government's response to the pandemic?

Dr Siouxsie Wiles: Associate Professor and Head of the Bioluminescent Superbugs Lab at the University of Auckland.

In regards to COVID-19's return to the community, Wiles says an alternative approach to the lockdown and

border restrictions would be a bad idea.

In her recent *Spinoff* article, the microbiologist responds to those who have criticised the government's response to place Auckland under Level Three restrictions.

Referring to them as a vocal minority of supporters of 'learning to live with the virus', she points out this approach would be harmful to many, especially high risk individuals.

"I think it's more accurate to describe it as learning to die with the virus".

Wiles says we can have confidence in the Government's elimination strategy, as it is based on the advice of experts, and prioritizes keeping people safe.

"Research shows that COVID-19 has the potential to be deadly, but it may also cause serious long-term health issues even for young, healthy people."

Experts including Wiles also argue this approach fails to take into account the impact on our health system from dealing with COVID-19.

Wiles says we can look at Melbourne to see what

news.

happens to see what happens if you don't act fast enough.

The Australian Government only placed lockdown restrictions on Victoria after five weeks, whereas Auckland went into lockdown 24 hours after the first cases of community transmission.

Wiles says The COVID-19 Government Response Stringency Index shows that we are living with fewer restrictions than many countries, including Sweden, which is considered the gold standard of how to 'live with the virus'.

Wiles assures that the speed in which the current restrictions and increased testing, tracing, and isolation capabilities have been implemented means we will have a quicker return to the freedom we were enjoying at Alert Level One.

"We don't know yet how the virus sneaked back in, but while those investigations are underway, we've snapped back into action to once again to stop the spread of the virus within our community."

You can read Siouxsie Wiles full response article at *The Spinoff*.

Shaun Hendy: Professor of Physics at the University of Auckland.

Did you ever wonder who was behind the data determining the impact of COVID-19 on New Zealanders if we did not go into lockdown back in March?

Hendy's revolutionary data-modelling played a significant role in forming New Zealand's COVID-19 response and the Prime Minister's daily media conferences.

Hendy told *UniNews* that he and his team provided modelling updates to the National Crisis Management Centre before 9am every day.

"There was a team of around 20 people working on it at Te Pūnaha Matatini, including students who'd finished their degrees but couldn't start new roles because of the lockdown."

COVID-19 was a unique challenge, unlike anything that New Zealand and the world had faced before.

"New Zealand didn't have pandemic models ready that were appropriate for the circumstances here. So that's what we set out to develop."

Hendy praised the government for listening to the opinion of scientists to inform their COVID-19 strategy.

"Politicians don't need to be experts. They do have to be able to weigh evidence, and they do have to have access to expertise they trust. There was an extremely high level of trust between the Prime Minister and her science advisers."

"New Zealand didn't have pandemic models ready that were appropriate for the circumstances here. So that's what we set out to develop."

WHAKARONGO MAI! / LISTEN UP!

Do Auckland Students Think We Should Have Another Grade Bump This Semester?

MIKA GALE

The grade bump for some, may have given grades an extra sparkle, or have been the wish become reality for that D+ to be rounded up to a beautiful C-. Whatever it may have meant to you last semester, it is Déjà vu for Auckland students as we enter our second round of lockdown and remote learning. The question arises as to whether this justifies another grade bump for this semester. *Craccum* talked to four students about their thoughts on reintroducing the grade bump policy for this semester.

Robert*, 18, Engineering and Commerce

"I'm doing an engineering conjoint degree, so when the idea of the grade bump was first mentioned by AUSA, it didn't seem realistic that the university would actually take that policy on board, but by final exam time – I'm glad it did! Studying at home makes it really easy to fall behind on lectures so I'm thankful that COVID-19 (because of the grade bump) didn't affect my grades all that much. For this semester, a grade bump should definitely be on the table especially depending on the government's response after the current Level 3 lockdown period. If we end up dropping down to a stage where on-campus study can resume, then we've really only been in lockdown for 2-3 weeks, as compared to the 9+ weeks in Semester One. Because of this, I don't think there is enough justification for there to be one in Semester Two (although I would definitely still appreciate it)."

Jamie*, 20, Social Work

"Last semester's grade bump served as a major stress relief for many students who have found themselves needing to cater to other essential aspects of their lives, aside from their academics. Many students already tend to face hardships when it comes to needing to

get through the average university day... However, due to current circumstances, those hardships have just gotten worse. With job losses, family to take care of, and general mental and physical stresses that accompany working at home, it vital that all, including the university, demonstrate manaakitanga during these times. Based on previous semester procedures implemented by the university, it can be said that the University of Auckland did a superb job and should prepare to carry that on into this ongoing semester, given the amount of uncertainty being felt by students."

Eden*, 19, Arts

"2020 has been a ride a half, so I cannot thank AUSA enough for giving me just that little more room to breathe. I say grade bump for this semester, as a treat."

Taylor*, 19, Engineering

"I think that the grade bump has both its pros and cons, however I feel that the pros very much outweigh the cons, for it helped people to achieve results that they otherwise wouldn't have given the circumstances... Some people may think that it is unfair to those who genuinely try to get top grades which is fair enough – they're entitled to their own opinion – but I think overall it did help a lot more people... Depending on how things go and the outcome of the whole situation, there should be some thought on having the grade bumps apply. For me personally, I come to university to learn because I enjoy it, so whether or not I get the grade bump does not matter so much, so long as I am able to do what I came for."

**Names have been changed to protect students' identities*

I come to university to learn because I enjoy it, so whether or not I get the grade bump does not matter so much, so long as I am able to do what I came for.

With job losses, family to take care of, and general mental and physical stresses that accompany working at home, it is vital that all, including the University, demonstrate manaakitanga during these times.

If we end up dropping down to a stage where on-campus study can resume, then we've really only been in lockdown for 2-3 weeks, as compared to the 9+ weeks in Semester One. Because of this, I don't think there is enough justification for there to be a grade bump in Semester Two.

2020 has been a ride a half, so I cannot thank AUSA enough for giving me just that little more room to breathe. I say grade bump for this semester, as a treat.

**hakaarongo
3 Mai!**

feature.

What Politician Does Your University Magazine Resemble?

DANIEL MEECH AND JUSTIN WONG

Earlier this week, actress and writer Michelle Langstone tweeted that Chris Hipkins looked “studious and slightly snappy ... like he edits Craccum or something”. The tweet got us thinking - if student mags were politicians, who would they be?



Michelle Langstone
@mifflangstone

Love Chris Hipkins. He looks like a 20 year old university student. He's got a good studious and slightly snappy vibe going. Like he edits Craccum or something.

1:29 PM · Aug 14, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Craccum (University of Auckland) - Chris Hipkins (Labour, Remutaka)



See attached tweet from Michelle Langston. There's not much to add to it. The University of Auckland is the most white bread, straight-laced, 'I'm only here to study' university of them all, and *Craccum*, like Chris, reflects that.

Critic - Te Arohi (University of Otago) - Speaker Trevor Mallard (Labour, List)



No nonsense, impartial, direct, and not afraid to stir shit - just like our boy Speaker Trev during a house sitting. *Critic* isn't afraid to tell anyone off when they see something that isn't on, and it's that no bullshit approach to life (and politics) that makes Trev such a perfect fit. Plus, you get the vibe that they'd always be up for a drink or two.

Salient (University of Wellington) - Golriz Ghahraman (Green, List)



Social justice warrior, environmentalist, and keen on the whacky-baccy, Golriz is basically the living embodiment of *Salient*. Like *Salient*, she's sassy, out-spoken, and political to the core. (We could give you our dear mate Chlöe Swarbrick but she's too much of a JAFA to give away.)

“No nonsense, impartial, direct, and not afraid to stir shit - just like our boy Speaker Trev during a house sitting.”

feature.

Debate (Auckland University of Technology) - Paula Bennett (National, Upper Harbour)



They're both sleek, glossy and modern, and don't take shit from anyone. Always overshadowed and underappreciated (*cough* Bill English and Simon Bridges *cough*), *Debate* deserves more credit, just like Paula. Bowl lattes and three cheese paninis anyone?

Nexus (University of Waikato) - Winston Peters (New Zealand First leader, List)



Rural, hard-drinking, a bit too macho, and needlessly controversial. Enough said.

Canta (University of Canterbury) - Kelvin Davis (Deputy Labour leader, Te Tai Tokerau)



Like Kelvin Davis, *Canta* are hard-working, empathetic, and massively, massively underrated. Serious but laid back, *Canta* has been holding down the fort in Canterbury for years now. They don't get much recognition for it, but you get the vibe that they don't really care - they're doing it because they like doing it, and they don't need any external validation to know when they're kicking ass.

Massive (Massey University) - Former MP Jim Anderton (RIP)



Massive are all over the place. Literally. They publish for campuses on the North Shore, in Manawatu, and in Wellington. Just like former MP Jim Anderton - who jumped from Labour to New Labour, from New Labour to Alliance, and then from Alliance to Progressive - they have no one fixed abode. *Massive* aren't afraid to ruffle a few feathers, just like Jim did with his controversial stance on Rogernomics, and the fuck-you-if-you-don't-like-this vibe of the magazine reflects this. Rest easy Jim.

"Massive aren't afraid to ruffle a few feathers, just like Jim did with his controversial stance on Rogernomics, and the fuck-you-if-you-don't-like-this vibe of the magazine reflects this. Rest easy Jim"



feature.

Cartoon Crushes

MADELEINE CRUTCHLEY AND SEPORA CASSIDY

We went apeshit when the glorious Sky box started to make its way into suburban living rooms. No longer were we restricted to channels 1 and 3 in the early hours of weekend mornings. We finally had the incredible Disney and Nickelodeon to keep us company. As we spent more time planted in front of our boxy TV sets, our eyes turning square, we developed stronger and stronger connections to characters on-screen. Some of these connections became a little less innocent as our crushes on cartoons grew alongside our screentime.

Danny Phantom - Danny Phantom

Daniel "Danny Phantom" Fenton was maybe our biggest cartoon crush. His DNA had been mixed with ghost 'ectoplasm' so he shifted between real and ghost worlds, looking fine in both. This boy was tall, dark and handsome, pulling off grey hair like nobody's business. When he was in ghost mode, his bright eyes turned from blue to green. Swoon. He was a kind and romantic soul. He fought his own demons, and we had no doubt he would fight ours too. As an awkward hot superhero, he rivals Spiderman's essence. He's truly got the best of both worlds.

Shego - Kim Possible

One of the OG baddies. Most likely started the neon trend. She constantly mocked her boss, with no concern for his authority. Shego truly gave no fucks about anything, just wanted to have fun and be evil. She knew her colours and coordinated them to the green glowing flames she could fling from her hands. The unstoppable power of the woman was enough to leave us in awe. We'd like to think Shego would like us, but deep down we know she wouldn't even notice us.

Jake Long - American Dragon

Jake Long was the whole package. Not only could he turn into a dragon, he could skate, he was in a band, he looked after his grandpa and dog. He was a family man,

carrying on the family legacy. He had all the good parts of the e-boy look, with his green highlights and enthusiasm for music, without the incessant need to make goofy Tik Tok povs. The tension between Jake and his classmate Rose (who turns out to be Jake's enemy, the Huntsgirl) is something we still dream of. It's a classic tale of will they, won't they, which kept our young hearts beating hard. Rachel and Ross pale in comparison. Honestly, he's probably even hotter as the dragon.

Debbie - The Wild Thornberrys

Debbie Thornberry was so damn cool. She was the older sister that we were simultaneously scared of and desperately wanting to impress. She pulled off all the best bits of 90s grunge, pairing a crop top with a flannel and baggy jeans. She constantly talked about her love for rock music, and pissed her parents off with her cynical and sarcastic mindset. Debbie wanted to fuck the system for sure, and we loved her for it. If she was at uni, she'd definitely be a music major. Take from that what you will. She's also got a beautiful head of hair, which covers her face making her even more mysterious.

Aladdin - Aladdin

The hottest Disney prince, no arguments. He charged his way through a classic rags to riches tale, and donned his perfect pecs proudly. He could sing, he could dance, he was ready to risk it ALL to get the girl.

feature.

She needed a prince so he BECAME a prince. Have you ever heard of a man doing that? He created a whole country for her. It was the original simp nation. Who doesn't need a partner that will create wild and intricate lies in the name of love? He's just very capable and it's really refreshing.

Zuko - Avatar: The Last Airbender

Zuko, the first bad boy we ever loved. He had some daddy issues, but don't we all? He brings the heat, in more ways than one, executing his fire-bending skill with such discipline. Seeing a man committed to something really does things to us. Throughout the series, Zuko goes through a transformation, pursuing and then abandoning his quest for his father's approval, finding empathy for others, and growing his hair out to a nice length. Bad boy turns good. No wonder we love to fix bad men.

Kim Possible - Kim Possible

Kim was the light to Shego's dark. She absolutely went off with her wardrobe. She was little top, big pants all the way, showcasing all the best bits of 2000s fashion. Cheerleader by day, crime fighter by night, Kim was running her shit, dragging Ron by her side, taking no excuses for his dumb ass energy. She whipped out a million catchphrases, effortlessly cool and relaxed. Most importantly, Kim fought for what was right, establishing a really good set of morals. There's nothing hotter than a redhead with a good belief system.

David Kawena - Lilo & Stitch

Massively underrated and underappreciated. He could surf, he could fire dance, he was basically ready to adopt Lilo because he cared so much for Nani and her family. He was a little dumb, but he made up for it through his intense loyalty. And, let's not fuck around, he also has a super hot bod. David is the man you want to come home to. And help you control your little alien pet thing.

Esmeralda - The Hunchback of Notre Dame

Esmeralda was who we all wanted to be. She channelled bad bitch energy while fighting for justice, showing empathy and selflessness. She looks exactly how all the

girls at RNV think they look. Her outfit is impeccable, with gold hanging from her ears, wrists, hips and ankle. Esmeralda was so self-assured, to the point that we were entirely intimidated by her. She also had a pet goat AND could play the tambourine. She was probably vegan too. The perfect woman.

Megara - Hercules

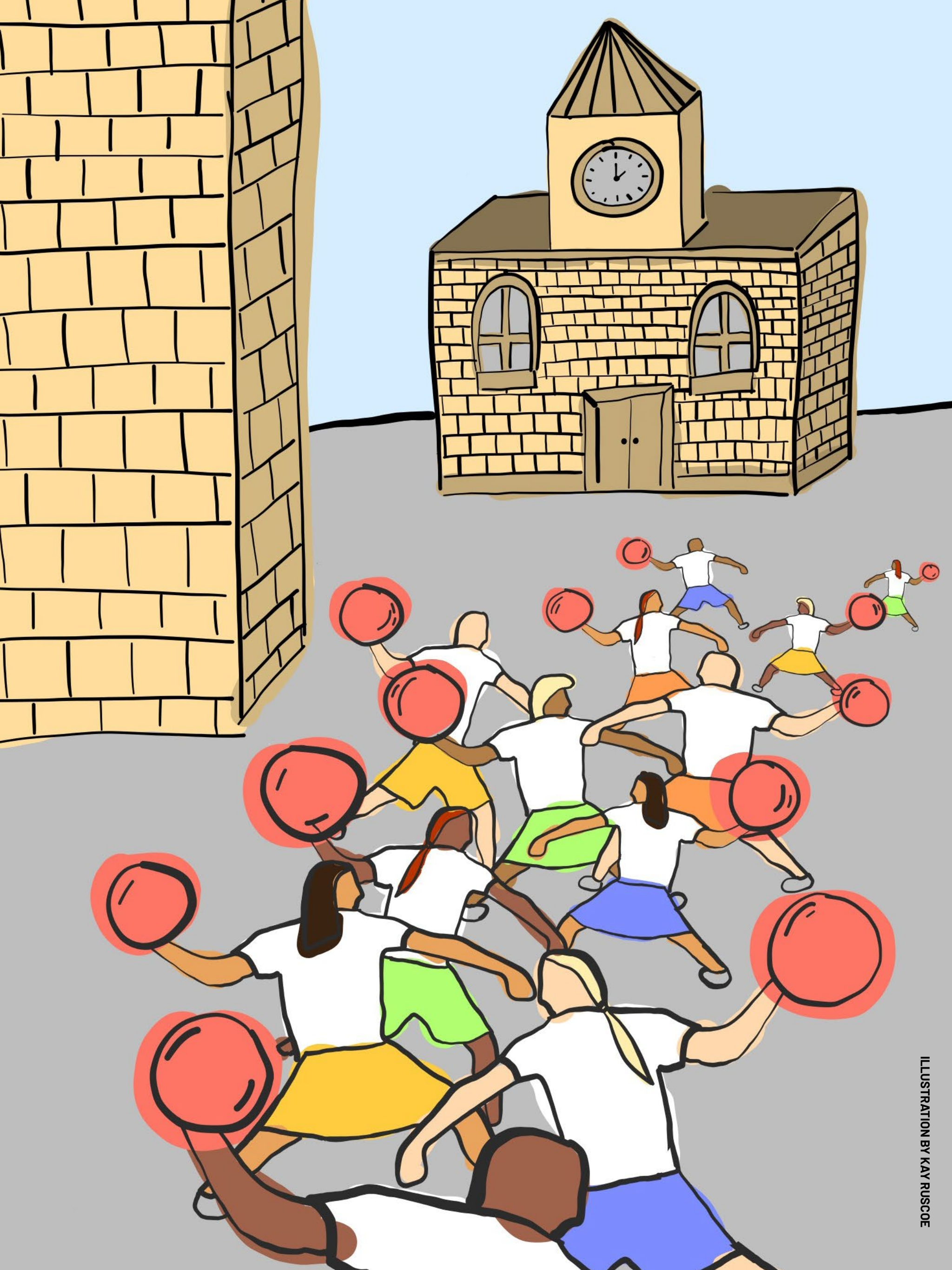
For us, it was all about the attitude. She was sarcastic, witty, independent, she knew exactly what she wanted. Her main dislike was manipulative men, so she wasn't about to get tangled up in any bullshit. She was working this purple dress, swaying her hips sensually from side to side. *I Won't Say I'm In Love* is also the BEST Disney song, with Meg absolutely smashing her vocals. Overall, she's got an overflow of confidence that we could only dream of.

Leonardo - Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

The second hottest Leonardo (second only to DiCaprio). No joke, we both agree that Leonardo, the turtle with the blue mask, was the hottest ninja turtle. He was smart, disciplined, showed great leadership skills and was completely committed to his family. He was ready to fight at all times with his katanas and not afraid to throw down if anything goes on. His level of commitment to crime fighting (or whatever they do) was kinda sexy. And, if you disagree, you have to admit that you are actually attracted to a ninja turtle. Checkmate. Tell us which @ Craccum Magazine on FB.

Simba - The Lion King

Hear us out. Yes, he's literally an animal. And yes.... There's no redeeming ourselves here. Simba is boyishly handsome. He's got a good head of hair (we know it's literally a mane) and a sexy voice. He did an OE, making him more worldly. We're not too sure how to explain this, but we're certain he's a sweater boy. Most impressively, Simba loses his father (also hot) and is manipulated by his uncle, yet finds the strength to triumph for the betterment of his people (animals?). The scene where Simba and Nala sing and frolic together is pretty steamy, maybe the earliest sex scene we ever saw. Don't think too hard about it, just accept it. Hakuna Matata.



feature.

Tag! You're it.

LOUISE BARNES

Remember the simpler times? When we would dash around schoolyards, slapping each other on the arm, screaming with joyful fear. Louise Barnes explores the echoes of those memories, looking at the games we would play in primary school courtyards and fields, encouraging us to play once again.

Picture any summer evening in the year of 2005. By this time, plenty of us born in the '90s would have still been enrolled in primary school, fresh-faced, before the atrocities of life would hit us. Hard. (Yes, I'm looking at you 2020). Night has fallen, but the air is warm as remnants of the sunlight rise from the tar. Meanwhile, my sister and I are preparing for a long night ahead of us as we scavenge to fuel our torches, tearing out batteries from all remotes possible. Already, I'm sure you have an inkling of the game I'm talking about; torch tag, more commonly known as Spotlight. Nonetheless, we head outside to meet the others at the rendezvous point, no doubt looking like a gaggle of scrawny ninjas as we stand under a street light. Quickly, we go over the headcount and reclassify the boundaries on the edge of each neighbouring property. Soon the spotter has been selected, and the countdown begins.

3. 2. 1. Game on.

This was a time to me that defined what it meant to be young. Spotlight was essential to the way my sister and I grew up, consisting of tactics of strategy and stealth. Of course, it led to many arguments over mean tricks and foul play, but we didn't care. That's what made it interesting.

This is only one example of all the games we used to play. To launch into a game of Spotlight, we needed the cloak of darkness, which meant it was mostly played around the house or local fields and playgrounds (and, if you got lucky, school camps). It was an extension of what was already happening at school. 30-minute lunchtimes were the birthplace of playground games which welcomed anything from Tag, Cops and Robbers, 4Square, Kickball; you name it. It was the ultimate time to release steam, and at our primary, this took the form of Tag. It literally engulfed the entire school. If you wanted to play, all you had to do was meet under

"This was a time to me that defined what it meant to be young. Spotlight was essential to the way my sister and I grew up, consisting of tactics of strategy and stealth."

feature.

the shade before launching off in a desperate bid not to be it. No politics involved, just simple physical exertion. For the most part, people were team players. They would give a brief sigh of defeat once they were whacked on the arm and had "TAG! You're it!" bellowed in their ear. Others, well, weren't the best team players. Given the same situation, they cradled their bruises and claimed they weren't playing. If that was you, I bet you're still a sore loser.

Remembering these experiences, it's a wonder to think why we still don't play them now. Because they're childish? I refuse to believe that. Instead, there are politics of expectations and societal changes that inhibit our freedom and just mediate our existence in general. Take the iPhone, for example. When this rolled out in 2007, it was a game-changer. From that point onwards, technology skyrocketed in all forms both outside and inside of the classroom (do we all remember smartboards?). Now, it's not uncommon to see kids as young as 6 with a better smartphone than you do. Personally, I didn't get my first phone until 12, which was a hard-set Nokia saved for emergencies and Snake.

Being the age we are, sliding into the world between the 90s and early 2000s, many of us remember what it's like to live without the rest of the world at our fingertips. But now, these games are getting ousted as merely a way to pass lunchtimes to the satisfaction of teachers before using technology as the main source of entertainment. Days are now filled with social media, and constant exposure to screens in the form of work, study and entertainment. It's normal. Life moves on from the waves of playground entertainment, but

unfortunately, so do we. But if anyone is up for a game of Spotlight, count me in.

Much like the anecdotes I've shared from my time in primary school, other UoA students share which games they remember the most in their own form of nostalgic reflection.

Talia

At our school, we used to play Bull Rush every lunchtime. The idea was that you had to make it across to the other side of the field without getting tackled. In the end, it was banned because so many people got

"The idea was that you had to make it across to the other side of the field without getting tackled. In the end, it was banned because so many people got their arms broken. We didn't fuck around."

feature.

their arms broken. We didn't fuck around.

Maddy

In primary school, we used to have a 'sports shed' where kids could rent out gear for the whole lunch break. There were skipping ropes, hula hoops, handball backboards, hacky sacks, anything you would want. While getting that equipment out was an exciting enough prospect for the lunch break, we were always more excited about sports shed duty. Usually, kids would pair up to rent the gear out and, usually, people would try to partner with their crushes, because you could hide out of sight and talk and flirt. If you did sports shed duty, you were basically the school's newest couple. And you could avoid violent ball games.

Cosima

Very few games scared me growing up in primary school. I would play rugby on a muddy field with ease or join in on paintball trips without thinking twice (although, I should have thought twice before firing a paintball at the head of my teacher). But bizarrely, a game as simple as dodgeball would send me shaking. I blame my fear on the one time I got knocked out when playing a game of soccer at age seven. Anytime I was placed in an open court with a ball that slightly resembled a soccer ball, the fear and memory of being in that black void would keep me from trying my best. I had a tactic for every game; get placed in a large team, immediately head for the back, sidestep, pause, sidestep, pause. Should a ball come my way and find contact with my body, I would scuttle off the court without a word. It is safe to say that since leaving

primary school, my worries have definitely evolved into more significant ones. But there are times I wish dodgeball was still the only worry I had to deal with!

Val

One of the best memories I can think of from primary school lunchtimes was when my whole class would form a big circle in our quadrangle then sit on the ground to eat our lunch, trade and share meals. This was always followed by a Tag and Freeze game. Everyone would enjoy the 30 minutes of freedom, running around manically trying to unfreeze everyone, burning off all the pent up energy of being contained in a stuffy classroom.

Cameron

Does anyone remember the Weetbix Trading Cards? I was cleaning out my wardrobe during lockdown and found my stash. Those bad boys were sick. You had every All Black on them and you had to collect them all. They had stats on them so you could battle your friends *Top Trumps* style. Weet-Bix may have started this, but Bluebird chips went to another level and released a whole Super Rugby set. They were shiny and metallic and you could also buy a plastic folder to store them in. My sister and I used to eat so many bluebird chips in the hopes of increasing our roster. It was such a score to get Richie McCaw or Dan Carter. But then, the market closed. My school banned Bluebird trading cards. More specifically, if you had them and you lost them, it was not the teacher's job to sort that out for you. I wish this had opened up some sort of illegal black market for trading cards, but unfortunately, it didn't.



Disney or Nickelodeon: Which Is Better?

DEBATE SOCIETY



Disney:

I don't get why this is even an argument - it is so clear to me that Disney is far better than Nickelodeon.

Disney has hordes of iconic TV shows, far too many to list. They gave me incredibly unrealistic life goals (like being a teen pop star living the best of both worlds, or convincing myself I could see the future like Raven *whooooosh*) and perfect life advice. I swear, I learned to drive with London Tipton's PRNDL. These TV shows were also at their best with their crossover episodes. Watching all your favourite characters come together and have wacky hijinks together was the best thing after a long day at primary school. And cartoons! Kim Possible, Phineas & Ferb and Lilo & Stitch (my mum's favourite lol) were all ahead of their time and absolutely hilarious.

Look, I could nostalgize for hours, but Disney was so much more than the characters. Hilary Duff, Selena Gomez, Demi Lovato, the Jonas Brothers, Zendaya, and Dylan and Cole Sprouse (to name a few) were all Disney kids. Meanwhile, Nickelodeon only really has Ariana Grande. They were cultural icons, then and now: I begged my parents to buy me Miley Cyrus' book *Miles To Go* for my birthday, and was shocked to my core when she said her and Emily Osment weren't friends in real life.

Not only does Nickelodeon lose because it had much worse TV shows, but Disney smashed made-for-TV movies out of the park. *High School Musical*. Do I even need to say more? There's a reason my mum would only buy me *High School Musical Singstar* for my Playstation - every single song is an absolute banger. Troy and Gabriella were goals, and even the "villainous" Sharpay was pure perfection. But not only that - *Camp Rock*, *Cheetah Girls* and *Zenon* are just a few examples of the countless iconic DCOM flicks.

At the end of this, it's as perfectly clear as it was at the start. Disney Channel is the most iconic network, and no one should ever try to claim otherwise.

- Aisha O'Malley

"Watching all your favourite characters come together and have wacky hijinks together was the best thing after a long day at primary school."

feature.

Nickelodeon:

As a kid, I think I would have been willing to sell both of my kidneys if it meant being slimed at the Kids Choice Awards... or getting a pear-phone... or sharing spaghetti tacos with Spencer, Carly and an emu. It's time to face facts - Nickelodeon WAS the superior channel of the early 2000s and that is not up for debate.

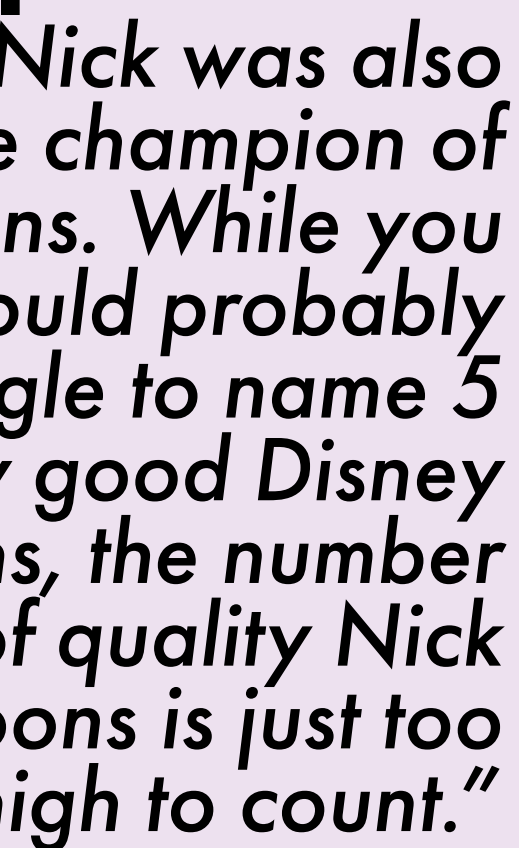
While Disney produced cliché sitcom after cliché sitcom, Nick proved they weren't like the other girls time and time again. iCarly was easily one of these best shows on TV in its time, Big Time Rush deserved so much more hype and Victorious (while arguably focusing on the wrong character) produced one of the biggest pop stars in the last decade. And as far as pre-teen movie dramas go, *Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging*, a Nick creation, probably takes the cake. We honestly did not deserve characters like Gibby, Jade, Megan, and a whole host more.

Nick was also the champion of cartoons. While you would probably struggle to name 5 actually good Disney cartoons, the number of quality Nick cartoons is just too high to count. Rugrats, Hey Arnold! and the Wild Thornberrys probably provide some of my earliest 'Nicktoon' memories but were later eclipsed by some absolute powerhouses of cartoons like Fairly Odd Parents, Jimmy Neutron and arguably one of the best kids cartoons of all time in Spongebob Squarepants. But also - Avatar the Last Airbender!! All of these shows have the orange life blood of Nick running through them; they were quirky, sometimes dark (like when Cat cleaned Dog's teeth from THE INSIDE OF HIS BODY while he was sleeping on CatDog??) but always funny. Those were important hallmarks of a quality nicktoon.

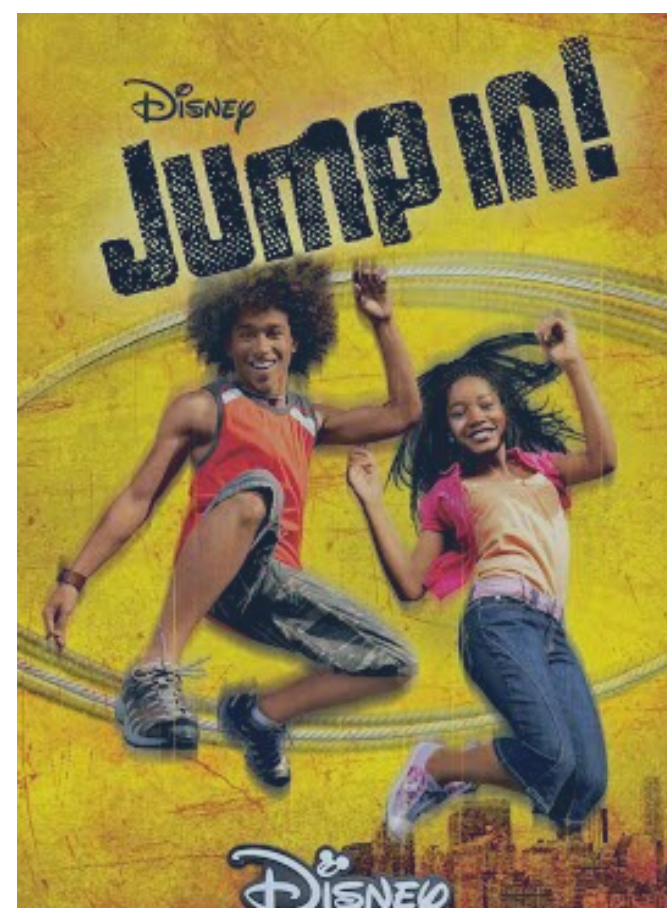
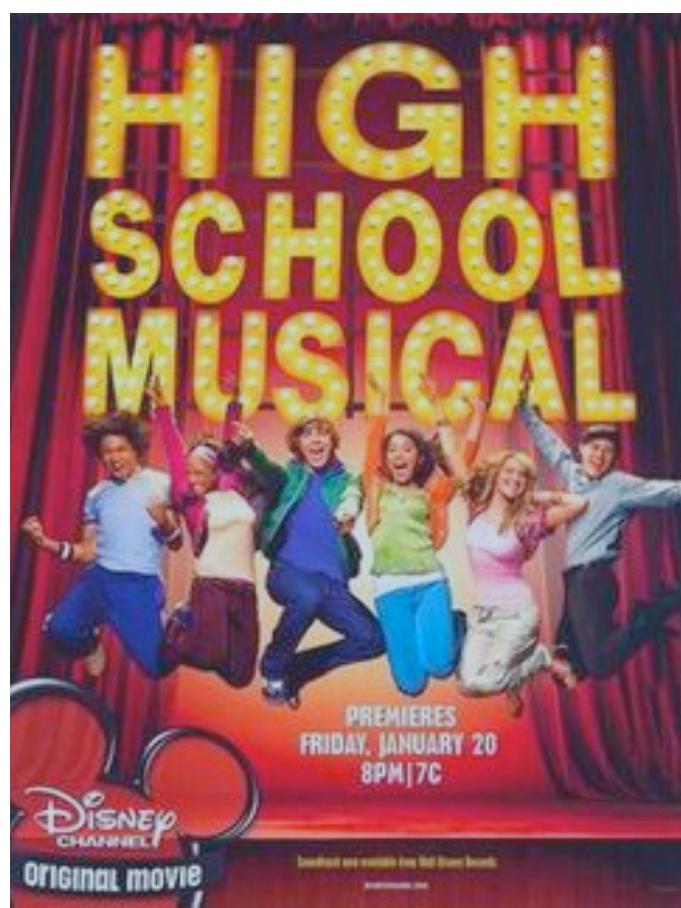
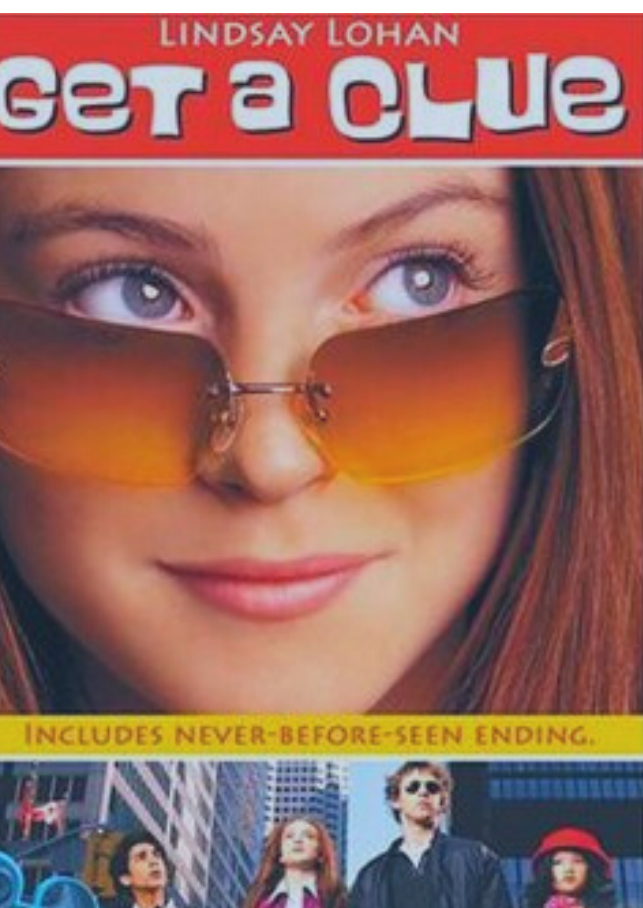
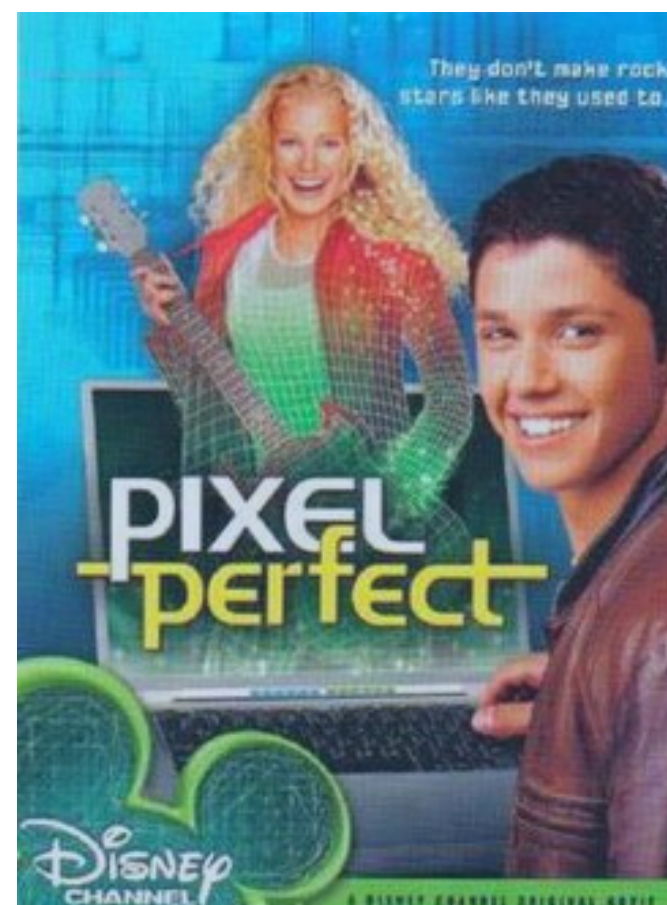
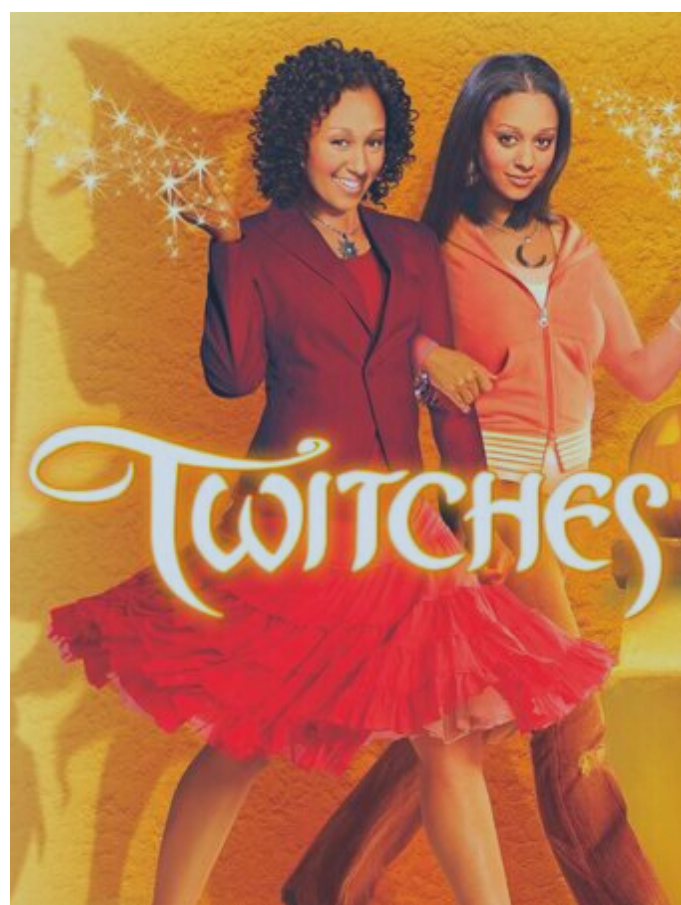
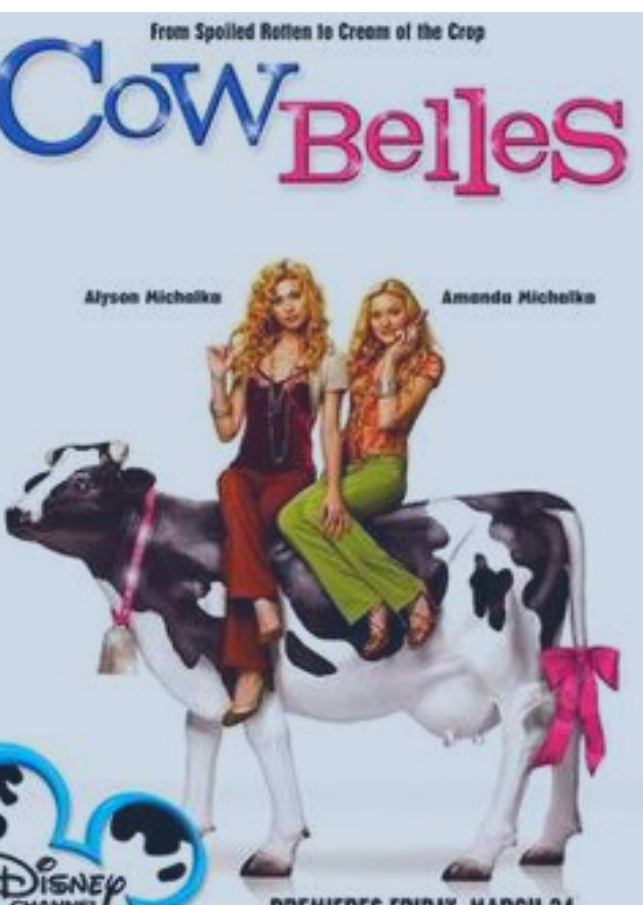
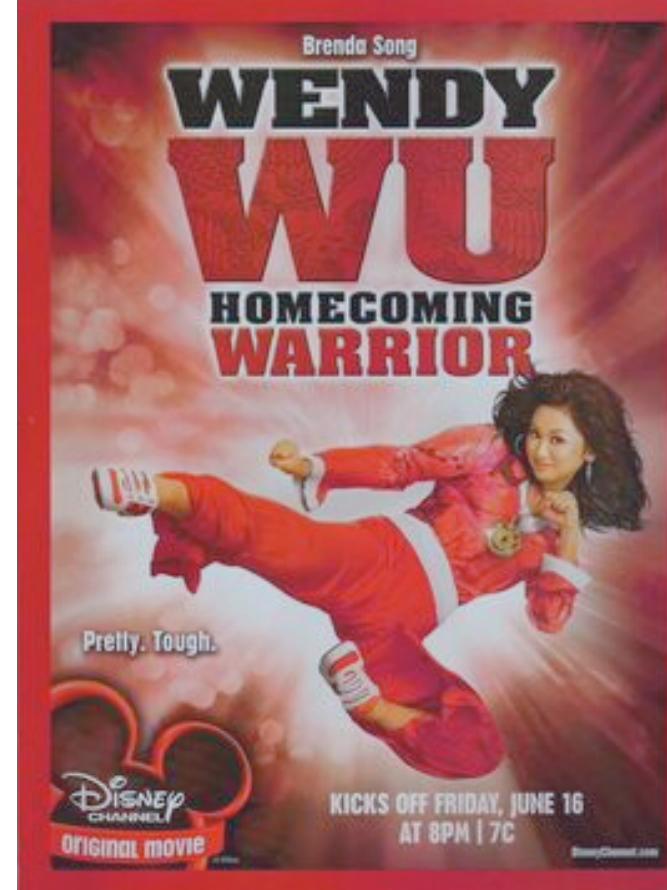
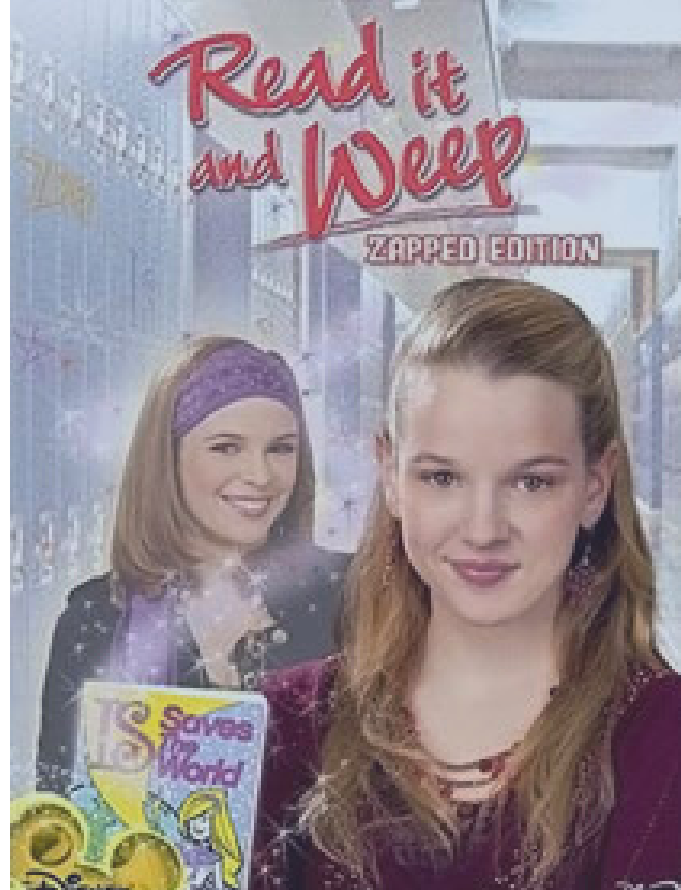
Can we also just talk about how some of these shows were pretty progressive? Rugrats took on religion, gender roles and tried to normalize breastfeeding years ahead of its time and Hey Arnold! literally had an 'anti-Vietnam war' episode where Arnold reunites a family separated by the fall of Saigon.

It's actually worrying the extent to which some of these shows shaped my life. Squidward's skepticism inspired my pessimistic outlook on life (and also actually inspired me to play the clarinet in primary school). During the Nickelodeon golden age, not only did it produce the best sitcoms AND cartoons, it just gives off empirically better vibes than the cliché, somewhat robotic iterations of "comedy" that were characteristic of Disney Channel.

- Harper Smith



"Nick was also the champion of cartoons. While you would probably struggle to name 5 actually good Disney cartoons, the number of quality Nick cartoons is just too high to count."



feature.

Top Ten DCOM Movies

CAMERON LEAKEY

This week, Cameron Leakey gets some popcorn out and cracks into some Disney Channel Original Movies.

Disney Channel Original Movies were the bomb. They may not always hold up now, but those DCOM originals were the highlight of any Disney Channel experience. I've unearthed the archives, drawn deep in the DCOM universe to bring you the top ten DCOM movies.

1: *High School Musical*

This was always going to be #1 wasn't it. This movie was iconic - is still iconic - and was such a serve for 2006. The modern day Romeo & Juliet with Troy and his love of Basketball and Gabriella, the Mathlete, combining for the spring musical. Bloody iconic. The soundtrack was awesome and the movie spawned two pretty huge sequels. Everyone watched these movies.

The Song: 'Breaking Free' or 'We're All In This Together'.

2: *Pixel Perfect*

This movie was fucking awesome. Basically, a teenage boy creates a humanoid hologram singer to lead his best friend's band, The Zetta Bytes. A weird human-hologram love triangle emerges, feelings get hurt as the Hologram becomes the star of the band. Things only get weirder. There's a whole subtext about whether holograms have rights, someone falls into a coma, and then there's also a random scene where the hologram walks into the rain and basically dissolves (it's not spoilers when the movie is from 2004) This movie covers a lot of tricky ground for a DCOM original. But what actually makes it so good, is the music. The terrible Disney pop that is just so goddamn fun. 10/10

The Song: *Nothing's Wrong With Me* - The Zetta Bytes

3: *Stuck in the Suburbs*

Jordan Cahill is a huge pop superstar and Brittany Aarons (Danielle Panabaker) is his biggest fan. When she goes to watch his music video shoot, the two accidentally bump into each other and their cell phones are swapped during the mayhem. In the days before Find My iPhone (and apparently cell phone passwords?) crossed wires are at play as Brittany - and her best friend - mess with Jordan's manufactured pop star life. The title, referring to how boring things are for Brittany being 'stuck in the suburbs'. It's also hilarious seeing Taran Killam before *Saturday Night Live* fame.

The Song: Oh god they're all pretty bad. Listen to 'More Than Me' for a laugh.

4: *Get a Clue*

One of the OG Lindsay Lohan movies and a DCOM Classic, *Get a Clue* has Lohan playing Lexy Gold, an upper class Manhattan high schooler with a passion for reporting. The coolest girl in school, Lexy teams up with classmate Jack to solve the mystery of one of her teacher's disappearing. Lohan was sixteen when she filmed this but because she played a High school student right up to her mid 20's, she looks about 13. For a movie about a 'stylish' teen, she also has some questionable fashion choices. Shoutout to young Brenda Song who plays her best friend, Jen.

The Song: There's one song, the aptly named 'Get a Clue'

feature.

5: Read it and Weep

Starring the legendary disney sisters, Kay and Danielle Pannabaker, Kay stars as Jameson 'Jaime' Bartlett, a 'shy and quiet' high school girl who accidentally hands in her diary for an english project, and then wins a writing contest. The book becomes a bestseller and Jaime becomes popular overnight. However, when her school finds out the journal is about them, they turn on her. A typical tale of losing your identity to popularity before finding out 'who you really are', the sister act business is pretty phenomenal.

The Song: 'I Will Be Around' performed at the Ocean themed School Dance

6: Wendy Wu: Homecoming Warrior

Brenda Song is Wendy Wu, a homecoming queen-in-waiting, who discovers she is the reincarnation of a powerful Chinese warrior and is now the only person who can defeat the evil spirit, Yan-Lo. I'm not going to comment on the implications of this movie for chinese representation, it's problematic at minimum. The whole film was shot in New Zealand which is fun. Wendy's high school is actually Long Bay College, which makes those scenes much less impressive when you watch it again. The Auckland Museum also features very heavily. Wendy Wu does some pretty good stunts though.

The Song: 'I'm Not That Girl' by Brenda Song. I can't find this song online now, it's a lost treasure

7: Twitches

They're twin witches. Twitches. That's the movie.

The Song: The Twitches Theme Song absolutely slaps

8: Cow Belles

The Disney version of Paris Hilton and Nicole Richie's 'The Sweet Life' stars Alison and Amanda - A.J. - Michalka as two spoiled sisters whose Father decides they need to try some goddamn honest hard work and sends them to his dairy farm for summer work. Your classic conceited rich girls lose it all just to find they have a heart and soul tale. Aly and A.J. were disney royalty and this movie was a serve from them.

The Song: 'On The Ride' by Aly and A.J.

9: Jump In

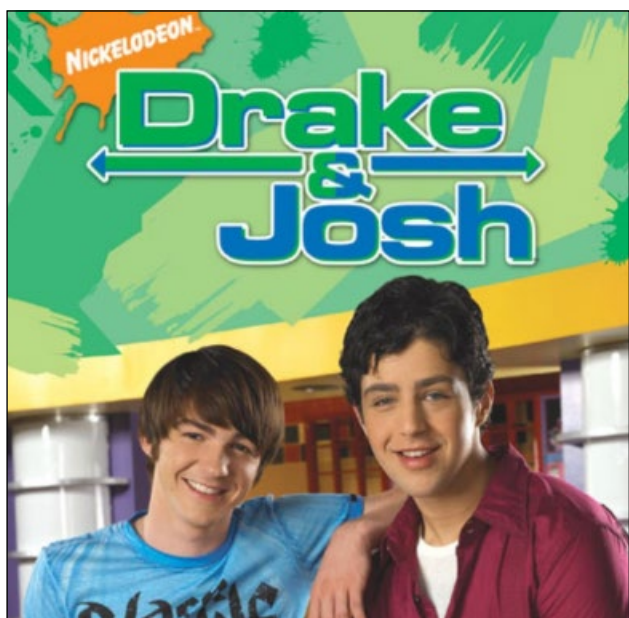
Corbin Bleu is Izzy Daniels, a young boxer, who is drawn into the world of competitive Double Dutch (Jump rope). This movie single handedly made this sport look cool and somehow the soundtrack has three absolute bangers. It's a pretty cool movie, double dutch is actually a dope sport and it features Keke Palmer pre-True Jackson VP and Hustlers.

The Song(s): Honestly the soundtrack for this movie has some goodies. Hit up 'Push it to the Limit', 'Jump To The Rhythm' or the absolute hype track that is 'It's My Turn Now'

10: Zenon Z3

Okay so this is actually the third movie in the *Zenon* trilogy but it's more of my time era so I'm using it here. In this movie, Zenon (our favourite space resident teenage girl) is out to win the Galactic Teen Supreme contest and celebrate at the Moonstock Festival on the Moon. Which is as ridiculous as it sounds. There isn't any redemption for that. This is what happens when Disney makes a movie and adapts everything to be space themed. But I guess there's some girl power in here too so top marks for that.

The Song: Of course the song is called 'Out Of This World' and it sounds exactly like you think it would.



DRAKE AND JOSH

AVINASH GOVIND

7.5/10: *Don't fuck with the formula*

Premiering in 2004, and running until 2007, *Drake and Josh*, in some sense, was an emblem of the teen sitcoms that consumed Disney Channel and Nickelodeon throughout much of the mid 2000's and 2010's.

Starring **Drake Bell** and **Josh Peck** as the titular pair, with a multi-talented supporting cast that included **Miranda Cosgrove** and **Yvette Nicole Brown**, who would later play Shirley in *Community*; one of the show's greatest strengths was in its casting. Indeed, across the entire show, few of the characters seemed particularly out of place in any given scene.

With that being said, the show's strength was never really in its message, nor its storylines. Far from it, the episodes of the show maintained an absurdly formulaic structure that can largely be summarised in about three lines:

- 1) Drake and Josh try to one-up each other and fail
- 2) Megan, played by Cosgrove, tries to sabotage, or at least taunt, the pair.
- 3) They eventually work together to get out of the mess that they're in

Though to be fair, this was a common feature of 2000s sitcoms. In addition, the fact that the show was designed largely as a comedy for kids and pre-teens likely limited their ability to add much complexity to the show. In all, *Drake and Josh* is likely to be remembered as one of the better teen-sitcoms of the era, largely due to its phenomenal casting, and impressive writing of character interactions.



ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND (2004), DIR. MICHAEL GONDY

GABBIE DE BARON

4.5/10: *fuck the disguised male-gaze*

I'll get onto it: the Oscar-winning script? Angelic. The visuals? Alluring... Everything else? disgusting.

So thank you **Charlie Kaufman** for your electric words and **Ellen Kuras** for your female-gaze-esque cinematography... but no thank you, **Michael Gondry** for your male gaze. It's sad because Kuras captured emotion and intimacy, even if the male-gaze was so evident with Gondry's direction. Kaufman's writing disguised his misogyny - he *did* write these characters into being.

So my antipathy lies here. Firstly, Clementine (**Kate Winslet**) isn't seen individually and always in relation to Joel (**Jim Carrey**). Yes, it's his narrative but explain to me why she is mostly viewed as a sexual object or her ability to amuse Joel in ways only specific to his sexuality or his liking. Secondly, the women here are always half naked and its necessity is unrelated to the scene; it's not where the female is in control of her own sexuality, but where their sexuality is adjacent to the man, which absolutely irks me. Thirdly, **Kirsten Dunst**'s character illustrates a very ditzy woman, engulfed by feelings towards her boss as if that's the only reason why she works. She depicts a girl next door, not the relatable kind but one that appeases the male audience with her klutzy demure. Fourthly, there's a lot of female crotch showing, as if sex is our *only* power.

So it's just a classic 'soft-boy-meets-ditzy-manic-pixie-girl' but glossed with skillful cinematic technicality... but yet again it's made in 2004, so I guess we can forgive the misogyny? Ha!



THE LIZZIE MCGUIRE MOVIE, DIR. JIM FALL

CAMERON LEAKEY

10/10: *Hey Now (Hey Now) This Is What Dreams Are Made Of*

In 2003, Lizzie McGuire, America's favourite junior high student, embarked on an adventure. Already a widely popular Disney show, *Lizzie McGuire* became a Feature Film. Lizzie, played by early 00's Disney icon Hilary Duff, finishes junior high and jets off to Italy on a class trip. While at the Trevi Fountain she's mistaken for an Italian pop-star, Isabella, (also played by Hilary Duff, wow the resemblance is uncanny!) and mistaken identity ensues. It's a truly outrageous plot but one that is very on brand for early 00's Disney. This movie has everything you'd expect from this time - non-offensive Disney pop, a sequence with Lizzie riding on a vespa, a runway fashion show - it's really just this unreal dream where a teenage American girl ends up parading as an Italian pop star.

I truthfully never really watched *Lizzie McGuire* - the TV show - that much, however I was truly obsessed with this movie. I used to run into the lounge after school and chuck the DVD on, often just skipping to the end of the movie, which is the best part. The finale, a performance at the Italian Music Awards (in a Colosseum look-a-like) has Lizzie perform the absolute bop 'This Is What Dreams Are Made Of'. This song is phenomenal. It's still a bop. It's a cultural reset and I stand by it.

A movie that set the way for future secret pop stars (looking at you, Hannah), The Lizzie McGuire movie is the purest form of Disney escapism and I still love it.



YU-GI-OH! THE DUELISTS OF THE ROSES

LACHLAN MITCHELL

This one is perhaps a Yugioh deep cut - Konami didn't exactly care about console games outside of the Nintendo arsenal, and so this PS2 game kinda went under the radar in the mid '00s. But it should not be forgotten! The artwork, classically #edgy and overproduced '00s cover art, helps ensure that.

It has a ballsy premise: you have been summoned to Stonehenge from Present Day (a.k.a 2006) in order to fight in the Wars of the Roses over five centuries prior, because you have the True Heart of a Duelist and possess the only soul capable of defeating Seto Kaiba, who is fighting Yugi, known as... Henry Tudor. However, you may choose to fight on the side of Kaiba instead, and change the course of history. Through card games. It's good!

What I always loved about the game as a kid was how utterly broken it was; meant to flip Yugioh on its head and provide a True Interactive Element, poor play-testing meant that you actually did best by doing the opposite, and disregarding the game's fun core element of moving your cards - that are apparently part of your soul - all around the battlefield. It's a shame, as if you wanted to win the game, you'd spend 30 turns powering up one of two viable monsters in order to clinch the win.

Still, the music design was always a treat - the distinct battle themes are still good today. Maybe this game is deserving of a remake, or at least a port to a brighter era. It's a shame that is trapped on the PS2.



WALL-E. DIR. ANDREW STANTON

AVINASH GOVIND

Released in the middle of 2008, Wall-E was set in a futuristic dystopia with an Earth that's left uninhabitable, with humans having been evacuated by Blue-~~Origin~~ Buy-N-Large, a megacorp, to a space station in the 22nd century. Left behind, a single sentient waster compressor, Wall-E, spends its days moving through the earth in a futile attempt to clean up the planet.

The movie is centred around the relationship between Wall-E and EVE, another robot designed to find traces of life on earth. Much of the movie is focused on the touching relationship between the characters, with Wall-E following EVE onto the space station upon its discovery of life.

While the movie certainly touches on issues of consumerism and corporate greed; the Disney-Pixar movie, which spawned merchandise sales that likely amounted to tens of millions of dollars, found its strength in cinematic features of the film. Throughout the movie, the animators and sound engineers did an excellent job at conveying the emotionality of the film, often without being aided by dialogue.

In total, Wall-E is likely to be remembered as one of the better Pixar movies of the decade for both the quality of the film itself, as well as the messages it conveyed, albeit with a bizarre lack of self-awareness.



FREAKY

KEEARA OFREN

There are two things that defined who I was growing up. One: An obsession with the paranormal. Two: A heightened sense of anxiety inside elevators.

And there is one show to blame for these two things, *Freaky*. *Freaky* was a kids' horror anthology show which was an underrated feature of early 2000s TV. Each episode had three vignettes all hosted by a baby **Dan Costello** prior to his **Erin Simpson Show** days. These were the days of *Charmed*, *Buffy* and *Big Wolf on Campus*, where paranormal themes were the dominant wave on TV. If **R.L. Stine** can do it for kids, why not NZ media?

Re-watching the series now, I realise that, yes, the graphics and child 'actors' do make bargain bin B-movies at Harvey Norman commercials look Oscar worthy, but every episode carries some surrealism which can only be matched by those strange and unexplained dreams. What if the walls of an elevator would fall away whilst you were inside? What if you were convinced that the people around you were purposefully trapping you? What if a home video revealed there was someone watching you in the background? These and many more make up the typical plot of a *Freaky* episode. And perhaps it is these subconscious fears that make me remember the plots so well. And make me press the mute button to avoid nightmares.

Whether you watch it to screenshot into meme templates, or to spot **Tai-ka Waititi's** cameo, *Freaky* is one show that you won't forget, for better or worse.



United We Video, Divided We Fall

THOMAS GIBLIN

Thomas Giblin revisits the brick-and-mortar video stores, those that stood tall before they were carpet bombed by streaming services the world over.

The world is ripe with nostalgia as we look back fondly on times where we could live with hope and without fear. I felt a tinge of nostalgia as I looked back at life when it was 'normal' and free from the anxieties of our new world. Nostalgia is derived from Greek, meaning 'homecoming' and 'pain' or 'ache' which is why when I feel nostalgic, I feel a deep ache in my chest. This sentimentality for the past found me looking back at a place that once served as a pillar of my childhood; the DVD store. Most of these stores now don't exist; many of them turned into gyms, restaurants and liquor stores. Their storefronts once filled with the latest posters and colourful signs advertising specials are now empty shells, a victim to a world that forgot their importance. I think to call them just a 'store'

is an injustice; they were institutions where people came together to celebrate all things, film and television. What were once pillars of communities are now lost to a bygone era that may never return.

I used to work at one of these institutions in its final few years, and in my time there it made me realize what was special about them. It was often less about the films and television shows themselves but the connections formed. Many of our customers were elderly because they didn't know how to stream or download, but for many of them, we were a social calling. I'd see them at the mall after or before work, give them a hug and ask them how they were doing. These connections were a valuable lifeline for many, as we simply gave them a reason to get up in the

arts.

morning. Now what? Yes, times change, but what about those who can't change or don't want to. Yes, streaming is more convenient and often cheaper but don't forget about our experiences at these institutions. Don't forget about picking out your favourite DVD(s)(mine was *The Adventures Of Tintin*) on 'Cheap Tuesdays' and don't forget the conversations had and the recommendations made.

The recommendations made were what made these institutions truly wonderful as a burgeoning cinephile. Staff members introduced me to films and directors I'd never heard of before, and that may have made me into a "a bit of a snob", but that's okay as I know I'm deserving of that label. They knew me better than any algorithm could because they as film and television fans knew you as a human and not as a series of ones and zeros. I did get to work behind the counter, and I did make my fair share of recommendations, some well-received and others not. *Mandy* and *Funny Games* - both favourite films of mine were always poorly received - but it didn't stop me from recommending them but as they had to be seen.

Many of the titles we recommended had to be seen because they were only accessible as physical media. These institutions were as much an archive of physical media as they were businesses. For a small fee, you could rent a film for a week, play it as many times as you like without having to worry about whether or not the title would be removed, you could watch it without fear of your internet ruining the experience and have access to all the special features. Physical media is unparalleled in this regard as you had true ownership. You had lifetime access to the stories and worlds your favourite films and television shows provided. I don't want to get half-way through a film or television show and realize the next day it has disappeared. Imagine that, you're watching

a film with your significant other, and you fall asleep together and wake up to realize that someone yeeted your DVD/Blu-Ray of *Clueless* out the window. I'd be livid. Yes, this is a gross oversimplification of the issue, but I want to make the point that we should buy physical media and support stores that sell the format while we can. We must do this to resist our corporate overlords who otherwise will stop producing physical media, thus forcing us onto their streaming platforms.

I know that some of you may disagree with me, and that's okay. I'm a purist, and a sentimentalist in that these institutions mean a tremendous deal to me, and maybe that's clouding my vision. But I think we all have those things we hold onto, whether that's a moment or a place spent alone or with others. These intuitions may mean something entirely different to you, or you may not even have been a part of your lives as they were mine. To me, they remind me of where I found my love for film and to see them die out is heartbreaking, so please support the things and the places you love before they become a distant memory.

***"They knew me better
than any algorithm
could because they as
film and television fans
knew you as a human
and not as a series of
ones and zeros."***



What Beautifully Cringe '00s Fashion Icon Are You?

Those whose adolescence covered the early '00s are fiercely protective of their nostalgia in a way that is rivalled only by the boomers, with their recollections of the golden age of capitalism and the longings for the faint taste of lead in the air. Having come of age at a time where 9/11 was something that had happened, but not being old enough to remember The Times Before, we occupy a little spot between the now-aging millennials and the Totally Communist zoomers, and we will fight to the death over defending the now-fuzzy memories of our childhood years. As such, Craccum

dedicated an entire issue to covering the vague topic of 'nostalgia', in a desperate attempt to appeal to our shut-in readers during yet another lockdown, all during the end of the Western empire.

Long live the '00s! Do we truly remember how we looked at the time - or rather, how our older siblings and their celeb idols looked at the time? Have we truly internalised their glory? With this quiz, maybe you can dig up a few of those memories, and do a little bit of stolen valour and relate them to yourself. Have fun!

arts.

'00s style icon bar none & Disney superstar Ashley Tisdale - from her initial four years of fame - walks past you. She's happy with her life, secure in her millions and fan adoration. How fucked up is her outfit?

A) She's wearing a light red one-piece dress OVER her bedazzled jeans WHILE sporting a dropped denim mini-jumper on top of it. Powerful stuff.

B) Ashley Tisdale is no longer, for the being that once was Ashley Tisdale has been subsumed into the newly sapient entity known only as 'bell-bottom jeans and Hello Kitty slippers.'

C) Her teal ribboned t-shirt, always teal, always covered in some forgotten brand tagline, is psychically communicating with the cyan bead necklace and chartreuse UGG boots.

D) Her feathered boa is tangled in her not-quite-Stevie Nicks scarf, slowly but surely becoming one item forevermore.

Which banger is THE banger?

A) Gimme More - Britney Spears

B) Heaven - DJ Sammy & Yanou ft. Do (*This is the correct answer*)

C) Gossip Folks - Missy Elliott

D) Dirrty - Christina Aguilera ft. Redman

How are you letting all the unpopular bitches know you're in fact the coolest, and that Jared isn't interested in them 'cause they're fugly?

A) True Religion flared jeans

B) My lace canary-coloured tank top over my olive t-shirt? How else

C) What, you think my girls don't know their place when I step out in my tiered miniskirts?

D) Julius the Monkey shoulder-bag that my nana got for me at Christmas 2003

Take a breather. In the pre-social media age, what do you do to pass the time?

A) Shoot the rubber bands on your braces

B) Wait three hours for a Youtube video to load

C) Uh go outside bc I have friends lol? The fuck you mean

D) Read books...? (Remember reading for fun? What)

It's 2004. You've been told to wait in the magazine area of Countdown and occupy yourself while the adults are shopping. What do you read?

A) Krash

B) Mania

C) K-Zone

D) Actually I'm gonna annoy everyone by following behind them and wanting to drive the trolley but doing it really fucking slowly

You just walked past Gwen Stefani in her prime years of fame. She's just begun a solo career, and is racking up hits by the month. She's beautiful, and 'Hollaback Girl' is just around the corner. What is her racist apparel?

A) Still got that bindi glued to her forehead like no other

B) She just finished emulating what she thinks is chola-wear, cautious to never actually go where she thinks people who could tell her otherwise might be

C) She's not wearing anything racist but she has the Harajuku Girls on a dog leash and is berating them for asking her to please let them go home

D) A Cree headdress. Yeah, it's a bit later than the '00s but..... Like, what was that video?

Nowadays, what stays on during sex?

A) We're fucking through the FUBU, baby

B) The bootcut jeans

C) I'm not taking off the Juicy Couture velour salmon-coloured tracksuit

D) The Von Dutch Hat

arts.

You're been dropped through a time portal over ten thousand years into the past, and you can only present one item to a marauding caveman group on the cusp of developing concepts like 'society' and 'not shitting where we eat', in the hopes that this item will guide the oncoming human civilisation to a brighter tomorrow. What is that item?

- A) Your yellow candy-coloured aviator
- B) White low-rise jeans with a studded Ed Hardy belt buckle
- C) A nameplate necklace (you know, the kind that'd spell out your name in golden cursive)
- D) Distinctly oversized jumpers and sweatpants - unbeatable in both fashion and relaxation

Mostly As) *Britney Spears & Justin Timberlake* - Even in your failures, you can occasionally turn out the most glamorous of the lot. While some may look back and ask 'how?', only those who are worthy of your time will look back and ask 'why not?'. You aimed high, and sometimes your aim was as true as your spirit. Let your denim flag fly, you've earned your accolades. Also, #FreeBritney.

Mostly Bs) *Ashley Tisdale, The Queen* - You've heard all the names. 'Hot mess'. 'Bird bitch'. 'Shambles supreme'. But you live it, and do it with a smile. Because at the end of it all, when people look back, they're not thinking of those who stood with the crowd and jeered - they're thinking of the girl who stepped out in the bedazzled Hello Kitty sleeping mask, no matter how the Ritalin tried to hold you back.

Mostly Cs) *Da Brat's Legendary Spongebob Ensemble* - You turned it out, honey. Your '00s experience was one of adventure, and almost lethal tackiness. But tacky always has a home somewhere, and with high risk comes great rewards. You kinda won!

Mostly Ds) *Anne Hathaway, Period* - the Inverse Tisdale, you were insufferably bland. A true embodiment of those who tried, but could not. Those who had a flip phone, but no one to text. I'm glad you were bullied, actually. Suffer.

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Childhood Amnesia

FLORA XIE

Imagine: you're in Sigmund Freud's office and he asks you to recall the earliest memory that you can remember. What do you remember? How old are you in that memory?

Every now and then when my family and I get together for dinner, my parents or grandparents would start laughing over an old memory they have of when my brother or I were younger. You know, like the things you don't even remember doing when you were 2-years old.

I'm sure this is a common occurrence for many; older family members just love to ask you about things from your infancy that you most definitely do not remember.

This is my fifth column so I should probably get this out of the way: I'm not a fan of Freud. I'm not sure if there are many fans of his left. However, he did identify the phenomena that I'm about to discuss so credit is given where it is due.

This phenomena is called childhood amnesia, and that refers to the inability to remember autobiographical memories from our infancy or early childhood. But why

is it that we don't remember much from when we were really young? Let's take a look at some of the factors theorised by other psychologists.

A problem with being really young is that you don't have a lot of space in your short-term memory compared to adults. Young children struggle to hold onto all of the information needed for the process of encoding and consolidating memories to happen.

This means that for the most part, if you try to recall your earliest memories, typically you won't have many memories from before you were 4- or 5-years old.

The lack of language is also a barrier. Autobiographical memories may depend heavily on language skills for us to actually store these memories away and recall them later. So, being able to articulate your memories may be key.

A study was done with infants 2- to 3-years old where they were told to verbally recount their experience with a toy that they played with in a lab. When they returned to the lab a year later and were asked to recount their initial experience with the toy, they used the same language they used in their first visit, despite having a more extensive vocabulary.

Different styles of interactions with young children can also influence how early and how strongly their autobiographical memories are formed. Researchers looked at two styles of parental-remiscing with 4-year old children, and how they affect the age of the earliest memory the child has at 12-13-years old.

If your parents are the type to be like “Remember what you did on your first day of kindy?” and they keep repeating the question but slightly rephrased when you tell them you don’t, their reminiscing style is repetitive.

On the other hand, if your parents tend to be more like “Remember that time we went to Western Springs park when you were 3, and the geese bit you?” and they recount things like “You were trying to feed them some bread, remember?” and so on, that’s the elaborative-remiscing style.

As you can probably guess, parents who used an elaborative-remiscing style with their children at age 4 had adolescents who could remember earlier memories at ages 12-13 compared to parents who used a repetitive-remiscing style.

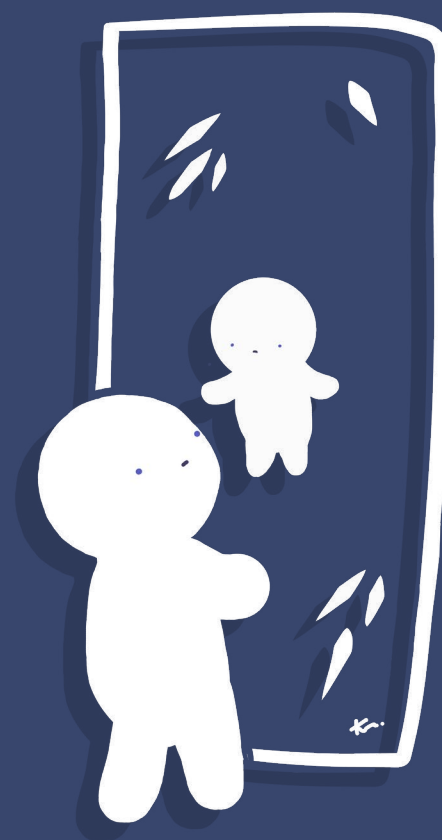
The development of the ‘self’ is an extremely important stage for a child as they begin to gain a sense of identity. Children who develop a stronger sense of self

also have a better ability to remember autobiographical memories from a younger age. This strong sense of self can help to bind past experiences together into more robust memories.

So, is there any way for you to get back those memories from when you were 2-years old now, as an adult? Unfortunately, it’s probably not very likely.

If you probed all of your relatives to tell you about everything that happened in your childhood before your earliest memory, you could gain some false memories instead.

Why? It’s hard to distinguish between memories that are ‘recovered’ and memories that are fake since you don’t remember them. If you really want to be sure, ask several people to corroborate the memory. Take what others reminisce with a grain of salt, their view of an event could be more positive or negative than it actually was.





Maddy Crutchley's Early 2000s Cookbook

MADELEINE CRUTCHLEY

Fairy Bread, Spiders, Traffic Lights, and Cheese and Marmite Scrolls were the epitome of every early 00's birthday party. Maddy Crutchley wants to bring them back.

Despite only being 21, I am hyper-aware that my body has aged. I can't handle food of any intensity. I've kissed coffee goodbye, I've limited my sugar intake and I've tried to cut out foods that have things in them that I can't pronounce. Largely, it seems to have done me some good. I feel more

energetic, my skin has cleared up a bit and I don't have a sore stomach very often. However, since being stuck at home, my mind has begun to wander backwards, in a hypoglycaemic dream, looking for the hit that only sugar and empty carbs from the early 2000s could bring.

As a kid, I had a massive sweet tooth. My mum, bless her heart, did her best to prevent me from gorging on unhealthy food. I was limited to two lollies a couple times a week for dessert, had ice-cream on special occasions and only really ate chocolate at Easter, Halloween and Christmas. Despite her best efforts to keep me from my sugar highs, she couldn't control me at birthday parties. I would basically plant myself next to plates of food, ignoring other kids in favour of sugar and salt. My plastic plate would be so full of crappy snacks that I would put extras into my goodie bag and eat them later in the day. I was like a squirrel preparing for winter. Now, since SHE ISN'T THE BOSS OF ME ANYMORE, I've decided to dust off those recipes and fall into a sugary slumber again. Please consume these with caution.

Fairy Bread Rolls

Fairy Bread was my absolute favourite party food. It was so pretty and so different from everything else I would usually eat. I remember meticulously staring at the aftermath of each bite, marvelling at the way the bright colours would transfer from the hundreds and thousands, onto the snow white bread. My first trial saw me remaking the basic version; basically just sprinkling the colour beads onto white bread. This, honestly, was very disappointing and weird. I decided to make them a little fancier than the old-school version I used to eat, to try and salvage my fond memories.

Ingredients:

White bread

Hundreds and thousands

Margarine

Method:

Spread the margarine over two pieces of bread, in an even layer (if it's too thick, you're going to get a full mouth of it, if it's too thin, you're going to lose all your beautiful sprinkles). Generously sprinkle your hundreds and thousands onto the bread and use a tablespoon to apply light pressure and make them stick. Press the two pieces of bread together and then use a weight to flatten them even further. Cut off the crusts, making sure the bread is an even square. Take one side of the bread and start to roll in the same way you would for a cinnamon scroll. Once you've completed the spiral, apply more pressure to seal!

Spiders

This was a very, very occasional treat my friend's mum would make at the end of term. They had a pretty big backyard so she would usually let us drain the glasses clean and then lock us outside for an hour to burn our energy off. These are still really delicious and very, very sweet. They're also super simple, so I could see myself making these drunk at some point. I would not suggest having them after dinner, as it really had my brain going (especially after I remember the Coke has caffeine in it).

Ingredients:

Coke

Ice

Vanilla ice-cream

Rum (optional)

Method:

This one is pretty obvious. Take some Coke, pour it in a tall glass, add some ice and dump a good scoop of ice-cream in it. If you do it right, you should get a good fizz

which really triggers some memories. IF you want to go a bit harder, add some rum and turn up your music. What else are you going to do on a Friday night?

Traffic Light

Okay, I'm going to admit that I really felt like a fully-fledged bartender making this. I've made a few banging cocktails in my time, but this was like a full on science experiment. My brother was a big fan of these drinks, and, if we were very well-behaved, we used to get these if we went out to dinner. I remember always being frustrated that these drinks weren't ACTUALLY in the right order to make a traffic light. I tried to fix that, but the *science* prevented it. You can actually use these methods to make some really good cocktails too!

Ingredients:

Raspberry cordial
Orange juice (preferably no pulp)
Green food colouring
Ice
Vodka (optional)

Method:

Pour just over half a glass of orange juice and add a good amount of ice. Take a funnel or straw (it's about to get funky) and place the end at the very bottom of the glass. Pour the raspberry cordial through to funnel/straw slowly and you should see the bottom layer start to form with a distinct difference in colour. Remove the funnel/straw quickly and don't agitate the drink. Finally add green food colouring to the top of the drink, and give it a light stir to disperse the colour. If you'd like to add some vodka, pop it in with the orange juice.

Cheese and Marmite Scrolls

It's inevitable that if you have any one of these other recipes, you're going to be feeling pretty energetic afterwards. If you need to bring that energy down and make yourself behave more appropriately indoors, cheese and marmite scrolls are your best friend. They're crispy and delicious, with a healthy dose of salt. I used to leave these untouched at birthday parties, but they're probably the one I'm most likely to eat now. You could also swap out the cheeses for something more *gourmet* if you roll that way.

Ingredients:

2 cups self-raising flour
80g butter
2/3 cup of milk
2/4 grated cheddar cheese
1/4 grated parmesan cheese
1 tbsp Marmite
Extra tbsp of milk

Method:

Set your oven to 200°C. Combine the flour and butter and then use your hands to bring the mixture to a breadcrumb like consistency. Add 3/4 of the cheese and 2/3 cup of milk. You should then be able to knead the mixture into a dough. Lightly flour your kitchen bench and gently push the dough out to a thin, even rectangle (you can use an empty glass bottle if you don't have a rolling pin). Spread the Marmite and remaining cheese across the top of the dough. Roll the dough into a long rope shape and then cut them into single scrolls (about 3-4cm should do it). Place the rolls on a tray with baking paper. Use the extra milk to brush the rolls and then bake for 20 mins!

Summer Nostalgia

A PHOTO COLLECTION BY FLORA XIE @FLORAESCENT
(MODELS @SHANNON_HORNE_ AND @MARLIESGOUBITZ)









WHO ASKED YOU?

NOSTALGIA EDITION

WELCOME TO CRACCUM, WHERE WE PUT THE "AGONY" IN "AGONY AUNT."
WE'RE NOT QUALIFIED TO DEAL WITH YOUR PROBLEMS, BUT NEITHER ARE YOU.

**Can you please make a playlist to cry to
and put it on Spotify?**

Your wish is my command.

WHO ASKED YOU PRESENTS: THE NOSTALGIA PLAYLIST

*Are you a nineties kid? Of course you are, you can't shut
the fuck up about it. Here are ten songs from your child-
hood guaranteed to make you cry nostalgic tears for the
childhood you wasted.*

THIS IS ME – CAMP ROCK (Demi Lovato)

The OG self-love ANTHEM. This song is a certified bop
and will remain one until the end of time.

WHEREVER I GO – HANNAH MONTANA (Miley Cyrus)

If you don't cry, you're a robot. I don't make the rules, I
just write about them.

WHEN SHE LOVED ME – TOY STORY 2 (Sarah McLachlan)

This song should be a fucking war crime. When paired
with that montage of Jessie being left behind, it's
weapons-grade water-works nuclear bomb.

HALLELUJAH – SHREK (Rufus Wainwright)

I know, alright, I KNOW this song was a thing way before
Shrek. But Shrek is what made it great and I will not be
taking any criticism of this fact. Fiona LEFT him okay
and they were both DEVASTATED and this MOVIE still
GETS ME every TIME.

REFLECTION – MULAN (Lea Salonga)

WHY IS MY REEEEEEFLECTION SOMEONE IIIIIIII DON'T
KNOW.

CAN YOU FEEL THE LOVE TONIGHT – THE LION KING
(Elton John)

Don't even come NEAR me with that remade nonsense.
We live and die by the ORIGINAL greatness.

READY, SET, DON'T GO – HANNAH MONTANA (Billy Ray
and Miley Cyrus)

If you've moved out of home, this will make you cry until
you die of dehydration. If you haven't moved out yet,
you'll still cry for Miley and Billy. Yes this is the second
Hannah Montana song on this list, it was the greatest
Disney show of all time, don't @ me.

SWEET VICTORY – SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (David
Glen Eisley)

I still can't believe that they didn't play this at the Su-
perbowl. Squidward's shock will never be equalled in its
televisual greatness. In your FACE, Squilliam.

WORDS TO ME – SCOOBY DOO (Sugar Ray)

I purely included this for my little brother. This one's for
you, Ads. Also, it's a bop.

WHAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF – THE LIZZIE MACGUIRE
MOVIE (Hillary Duff feat. Hillary Duff)
FUCK YOU PABLO, LIZZIE DOESN'T NEED YOU. SHE HAS
HER INEXPLICABLE CLONE TO SING THE DUET WITH
HER. Great show followed by a great movie.

Now That's What I Call Horoscopes!

CRACCUM'S RESIDENT ORACLE GLORIA HOLE RECENTLY BUMPED INTO DAVE DOBBYN IN LINE AT HER LOCAL PAK'NSAVE, AND HASN'T STOPPED RAVING ABOUT IT SINCE. SO MUCH SO, THAT SHE'S DUG UP SOME OF HER FAVOURITE NOSTALGIC TUNES IN ORDER TO RELAY YOUR FORTUNE.

Aries

Cabin fever got you down Aries? Well, it's time to pour yourself a glass of wine, put on your headphones, and treat yourself to a silent disco. Your neighbours will surely be jealous when they see you *Dancing in the Moonlight* - especially with that moon so big and bright.



Taurus

This week, impending deadlines will leave you feeling *Under Pressure*. Dun dun dun da ba dum dom. Looking out your window, you'll see people on streets - perhaps it's time to go out for a run, or grab some fresh air, to rejuvenate the mind.



Gemini

Gemini, open up your eager eyes - you're *Mr Brightside* this week. In the midst of being trapped in your lockdown 'cage', you'll notice sparks begin to fly in your life - catch them quick before their source burns out.



Cancer

This week, you will not believe your eyes, as ten million *Fireflies* light up the walls as you fall asleep. It's time to let your imagination run wild, because your body isn't going anywhere. We could all do with a thousand hugs, so dream of ten thousand lightning bugs.



Leo

Why on Earth would you go for second best Leo? Put your love to the test - you know, you know, you've got to. ;) Perhaps in showing love to so many others this lockdown, you've forgotten to receive some of your own. Well, you're number one baby, so it's time to *Express Yourself*.



Virgo

Aw man! We're still under lockdown?? This shit really is bananas... What, you wanted me to spell it out for you? Who do you think I am, some kind of *Hollaback Girl*?



Libra

Your birthday is coming up soon, but the stars assure you not to worry, as soon enough you'll be dancing in *September*. In fact, this lockdown will be so far gone from your mind soon enough, that you'll be left answerless when someone asks 'Do you remember?'.



Scorpio

During this lockdown, being stuck at home may lead you to feeling like you're living in a lonely world. However, it's a lonely time for everyone right now, and sure enough, if you hold your breath, after 12 days you will emerge into a world where the grass is greener and the sky more blue. The stars tell you to *Don't Stop Believin'* and hold on to that feeling.



Sagittarius

This week, you're a *Slice of Heaven* Sagittarius. :) Your company during this lockdown has made someone very happy, but don't be disheartened if they're too nervous to admit it. Perhaps this horoscope is just their way of saying you're the warm moonlight over their horizon.



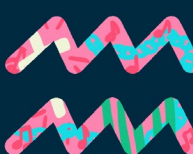
Capricorn

We can all agree 2020 has been a garbage year, but it's not one we should be so quick to forget outright. Don't forget all the self-improvements you've made, the friends you've gained, and the things you've discovered about yourself along the way. *Don't Look Back in Anger*, else all the good memories will slowly fade away.



Aquarius

Unless you're reading this from a managed quarantine facility, your song this week is *I Want to Break Free*. Which I know is a terrible choice given we're still in lockdown. But God knows. God knows we'd like to break free.



Pisces

There will be a point where everything gets too much for you this week, Pisces. And when that time comes, it's a sign to just drop everything and relax. You'll swim with the dolphins. You can be King, or Queen. And we can live our lives as *Heroes* - but just for one day.



the people to blame.

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Anamika Harirajh

NOMINATOR: GEORGE HENRY BARTON

SECONDER: 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

SECONDER: 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 Barracclough

NOMINATOR: SAMUEL SNELL
SECONDER: ERIKA SOFFEE, ARYANA NAFISSI

Hi guys, Daniel V Barracclough 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

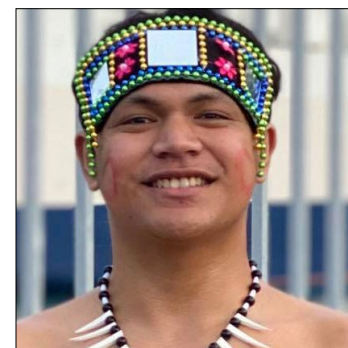
More on Facebook

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BARRACLOUGH2021](https://www.facebook.com/BARRACLOUGH2021)

Peter Loma Malifa

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

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



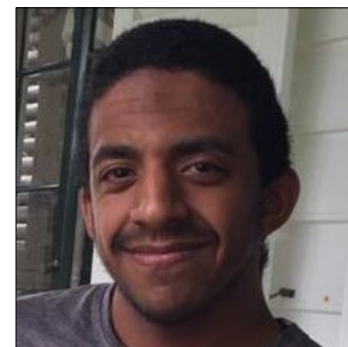
involves working with consideration of everyone around you. It's not just a title, it's an opportunity for one to grow and also learn from those they are leading. Alongside one of my fellow peers who is running for Education VP, our values are simple – Respect, Trust & Truth. These are values that we 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
SECONDER: 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

SECONDDERS: JOYCE-ANN MOEHAU, PARSA SANGI

Josh Ellwood

NOMINATOR: EMMA ROGERS

SECONDDERS: 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

SECONDDERS: 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
SECONDER: GRACE LOTO-ASO, TALU
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;

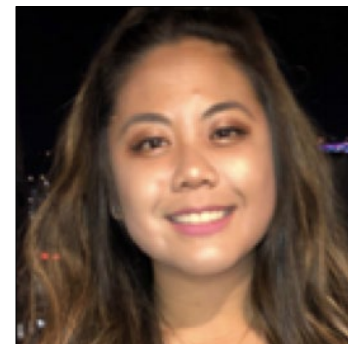
[INSTAGRAM.COM/PAULINASOTI](https://www.instagram.com/paulinasoti)
[INSTAGRAM.COM/LLXMOANA](https://www.instagram.com/llxmoana)
[FACEBOOK.COM/VOTE-PETERANDPAULINA](https://www.facebook.com/vote-peterandpaulina)

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

Vanessa Falcuntin

NOMINATOR: EMILIA SULLIVAN
SECONDER: 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)

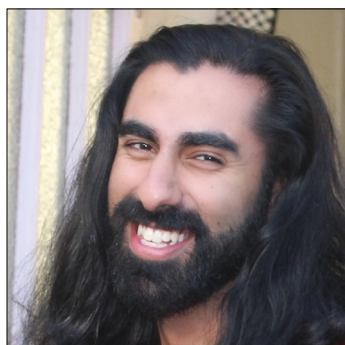
ENGAGEMENT VICE-PRESIDENT

Ashkeerat Singh

NOMINATOR: SAMUEL SNELL
SECONDER: 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/ASH4ENVF/](https://www.facebook.com/ASH4ENVF/)

Karthik Subramaniam

NOMINATOR: VAISHALI SANKAR
SECONDER: 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
SECONDER: 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!

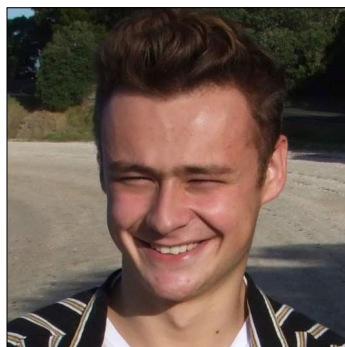
Hope to have your support!

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



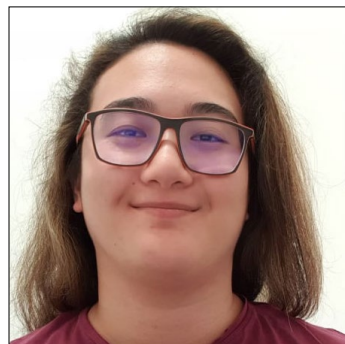
Laura Shekouh

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-VP-105755761247797/)

Sheedeh Faramand

NOMINATOR: SHEEDEH

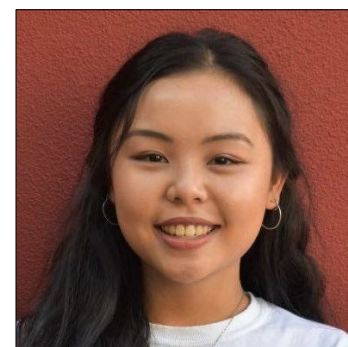
SECONDER: KAAJAL ISRANI, KAVIYA

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

Ashlee Sannazzaro-Cameron

NOMINATOR: SHANAYA CRASTO
SECONDER: SIMONE MURPHY, NAYA TODD

Kia Ora, I'm Ashlee, and I am running for a seat on the AUSA Executive team for 2021, as your Treasurer-Secretary. As your



Treasurer-Secretary, my role involves handling the budgets allocated by the university that goes towards supporting the student body.

If I am elected, I will make sure that AUSA and the student body receive more financial support from the university, more than it does so now.

The university can spend hundreds of thousands on its personal winery in Waiheke, yet can't subsidise

the fees we continue paying for online learning, that does not nearly equal to the resources we are still paying for on campus?

I want to propose that AUSA raises the number of hardship grants it gives out to undergraduates and postgraduate students. Being a university student is undoubtedly bank-destroying for many, and I want to make sure that the university is aware of this and offers the financial support we deserve.

I want to allocate more funding towards Welfare, Women's Rights, and Queer Rights. It is vital that every student on campus feel supported, no matter their ethnicity, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Nga Mihi :)

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%.

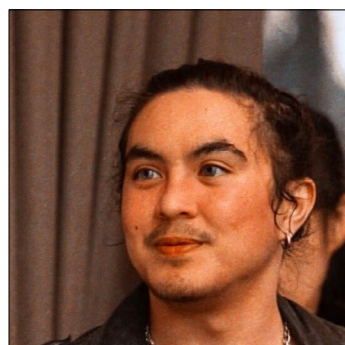
This year I will be running for the role of Treasurer - Secretary for the AUSA Executive 2021 and I am confident that I will do the students of UoA justice. As Treasurer-Secretary my voice will echo the demands of the student body in Executive and Advisory Board meetings. My priority will be to prioritise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

Shiying Xu

NOMINATOR: OJAS SHUKLA
SECONDER: ALTHEA TARROSA, NIKI MENZIES



Kia ora everyone, my name is Shiying, 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

SECONDDERS: DOMINIC DAVIDSON, JOSHUA MANDENO

DESIGN OFFICER

Aniketh Mantravadi

NOMINATOR: KARAN WALIA

SECONDDERS: NAKUL PATEL, REHAN AHMED



As a Design Officer, I will be focused/responsible for the social media presence of AUSA. Due to the world's current position where social media is the main if not the only source of communication most people are using I find this is a very important role that shouldn't be disestablished! This position would rely on communication and bringing a strong welcoming

presence for the association.

Strong values I try to uphold are creativity, fairness, and respect but I value integrity above anything else!

I will be present at all AUSA events and will be responsible for providing updates on such events and communicating them through various AUSA social mediums.

The association wishes to disestablish this role and a few others so please show support and change their minds!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICER

Abirrhani Rajagopal

NOMINATOR: LIKHITHA SATRASALA

SECONDDERS: 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/ABIRRHAMI](https://www.facebook.com/ABIRRHAMI)

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

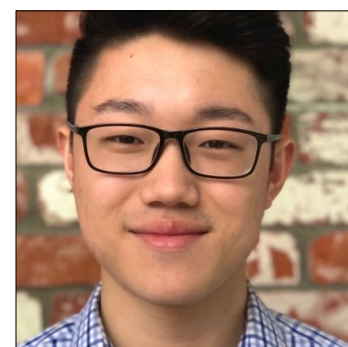
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AUSA-INTERNATIONAL-OFFICER-ELECTION-CAMPAIGN-104657234691984](https://www.facebook.com/AUSA-INTERNATIONAL-OFFICER-ELECTION-CAMPAIGN-104657234691984)

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.

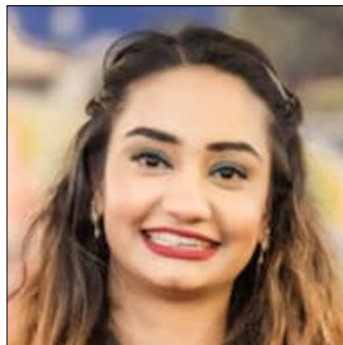
I truly believe we can make UoA a better place for domestic and international students alike. So if you want a better 2021, you better Go for it.

[FB.ME/VOTEKEV2021](https://fb.me/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>

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>

Zheu Si

NOMINATOR: YUHANG SUI

SECONDRS: ERIC, YUAN LIU

Zhuoling Chen

NOMINATOR: ECHO CHEN

SECONDRS: WENHUI LIN, YURN ZHOU

POSTGRADUATE STUDENT OFFICER

Emma Cooper-Williams

NOMINATOR: ROSA HENDERSON
SECONDER: 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>

Jet Tonogbanua

NOMINATOR: CJ HE
SECONDER: SOPHIE PEUNG, RIPI KAUR



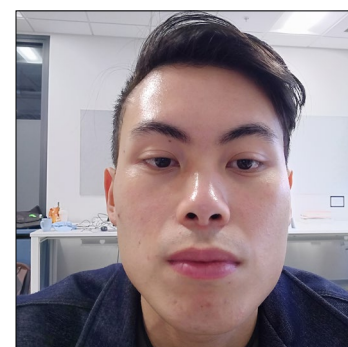
Coming to New Zealand as a full-paying international postgrad student was tremendously hard. I felt isolated living in a beautiful country while pursuing a PhD in Education. Fortunately, I was able to connect with other postgraduate students through the Postgraduate Student Association (PGSA) where I 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 PGSAs 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/>

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
SECONDDERS: 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/SASHAFORS02021](https://www.facebook.com/sashafors02021)



Stefy Gi Peediakal

NOMINATOR: ABI THAMPI
SECONDDERS: 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

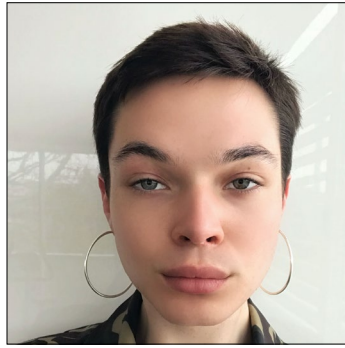
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VOTE-4-STEFY-GI-PEEDIKAL-POSTGRADUATE-OFFICER-2021-101115231720120/](https://www.facebook.com/vote-4-stefy-gi-peediakal-postgraduate-officer-2021-101115231720120/)



QUEER RIGHTS OFFICER

James McKinnon

NOMINATOR: JED ROBERTSON
SECONDRS: HONGWEI LUO, MILANETA PELLETT

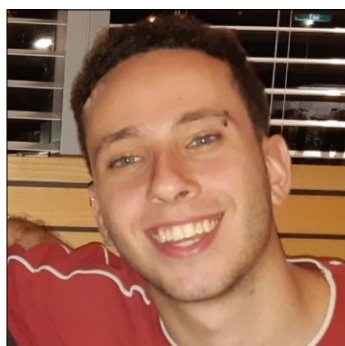


Tena koutou, my name is James McKinnon and I am running for the position of Queer Rights Officer in 2021. My vision is simple- I want to bring the Queer community on campus together, so that the LGBT+ student body at the University of Auckland can learn, grow, and connect with one another. As QRO, I 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](https://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
SECONDRS: 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
SECONDDERS: 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

Divya Somashekarappa

NOMINATOR: KARTHIK SUBRAMANIAM
SECONDER: 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
SECONDER: TALHA ZIA, OLIVIA MAHEY

Jayna Patel

NOMINATOR: LAURA SHEKOUH
SECONDER: HELEN MENG, STEPHEN PARINAS



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

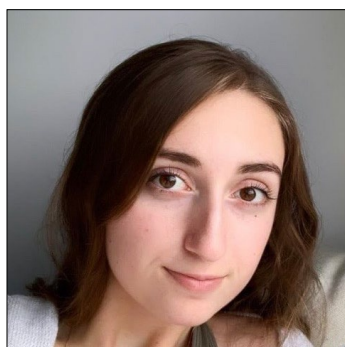
As a self-identifying woman in a degree that “men are meant for,” there have been times where I have been in a gender divide situation. As a Women’s Rights Officer it would be my job to ensure that ALL women at UoA don’t have to go through this. Having a great community where women can feel comfortable 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
SECONDER: EMMY JUSAKUL, NATHAN BOND



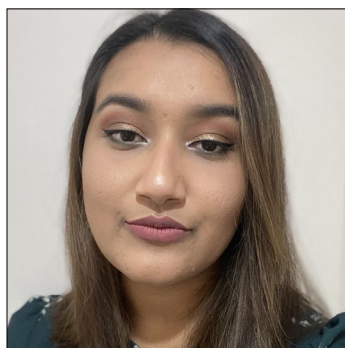
It's time to take some steps forward! What a crazy 2020 and now we're planning on getting back on track as a community. I'll fight for the Women's Space getting a **FACE LIFT** with a mural competition done by fine arts students along with more events, **FREE** Washing/drying in uni accommodation, and 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
SECONDER: 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
SECONDER: 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

students. But most importantly, I’m here to work with and support you!

<https://www.facebook.com/vivien-for-ausa-womens-rights-officer-100713905090805/>

Vivien Whyte

NOMINATOR: FRANCES REVITA
SECONDDERS: 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 womxnspace’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