

## **Regarding the OUSA 2014 Use / Satisfaction / Importance Survey Comments**

### **Dan Hendra – Communications & Events Manager**

OUSA prides itself in hosting a diverse range of events that are inclusive and engaging for all students. This includes not only music events at the stadium, but also our infamous Capping Show, Art Week, Comedy Shows, Market days and the International Food Festivals twice a year. Each year we assess if the events are relevant, and if they are not, then we change or adapt the events to cater towards the student voice.

OUSA hosts numerous events throughout the year on a continuous basis. On average we host a large scale event (3500+ people) every six weeks of the University calendar.

OUSA hosts a large number of non-alcohol based events throughout the year including the International Food Festivals, Comedy Shows, Market days, the Capping Show and Art Week. At all of our alcohol based events we pride ourselves in harm minimization with a focus on safety strategies. This can include offering above and beyond services through R U Ok?, Red Frog, Water Warriors, free shuttles and buses home, no high alcohol percentage drinks and no advertising around drink promotions. We definitely do not encourage binge drinking and actively promote a positive, fun student culture at all OUSA events.

In recent years OUSA has taken on aspects of the Hyde St event so it can continue to be part of the Otago student experience in a fun and positive approach. We have included numerous safety and security strategies to create a safer event than ever before to ensure the event will continue for years to come. With the addition of the ticketing system we have recouped a majority of the costs involved which has allowed it to be cost effective and therefore more likely to continue in the future.

As OUSA has come on board for the Hyde St event, we have done so by using our experience and expertise to create a safer event. This has included limiting numbers through a ticketing system as there is real concern around health and safety. i.e. if there was a fire in the middle of the street then safety services will not be able to respond in time if the event is too crowded.