

ousa elections

CANDIDATE PROFILES

PRESIDENT



LAURA CAIRNS

My name is Laura and I am running to be your 2019 OUSA President.

I have spent the last year campaigning for students. I co-founded the Women's+ Club, advocated in the sexual violence sphere, and organised and led a protest against lack of consultation following the infamous Critic debacle.

For as long as I have been at Otago Uni, management have made drastic changes to the courses we are able to take, the structure of our departments, and the fees we pay- just to name a few. But they have not included us in any genuine way in the decision-making process. I think it is time we changed that!

I want to lobby the University to create policy that mandates they include student and staff voices in decision making. I am passionate, capable, and strong willed. I am ready to spend next year advocating for students.

Vote Laura for President.

Nominated by: Sinead Gill | Secoded by: William Dreyer



JAMES HEATH

Hey! I'm James and I'm running to be your President for 2019! I want to build OUSA into a positive and powerful voice for students.

Over the last two years I've worked hard on the OUSA Exec, giving me the experience needed to know where OUSA should improve and how to actually get results from this Uni. I'm ready to hit the ground running; increasing Uni consultation, improving OUSA's engagement, and addressing the issues you care about.

I also want to make sure that we can enjoy ourselves off campus: working on making BYO/Bar regulations better for students, defending our right to organise events, and continuing to address student mental health and wellbeing.

Above all else, I promise to do the job well - I know what works, what doesn't, and I will go above and beyond to see students at Otago thrive;

Vote James for President!

Nominated by: Bonnie Harrison | Secoded by: Laura Anderson

ADMINISTRATIVE VICE-PRESIDENT



MATTHEW SCHEP

Kia Ora, I'm Matthew, and I'd love to be your Admin Vice-President for 2019.

OUSA does a lot of fantastic work on behalf of students, and I'd like to drive its advocacy and campaign potential further to get our concerns and needs heard by the university and government. Projects such as the Support Services Review and humanities restructuring have neglected student voices.

On OUSA, I would work collaboratively on a national campaign to repeal VSM, partner with the university to improve consultation on issues that matter to us, and review policy and practice to make election campaigns and student engagement more accessible.

Nominated by: Sylvia Duncan | Secoded by: Joshua Meikle

POROURANGI TEMPLETON-REEDY

Kia ora e te iwi! Ko Porourangi Templeton-Reedy tēnei (But Pou or Beyoncé will do). I'm running to be the AVP of OUSA 2019.

As a former two-time executive member for Te Roopū Māori, I have an exceptional understanding of how an executive should operate. As VP I have 3 goals I wish to achieve; help Normalise Tikanga and Te Reo Māori internal and external to OUSA, revitalise and highlight our cultural groups around campus and to ensure everyone continues to have a great scarfie experience.

Life aspiration: live life like Beyoncé, not Michelle.

Don't say no, vote for Pou!



Nominated by: Taylor Terekia | Secoded by: Kirsten Porter

ROGER YAN

Kia ora Otago! I'm Roger and I want to be your AVP (Administrative Vice President). This year, I've had a blast as your Campaigns Officer - increasing transparency and engagement with OUSA through my weekly exec videos, while fighting for student interests on university boards and the RA Pay campaign.

As your AVP, I will ease the transition for incoming execs, carry on the good work of this year's AVP, and get more students involved in OUSA processes.

For an AVP that will future-proof OUSA, maintain existing long term projects, and empower students...

VOTE ROGER FOR AVP. ROGER THAT.



Nominated by: Tessa Robinson | Secoded by: Ruby Gallavin

FINANCE OFFICER



NORHAN EL SANJAK

Hey, I'm Norhan and I'd like to be your Finance Officer!

This year I have loved serving you as your Colleges Officer so much that I want to come back for more! Being both a student for the past 4 years and an executive officer, I've learnt what works and doesn't - I'm excited to help OUSA to continue improving and ensuring students are adequately supported and represented! I want OUSA to continue providing the best

service for students and spending student's money on what students actually want.

So VOTE NORHAN FOR FINANCE OFFICER

Nominated by: Monica Green | Secoded by: Justin Lo



BONNIE HARRISON

Kia ora tātou!

My goal is to ensure OUSA services are more than just well-funded - I want these initiatives to be relevant and accessible to far more students.

The thing is, OUSA is funded by the same University that slashes budgets, collapses departments and censors its students. Now more than ever, we need to make our voices heard as stakeholders in our University experience.

I will be a loud and relentless advocate for you at the University's financial table.

Vote Bonnie for Finance 2019!

Nominated by: William Dreyer | Seconded by: Laura Cairns

EDUCATION OFFICER



ANDRE CASTAING

Hey friends, I'm Andre and I would be chuffed to be part of your OUSA exec. As either Finance or Education Officer I want to ensure the University focuses on its students. This year on Education Committee I began advocating for 4-year conjoint programmes between any two divisions and experienced first-hand how to best press for our student body's interests. I think it's important OUSA uses its limited budget wisely to benefit students in areas we actually care about. I believe I will be a valuable member of the Exec and I hope to get your vote.

Cheers!

Andre

Nominated by: Zi Shaw | Seconded by: Shannon Chalmers



RAFAEL CLARKE

Kia ora, I'm Raf and I would love to be your Education Officer for 2019.

Your institutions need to do better, the disappearance of whole disciplines is a massive loss to student culture. As your Education Officer, I will fight for intellectual diversity. This role requires extensive experience in trimming the fat of bureaucracy and an acute understanding of University and OUSA systems - all of which I have acquired from working for local government and student radio.

I will improve upon and rejuvenate the wealth of advice and information that OUSA provides while increasing awareness.

Nominated by: Susie LeBuffe | Seconded by: Eva Stoddart



WILLIAM DREYER

Kia ora, I'm Will.

OUSA has stepped up in its advocacy role this year, but I want to take it further.

We're constantly seeing reviews and cuts at Otago, such as the Support Services Review and the recent proposal to cut Art History. As your Education Officer, I'd make sure that students are actually informed and consulted on changes, standing up to the University as a strong voice for students.

I'll facilitate the humanities restructure and help student associations take advantage of the new framework, integrate sustainability throughout

degrees, and push for podcasts for all papers

Vote WILL for Education

Nominated by: Alva Feldmeies | Seconded by: Findlay Campbell

WELFARE OFFICER



ANDREW RUDOLPH

Tēnā koutou, ko Andrew Rudolph tōku ingoa

As a second-year social work student, the welfare of those around me and in the community is a major concern. Ensuring that people, especially those in marginalised groups, have the resources, support and empowerment to act for themselves and their community will be a major focus of my term as welfare officer. In my term as Welfare Officer, I intend to facilitate and support campaigns regarding: anti-bullying education, sexual health and consent, support for survivors of sexual abuse and violence, and mental health.

Facebook: Andrew Rudolph for OUSA Welfare Officer 2019
Ngā Mihi

Nominated by: Jemma Mckay | Seconded by: Gill Wintersgill



KERRIN ROBERTSON-SCANLON

Kia Ora, I'm Kerrin,

Otago is currently addressing significant issues for student wellbeing, especially mental health. Student input is essential for developing equitable responses to our needs. I want to run the consultation to ensure this and advocate for you.

I will promote community and service within student culture, through supporting student campaigns and organisations, and preserving Service Awards.

I will maintain this year's success with the Women's Room - including the microwave - and give the Parents' Room a similar update. As Welfare Officer, I'll work to connect you with the processes, resources, and community to shape a fulfilling Otago experience.

Nominated by: Laura Anderson | Seconded by: Matthew Schep

CAMPAIGNS OFFICER



ADAM CURRIE

Kia ora tātou! I'm Adam, an environmental and mental health campaigner who loves Otago.

I'm an activist at heart, and have run successful campaigns for a wide variety of organizations, including Generation Zero, Dunedin DHB, Amnesty International, WWF and Greenpeace.

As Campaigns Officer I will work to ensure OUSA lives up to its full potential in ways that it is currently not: standing up to both the University and DCC in advocating a variety of student issues from recorded lectures to flat regulations, and creating a vibrant campus life where you can do a whole heap more than just study!

Nominated by: Findlay Campbell | Seconded by: Joseph Robinson



GEORGIA MISCHESKI-GRAY

Hi! I'm Georgia and I want to be campaigns officer for 2018.

Otago is a fun, cultural, social and awesome University. It is more than just working hard and then playing hard. Otago is a University which advocates for social change, freedom of speech and not being pushed around by higher powers. As campaigns, I will support this culture, continue the positive vibes, encourage debate and create campaigns on various issues which may arise.

I will personally campaign to reduce single-use plastic around the campus and to create awareness around food safety/waste.

Vote for Georgia Gray for campaigns officer!

Nominated by: Danielle Cooper | Seconded by: Katarina Scotts-Bahle



SAM PURCHAS

As a supporter of individual liberty, I am opposed to draconian policy in all its forms. I hope to use the platform of Campaigns Officer to form a more positive relationship with the Dunedin City Council to end their apparent war against fun (one bottle of wine between two?!) and to lobby the University to operate with greater transparency and regard for student voice, with a focus on greater mental health support.

Additionally, I intend to run sustainability campaigns to encourage campus food services to transition to New Zealand-made biodegradable packaging and investigate the feasibility of campus-wide composting schemes.

Nominated by: Vivian Griffiths | Seconded by: Bonnie Harrison



HENRI FAULKNER

At university, academically you have the opportunity and support to achieve almost whatever you want, provided you put in the effort. Can the same thing be said for your health and wellbeing? Does the university actually care about you? With budget cuts to mental health services I don't think so. As your 2019 campaigns officer and using the knowledge I have from my Nutrition major and fitness experience I will make sure that all students have equal opportunity to be physically fit and healthy because physical health is the foundation good mental health is built upon.

Also, more safe Doofs.

Nominated by: Erica Cookson | Seconded by: Nathan Laing

COLLEGES OFFICER



FINDLAY CAMPBELL

Kia Ora, I'm Findlay Campbell and I want to be your Colleges Officer for 2019.

I have spent 3 of my years in the Colleges, two years as a student and one year as an RA.

Students in colleges are being squeezed by the University and are being provided few options to have fun in a supportive environment. I will: improve opportunities for first year students to volunteer in their community, advocate for RA's to be properly reimbursed and supported for the help they provide to students, and that colleges will improve their approach to alcohol and end its prohibition.

Nominated by: Adam Currie | Seconded by: Joseph Robinson



JESSE DRAKE

As a current RA, I have a vast array of experience in the practical aspects of college life, providing a concrete understanding of the university college framework. This means that as your Colleges Officer I will be in a position to understand how best to push the student agenda in the 15 residential colleges.

It is my aim to increase the public presence of OUSA throughout colleges, making it easier for direct communication from students and RA's to the executive. This will enable us to fairly represent and champion the interests of the entirety of college students within the university.

Nominated by: Christopher Starr | Seconded by: Madison Hutton



JACK MANNING

Hey! I'm Jack and I'd love to be your 2019 Colleges Officer.

I've spent the last three years fizzing Otago, doing everything from performing in the capping show, to presiding over the Computer Science Society, going on an exchange, and even a cheeky Critic Blind Date.

As your Colleges Officer, I will work with the University to provide strong mental health support in our colleges, get RA's the training and pay they need, and use OUSA resources to create a quality fresher experience.

Most people's scarfie experience begins in a college, so let's make it unforgettable!

VOTE JACK FOR COLLEGES!

Nominated by: Finn Shewell | Seconded by: Gabrielle Magnuson

POST GRADUATE OFFICER

CANDIDATES ARE RUNNING FOR BOTH THE 2018 & 2019 EXEC POSITIONS



DERMOT FRENGLEY

Kia ora, I'm Dermot Frengley. I'm currently a Master's Student in the Geography Department and I would love to be your Postgrad Officer.

I'm running for the 2018 by-election and the 2019 exec election. Given the chance, I will advocate for the interests of all postgraduate students. I believe the way that postgrads are consulted and represented is flawed. We need to develop and strengthen postgrad representation and I'm the person for the job. I will see that postgrads are catered for by facilitating social and career events and so that postgraduates feel valued in a supportive environment.

Vote Dermot for Postgrad Officer!

Nominated by: Paul Won | Seconded by: Matthew Kennelly



SINEAD GILL

Kia Ora! I'm Sinead.

Our research is the backbone of what gives the University its high standing international reputation. But postgrads need secure research spaces, quality supervision and support services. We need to be involved in changes that affect us and have a say. I will make sure of this.

My goals are to create a robust committee that reflects the diversity of our postgraduate community; create a handbook for postgrads that outline our rights and services on offer; identify and campaign on issues that our community faces, such as postgrad allowances, poor supervision, and mental health. Yeet.

Nominated by: Ryan Watson Jones | Seconded by: Matthew Schep

VOTE!
IN THE OUSA STUDENT EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS & BY-ELECTION

VOTING.OUSA.ORG.NZ

Voting Closes Thursday the 20th at 4 pm

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otago uni students' association

RECREATION OFFICER



CARL AARSEN

Books, studies, middle age lecturers... is this all there is to Otago Uni? Hi I'm Carl Aarsen running for 2019 Recreation Officer. I'm an enthusiastic and creative fella, and I'm determined to grow OUSA clubs & societies and your experience here at uni. I want every student to be part of a group that is right up their alley: whether it's chess, hunting red stags in the hills, skiing the slopes of Queenstown, or connecting with people of similar ethnicities... I want to find what you are passionate about and help your club grow so you truly enjoy your experience here at Otago!

Nominated by: Lucy Wales-Earl | Seconded by: Laura Cairns



JOSH SMITH

Supp. Super stoked to again be offered the chance to represent such a vibrant and wonderful group of lovely humans. Otago is all about Re-Creation. Social, academic, cultural, spiritual, people come here to grow.

From the Clubs and Societies and absolutely top-notch OUSA events, down to the underground of heritage street froths (HydeCastleDundasLeith wadduup), this town is an absolute banquet of experiences, upgrades, and level ups.

Expect to see me getting amongst, celebrating, and throwing down with yall throughout the year, contributing to the epic scenes that define the Otago experience. Yall know what I'm about, hmu fo catchups x.

Nominated by: Cameron Dawson | Seconded by: Tui Grenfell

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICER



SABRINA ALHADY

Hi, I'm Sabrina and I'm running to be your 2019 International Officer!

I was Vice Secretary in the Otago Malaysian Students' Association Committee from 2016-2017. This year I also worked closely with Umi Asaka, the current International Officer, as the International Committee Secretary. Through my time in both positions, I have been involved in various cultural events and believe that this experience will prove beneficial in the role of ISO.

My main goal is to improve communication and foster collaboration among cultural clubs in an effort to better share and increase awareness of the diversity present here at Otago.

Nominated by: Dhruv Raman | Seconded by: Harsimran Mundi



CLARE ADAMS

I'm Clare Adams and I came to the University of Otago from the USA about a year ago. I'm excited to be considered as the International Officer with OUSA. My vision is to foster clear communication between the University and international students. I can apply the experience from previous institutions, where I drafted a diversity and inclusion plan for Asian Americans, Native Americans, and Pacific Islander minority groups at Iowa State University and was president of several undergraduate and graduate clubs. Within these roles, I've engaged with many people, but most importantly, the students who want to see positive change.

Nominated by: Joshua James | Seconded by: Sinead Gill

TE ROOPU MAORI

TUMUAKI



TAYLOR TEREKIA

Ka tau taku manu ki runga o Ahititi, ka tiro whakararo ki nga wai o Waihirere. Anei to mokopuna o Mahaki, o te Tairawhiri e mihi nei!

Kia ora, ko Taylor-Rose Terekia toku ingoa. I'm running for Tumuaki of Te Roopu Maori to step up and carry on the mahi and aspirations of our Ngati Scarfie whanau before us. I am an advocate for te reo Maori revitalisation, kaupapa Maori and our taura Maori success on campus. I study Indigenous Development, Media Studies and Marketing Management; completing a double degree in Arts and Commerce in first semester 2019, and beginning a Masters degree in second semester. I look forward to representing your voices on campus in 2019, especially with the 150th celebrations and te Huinga Taura conference that we will be hosting.

Kia u, kia tau, kia tuturu!

RECREATION & WELFARE



ZAINE AKUHATA-HUNTINGTON

Tēnā tātou,

He uri tēnei no Tūwharetoa no Tuhoē hoki. Ko Zaine Akuhata-Huntington toku ingoa.

Kia ora everyone, my name is Zaine and I am running for Recreation and Welfare Officer 2019. I'm a Māori Health major with a big passion for sports and just getting out there doing stuff. I see being next year's Recreation and Welfare Officer as a way to keep up the many sports and activities TRM currently offers and bringing in even more opportunities to get out there, meet new people and just have a mean time!

Bring on 2019, it's gonna be a cracker!

TE KAITUHI



BLAZE LESLIE

Kia Ora Ngā Taura Māori, my name is Blaze! I have relocated to Ōtepoti from Tāmaki Makaurau and I'm studying BSc majoring in Neuroscience. I found Te Roopu Māori to be the most welcoming and whānau orientated student group I've ever been a part of, that reason alone made me extremely passionate about running for Te Kaituhi (Secretary). I'm dedicated to maintaining an active support role between all TRM Executive Positions and our wonderful Taura, so you can have a smooth and fun-filled experience here at Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtago in 2019, so get voting e te whānau!

CULTURAL & EDUCATION



OROMAIROA RANGAWHENUA

Kia ora, my name is Oromairoa and I'm studying towards a degree in Bachelor of Health Science, majoring in Māori Health. I've been deeply immersed in all things Māori, Te Reo Māori and Tikanga Māori

since birth, and I want to be able to express my culture in a forum that allows me to share it with everybody, mō te iwi hei painga mō te iwi. So I believe the cultural and education officer is best suited for me.

It'll be tapu not to vote for me