

## **OUSA Executive 2027 Elections Information Sheet**

We've put all the info in one place, so you know what to expect as a candidate for the 2027 OUSA Elections! If you have any other questions/queries/concerns, you can email Donna Jones at [secretary@ousa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ousa.org.nz) or Cam Fraser at [returningofficer@ousa.org.nz](mailto:returningofficer@ousa.org.nz).

### **Step 0: Find out more about the role**

You're on the right track if you're reading this! Maybe email the 2026 Exec who are currently in the role(s) that you're interested in! You could catch up with them to ask questions or find out more about what they actually get up to. You can email [president@ousa.org.nz](mailto:president@ousa.org.nz) with literally any questions to arrange this.

### **Step 1: Nominations**

Nominations open at **9am on the 14 of September** and close at **4pm on the 17 of September 2026**. You just need to fill in a nomination form (find them on our Election page of the website <https://www.ousa.org.nz/executive/elections-information> or visit OUSA main reception for a copy) and have two people (who are current UoO students) 'move' and 'second' your nomination (aka people who reckon you'd be good for the job). All three of you need to come to OUSA with your student I.D. cards to see the Association Secretary or reception staff to verify your identity, confirm your nomination and ensure you are sure of all the information – EASY! Just needs to happen before the closing date and time.

### **Step 2: Putting your face out there (Part 1)**

Exciting, you've confirmed your nomination!! Putting your face out there starts now! Critic plays an important part in covering the OUSA elections and you must do two things for this. The first is taking a photo and the second is providing a short, written blurb about who you are/why you're running and why people should vote for you!

- The photographer from Critic will take your photo which will be used for advertising purposes and promotional material. The photographer will be available from **2-4pm on the 17th of September 2026** at the Critic office on the first floor of the OUSA main offices, overlooking the balcony. If you are late your photo won't go into Critic. You must attend this and if you can't for whatever reason, email [secretary@ousa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ousa.org.nz)

- **Blurbs are to be sent to Critic on 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2026 by 4pm** the word limit is 150 words for the Presidential candidates and 100 words for the other positions (short and sweet but NO bullet points). The blurbs must not exceed the word count, if you exceed the word count the blurb will be cut at the limit. If you are late with your blurbs they will miss being printed in Critic. Email these to [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz)

### Step 3: **Candidates meeting**

Once nominations have closed, all candidates **must** attend a rule briefing and meet the Returning Officer in the Executive bullpen office, upstairs building at **4.30pm 17 September 2026**. If you can't make it, you could send a friend along or contact Donna Jones on [secretary@ousa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ousa.org.nz) or the Returning Officer [returningofficer@ousa.org.nz](mailto:returningofficer@ousa.org.nz). It won't take too long but its important everyone knows what to expect and gets a chance to ask questions!

### Step 4: **Putting your face out there (Part 2)**

OUSA promotes candidates by covering the bollards outside the Union Building with candidate posters. You must email a colour A3 (portrait) poster of yourself, along with your name and the position you are running for by 4.00pm on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September to the OUSA Marketing team at [anna@ousa.org.nz](mailto:anna@ousa.org.nz). Make your poster eye-catching, colourful, and reflective of yourself and why you're running! **FYI – Do NOT use OUSA Green**

**Here are some examples below:**



### Step 5: **Candidate Forums**

These forums are a relaxed interview style with Critic and Radio One where you'll be asked questions, and you'll get to speak to the audience about what you're passionate about and why you're running!

The dates for the forums are:

**21st September** at 12.00pm in the Harry Evison Lounge, Clubs and Societies Building – President, Administrative Vice President, Finance and Strategy Officer.

**22nd September** at 12.00pm in the Harry Evison Lounge, Clubs and Societies Building – Academic Representative, Welfare and Equity Representative, Political Representative.

**23rd September** at 12.00pm in the Harry Evison Lounge, Clubs and Societies Building - Residential Representative, International Representative, Postgraduate Representative, Clubs and Societies Representative.

## Step 6: Campaigning

How are you going to get people to vote for you? In the past people have put up posters or chalked across campus, they've gone into lectures to give a quick spiel about themselves, they've approached colleges to go visit during dinners and generally been super creative (there are rules around this though so check the **Election Policy** and if in doubt, email the Returning Officer to check [returningofficer@ousa.org.nz](mailto:returningofficer@ousa.org.nz). **Please remember campaigning can only begin AFTER the closing of nominations.**

You can have campaign volunteers, seek endorsements from Clubs and Societies and run giveaways to help promote yourself. You must read the OUSA Elections Policy updated August 2025, to make sure you're not breaching any rules (like how much you are allowed to spend and who can be a volunteer for you). **Posters on public pin board ONLY.**

## Step 7: Voting

Voting will be online, opening from 9am on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September and closing at 4pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2026. The link for voting will be: [voting.ousa.org.nz](https://voting.ousa.org.nz) OUSA will be promoting how to vote and encouraging students to follow through and vote (disclaimer: they can't and won't be endorsing anyone though).

The results will be announced around 4.30pm on 1 October in the Main Common Room (MCR) opposite Auahi Ora. You're invited to be there (bring some friends along!)

That's it! If at any time you have any questions don't hesitate to contact Donna Jones, (Association Secretary) at [secretary@ousa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ousa.org.nz) or on 0210353407. Or contact Cam Fraser (Returning Officer) at [returningofficer@ousa.org.nz](mailto:returningofficer@ousa.org.nz) or on 021 034 4273

Good Luck! ●