



AUCSA

Annual Report

2019–2020

“Adjusting The Sails”

***“The pessimist complains about the wind;
the optimist expects it to change;
the realist adjusts the sails”***

William Arthur Ward

24 October 2020

*By the AUCSA Board 2019-2020,
for the Association and its members.*

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This document contains an overview and assessment of the AUCSA’s goals and efforts during the entire office year of 2019-2020. While this document was created with the aim of it being as complete as possible, in order to avoid an overabundance of details not every matter pertaining to this board year was included. Should you wish to know more about a specific topic, please get in contact with the AUCSA Board currently in office.

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For any questions about the content of this document, please contact the AUCSA Board by emailing at info@aucsa.nl.

In memoriam of Noah van Genuchten.
October 25, 1995 - January 13, 2020

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1. LETTER FROM THE AUCSA BOARD 2019-2020

Dear Reader,

To start off this Annual Report, we want to thank you, the members of the AUCSA, for being there with us on this stormy ride. Without your devotion, dedication, and drive this association would not exist. The incredible events that were put together, and also your resilience and creativity throughout the lockdown, shows the character of our community. It was an honour being able to represent you as the AUCSA Board and to facilitate all of your ideas, initiatives, and dreams for this bright bubble that's called AUC.

When we got elected in May 2019, we could not have foreseen the stormy waters that was 2020. We set off, with all the knowledge passed on by our predecessors and with innovative ideas and a lot of energy. We organised the introductory period, kicked off the committee events, helped establish committees, created and passed the annual financial budget, organised a Policy Manual GA, and Winter Formal all in the first semester! Throughout the entire year we looked at how we could add or improve the things we were doing and frequently evaluated our progress as a Board. In 2020 our Board dealt with the most unexpected of circumstances. We organised a commemoration for Noah van Genuchten, cancelled all events, organised an online elections GA, and held a conversation against racism. We have done our utmost best to handle every situation with the care it deserved. We have also made mistakes, evaluated, reached goals, rephrased goals, and learned many lessons that we will take with us for life.

Now, before you is our last official task as the Board 2019-2020, the Annual Report. The report contains the efforts, innovations, and passion projects of our team. In it we discuss and reflect on the events we organised, our passion projects, our progress of our goals, and the way we handled the COVID-19 crisis. We invite you to read these reflections on our Board year and hope you feel as proud as we do.

With love,

Your AUCSA Board 2019-2020

Jet de Vries, Maurits Jurgens, Julien Vandermosten, Alexander Sleenckx, Rosa Wijnen, and Boris Koehoorn

2. EVALUATION OF PILLARS

2.1 Inclusion

The member body of the AUCSA is diverse in many different ways and it was in the interest of the AUCSA Board to act in all of these interests. Even more so, the inclusion of all different nationalities, cultures, genders, abilities, sexual orientations and religions was of high priority for the AUCSA Board and for this reason, Inclusion was the first pillar of the AUCSA 2019-2020. The whole Association aimed to fulfill this pillar through a few number of means.

Committees, commissions and teams were a crucial part for the inclusion of the AUCSA member body, by having 33 different student boards, each having a different purpose and serving a different niche. We also pursued to encourage members to create new committees in areas they felt were unrepresented, with this happening a few times this past year. You can read more of this in the section *3.4 Committees*.

Throughout the year, there were events held on a weekly basis. Effort was made to make each event as inclusive and accessible as possible for the whole member body. This was done first by balancing out the type of events over the academic calendar, to ensure that each different interest was continuously represented. For all possible events, prices of participation were set as low as possible.

With high involvement of our members through General Assemblies and other modes of contact, the association strived to be an area where everyone is included. In light of the Black Lives Matter movement, it was highlighted that this was not fully the case, and that more effort was needed to make everyone feel represented and part of the community. A [discussion](#) was held for all members of the AUC community to attend. With collaboration of the Diversity Commission, the Anti-Racism Initiative was established at the start of the academic year 2020-2021, a body that directs the AUCSA to be an anti-racist association. You can read more of this at *4.7 Conversation against Racism*.

We want to applaud the AUCSA Board 2020-2021 for taking up this newly established team and taking it with them as they start their year. Lastly, we want to wish the new AUCSA Board best of luck with continuing with making everyone feel included and are happy to see that this pillar is continued next year.

2.2 Committees

Our community thrives because of our most engaged members, those who join a committee, commission, or team. We are glad that the committee members put so much time and effort into enriching our community, and we want to thank you for this. We chose this pillar because we wanted to focus on having active committees with diverse events, and making committee life a fun experience for all our members. We are happy to see that the new AUCSA Board has chosen to broaden the sense of the word, and change their pillar to: *Spirit of engagement*.

In the beginning of the year, the AUCSA Board organised a Committee Assembly to introduce all committees and their members to each other. This year, several workshops were held for each specific position in the committee, such as the Chairs, Treasurers, or Secretaries. We hope that these workshops helped members to start their committee experience with knowledge and confidence. Later in the year, we held a Committee Forum, where all the committee members could share their opinions directly to the Board and open a discussion about anything committee-related. During the year, monthly newsletters were sent out consistently to our committees, bringing awareness to deadlines and specific events for our committee members. Since we started this year with a stable financial budget, we were able to invest in new equipment for our committees to use, as well as a renovation of our website, which allowed all committees to have access to their own website page. More can be read in the section 3.3 *Communication & Promotion*. Finally, as Board members we also made attending the committee events ourselves a high priority, both to show our support to the committee members as well as to enjoy all the amazing events our community has to offer.

Of course, the pandemic had an incredible impact on how many events were actually realised, but those that did were a great success. The bigger events of our committees such as TEDx, AUCMUN, and Dormfest, unfortunately had to be cancelled. The CAOs of those committees tried to assist them in the cancellation process to their best abilities.

Overall, we believe that the committees did an extremely good job throughout the whole year, even during the time when they had to adhere to the governmental regulations. In this period, our committees were able to organise smaller and online events to provide relief through social contact to our student body, for which we are very thankful. This was celebrated during an online Happy Boards Day, which was held on Tuesday the 16th of June, 2020.

2.3 Sustainability

This year, we introduced the sustainability pillar. As an Association we need to actively strive to become more sustainable. We are responsible for the resources we use and the impact this has on the environment. The aim of this pillar was to increase the awareness of all members and to reduce the environmental impact of the AUCSA, in order to combat climate change.

As a first step, we introduced the Sustainability Commission (SUSCOM), which functions as an extension of the AUCSA Board. The commission does research into the current state of sustainability and looks for improvements that can be made, which are recommended to the whole student body in general as well as committee members in particular. We have seen that the mindset of committee members is changing and people are really trying to take sustainability into consideration when planning their events.

Secondly, we have kept this pillar in mind when making decisions as the AUCSA Board. Especially during the Budget Weekends, we considered whether the expenses that have an environmental impact were really necessary. If not, we told committees to not budget for this. For example, we said no to committee stickers, unless absolutely necessary, and reduced the amount of paperwork printed.

This year, we have made good initial steps towards reducing our environmental impact, but a lot more can be done. We are happy to see that the new AUCSA Board agrees that this is an important goal of the Association and that they have kept sustainability as one of their pillars.

2.4 First Year Experience

The first years are imperative to the continuation of the community. This is why we actively sought to engage them into our community and create a space for them within our Association. To achieve this, we dedicated special attention to the introduction period. The AUC introduction week was a large focal point to introduce the first years to the academic side of AUC, but also to everything our committees have to offer. By hosting the committee market in the Academic Building (AB) the first years had the opportunity to get to know every facet of our community. The social activities, during the day in mentor groups and at night individually, made sure that every first year had the opportunity to meet new people and socialise.

After the introduction period, we stimulated committees to take first years in their Board. This practice has already been established by custom, like filling the General Board Member position after the summer break. We feel that there were quite some first years who got the opportunity to participate in committees or teams, which made sure they got AUCSA experience early on.

Secondly, we stimulated committees to host events before the October GA. This usually is harder as it requires more work on the committees' side, since for every event there needs to be a preliminary proposal. Despite this, there were noticeably more events before the October GA, and as a result, first years had the opportunity to go to events early on in the year.

Another example of first years joining our community is the initiative AUCheer, which was proposed by first years. We are happy that also new members of our community showed eagerness to make our community have a wider range of activities. We believe this also tied to our goal to be as approachable as possible during the year, making sure everyone, even those who don't know us feel comfortable to approach us.

2.5 External Relations

This pillar is aimed at establishing the AUCSA outside of the AUC community. By actively participating in the General Assemblies of the University College Student Representative of the Netherlands (UCSRN). This year the buddy system was introduced within the UCSRN, and the year of 2020-2021 will be the first year where AUC will have a buddy to organise events with. We participated in the Spotlight event in Leiden and also played a key role in organising the online tournament that took place in May. With our active participation we strengthened our ties with other UC members throughout the Netherlands. Another way in which we have developed relations outside of AUC are through the Algemene Studenten Vereniging Amsterdam (ASVA) workshops and by further evolving the Acquisitions commission giving it extra tasks of overview and oversight.

2.6 Internal Communications

With the AUCSA having over 900 members, we placed an importance on having clear communication within the AUCSA community and had Internal Communication as our final pillar. This year, our main goal was to centralise all communication of the association in a few channels. The prime channel for communication was set to the AUCSA website. On here, all AUCSA events, open positions and further information was placed, and the website acted as the primary source for us to retrieve information. Social media channels like Facebook, Instagram and email were selected as complementary sources, as these require the creation of an account, which we did not want to encourage. Only if the information was found on the AUCSA website was it possible to continue sharing it on social media. Hence we look forward to seeing how the AUCSA Board 2020-2021 will continue centralising the modus of communication.

Additionally, an importance was placed on how AUCSA members could contact AUCSA bodies, committees, commissions or teams. Office hour challenges were introduced to make office hours and lunch stands more attractive, and making the AUCSA Board as well as the committees, commissions and teams present more approachable. Next to this, a survey was sent out to all members, with the aim of finding out in which direction the members would want the AUCSA to steer to. Adding on to this, a complaint procedure was also introduced for when a member would want to file a complaint. Read more of this at *3.2 AUCSA Legal Functioning, Complaints Procedure*. Lastly, during the Covid-19 pandemic, we firmly believed that internal communication was crucial for the continuation of the AUCSA. For this reason, we moved office hours to online modes and continuous updates from the AUCSA Board were made, as well as constant updates such as the Weekly Newsletter.

Ultimately, while there is room for improvement, we think that significant steps have been made for the better concerning internal communication. We look forward to see what this year's AUCSA Board will add to this.

3. PROGRESS AND GOALS

3.1 Finances

iZettle

One of the issues that was raised in the Committee Forum was that the Adyen pin machines were very hard to work with and ineffective. This is why we were for the lookout for a new system which should be easier to use for committees and sales. We have implemented iZettle, which is a significant improvement from the Adyen Pinmachines. First, we have purchased two ipads which pair with the pin machines. This makes the connection with a personal phone no longer necessary. The pairing method also goes over bluetooth which is more efficient. iZettle also includes a way to track inventory which makes keeping track of sales easier.

Visma E-accounting

During the lockdown, we took the opportunity to invest some time into researching which accounting software would be best to use for the Association. This research was complemented

with consultations with the UCSA, our sister-college in Utrecht who also use accounting software, and with a legal and tax advisor. Then, we created an advisory document and launched a test with the accounting platform Visma with the new Treasurer. We are curious what steps will be taken towards transitioning to Visma E-accounting.

It is important for the Association to move to the administration of the treasury to an online accounting software for two reasons. Firstly, with a turnover now exceeding €200,000 and the range of services that the AUCSA provides expanding over the previous years, it is important to register the treasury for possible taxes. Secondly, an online accounting system will save both the Treasurer and Audit a lot of time and manual work. However, the transition is a long term project, but we have invested time and energy to lay a foundation for the transition.

3.2 AUCSA Legal Functioning

Policy Manual Changes

With the last time being in 2017 for the Policy Manual to be fully revised and altered, we believed that it was necessary for it to be updated for it not to become outdated. Over the course of 2019-2020, the Policy Manual has been altered twice. The first instance of this was leading up to the 35th General Assembly. During the months of September and October, the AUCSA Board introduced alterations and amendments to the 6th draft of the AUCSA PM, receiving input from the Advisory Council.

Then in November, the Policy Manual Forum took place where AUCSA members had the chance to express what they deemed necessary to have changed in the PM. The procedure was completed at the Policy Manual GA in November. Here, the attending members approved the proposed amendments and the 7th draft of the PM was installed. The main changes to the PM was the coherence of the overall document, with these being grammar, spelling and format, as well as the applicability of the PM to the current time.

Furthermore, at the 36th GA, an additional change was brought to the PM. This is the addition of a new clause where the AUCSA Board is given the right to make minor changes to the PM, but that does not change any meaning of it, without needing the approval of a GA for this. This comes with the condition that all AUCSA members have to be notified of these changes at the next GA and that these changes have not been appealed before in a previous GA.

Complaints procedure

Due to the changes we implemented in the Policy Manual, setting up the complaints procedure was a priority. We worked closely with the Advisory Council to set up a procedure which works properly and discretely. The procedure is published on the [AUCSA website](#) and complaints will be directly filed to the Advisory Council. This will guarantee that the complaints are being handled with the highest form of discretion. The complaints procedure is set up so that members can report any inappropriate behavior and to make sure everyone feels safe and included in our community. This year we received 1 complaint which was handled appropriately.

3.3 Communication & Promotion

Banners

The previous Board started the project of providing each committee with a standardised banner. This year we worked hard to improve the designs, run them by the committees and order them. Because of this, now each committee has nice roll-up banners which they can use for promotional lunch break stands and at their events.

Website

The AUCSA website has been an important focus of the AUCSA Board for a few years now. Each year there are initiatives to further improve the website and add additional functionality. Since facebook is becoming less popular it is important to centralise our community in an easy to reach place. This year we completed a major update of the previous AUCSA Board and added additional functionality, such as the roomfinder. Secondly the website has been moved to a more reliable hosting platform which ensures it can be accessible at all times. On top of this we made sure each committee has access to their own page. The feedback we received from committees however indicated that the page builder is hard to use, this is why we started a project to revamp the backend of the website which hopefully will be completed next year.

Poster reorganisation

The AUCSA Board 2018-2019 noted that there was a need for a centralised place for all AUCSA posters to be hung. Hence at the start of the year 2019-2020, the AUCSA poster board was installed in the AUC Academic Building, which acts as a weekly calendar with posters of events of that week.

Along with the placement of the new poster board, we introduced a new policy concerning posters. This was that posters were only allowed to be hung up on the AUCSA Poster Board or in toilet stall poster holders. With this, the other areas of the AB are less cluttered and the visibility of all AUCSA committees is equalised. Additionally, a maximum cap of 10 posters per printing request was implemented, making the AUCSA more sustainable and having no excess printing be done.

3.4 Committees

Restructuring of Committees, Commissions & Teams

According to our Policy Manual, Committees, Commission & Teams share a lot of policies. However, this can lead to ambiguity between them. This year we have tried our best to uphold the policies that discern Committees, Commissions, and Teams, and make the distinctions clearer.

Firstly, we have made Springboard a committee. While it already existed last year, it did so in cooperation with AUCSA without falling under any of the named categories. Now, it is a fully certified committee. Furthermore, the Acquisitions Team is now the Acquisitions Commission,

being more in line with what Commissions stand for, namely an advisory role to, and an extension of the AUCSA Board. The Audit Commission has received a budget, in line with all other Commissions. Lastly, the Diversity Commission's mission statement has been adjusted and it should now be clearer that it serves as an advisory role to, and an extension of the AUCSA Board.

New Committees, Commissions & Teams

- SUSCOM

The Sustainability Commission (SUSCOM) was officially established on the 15th of October 2019. The AUCSA Board 2018-2019 had made the initial steps to set up this commission, and we decided to officially introduce it because we felt it is important for our Association to have such a body.

This year, SUSCOM laid the foundation for the commission and set up a framework for the years to come. Next to this, they wrote 2 policy briefs, held a committee workshop, and organised an environmental awareness week in collaboration with Pangea.

We feel that the Sustainability Commission has done a lot for increasing awareness regarding sustainability in AUCSA and helping committees out with organising more sustainable events. Scientific research regarding the environmental footprint of the Association was not done this year, because this proved to be more complicated than initially expected.

- Lustrum Team

The year 2020-2021 is the Lustrum year of the AUCSA, because our Association has existed for 10 years. We decided to establish a Lustrum team in May 2020, so that they could start planning and brainstorming for the year.

The team made a year plan and set up a budget in the period May-June. Over summer, preparations were done for the organisation of the Dies Natalis Dinner in September, that unfortunately had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.

The Lustrum team will continue to organise events in the coming year to celebrate the lustrum year of the AUCSA.

- Couture

Around the start of the second semester, we were approached by an enthusiastic student with the idea of creating a fashion committee. Since this niche was missing from our community, we officially signed the committee contract and installed Couture, the fashion committee, on the 14th of March, 2020. We are very glad to see they have established themselves well underneath the umbrella of the AUCSA, and we celebrate the successful events they have created so far.

- AUCher

The money reserved for a student initiative (€200) went to a team of first year students who started AUCher in 2020. AUCher is a team of cheerleaders who will cheer on AUCSA's sports teams during games and during the UCSRN Tournament. We helped them start up the initiative

and after deliberation agreed that the best place for them in AUCSA's structure would be under the Catch committee.

Removed Committees, Commissions & Teams

- Curiosity

At the beginning of the year Curiosity was without any board members. This year was the second year in a row where there were no board members. Because it was largely unclear what the goal of Curiosity was and because of the lack of interest from the community, we have decided to discontinue the committee.

4. EVALUATION OF EVENTS

4.1 Introduction Period

The Introduction week of September serves to acquaint the new first years into our lovely bubble, and make them aware of what the Association does. The members of our Board worked in two teams of two; one team worked on the introduction week together with AUC, and the other team worked on the Introduction weekend, which we spent in Austerlitz yet again. To improve the safety of the first year students in the introduction weekend, we did a bystander intervention workshop and briefed the mentors on how to be an active bystander. Fortunately we can always rely on committed students to offer their mentorship throughout the week, and as such we were able to create a program similar to that of last year. Several committees helped us with the organisation of certain events during the week, and our eternal gratitude goes out towards them for helping to create an unforgettable experience for our first year students.

The February introduction week program was changed slightly, as all the incoming students were exchange students, meaning there were no so-called Feb-starters. In line with having older students come in during the February exchange period, we scrapped the Crazy 22 and opted for a more relaxed program. Instead we had a dinner at Maslow, a grand canal boat tour, the pool bar and a bar crawl, a visit to the Van Gogh and Stedelijk museum, ice skating at Jaap Eden, and a potluck to close off the week. A big thank you goes out to the February introweek mentors who helped us introduce the exchange students to each other and our community.

4.2 General Assemblies

One of the most vital bodies in our Association is the General Assembly. In the year 2019-2020 we had 4 General Assemblies which provided our members with a moment to discuss any important issues that they felt the community should discuss. The budget GA's were well attended. The first GA was held on a Tuesday which reduced the attendance a bit, however using an announcement system to ensure committee members were able to be present during their budget. GA's remain a challenge for the AUCSA as they are long and complex, because of this we're especially happy with all the engaged members who showed up to voice their concerns and opinions to make sure our budget was properly justified. The Policy Manual GA was, in contrast, poorly attended. The changes implemented make sure the AUCSA is ready for the future and that the rules are up to date with reality. However because of the lack of attendance a

number of issues were postponed towards the next budget GA to ensure proper implementation and ensuring the endorsement of the members.

The three in-person general Assemblies held this year were:

34th Budget General Assembly (Tuesday 11 October 2019);

35th Policy Manual General Assembly (Wednesday 27 November 2019) and;

36th Budget General Assembly (Wednesday 19 February 2020).

Online General Assembly

37th Election General Assembly (Wednesday, 13 May 2020).

The 37th was the first ever GA to be held online. This proved to be challenging, although necessary. The General Assembly was held over Zoom, and voting was done online. With the online voting system, the GA was considerably shorter timewise than previous election GA's. To prepare the GA we worked closely with the Election Commission which made sure all the processes were properly followed and implemented.

Innovations

- Digital Check In

This year we started a pilot with a digital check-in system. During previous years, the GA check-in system consists of a paper book which takes record of who is present at what times for the General Assembly. It is mandatory for the AUCSA to take record of who is present during General Assemblies and therefore this type of tedious record keeping is necessary. Since the book is a process which takes time and only facilitates 1 person at a time, we tried to make the process easier. We decided to place two laptops with a google sheet where people could do the same thing as in the books. This also made it easier for people to find their name, by using the search function. There were some small hiccups, however after proper evaluation the next AUCSA can decide to implement this with improvements to make the check in more efficient.

- Clicker Counters

Voting at a General Assembly can take a lot of time. Counting members' hands with ballots for a vote quickly could considerably speed up the process. To make sure we count votes accurately and quickly the AUCSA has invested in clickers that count with the press of a button. This makes sure that the people who are counting the votes can speed up counting without having to remember the number in their head.

4.3 Constitution Borrel

The CoBo in collaboration with the Student Council was a well attended event this year. Functioning as a getting-to-know-you event for externals as well as committees, commissions and teams it served its purpose. The CoBo originates in Dutch association tradition and therefore is not always understood by the student body. This is also the case because the AUCSA does not believe that the traditional format of the CoBo is a proper reflection of the spirit of our community. Finding an appropriate form for the CoBo is therefore difficult, and this year we received feedback from numerous people to improve it. For example, not all committees had the

opportunity to come say hi to the Board. This of course is less than optimal and we have passed on our findings to the next Board to look for a way to improve.

4.4 Winter Formal

This year's Winter Formal was a great success, with a large portion of our Association's members putting on their finest outfits and joining us to celebrate the end of the first semester and the year 2019. The Academic Building was transformed into a yule ball in the theme of Harry Potter where students, staff, and teachers enjoyed the evening filled with great performances, tasty Pangea muffins, and refreshing beverages. We would like to thank AUCafé and their BarCrew for keeping us warm with their hot glühwein and refreshing us with their frosty beers. We would also like to thank our Yearbook Committee for setting up a glamorous photo booth to document the night. Moreover, we would like to thank Pangea for their delicious cupcakes and Onstage for their help for setting up the stage. Lastly, special thanks go to the Winter Formal Team 2019:

- Julien Vandermosten Chair
- Romy Coers Decorations Manager
- Nicky Wolf Decorations Manager
- Nir Mor Logistics Manager
- Anna Sara Rumi Stage Manager

4.5 Online Tournament

The AUCSA is part of the University College Student Representatives of the Netherlands (UCSRN), and every year a tournament is held to put the skills of all University colleges of the Netherlands to the test. This year, the tournament was not able to be held in a physical location, and was therefore moved online. A new Online Tournament team was promptly set up as an initiative between AUC, EUC, UCT and UCM, with the other UC's joining in on the organisational team soon after. The Online Tournament was held over the course of Saturday, the 16th of May, 2020. With its first ever online edition, the platforms Discord and Challonge were used to centralise information and to kickstart the different categories of the tournament. The platform Twitch was used to livestream most of the tournament. At the end of the day it was clear that AUC won the first ever UCSRN Online Tournament! This was a successful new venture for the AUCSA, and can be vastly improved upon if the next UCSRN Board wishes to continue it in the years to come alongside a physical tournament.

4.6 Dormfest

Unfortunately, this year's edition of Dormfest had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the preparations of Dormfest started quite early, the Dormfest team had already been established by the time that the pandemic took shape, and we had done the initial preparations and decided on a theme. In the time that everything was still rather insecure, and even during the time of the intelligent lockdown, the team kept working on Dormfest in the hope that the festival would be able to take place in June. When it became clear that this would not be possible, we extensively looked into postponing Dormfest till September. However, in the end we decided that this would most likely not be responsible, which led us to officially cancel the Dormfest edition of 2019-2020.

We do want to give a very big shout out to the Dormfest team for all their hard work and tireless motivation:

- Boris Koehoorn Co-Chair
- Rosa Wijnen Co-Chair
- Lotte Roggeveen Secretary
- Laura Gerritse Treasurer
- Oné Mikulskyté PR manager
- Eline Koopman Logistics manager
- Oisín Prendergast Food and beverages
- Ellie Swan Decorations manager
- Matthieu Mistral-Bernard Artist manager

4.7 Conversation against Racism

In June, following the events of the Black Lives Matter and George Floyd protests in the U.S., a petition was raised by members for the remaining funds of our financial year to be donated to the BLM movement and for AUC to listen to and respond to criticism of racism and colonialism present in the curriculum. In response to this and considering the obstacles of open communication due to the pandemic, the AUCSA organized a Zoom conversation, called 'AUCSA against racism'. The aim of this event was to provide an open platform for all members of the Association, but also for teachers and AUC management, to voice their opinions on how to take a stance against racism as a university and Association.

Around seventy to eighty people were present in the Zoom conversation. The conversation was divided into two parts; firstly there was a discussion on AUC's response and handling of the protests and the lack of response and communication with students and teachers about their efforts against racism. Next, the AUCSA budget and alternative actions were discussed and the Board '19-'20 explained that it was not their position to make the executive decision on a donation to the Black Lives Matter movement.

The event had a positive impact on the actions taken by the AUCSA Board and the AUC management, since it created space for people to come together to hold leading parties accountable. We feel grateful for all the people who showed up, and thank especially BIPOC students for the emotional energy that the event cost. As we continue learning, we will hold ourselves accountable for becoming better allies and standing up against racism in our community. To make sure that the AUCSA will devote themselves to becoming an anti-racist Association, we reserved €1000 of budget and planned the creation of the anti-racism team.

5. COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Covid-19 Immediate response

The 2019-2020 AUCSA Board prepared for multiple scenarios when the Covid-19 virus reached Italy and communicated with AUC about which guidelines to follow. On Thursday 13th of March, we reached the third tier of the COVID-19 crisis management plan, which meant that following the RIVM and government guidelines we cancelled all events. All committees were contacted

and all members were swiftly informed of the temporary lockdown of the AUCSA and advised with simple measures to take for their own safety. We guided the committees in the cancellations of their events, with informing the members and asking for leniency from companies regarding cancellation fees.

The second aspect of the immediate response to the lockdown was serving the members as an Association through bringing people together in a safe, online environment. The alternative AUCSA calendar was made available on the website where all endeavours from committees and members were brought together. Among these were the helping out in the neighbourhood effort and the AUCSA Minecraft server.

Consequences for the rest of 2019-2020

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic lasted for the remainder of the academic year. Committees, commissions and teams continued to host online events. This also applied to us, having to host the 37th Elections GA online. The Dutch government implemented an emergency law giving legal validity to online GAs. On 12 May, the new AUCSA Board was elected, with the whole GA having taken place on Zoom. While there were some small technical difficulties, there was no major change deviation from a normal GA.

As for the entirety of April and May all events were cancelled or moved online, these had severe consequences on the AUCSA budget. You can read more of this in *7. Summary of the Financial Year*. We would like to highlight the effort that the committees, commissions and teams made to move their events to an online platform, and in this sense kept the community alive and connected through the Covid-19 pandemic. In June, in-person events were allowed to happen again, if these followed governmental guidelines. Unfortunately, this implied that large events such as AUCMUN, TEDx, Springboard and Dormfest were not possible to be held this year.

6. LETTER FROM AUDIT

Dear AUCSA member,

Four times per year, the Audit Commission aims to stimulate the financial potential of the AUCSA by analyzing the financial administration and providing both short-term and long-term recommendations. This year due to the Corona crisis we conducted the Audit only three times. This is because we thought that doing it four times was unnecessary as there were little budget changes over these last few months. In this letter, we present our findings and recommendations for the months of March, April, May, June, and July. The Treasurer and Vice Treasurer that we worked with in the past year were Julien Vandermosten and Rosa Wijnen respectively. This year's duo consists of Bram Mak, Treasurer, and Stijn Maathuis, Vice Treasurer.

Firstly, we are pleased to announce that the new Audit Commission was picked, consisting of three individuals, Juan Castro, Veronique Molenaar, and Rosa Wijnen. The transition between the old and the new board went smoothly where 2019-2020 board members had a meeting with the new Audit members through zoom and learned how to perform the auditing tasks. This

ensured that the new members understood how to audit the budget. Moreover, the new members have already started on preparing for the new academic year and coming up with new ways to educate the rest of the student body about the importance of Audit and its function.

Secondly, the third and final audit went smoothly. Although minor details were adjusted after the audit, there is still a small discrepancy within the budget. This discrepancy is not big, thus not a major issue as such a discrepancy occurs almost every year. Furthermore, as all events were canceled due to the Coronavirus, many expenses were not used up and many committees haven't received any income. As every AUCSA member pays for the AUCSA community in their tuition fee, 3rd years were unable to make use of this. Therefore, the AUCSA Board is looking for a way to include recent graduates in future events or other solutions.

Unfortunately, due to Corona and members not being in the country at the same time, we were unable to have a summer meeting like in previous years. Regardless of this issue, all communication was conducted effectively through the Audit excel spreadsheet and zoom.

As mentioned earlier, due to Covid-19 many events were not held, which resulted in only having 3 audits this year. The audit went quite well, finding small mistakes and agreeing on certain adjustments with the current treasurer and the vice-treasurer.

Thirdly, the new board will work on some initiatives for the future years. First, we will focus on making the official budget more accessible for students. We plan to educate students on how the budget works to increase transparency between AUCSA and its members. Second, we plan on organizing new workshops for students interested in finances. Finally, the Audit Letter will be posted on the Instagram account to make it more visible to more students; the format of the letter may be changed to achieve this goal. We hope that these changes will encourage more active participation in the future.

As the year has ended, we would like to thank Julien Vandermosten for his hard work, cooperation, and dedication towards the AUCSA's budget. Not only has he completed his work diligently but also made efforts to communicate effectively with the Audit Commission, especially in hard times during Corona. Furthermore, we would also like to thank Rosa Wijnen for her hard work that was shown through her dedication towards the budget, and her continuing to work for the budget by now being a part of the Audit Commission.

If there are any questions or remarks about the content of this letter, the financial procedures of the AUCSA, or about the Audit Commission itself, you may approach us in person or by email to audit@aucsa.nl.

Kind regards,

The Audit Commission 2019-2020, 2020-2021

Masha Nefedova, Ksenia Avakyan, Igor Bobic, Juan Castro, Rosa Wijnen, and Veronique Molenaar

7. SUMMARY OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-2020

Summary and reflection of the financial year 2019-2020

We started this financial year on the first of August 2019 with an equity of roughly € 2,800. This means that on top of all the income generated in our year, we received an amount of €2,800 extra income as a remainder from the year before us. This is a very healthy financial situation to start the year with, for which we would like to thank the AUCSA Board of 2018-2019.

The past AUCSA Boards worked hard to achieve this stable financial situation. The year 2016-2017 ended with a debt of over €40,000 and at the end of 2017-2018 there was still an amount of roughly €6,400 left of this debt. Since we were the first AUCSA Board in two years to start with a positive equity, we chose to focus on realistic budgeting and building up the savings account. We budgeted to transfer €2,500 to the savings account of the AUCSA, which we did.

While preparing for the October Budget General Assembly, we looked critically at the plans and budgets of all committees, commissions and teams. We tried to evaluate the rationality behind projected incomes and remove unnecessary costs, without compromising the quality of the events itself. Because we had more money to start with than in previous years, we did not have to cut a lot of costs in committees budgets due to a lack of money. However, we do believe that every cost should be justifiable. Next to this, since in the previous year there was a trend of underspending, we tried to assess whether the plans that were made were all feasible to happen in a year. During the preparations for the February Budget General Assembly, we kept the same evaluation criteria in mind. At this time, most of the AUCSA budget still had to be spent, as is usual, since multiple big events are typically scheduled in the second semester. Apart from this, we noticed that most committees were doing well with realising their plans and sticking to their budget.

When the Covid-19 crisis started, this resulted in very insecure times for the AUCSA, especially financially. It is difficult to imagine now, but in the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak the AUCSA Board was still optimistic that it would only last a couple of months. We hoped that big events could be postponed and still happen in our financial year. However, we did also realise that the crisis could last longer, so we started preparing for both an optimistic and a pessimistic scenario. We asked committees with big events to submit an overview of the financial implications in case their event had to be cancelled or moved online. Naturally, we also revised the AUCSA Board budget. We want to thank all the committees for being very flexible in these insecure times and for the efforts they put into helping out with the adjustments to the budget.

The Covid-19 crisis caused a lot of insecurity for the AUCSA budget, for several reasons. Firstly, it took quite a while before it became clear what was going to happen in June. The AUCSA Board wanted to stay optimistic and keep the money for events reserved in case they would be able to take place, which meant that we waited quite a while before we started to reallocate the costs of events. Secondly, once it became clear that all big events had to be cancelled, we had to deal with the cancellation fees of different parties. We tried to negotiate with them and ask for leniency, which worked out in some instances. Next to this, there were some bigger committees that had received sponsor money for their events. It was uncertain for a long time whether we

had to reimburse these sponsors or whether we could keep the money, which had a significant influence on the budget. Lastly, there was the cost for the intraweekend location of around €7000, which we had to negotiate to be reimbursed and these negotiations lasted so long that they had to be taken over by the new Board. In the end, it turned out that the underspent money was more than the cancellation costs.

The Covid-19 crisis happened after the February Budget GA. This, together with the insecurity of the crisis, meant that we were unfortunately not able to vote on a completely revised budget democratically. Once the Board could confirm that the AUCSA would be underspending, we decided to look at areas where we could invest in. Since we were not able to spend our money on events, we looked at how we could invest in improvements for the AUCSA in the long term. However, we decided that we should not allocate all the money to investments, since the goal of our Association is to organise events for the community. We thought that if that was not possible due to the pandemic, it would be better to end with a large positive equity and let the money be used for events in the next years, then to try and spend everything on investments. We sent an extraordinary White Letter to all AUCSA members in May with our plans for reallocations, which was discussed during the Open Floor of the Elections GA.

With the reallocated money, we bought a new pin machine and invested in a bookkeeping system. However, there was not enough time to realise all the plans that we made for reallocations, which is why we ended with a positive net result of roughly €18,000. From this amount, a number of liabilities still had to be subtracted and assets added, which are visible on the Balance Sheet as introduced in the second section of this financial summary. The resulting equity for the financial year of 2019-2020 was roughly €13,000. Of this amount, we highly advised the new AUCSA Board to spend €1,000 on an Anti-Racism Initiative, €4,000 on the new AUCSA website, and around €1,500 on the Lustrum. This means that around €6,500 of the money that we planned to reallocate will be spent in the new financial year, and the remainder of the positive equity can be used to improve the quality of events in the year 2020-2021. We have seen that most likely the upcoming half year will be as insecure for the new AUCSA Board as the past half year was for us, which means a lot of flexibility is needed. However, we are confident that the Board 2020-2021 will handle this well and that they will do their best to keep the budget realistic and financially healthy.

As a final note, we would like to thank the Audit Commission for the efforts they put into checking up on the AUCSA treasury this year. We would also like to thank the AUCSA Board 2018-2019 and specifically the Treasurer, Willemijn de Hoop, and the Vice-Treasurer, Siem Teusink, for their efforts during their time in office as well as their support throughout the following year.

The Treasury 2019-2020,
Julien Vandermosten and Rosa Wijnen

Balance sheet 1st of August 2020

AUCSA Balance 01-08-2020

Assets		Liabilities	
<u>Accounts</u>		<u>Provisions and Reserves</u>	
Bank account - AUCSA	€ 14,576.25	Emergency Reserve	€ 4,950.00
Bank account - TEDxAUCollege	€ 3,458.82		
Savings	€ 4,950.00		
<u>Creditors</u>		<u>Debitors</u>	
Gemeente contribution Jeugdlab 19-20	€ 1,200.00	Reimbursement male football team	€ 640.00
AUC Yearbook payment, 240*11.25 euros	€ 2,700.00	Reimbursement female football team	€ 150.00
Correction board allowance	€ 204.20	Lost ball fee male football team	€ 30.00
Maslow AUCafé Compensation	€ 700.00	Adyen Invoice Period July	€ 12.10
		Yearbook Invoice Extra Pages	€ 824.35
		Donation Black Archives	€ 149.00
		VISMA eAccounting License	€ 340.55
		2nd Term Introweekend	€ 7,440.00
Total Assets	€ 27,789.27	Total Liabilities	€ 14,536.00
		Equity	€ 13,253.27
		Excluding TEDx	€ 9,794.45

Profit and loss overview 2019-2020

Profit and Loss: Expected and realized 2019-2020



8. CONCLUDING NOTES

We are incredibly grateful for having the opportunity to be in the AUCSA Board 2019-2020 . It was an honor to serve you. Before we end we would also like to especially thank:

- The *AUCSA Board 2018-2019*: our parent Board consisting of Marik, Jasmijn, Willemijn, Grace, Siem and Berend, for their guidance and support.
- The many *committees, commissions, and teams of 2019-2020* that with their energy and creativity truly made the community what it is today.
- The *Advisory Council 2019-2020* consisting of Siem, Grace, Jasmijn, and Julia for their support and advice throughout the year.
- The *AUC Housemasters, AUC Security* and *AUC Management Team*, for assisting the AUCSA on behalf of AUC wherever possible.
- The *AUCSA Board 2020-2021*, our successors: Stijn, Oné, Bram, Ellie, Ignacio, and Blanca. Thank you for your work and for continuing to facilitate this beautiful bubble of ours. We wish you all the best with adjusting your sails.

Thank you for reading this report and for your involvement in the AUCSA community.

Your AUCSA Board 2019-2020,

Jet de Vries	President
Maurits Jurgens	Secretary, Vice-President
Julien Vandermosten	Treasurer
Alexander Sleeckx	Committee Affairs Officer
Rosa Wijnen	Committee Affairs Officer, Vice-Treasurer
Boris Koehoorn	Committee Affairs Officer, Vice-Secretary