UniVox

Raise Your Voice.
Who We Are:
UniVox is a student organization, based on democratic principles, running for the Student Government at A.U.K. Uni stands for One and Vox stands for Voice. We believe that the representative student body (known as the Student Government) is an organization that not only represents but also invites all the students to participate in the organization. As such, we see debate as the vital structure and unity as the strength of the organization. We believe that this organization should be an honest representation of all the student body by embracing diversity among them. Uniting students' voice is the key objective of the organization.

Our Governing Philosophy:
We believe that universities are meant to serve the students and their policies ought to be aligned with students’ needs and interests. It is this premise that allows for the students to affect universities’ policies, always motivated by the need and desire for improvement. We believe in organization and mobilization. We seek equality and participation. We offer transparency and we expect commitment! We believe that every student’s voice needs to be heard. Therefore, we invite you to Raise Your Voice!

_The Student Government Constitution allows only four candidates (known as the Executive Committee) to run for the Student Government._

UniVox Candidates are:

- **President**
  Edison Jakurti

- **Vice President**
  Dren Kolica

- **Secretary**
  Tringa Krasniqi

- **Treasurer**
  Alketa Buçaj
Structural Changes We Stand for:

- Student participation in major decision making through referendum. We believe in participation, not only representation!
- Transparency instead of privileges. We believe that the whole Student Body should be offered the same opportunities as the Student Government.
- The Executive Committee is not democratic as long as it consists of an even number of members. There needs to be an odd number of members.
- More than 4 members in the Executive Committee. Complete, pre-determined teams running for Student Government. The whole organizational structure ought to be appointed and included in the application form. This will serve two important purposes:
  - The Student Body will know every single member they are voting for. This way, there will be no surprises when one team is elected. *(However, this does not prevent the elected Student Government to call for non-voting volunteers once it is elected)*
  - It prevents clientelism. If the whole team runs openly the Executive Committee will not be able to promise positions in exchange for votes.
- One member - one vote
- We believe that the Student Senate is a separate entity from the Executive Committee. We also believe that 1 student for generation is not enough to represent the whole generation. Therefore we will propose the following Constitutional Amendments regarding the Senate:
  - Elect two representatives per generation.
  - Vote for only 1 candidate because if there is the opportunity to vote for 2, then there is a risk that a pre-electoral coalition between 2 candidates will take place and this would create an unfair competition for other candidates.
UniVox Program

1. Academics

Academic Support Center – An Expansion
We believe that the Academic Support Center is both the substance and the symbolic of the university’s mission: to serve and support the students. Therefore, we believe that this Center should be expanded. Besides the Math and English units, we should also incorporate Economics, Management, IT, and Media. This would be done in close cooperation with Clubs and professors that will recommend us excellent students who are capable of helping and supporting fellow students when needed voluntarily. So, they would not have to be there all the time but, instead, they would be summoned when needed, by appointment.

Student Academy
The current Student Government (AUKADEMIA) has started the Student Academy and we plan to take it further since we believe that this is a great project. Students who show academic excellence will be invited to participate in Student Academy’s projects, which will include research work and representation of the Student Body, in different academic institutions, by presenting their findings.

Academic Support Center - Online Scheduling
A number of students have asked for a system which allows for them to schedule a meeting online. We will develop a system via outlook or a special website that will be linked to AUK website. This way, students don’t have to physically go and make an appointment but rather they would make it online. Students will know what schedules are open for them and they can pick from the available spots.

Academic Books
Books are the fundamental element for studying. However, AUK has a shortage of academic hard copies for certain classes. Hence, there is a short period within which students have to return those books to the library. We will cooperate with the AUK Management and Administration to find alternatives through which we can acquire more hard copies. Also, as a student organization, we will buy E-books whenever there is a demand for a certain book from a group of students. (Note: Academic books which are not available in the AUK Library).
A.U.K Journal
We believe that the best way to show the quality of an institution is through its own work. Therefore, we believe that an AUK Journal would be a good medium for both students and professors to show their work. This will be done through the cooperation with Clubs, Student Academy and professors. Here, professors could pick the best work of their students and send it for publication. We plan to have two issues per semester. The journal it will be open for all students to send their work to the Editing Team (which will consist of volunteers interested to participate in this project).

Class Demand List
This will be a portion of our Student Government website, where students will express what classes they want (based on what A.U.K can offer within an academic year) and what schedule fits best for them. Afterwards, we will discuss with the Faculty in order to construct a better schedule with more sections of students’ preferred classes.

II. Advocacy

Transparency
We promise full transparency. Whenever we receive an invitation to send students to represent AUK abroad, in any event, we will give the opportunity to all AUK students to participate (unless the invitation specifically states that only the Executive Committee members are invited). We will develop an application form which will be used to pick the ones that will represent our university. The criteria will be designed based on the nature of invitation. For example, if there is an invitation for a conference in Economics, then students majoring in Economics will be prioritized. Also, we will keep the students informed for all projects and events.

Decision Making through Referendum
We believe that major decisions that affect the students should be made through referendum. This, we consider to be, one of the most democratic forms of decision making.

Absences
The change from quarters to semesters has increased the number of weeks students come to class. We will have a referendum to decide whether we want to increase the number of unexcused absences a student can make. Based on the results, we will either leave the policy as it is (if the majority of students votes against) or we will start to negotiate the change of the policy.

MaBelle Prices
We believe that MaBelle prices for a number of items are very high. Therefore, we will arrange a different agreement with them. We will either agree on reducing those prices through a
gentlemen agreement or we will reduce the demand for those items by organizing the student body and finding alternatives.

Flexible Tuition Deadline
The Financial Office has shown understanding for several students who were not capable of paying by the deadline, which is the 1st of April. Because of this number of students, and this understanding from the Financial Office, we believe that a new schedule could be arranged based on both the students’ period in which they are able to pay and Financial Office’s requests.

Cadets - The Armed Forces of the Republic of Kosova
We see cadets as an integral part of our community. Hence, we want them to be able to participate in different activities that we will organize. Organizing a march as a celebration of the 28th of November can be a possible activity. Also, we will develop a request which could be sent to their academy asking their officials to allow them to participate in different social events. Another possibility is to organize a Military Club where all the students might participate and acquire some simple military and survival techniques.

Religion
We respect the religious diversity among all the students. Also, we want to help the students who engage in religious rituals while they are on campus. We have been asked to put a sign so that students know that there is a room for all students who want to pray.

Chair Repairs
Since we spend a good amount of time on them, and we are sceptic that new chairs will be bought, we will work on repairing them together with the maintenance team.

Electric Plugs
We will make sure that there are enough electric plugs in every studying environment (including the yard). Electrical Plug Extensions are quite cheap and practical, too.

Lockers
Lockers are a good place to leave your bag, your coat or even your books. We think that it would be hard to provide a locker for every AUK student, but we strongly believe that an number of lockers would be possible. These lockers then would be used by any student who needs that space.

Parking Place
Parking place has been an issue for a while now. In order to solve it, we present a few alternatives. The first alternative is to rent a suitable place close to the main building. The second alternative is to rent an exclusive, A.U.K bus. This bus would have an A.U.K add which would
be a good advertisement, as well. In this case, we would have 3 different itineraries when the bus would transport students back and forth. The monthly cost for such a project would be around 3,500 EUR.

II.1 Entertainment

SG Website Wishes Box
This box will serve as another means (besides direct contact) of communication. Students will be able to send us their project ideas. Then, we will read, discuss, evaluate, and pick some of those ideas to implement. We will also invite students to present their ideas and discuss the possible implementation procedures. This way, we believe that the Student Government and the whole Student Body would be able to align their interests even more.

Social Events
We will organize different social events such as organized trips, parties, karaoke, dress nights, beer pongs, etc. We will also continue the tradition of the “welcoming events” at the beginning of the academic year, and the Spring Fest and other events as we end the year. We also plan to continue with the A.U.K Radio and other projects that have started this academic year.

Sports Night
We will organize events where different games will be watched. This can be done in cooperation with the Sports’ Club.

Birthday Board
A board for birthday wishes by the students and for the students.

Campus Activities Calendar
We will create a calendar that will contain all the events that are planned by the SG and Clubs. This will promote AUK events and it will be the place where students will look for activities and volunteer work in advance. This Calendar will continuously be updated.

IV Innovative Organization

Club Organization
We believe that clubs will become more active if we connect their field of expertise with other institutions and projects. However, we will not interfere with their individual agenda. The suggested connection will be done voluntarily by clubs. A connection between Clubs and Student Academy may facilitate the development of different Support Branches (based on majors, such as Economics, Management, Public Policy, IT, and Media). Organizing quizzes and competitions among clubs will be highly encouraged and supported by us.
Debate Club
We have received a number of requests from different students to form the Debate Club. However, instead of organizing random debates, this club will organize debates based on internationally recognized rules. The teams will prepare according to the rules and then they could potentially represent AUK in international competitions.

Inter University Cooperation
We believe that our student body lacks of cooperation with students from other universities. Contacts and exchanges enable students to share knowledge, experiences, and struggles. We plan to build relationships with representatives of other universities in Kosova and the Student Government at the R.I.T. We will agree on having our students to go and present their researched work to other universities in Kosova. We could even expand this and send them to high schools students. This will promote the real quality of AUK (the AUK students and their work) and it will further improve the general perception for AUK students.

AUK SG Scholarship
We will offer scholarships for the students. We have contacted several companies that are willing to help us with fundraising. This way, even the students with a GPA lower than 3.6 will be able to apply for scholarships since GPA will NOT be the only requirement. The total amount of the scholarship fund will be approximately the same as a full tuition, yet we will award it to more than 1 student. So, the amount will be equally divided and allocated. The application process will be similar to the regular process used by AUK Admission and Financial Offices.

Shark Tank
Shark Tank will be a place where students will express their business or other innovative ideas and projects, and we will assist them in finding a partnership in order to finance the implementation of those projects.

On-Campus Hiring
We plan to invite several companies to hire students for co-op positions or even full time jobs. The students will know about the positions so that they will be able to prepare in advance. We plan to organize this event close to the end of the year, since students are freer during the summer; hence, they can finish their co-ops during this time.

TEDx
We consider that AUKADEMIA’s TEDx project was a successful one and it needs to be continued by us, as well.

*(Our program is open for additional suggestions from the whole Student Body)*