

Adelaide University Sciences Association

Agenda for April 1, 2015

Opening and Welcome

Apologies

- Tim Aldrige
- Gemma Gransbury
- Bryan Banks
- Jasmine Kelly

Attendance

The following members were present at the AGM

- Ben Geytenbeek
- Brittany Howell
- Irene Willcocks
- Matthew Bowie
- Jason Oliver
- Emi Schutz
- Kristen Smith
- Karl Asmussen
- Catisha Coburn
- Sophie Ackling
- Kieran Meaney

Annual Reports

President's Report

Presented by 2014/15 President Ben Geytenbeek

Treasurer's Report

Presented by 2014/15 Treasurer Irene Willcocks

Subscription Fees

The current subscription fee is \$5 per person per annum, expiring at the 28th of February the following year (the date is set by the constitution). The members may choose to change the subscription fee at an Annual General Meeting

Motion: Denied

The price will stay at \$5, until the committee discusses the matter further, and considers setting an SGM for later in the year if necessary.

Election of Committee Position

The appointed returning officer for the election is Irene Willcocks. Voting will be conducted by secret ballot unless agreed to by all candidates. Nominations may be made online prior to the AGM or from the floor

The elections will be, in order

President

Brittany Howell

I have spent two terms on the committee now, so my experience and knowledge of the position and its requirements is helpful. I hope that I can take over from Ben and keep the club growing. I don't have any big plans yet, but I'm really excited to see what we can achieve this year.

Motion: Carried

As the only nominee, Brittany was elected president

Vice-President

Emi Shutz

For those who don't know me, I am a second year BSc(Adv) student who likes piña coladas and getting caught in the rain. I also love science and I am super excited about the future of AUScA. I am dedicated and enthusiastic and I'm eager to help the association continue to grow. I also have plenty of committee experience. I have been a member of my pony club committee for 3 years and I am the socials coordinator for the Young Scientists of Australia Adelaide Chapter (which is also awesome so you should all join).

Motion: Carried

As the only nominee, Emi was elected vice-president

Treasurer

Ben Geytenbeek

I have been the President of AUScA since 2013. During that time, I have gained valuable experience in how the club functions and operates. In order to see AUScA thrive in future years, I wish to take the role of Treasurer in a capacity to advise and mentor the new incoming committee. My experience with handling the treasury has been obtained through extensive consultation and collaboration with past treasurers

Motion: Carried

As the only nominee, Ben was elected treasurer

Emi Schutz

See above

Already elected

Sophia Stephenson

I would like to be considered for the role of Treasurer for the Adelaide University Science Association. I am a current MPhil student in Chemistry, and have been a member of

AUScA for a couple of years now. While I do not have experience as a treasurer, I have 8 years of retail and hospitality experience and hence I am confident that I have the skills required to keep the books balanced! I also completed my BSc(Advanced) with a major in Applied Mathematics, so you can be sure that the club's money is in safe hands! Finally, as a Chemistry/Maths student I know I possess the necessary attention to detail for this role. Because of my current study, I will be in uni every day, and will be fairly flexible when it comes to lunchtime or after uni meetings. Thanks for your consideration!
Actually running for secretary

Secretary

Brittany Howell

See above

Already elected

Sophia Stephenson

Motion: Carried

As the only nominee, Sophia was elected secretary

1st Year Representative

Arthur Yeow

Willing to work together with the committee to promote AUScA and bring the association to greater heights.

Motion: Carried

As the only nominee, Arthur was elected First Year Rep

2nd Year Representative

Catisha Coburn

Hi, my name is Catisha, and I am a second year Bachelor of Science(Advanced) student. I love science and am super passionate about it, and would love to help out on the Adelaide University Science Association committee. I have some experience with organising events as I was the event coordinator for my house at high school, and I am really interested in getting more involved in the club. Thanks for considering me!

Emi Schutz

See above

Already elected

Kirsten Smith

I should be elected because I'm passionate about science, getting involved and working with people. I've done mentoring of first years for 2 semesters now and thoroughly enjoyed it and gained skills involved with working with people (first years, faculty staff, academics etc.), leadership and organising events and activities from ice-breakers to lab tours. I also did a talk to a lecture theater full of first year science students in O-week about my experience at Uni so I can speak publicly. I am very enthusiastic about sharing scientific knowledge (a little too enthusiastic according to my family members who have to listen to me all day) so hopefully I will be able to spread around that excitement through the association if I

am elected. I know that I have the time to commit to being on the AUScA committee. While i do get good grades I think there are more important things like having fun and creating my own achievements and I believe being a part of the committee will give me both these opportunities. I value hard work, determination and looking at things from a different aspect so I think I will defiantly bring innovation, energy and productivity to the committee. Overall, I am a bright, enthusiastic individual who thrives when working with people and talking about science related topics so I think having me as part of the committee would be very beneficial.

Show of hands for Kirsten and Catisha Kirsten received 7 votes, Catisha, 1.

Motion: Carried Kirsten was elected as the second year rep

3rd Year Representative

Hannah Rappensberg - WITHDRAWN

Hi all, I apologise for not being able to attend this AGM due to being rostered for work. My name is Hannah Rappensberg and I am currently in my third year studying a Bachelor of Science (Biotechnology). I have recently participated in the peer mentoring program and really enjoyed the experience and so thought I would also go for a position in the AUScA committee. I may not have any previous experience in any leadership roles but I have my enthusiasm and hard work to offer. I would love the opportunity to be part of the committee and if selected I would commit 100% of my time and effort in all meetings and events. Thanks :) Kind regards Hannah Rappensberg

Honours/Postgraduate Representative

Ben Geytenbeek

See above

already elected

Jason Oliver

While i've been VP for the first year, I want to take a backseat role and help from the side lines this year. I'm more than willing to help out with BBQs, Movie Nights and sitting at stalls to sell / distribute shirts / things. I won't be able to do lots of the heavy lifting though, but either way i'll be around to help out the club for the remainder of the year!

Motion: Carried

As the only nominee, Jason was elected Honours/Postgraduate Rep

General Committee (4 Positions)

Catisha Coburn

See above

Ben Geytenbeek

Already elected

Hannah Rappensberg - WITHDRAWN

See above

Juewan Kim

I have been a member of AUScA since the second semester of 2013. I have attended to most of events held by AUScA (All three pub crawls whoop whoop) and it's always been my favorite university association. Recently, I thought it'd be really cool to get involved with AUScA more and decided to apply for the position of general committee member. As I enjoy organising and hosting events, I'm sure I can be a great asset to AUScA. I'd appreciate if you guys vote for me. Thanks.

Emi Schutz

See above
Already elected

Kirsen Smith

See above
Already elected

Ellen Swan

Hi, I'm Ellen. Sorry I couldn't make it to the AGM tonight. I'm in my second year of BSc (Adv), and I'd like to nominate for a General Committee position. I've always enjoyed the events organised by AUScA, and would love to help out and be a part of it. I'm pretty approachable, follow through with commitments, and I've also helped out at AUScA events previously. Thank you :)

Karl Asmussen Nomination from the floor.

Motion: Carried Ellen Swan, Karl Asmussen, Juewan Kim and Catisha Coburn were elected as the general committee.

Banking Details

AUScA currently holds a Society Cheque account with the Bank of South Australia.

Proposal 1

Amend the name of the bank account from "Society for Physics, Astronomy, Cosmology and Experimental Deeds" to "Adelaide University Sciences Association"

Motion: Carried by show of hands.

Proposal 2

Incoming President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary be made signatories on the bank account, and the outgoing President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and other signatories be removed.

Motion: carried

General Business

Australian Science Students' Association (ASSA)

The Australian Science Student's Association (ASSA) is a new organisation founded by Alex Bennet in 2015, past president of the University of Western Australia Science Union. ASSA plans to hold a National Convention for science students in 2016. The prospectus is displayed in the appendix. AUScA has received the following correspondence from ASSA:

Dear Club President,

We are the Australian Science Students' Association (ASSA), a newly created national representative body for science students in Australia. We aim to provide advocacy, representation and networking opportunities to science students and science club leaders like you. Our main areas of operation and interest are the quality of science education, graduate career opportunities, large-scale social and networking events, equity and diversity in the sciences, and community engagement.

To get a better idea of what we're planning and what we stand for, please find our membership prospectus attached. This document should hold all the information needed to get a good understanding of what ASSA is and what benefits it can hold for you.

ASSA is a member-based organisation where campus-based clubs, not individual students, are the members. To be truly representative we need a diverse membership base, spanning across the many disciplines within science. As such, we are very excited to take this opportunity to invite you to sign up as an ASSA member. For all the benefits associated with this membership both for your club and your student members, take a look at the attached prospectus.

When you're ready, follow the link to sign up your club: http://bit.ly/assa_signup. Once you've signed up, we'll get in touch and let you know what the next steps are for both you and ASSA.

If you have any questions about ASSA that you want to ask before signing up, feel free to reply to this email and one of the ASSA team will get back to you!

If you are not the most appropriate person to address this email to, we would really appreciate it if you could either forward this to the appropriate person or send us their contact details.

Kind regards,
The ASSA Committee Australian Science Students' Association

Proposal 3

That the Adelaide University Sciences Association registers with the Australian Science Students' Association.

Motion: Carried By show of hands

Other Business

Proposal 4

AGM date:

The idea is for the committee to be elected at the end of the year, not the beginning as it has been for 2014 and 2015.

Support was received as well as some thoughts against it.

A decision was made to call a review for later in the year, and to call for an SGM before the start of semester 2

Close of Meeting

Adelaide University Sciences Association
c/o AUU Clubs
Level 2 Lady Symon Building
University of Adelaide
Victoria Drive
ADELAIDE SA 5005

April 1, 2015

To the members of the Adelaide University Sciences Association

It has been a privilege to serve as President of the Adelaide University Sciences Association for the 2014/15 term. Following the reinvention of AUScA in 2013, we as a club have grown substantially to become a large and healthy organisation.

From the 30 people who attended the initial AGM in 2013, AUScA grew quickly to 165 members by the end of 2013. However, in 2014 AUScA experienced a large growth in membership, reaching 396 members by the end of the year. Even more respectably, since O'week of this year, we have signed an additional 371 members. In terms of membership numbers, the future bodes well for AUScA. In 2014, O'week sign-ups accounted for 163 new members. In 2015, O'week sign-ups accounted for 283 new members.

Our largest and most popular events each year are our pub-crawls. Our first semester pub crawl in 2014 (Drop the Base) sold 220 shirts, but this result was bettered by the second semester (Cell-fie) with 320 shirts. The events typically provide a large boost in membership numbers and are a major source of income for the club. Shirt sales have closed for our 2015 semester 1 pub crawl (It's in our Beer-N-A), and 200 shirts have been ordered.

After exams in 2015, AUScA hosted its first Christmas Dinner at the Adelaide Meridien Hotel and Apartments in North Adelaide. Ticket prices were subsidised and we sold 72 tickets. Given support, this event may prove to develop itself into a major jewel in the AUScA crown.

Throughout the year, AUScA has hosted regular barbecues. Free for members, these serve as a way for members to profit from their subscription fee. While in the past, barbecues have been expensive to host, new, cheaper options are now available. Purchasing sausages from a wholesale provider rather than a retail provider may save up to \$100, and hiring a barbecue from one of the Schools may save up to \$80.

At the start of 2015, AUScA registered the domain name <http://www.ausca.org.au>. Similarly, the ABN 51-805-088-284 was registered for AUScA. The website was developed by Jason Oliver and was hosted by Weebly. The site receives a constant flow of visitors at a rate of about 20 per day, notably from www.facebook.com and www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au. It is my personal

recommendation that a future committee appoint one member of the committee as a 'webmaster' to manage the website and the facebook page.

The past year has seen AUScA build closer ties with the Faculty of Sciences. Through our channels of communication, we have successfully promoted calls for volunteers for events such as the Year 12 Early Entry Program, University Open Day and Science Alive, the latter of which earned a profit for AUScA. In return, the Faculty have provided promotion of AUScA through their outreach channels and have offered partial funding for future major events.

At the end of 2014, AUScA awarded lecturers, demonstrators and tutors for Outstanding contributions to student learning. Winners included Karin Barovich, Michelle Coulson, Andrew Mackinnon, David Paton and Lynn Rogers.

I wish to acknowledge the 1989 AUScA members who celebrated their 25th Anniversary reunion in October 2014. It is also worth noting that 2016 will be the 125th Anniversary of the founding of AUScA, should the new committee wish to celebrate.

Finally, I wish to pay tribute to Dr Barbara Hardy AO, who passed away aged 87 on October 6, 2014. Dr Hardy served as patron to AUScA for many years and was a keen advocate for science education in South Australia. Many former members fondly remember her wine tours and her contributions kept AUScA afloat for much of the 20th century.

Yours Sincerely

Ben Geytenbeek
2014/15 Adelaide University Sciences
Association President

Adelaide University Sciences Association Treasurer's Report

April 1, 2015

Summary of Position

Opening Balance on 30th May 2014: Note: the focus financially of the previous

	Opening Balance	Closing Balance	Net
Bank:	\$4317.42	\$8426.51	\$4109.09
Petty Cash:	\$220.75	\$ 39.10	-\$181.65
TOTAL:	\$4592.27	\$ 8464.61	\$3951.75

Table 1: Summary of 2014/15 Finances

two years has been to establish a firm financial standing for AUScA into the future ot allow the club to be flexible in its expenditure. The current profit also does not reflect the outstanding debts for pub-crawl shirts due to the proximity of the pub-crawl to this report.

Substantial incomes/expenditures

Registrations

2013

Number of memberships sold: 166
Income from memberships: \$830

2014

Number of memberships sold: 399
Income from memberships: \$1995

2015 to date

Number of memberships sold: 371
Income from memberships sold: \$1,855

Pub-Crawls

2013 (Beeronium)

Number of shirts sold (includes AUScA club shirts): 200
Cost: -\$2600
Gross Profit: \$4037
Net Profit: \$1437

2014 (Drop the Base)

Number of shirts sold: 220
Cost: -\$3410
Gross Profit: \$4824.45
Net Profit: \$1414.45

2014 (Cell-fie)

Number of shirts sold: 307
Cost: -\$3410
Gross Profit: \$6425
Net Profit: \$3015

Christmas Dinner

Number of Tickets Sold: 72
Cost: -\$3129
Gross Profit: \$2200
Net Profit: -\$929

Note: This was a deliberate loss which was chosen to benefit our members due to the success of the 'Cell-fie' pub crawl.



**Australian Science
Students' Association
Prospectus 2015**

What is ASSA?

ASSA is the national representative body for science students in Australia. We aim to enrich the lives of science students and the general population through student representation, science advocacy and community engagement.

Before now, science student groups across the nation have been scattered and operated independently. There was no communication, no collaboration and no overarching representation, leadership or direction. ASSA aims to provide a range of networking opportunities for science students to communicate, collaborate and learn from each other. By creating and engaging with this network we will provide comprehensive, well-informed and strategic national representation and advocacy.



What do we do?

We have highlighted three primary areas where we believe ASSA can make a huge difference to the lives of science students. These are the areas of national education representation, clarifying and promoting graduate career pathways and providing social events in the form of a national convention.

EDUCATION

We aim to build student and professional networks to provide relevant, well-informed and targeted educational representation on a national level. We believe that this can be achieved through both inward and outward facing representation.

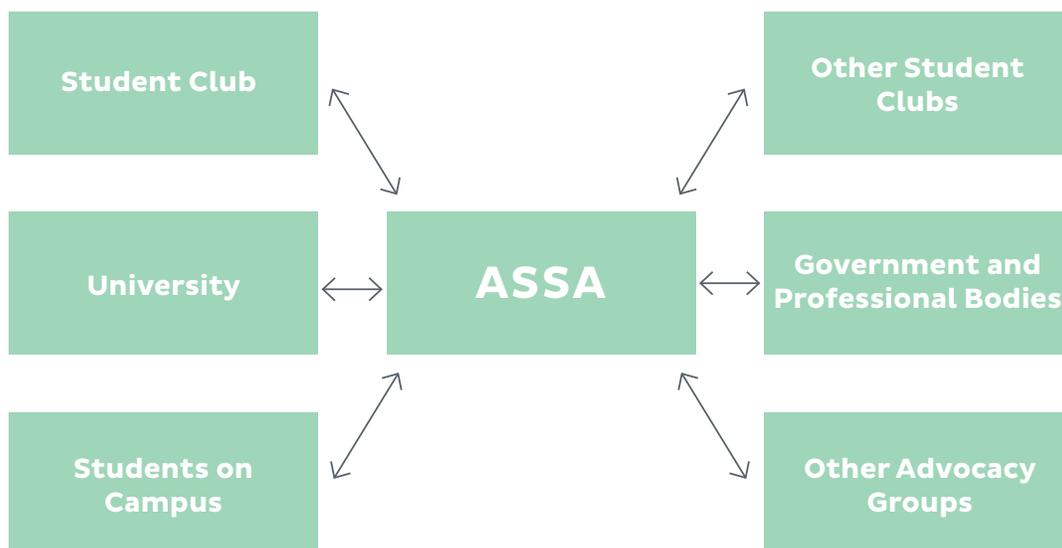
Inward facing educational representation refers to helping campus based societies deal with educational issues that arise on campus through our network of member student groups. Furthermore, if the same or similar issues are arising on many campuses around Australia, we can investigate how the national state of education has led to these issues and advocate for solutions to the problems.

Alternatively, our outward facing representation would engage with professional bodies, government, universities and other relevant organisations to give a voice to Australian science students. We hope to develop a very strong working relationship with these bodies and be seen as the first point of contact for student consultation.

EDUCATION POINTS TO CONSIDER

- The introduction of the “Melbourne” or “Bologna” model of education has seen the streamlining of undergraduate courses and elimination of electives, with vital content being pushed into post-graduate coursework.
- Cuts to education funding have resulted in universities reducing the number of practical classes for science students.
- The proposed changes to higher education, when combined with the career issues facing science students, could deter student from studying and pursuing a career in science
- Ongoing reductions to PhD top-up scholarships and proposed “Fees for PhDs” are making post-graduate research even less appealing, in an environment where few students decide to pursue a higher degree by research and around 50% of Australian research is conducted by these students.

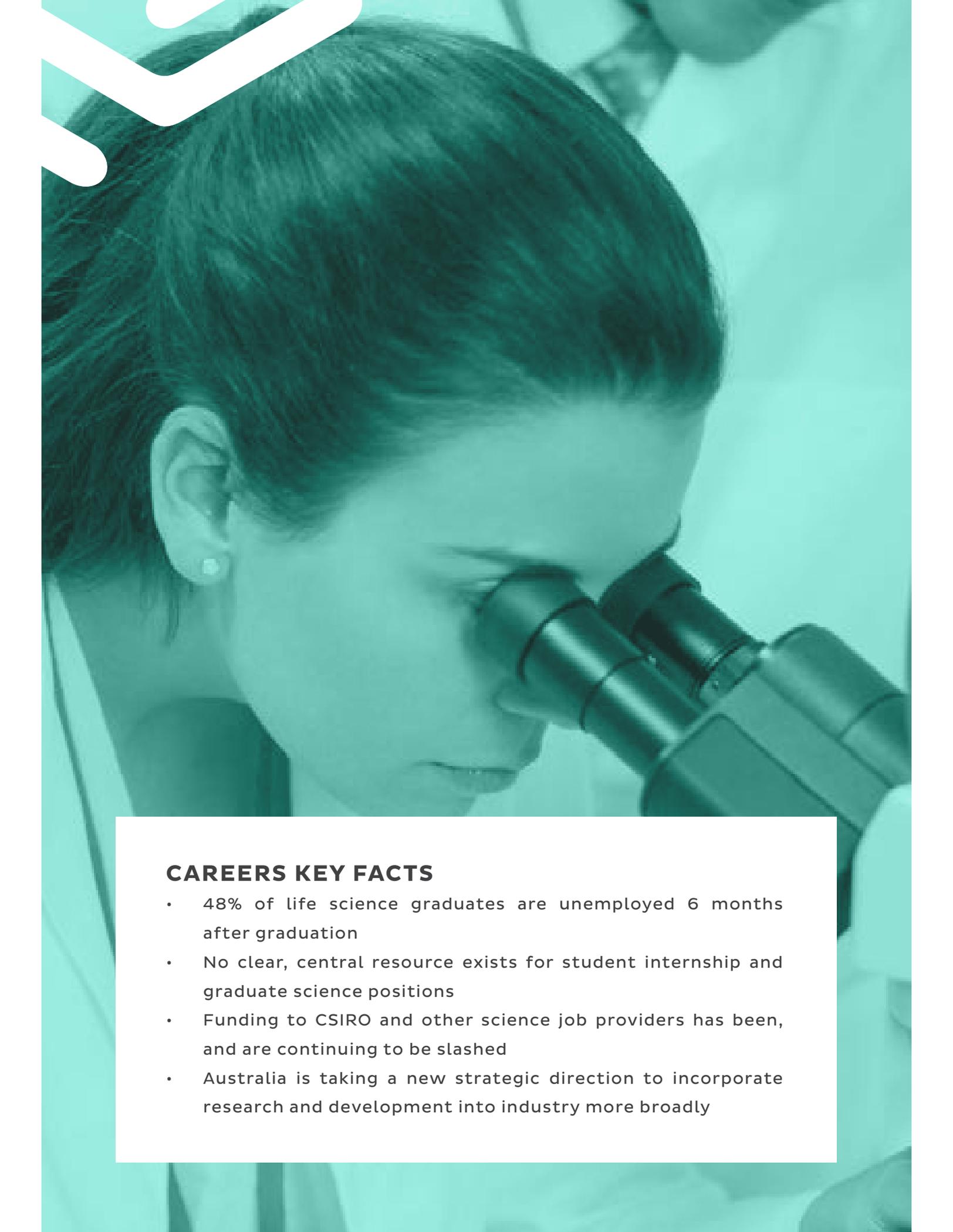
We can be the connect between local and national organisations.



CAREERS

Science students spend years studying towards a Bachelor's or higher degree yet by the end, many still don't know what options and pathways are open to them. No central resource for student internships or graduate science positions exists to speak of, leaving students and recent graduates stranded. The 2014 review of the Demand Driven Funding System of universities found that 48% of life science graduates are unemployed 6 months after graduation. This shows that the job market for science graduates needs to be addressed, or alternate pathways leading to employment need to be clarified and promoted. We believe that cuts to the science and research sector are hugely detrimental to the long term success and prosperity of science in Australia and that steps need to be taken to ensure that far more of Australia's science graduates can find work after graduation.

ASSA aims to engage universities, domestic and international employers, internship providers and other relevant bodies to better advertise and promote the career pathways open to science graduates. This would be done through substantial careers events and by publishing a national science careers handbook. We will advocate for more commonwealth supported postgraduate places, more grants open to higher degree by research and more funding to research positions, ensuring our highly trained graduates have pathways open to them beyond their undergraduate studies. Furthermore, to ensure that key science and research positions remain available to science graduates, we will advocate for more funding to science bodies like the CSIRO, for the benefit of students' future careers within Australia



CAREERS KEY FACTS

- 48% of life science graduates are unemployed 6 months after graduation
- No clear, central resource exists for student internship and graduate science positions
- Funding to CSIRO and other science job providers has been, and are continuing to be slashed
- Australia is taking a new strategic direction to incorporate research and development into industry more broadly

A photograph of two men in a meeting, overlaid with a blue tint. The man on the left is wearing a white t-shirt and has his arms crossed, looking down. The man on the right is wearing a dark vest over a white shirt and is looking down at a laptop. The background is blurred, suggesting an office or meeting room setting.

We aim to provide engaging social, networking and leadership opportunities to science students from across Australia.

SOCIAL

Through the introduction of an annual ASSA convention, we aim to provide engaging social, networking and leadership opportunities to science students from across Australia. From 2016 onwards, we aim to host a mid-year national convention, hosting science students from all around Australia. This conference would be filled with educational, careers-based, leadership development, social and competitive events, bringing student networks together and informing them of the big issues in science both nationally and globally. The convention would be hosted by a different city or state each year, and aims to attract significant levels of sponsorship and professional interest.

FURTHER AIMS

Spanning the three areas above are two overarching themes that we believe to be central to the operation of ASSA. These are the areas of equity and diversity, and community engagement in science. ASSA will promote equitable access to education and careers for the hugely diverse cohort of students studying science and we will actively promote science literacy and a better understanding of science in the community.

A person is working on a laptop, with a stylized logo overlay. The logo consists of several thick, light-colored lines forming a complex, interconnected shape that resembles a stylized 'A' or a similar symbol. The background is a warm, orange-toned image of a person's hands typing on a laptop keyboard. The text is presented in a white box at the bottom of the image.

ASSA needs to have a governance structure that streamlines communication and allows for mobility.

The ASSA structure

To be representative of the sheer number of science clubs across Australia, ASSA needs to have a governance structure that streamlines communication and allows for mobility. The following five groups outline the envisaged structure and will be revised as we identify strengths and weaknesses.

EXECUTIVE

The ASSA executive is the highest decision making body and can make financial, policy and operating decisions to the benefit of the organisation. The ASSA executive consists of the following people:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Treasurer
4. Secretary
5. Chairs of Committees

BOARD

The Board is a much larger body than the Executive and allows for a far broader range of views and deals with more important and larger issues than those of the every day running of ASSA. The Board consist of the following people:

1. The Executive
2. Discipline Representatives

COMMITTEES

The Committees are the real guts of the organisation and will carry out the decisions made by the Executive and Board. Committees will also make recommendations on strategy, policy or direction to the Executive or Board that are relevant to that Committee. While more Committees may be created later if required, the following is a list of Committees to start with:

1. Education
2. Careers
3. Events
4. Equity & Diversity

DISCIPLINE REPRESENTATIVES

The Discipline Representatives will be the main point of contact for the majority of Member Groups, offering their unique perspective and recommendations to the Board and Committees. As there are a huge amount of disciplines covered by such a general term as science, we have adopted a method of grouping disciplines together from Science and Technology Australia, a representative body for professional scientists. They group the sciences into the following areas:

1. Agriculture and Food Sciences
2. Aquatic Sciences
3. Biological Sciences
4. Chemical Sciences
5. Geographical and Geological Sciences
6. Mathematical Sciences
7. Medical and Cognitive Sciences
8. Physical Sciences
9. Plant and Ecological Sciences
10. Technological Sciences
11. General

MEMBER GROUPS

Member groups will become the lifeblood of the association. These are you and your clubs, representing the many thousands of science students to us and informing us of your and their needs. To hear more about how you can sign up your club to be a member, see the Getting Involved section!



You'll get access to the huge network of student leaders and industry partners that we aim to build.



Getting Involved

Now that you've heard a bit about what ASSA is, what we aim to do and how we operate, we'd love to get you on board. There are two main ways to get involved; signing on your science club as a member organisation or jumping on the committee.

Alternatively, if you're from a professional organisation or company, please see the "What It Means To Be A Professional Partner" section.

WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOUR CLUB TO BE A MEMBER

Being a member of ASSA means a number of things. Firstly, you'll get access to the huge network of student leaders and industry partners that we aim to build. Through these networks, we hope to open up unprecedented levels of sponsorship and support to science student societies across the country.

Membership of ASSA also entitles your organisation and the students it represents to our educational and vocational advocacy. Through our defined organisational structure, you will always have a direct route to our support and advocacy teams, ensuring that the issues facing your students are always at the forefront of our operations. We will strive to give you a voice on the national level, while also having your back when it comes to campus based issues.

Lastly, by being a member, your organisation will be able to directly impact on ASSA's growth and priorities in the future.

HOW MEMBERSHIP WORKS

Being a member of ASSA is as simple as filling out a form. As ASSA is still in its infancy and will be building up its presence over the coming months and years, we do not expect to have the same output as many of our counterparts in other areas of study. As such, we will not be asking for any affiliation or membership fee. In the future, once ASSA is fully setup and operating, a small fee may be introduced to ensure that the organisation remains financially sustainable, however this will only happen through very thorough consultation of the member clubs and with consideration to their own budgets.

To sign up your club, head to bit.ly/assa_signup today!

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A PROFESSIONAL PARTNER

As a professional partner of ASSA, there are a number of ways you can get involved and we can tailor a relationship that suits you. We envisage professional partners engaging with ASSA by giving us access to networks that share our advocacy goals, providing advice to our board members or through sponsorship agreements, just to name a few.

By gaining access to networks and bodies that share our advocacy goals, or allow us a forum through which to present them, ASSA will be able to leverage professional relationships to achieve tangible outcomes for science students. Similar organisations have great relationships with the professional community, for example the Australian Medical Students' Association has a vote on the Australian Medical Association's board. Relationships like these will be critical to our long-term success as a representative organisation.

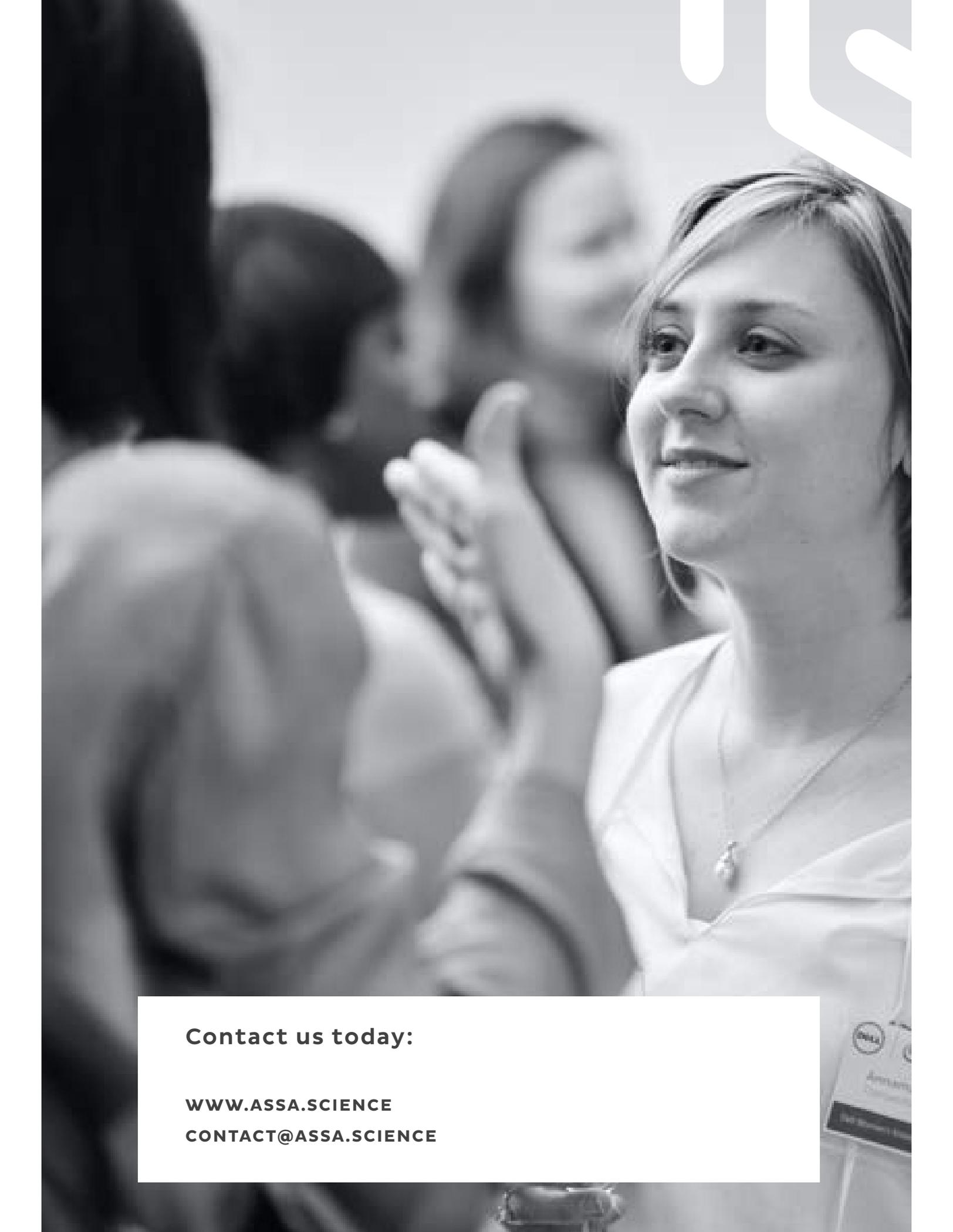
Given that students run our organisation, our board directors will not benefit from the same wealth of knowledge and corporate experience that many members of the wider community will have. As such, by setting up and maintaining formalised relationships with organisations and specific individuals in the community, we aim to develop an advisory panel through which we can take advantage of the body of knowledge that exists in the science and not-for-profit sectors.

Lastly, as our organisation is currently funded through generous campus based student organisations, we will need to seek out and secure stable sources of income; one of which we hope will be sponsorship. Sponsorship can range from small in-kind donations to large corporate sponsorship tied to advertising and visibility to students. We can tailor any package to suit your needs and would love to hear from you.

To become a professional partner of ASSA, please email contact@assa.science and we will get back to you shortly.

GETTING ON THE COMMITTEE

If you're a science student and passionate about anything that you've seen in this document, why not jump on the committee? We're always looking for enthusiastic and motivated students to advocate and represent their peers nationwide. Whether you're a bit of a word genius, a Photoshop aficionado or just really love science and want to get involved, everyone is welcome to get on board. If you're interested in getting involved, email contact@assa.science, telling us who you are, where and what you study, what about ASSA you're most interested in and any relevant skills or experience you might have.



Contact us today:

WWW.ASSA.SCIENCE

CONTACT@ASSA.SCIENCE

