



LISTA A

BUILD THE NOW

Introductory note

"Building the Now", the motto of a movement that has in its genesis an enormous sense of responsibility and commitment, essential for the continued good functioning of the Students Union of the University of Aveiro. This project also has renewal and representativeness as its starting point experience, essential for the success of any student association.

The movement is based on several fundamental pillars, of which we highlight as a priority the work in favour of an institution which is increasingly future-oriented, innovative, and closer to all the students, but also to the Aveiro region. It is fundamental to highlight the work in digital transformation for the pursuit of a consistent institution in the present, prepared for the future. The training and bringing-together of the whole AAUAv Structure are a key piece for an interconnected and prepared student community. It is important to highlight above all the relationship that needs to be stimulated with students so that we can converge interests, enhance activities and positioning in function of a common objective.

At the same time, we will take into consideration the discussion of a plural, multicultural Higher Education, of free access to the entire national and international community, always claiming the best for all. However, after the long work done over the last years in the Institution, we can now affirm that great projects may have the necessary freedom to emerge, such as a University Radio that will have all the potential to become one of the main media in the Region, but also the bet in the future of what is university sport through the creation of a Sports Club, as well as spaces dedicated only to E-sports practice and competition.

We will try to respond to all the challenges that are inherent to the responsibility of running a growing AAUAv, through the introduction of new dynamics, new concerns, and the adjustment of positions. We highlight the renewal of the AAUAv brand and its approach to the Region, whether through its image and communication, or through the potential of a physical space located in the centre of the city of Aveiro.

The multidisciplinary profile of the members of the candidate movement, as well as the uniqueness of our project, allows us to say that we are a team able to cover all areas of action and activity of and for our Academy.

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Build Project Now

On June 28th 1978, the Students' Association of the University of Aveiro was founded and later became the Students Union of the University of Aveiro (AAUAv), a name we recognise today and that represents the almost 17 000 students of the University of Aveiro. Throughout its existence the institution has always sought to meet the growing needs of students in the most diverse areas of Higher Education.

The Presidency of AAUAv Management should, in our view, understand the functioning of the institution as well as the academic and social environment in which it operates. On this basis, it should bring together students who will enhance AAUAv through their experience and irreverence in order to create and train a multidisciplinary and multicultural team that will enhance the value of the institution.

Thus, the candidates to the Presidency of AAUAv Management, representing the *Building the Now* movement, have a vast experience within the AAUAv Structure, which becomes vital for the management of the institution, as well as of the whole team that works tirelessly on its behalf. In addition to dimensions such as local and national representation, management/capacity building of the team, enhancement of resources, development of future projects that allow the strengthening of the structure, as well as the brand in the region and country, are and will always be objectives.

Based on these assumptions, here follow some of our goals, crucial to the development of the Students Union of the University of Aveiro:

- To work strategies for the inclusion of all students in the Academy and ensure their well-being, regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, social values in which they believe, among others;
- To stimulate discussion in the Academy about important issues in Higher Education, such as the price and conditions of housing or social action;
- To discuss and develop the necessary conditions for students to be able to continue playing sports, together with the Rectorate and SASUA
- To foster moments of entrepreneurship and participation for the Academic Community;
- To carry out Enterro'22, three years after its last edition, giving it new values and dynamics, working to make it more sustainable and inclusive;
- To strengthen the relationship between the various Academies in the country, seeking a wider discussion of Higher Education, as well as the creation of more plural projects;
- To foster AAUAv's active positioning in Higher Education discussion forums, namely in the National Meetings of Student Associations;
- To affirm the work developed in the reformulation of the institution's cultural strategy, mainly in the way it is shown to students and to the Region;
- Foster the associative spirit in UA, increasing the spaces for discussion and training moments for the AAUAv Structure;

- To develop a network of solid partners and consequently, services and funding.
- To work strategies that make AAUAv more independent from public funding;
- To foster the growth and potential of sports in UA and the Region, through the organization of the World Cross-Country Championship'22, as well as through the creation of a Sports Club;
- To work towards a strong Academy, focusing on the promotion of its well-being;
- To encourage the development of sustainable and innovative practices that impact the students' daily life;
- To create a University Radio, in order to have within our University one of the main means of communication in the Region.

Build Educational Policy, Entrepreneurship, Internationalisation Now

Educational Policy

The main and most important purpose of any Student Association should be to represent and defend the interests of all Students. In this sense, the *Building the Now* movement believes that AAUAv should open the way for the Students of the University of Aveiro, with the purpose of ensuring that their academic path is rich, fruitful, and adequate to the needs of each one, always keeping in view the goal of enhancing the best civic, academic, and professional training for our students. Thus, the Educational Policy sector is concerned with ensuring that the whole Student Community is heard and recognises in AAUAv an Institution which always defends its interests, whether before the University of Aveiro or before other regional and national entities.

Since this is such a wide-ranging area, we have divided the action of Educational Policy into the Panorama of Higher Education in Portugal and the University of Aveiro. Regarding the first, the movement *Building the Now* defends a series of claims that we consider urgent and vital for the guarantee of a quality Higher Education quality, accessible to all and which creates citizens of the future.

Educational Policy in the National Panorama

For the reasons mentioned above, it is our intention to seize all opportunities to take to the competent entities, from the **Government**, the **Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education (MCTES)**, the **Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities (CRUP)**, the **Student Associations Movement** to the different spaces of intervention, such as the **National Meetings of Associative Managements (ENDA)**, **National Meetings of Students Unions (ENA)** and **Academic Forum for Information and External Representation (FAIRe)**, our concerns and claims, being an active voice in drawing attention to the following problems:

Strategy and Functioning of Higher Education Institutions

Progressive reduction of tuition fees

The Constitution of the Portuguese Republic guarantees the universal right of access to Education. For this promise to be fulfilled, it is essential that, as in recent years, there continues to be a tendency for the progressive reduction of tuition fees, not allowing them to return to the values of the past or to stagnate.

Setting a maximum amount for the 2nd study cycle fee

According to a Eurydice report, 2nd cycle tuition fees are, in most European countries, similar to those of 1st cycle studies, which is not the case in Portugal. In

fact, until last academic year, Portugal was the only EU country without tuition fee regulation for the 2nd study cycle. The State Budget for 2021 prevented Higher Education Institutions from practicing a tuition fee higher than the previous academic year in all study cycles. However, there is still a great disparity between the various 2nd cycle tuition fees, both between HEIs and even between the various Master's of the same HEI. Thus, we consider it urgent to establish a maximum fee for the 2nd study cycle, which homogenises the access to this academic degree in Portugal.

Maintenance of a maximum equivalent to bachelor's fees for Master's resulting from the disintegration of Integrated Master's

The disintegration of Integrated Masters has meant that access to the Master's degree in certain scientific areas is now less financially accessible than before. This goes against the trend towards universal access to Higher Education in Portugal. It is therefore urgent to reverse the situation and prevent the creation of more barriers to access to higher academic degrees.

Real increase of financing of Higher Education Institutions

Over the last few years, HEIs have faced serious problems in terms of chronic under-funding for their activity. Moreover, the Contract-Legislation 2021-2023, signed between the various HEIs and the Government, does not foresee an evolution of funding that would allow to reverse this reality. This phenomenon leads to the HEIs having to find new mechanisms of financial sustainability, which translate into the application of a series of fees and emoluments, in the various services of the HEI, whose cost is borne by the students. Thus, it is vital to increase the financing of HEIs, not only to ensure that they have the capacity to make the necessary investments to become institutions of innovation and the Future, but also so that students are beneficiaries, and not funders, of these transformations.

Creation of national legislation that regulates the application of fees and emoluments

Now, HEIs have autonomy to define the values of the various fees and emoluments that they apply to the services that students benefit from. This phenomenon leads to a great disparity at national level among the various HEIs, increasing regional inequalities. Thus, we defend the creation of regulations for all fees and emoluments, namely registration fees, enrolment or certificates of enrolment, certificates of qualifications, etc., establishing maximum values. This regulation should also homogenise their nomenclature. Logically, these measures should be accompanied by the State Budget allocation to the HEIs, as mentioned above, so as not to compromise their financial sustainability.

Revision of the Legal Regime of Higher Education Institutions (RJIES), by consulting with the respective Academic and Student Federations and Associations

RJIES, the document that defines the strategy for the Portuguese Higher Education as well as the organization of its institutions, has not been revised or changed since its creation in 2007, and it foresees a re-evaluation 5 years after its application. It is crucial to deeply revise this diploma, through a wide process

of consultation with the various agents of Higher Education, especially the Academic and Student Federations and Associations. In this revision, we underline the importance of

- Defining the reorganisation of the system, namely regarding the differentiation of the binary system, University and Polytechnic Subsystems;
- Creating 3rd cycle courses in the Polytechnic System;
- Foreseeing a more representative participation of students in the various management bodies of the HEIs, namely the General Council.

Restructuring the Higher Education Network

Higher Education in Portugal is highly centralised in the two big urban centres of Lisbon and Porto. We believe that Higher Education has a role not only in education, but can also contribute to the contexts of territorial cohesion. We propose, not only the decentralization of the Higher Education Network, but also the creation of mechanisms of attractiveness and growth enhancing mechanisms of the Institutions outside the big metropolises. We demand the recuperation of vacancies for access to Higher Education, namely meaning growth for UA, and the creation of more spaces for research and innovation outside Lisbon and Porto.

Housing and Social Action

Revision of the Regulation for the Attribution of Scholarships to Higher Education Students (RABEEES)

Social Action is, in our opinion, one of the fundamental pillars of Higher Education in Portugal. It is urgent that there is a broad reinforcement of these mechanisms in order to increase access to Higher Education and avoid dropout scenarios. In this sense, we demand a revision of the RABEEES, considering that the last revision was rather superficial and only presented a reaction to the pandemic situation, avoiding structural issues. We therefore demand

- An increase in the eligibility threshold of household income, in order to guarantee scholarship access to more students, as well as an increase in its value;
- That liquid and not illiquid values be considered for the calculation of the household's *per capita* income;
- The change of the minimum number of ECTS for obtaining academic success, from 60% of the ECTS registered in the previous academic year to 50% of the ECTS, also foreseeing one year without academic success without compromising the scholarship.

More effective operationalisation of the National Plan for Housing in Higher Education

Presented by the Government in 2019, this Plan has proven ineffective. The targets regarding the increase of available beds in university residences are not only not being met but are concentrated in the metropolises of Lisbon and Porto.

This problem hits the University of Aveiro hard, in the cities of Aveiro, Águeda and Oliveira de Azeméis. There is an urgent need for the creation of funding mechanisms and the debureaucratisation of processes, so that all HEIs have the capacity to invest in the construction of new residences, reflecting significant increases in the supply of available beds. We also advocate the regular disclosure of the execution of this plan on a publicly available platform.

Increase in the value of the Housing Supplement

When there are no more beds left in the University Residences, Social Action Services grant scholarship students an accommodation supplement so that they can find accommodation solutions in the private market that are adequate to their financial situation. However, the values awarded, in most cases, do not support the entire cost and are insufficient to guarantee the student's accommodation. It is therefore urgent to increase the value of this complement.

Creation of a Transport Supplement

Although there are support mechanisms for displaced students, there are no support mechanisms for students who choose to stay in their family house, making daily trips to their HEI. We request the creation of social support for these students, framed within a Transportation Supplement model that considers the distance between the student's residence and the HEI.

Educational Policy in the Panorama of the University of Aveiro

The University of Aveiro is considered, in several rankings, one of the best Higher Education Institutions at a national and international level. However, these facts cannot conform us, and we do not look at stagnation as a possibility. The role of the University of Aveiro, as an education agent for citizens and senior managers, should be present in all aspects of its action, safeguarding conditions of excellence in all its aspects. Thus, we commit ourselves to constantly defend the following positions towards the University of Aveiro:

Strategy and Functioning of the University of Aveiro

Reduction of 2nd and 3rd cycle tuition fees

As previously mentioned, the national legislation does not contemplate the establishment of a maximum value for 2nd and 3rd cycle fees. As a consequence, the various Higher Education Institutions have been increasing the tuition fees for these cycles, as has happened at our University. We therefore demand an urgent reduction in the tuition fees of 2nd and 3rd cycle students of our University, as an investment in high level specialised training.

Abolition of fees and emoluments

We believe that the tuition fees, due to their value, should include the cost of all the administrative processes necessary for university attendance. Thus, we do not believe in the application of the various fees and emoluments applied in the various administrative processes at UA. We do not understand the application of

costs to a student who intends to improve his grades in the Curricular Units or wants a Certificate of Course Conclusion to apply for another study cycle or to enter the labour market, after years of paying the tuition fee.

Commitment to efficiency and debureaucratization of the various Services in UA

We view the various services of the University with a critical eye, stating our concern with the various flaws in their operation. We highlight the Academic Management Services (AMS), one of the main faces of UA before its students. We will defend a better and faster response to the requests of our community, which often sees in the AMS late responses when requesting certificates, applications, and other administrative procedures. We also assume the urgency of reducing bureaucracy in the AMS, in the implementation of new mechanisms, with a digital presence, which will allow us to ease and increase the service's response capacity.

To the Information and Communication Technology Services (STIC) we demand the urgent update of the Online Academic Portal (PACO), long promised, which has proved to be a barrier to the academic management of the student community. It is also urgent to reinforce the wi-fi network throughout UA, which constantly presents access and coverage problems, ensuring an effective internet network at all points of the UA *campi*, including the university residences.

Increased Student Participation in the various UA governing bodies

In an Academic Community of about 18 thousand people, among students, teachers, technical staff and researchers, the largest percentage of members is undoubtedly students. This fact raises questions of representativity in student participation in the various management bodies of UA. The truth is that in these bodies, where we highlight the General Council of the UA and the Organic Unit Councils, there is not a fair proportionality, and students have a very small representation. Thus, bridging the RJIES' shortcomings, we believe it is urgent to increase the number of students in these spaces, enhancing the students' participation in the strategic definition of the University.

Pedagogy

Commitment to the continuous improvement of teaching quality and pedagogical innovation

The University of Aveiro must excel in teaching. Therefore, we assume Pedagogical Innovation as a priority, in a logic of continuous improvement of teaching and learning methods at UA. The current and future generations of students crave new methods, which stimulate autonomy, critical spirit and creativity, and which promote a two-way student-teacher relationship. In the same logic, there is an urgent need to review stagnant curricular plans that bring education closer to the current needs of the labour market. Along with all of this, it is also important to mention the importance of adapting teaching to new technological tools and the development of organisational structures at UA that support this future of digital transition.

Urgent regulation of Distance Learning

A year and a half after distance learning has become common practice at the University of Aveiro, there are still no specific official regulations for this teaching modality. It is true that there were deliberations of the Pedagogical Council that defined some general guidelines for this practice, but these constitute superficial and vague orientations that continue to allow enormous discrepancies between the learning and evaluation of the various students of the Academic Community. Thus, we demand the urgent regulation of Distance Learning, suggesting its inclusion in REUA and the definition of rules particularly regarding assessment methods and platforms, establishing equal and fair conditions for all students.

Social Action

Investment in the construction of University Residences

We appreciate the recent investment of the University of Aveiro in the construction of new university residences in Crasto, increasing the offer of available beds. However, these do not yet fully cover the needs of the Student Community, so we will permanently defend the investment in the construction of new residences, with special focus in Oliveira de Azeméis, which does not have university accommodation at the moment.

Requalification of the existing University Residences

We share with the Residents Community the concerns regarding the urgent interventions and requalification of the older residential blocks, namely Mário Sacramento, Avenida Lourenço Peixinho and Santiago Residential Complex. We do not accept that the lack of maintenance, in some cases for dozens of years, leads to the worrying and undignified conditions experienced by some residents in UA. We are also concerned about the spaces in the residences, namely the kitchens, due to their lack of conditions and equipment in relation to the existing needs.

Strengthening the services of the University Health Centre, namely in terms of mental health

The University Health Centre is one of the most important services to ensure the well-being of UA students, namely in terms of mental health. In this sense, it is crucial to improve the functioning of this service, namely in what concerns the strengthening of psychological support mechanisms for UA students, and the increase in the number of available psychologists, which will also generate a consequent increase in the follow-up of students who request it. It is also urgent to create new mechanisms that aim at the awareness and early signalling of risk cases, and not only the response/reaction mechanisms. Still regarding the UHC, we request access to consultations of the various specialties to the entire Academic Community, namely to students in the 3rd study cycle.

Increase of the value of the Housing Supplement

In the absence of national legislation that enables the increase of the value of the Housing Supplement, the University of Aveiro should be the one to carry out this alteration so that students with a scholarship, with financial needs, may find accommodation solutions in the private market.

Creation of the Transport Supplement

As in the previous point, despite the absence of national legislation, UA has autonomy to budget its Social Action mechanisms. Thus, we demand the creation of a Transport Supplement, which provides financial support to non-relocated students who make daily trips from their homes to UA, filling the governmental inaction in this scope.

It is also very important to mention that, besides all the positions mentioned, the Building The Now movement has the intention of always showing itself open to **defend other causes of educational, social, economic and cultural scope that are seen as being of interest for the students of the University of Aveiro.**

Along with all of this, we also believe that Educational Policy is not limited to claims. We truly believe that the Students Union itself can play a preponderant role in Social Action, in Pedagogical Action, and in Cooperation with the University of Aveiro and its associations and institutions. Besides all the positions we are committed to defend, we also **present the following concrete proposals for AAUAv action within the scope of Educational Policy:**

Social Action

Creation of a Study Centre, to obtain empirical data to support AAUAv's claims

We believe it is extremely important to have empirical data to support the claims of the Students Union, not only to give credibility to the institution but also to obtain extensive and deep knowledge of our community. Thus, we propose the creation of a Study Centre which will serve as the basic platform for AAUAv's Claiming Action before the University of Aveiro and Higher Bodies such as the MCTES and CRUP. We suggest the analysis of the following themes as a matter of priority:

- The weight of housing costs in the access to Higher Education and in College Dropout
- Mental Health in the Academic Community
- The impact of the reduction of tuition fees
- The impact of the decrease in the attribution of scholarships

Creation of a database of Certified Housing

When they arrive in Aveiro, Águeda or Oliveira de Azeméis, many students have difficulties in finding housing in the private market which suits their needs; this task becomes even more difficult when we talk about housing at affordable prices and with a housing contract. In order to support students in their search for accommodation, we propose the creation of a database of Certified Housing, i.e. housing that meets criteria in terms of habitability and rent. This database

should also have essential information regarding the characteristics of the accommodation, regarding accessibility, co-housing, etc.

Wide consultation with the resident students

In order to ensure the well-being and the best living conditions for the resident students, we propose to work a closer connection with the Resident Committees, and more frequent consultation with the residents, either in Residents' Forums or in personal visits to the different blocks. We are committed to being a more active voice in relation to these concerns, lobbying the University bodies for better living conditions. We are also concerned about the spaces in the residences, namely the kitchens, due to their lack of conditions and equipment in relation to the existing needs. We also highlight our concern regarding the security of the *campi*, in relation to which we ask for the reinforcement of the surveillance of the UA spaces and reinforcement of the lighting in the most remote or isolated points.

Pedagogical Action

Creation of a channel through which students can bring their concerns to AAUA

At the moment, the main means of contact that the AAUA has with the academic community is e-mail. This channel is unknown to many students and proves to be impractical and ineffective. Therefore, we propose the creation of an easily accessible communication channel through which students may more efficiently send their complaints, difficulties and suggestions to the Students Union, so that they may also be attended to in a faster and more systematic way.

To encourage the involvement of all Students in the strategic definition of Pedagogical Innovation and the Future of Higher Education

As the main agents of Higher Education, students should be a central element in its strategic definition and the proponents of pedagogical innovation, because only by focusing on students can we build Academies of the Future. So, we assume as the mission of our movement the stimulation of the students' involvement, especially the Course Committees, in the definition of the direction of the University of Aveiro, through the dynamisation of initiatives which enhance this same development, such as the Pedagogical Forum.

Stimulating the political participation of students and promoting their civic education

We believe that the Higher Education of the future should have a comprehensive vision of what Pedagogy is, avoiding the reduction of the concept to mere technical skills. For us, there is no doubt that education should go beyond a curricular plan and should value citizenship and personal development. In this sense, we commit ourselves, through a transversal work, to continuously encourage the active participation of students in all processes and initiatives that form them as citizens, whether on a political, social, cultural or academic level.

Cooperation

To continuously promote dialogue and cooperation with the other Student Associations in UA

We believe in a united Academic Community, which joins forces to work for common projects and causes. Therefore, we want to give continuity to the work that has been done in approaching the other Student Associations in the University of Aveiro, enriching initiatives and strengthening cooperation bonds among associations and, above all, among students.

Involvement of AAUAv in the Xperimenta and Summer Academy programmes, promoting a closer approach to the future UA Students and their involvement in Academic Culture

Our movement believes that the Students Union must show itself present and available to students in all stages of their journey in Higher Education. This includes the phase before entering the Institution, the phase of exploring opportunities. We defend that AAUAv should be represented in the various moments that UA promotes for this population, such as Xperimenta and Summer Academy, in order to promote early involvement in the academic culture and to assert itself as an institution that is permanently open to students.

AAUAv's representation, alongside the UA, in Higher Education exhibition events

Continuously aligned with the vision that Higher Education is an experience that encompasses much more than the acquisition of technical skills and following the logic of proximity to students from the beginning to the end of their academic path, we propose that AAUAv be represented, together with UA, in the various moments of showing UA to secondary school students, of which the exhibition fairs such as Futurália and Qualifica are an example.

Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is one of the subjects that, currently, more contemplates the daily life of students. Despite its banality, the knowledge of the strategies and basic principles to support and encourage the creation of new careers in entrepreneurship is still little or practically null. Therefore, the vision of the *Building the Now* movement is related to a more practical approach, having as main goal to provide students with the necessary tools to allow them to put their ideas "in practice" in the most correct and easiest way possible.

We want the issue of Entrepreneurship to be considered in the different study cycles and, additionally, in younger age groups, in order to guarantee a promising future and an unforgettable experience for the younger students, our future students. Bearing in mind the basic pillars described above, the movement proposes to:

Sustain in a continuous, robust and grounded way the expansion of the University 5.0 concept

Since its creation and implementation in 2019, University 5.0 has established itself as one of the most relevant events in terms of innovation, entrepreneurship, and job attraction, attracting the attention not only of students, but also of a vast business fabric that sees in UA students the necessary qualities to take their company to a successful course.

However, despite the numerous achievements that the University 5.0 concept has attained, it is necessary to reaffirm a commitment regarding a progressive increase of it. This growth is based on three main pillars: multiculturalism; comprehensiveness of the different scientific areas of the UA; and, finally, a strong representativeness of all the study cycles existing in UA. Multiculturalism is one of the main axes that we intend, as a movement, to adopt through the presence of different entities and speakers from the international panorama, seeking to raise the limits of the University 5.0 concept at an international level. The coverage of different scientific areas is still a problem that needs to be improved, since it is extremely relevant the presence of employers and speakers from all the scientific areas studied at the UA in order to enable all students a more direct contact with the business world.

Creation of a section of University 5.0 dedicated to the 3rd study cycle that promotes scientific research at UA

One of the main motives that drives us is integration. The representation of all study cycles is an objective that is based on the implementation of activities that captivate the interest of students from different study cycles. In this sense, we propose the creation of a section, within the University 5.0 concept, dedicated to the 3rd study cycle that allows the dissemination of their work and that, additionally, encourages the sharing of scientific research carried out at UA. This activity is extremely important since it allows a close communication between AAUA and the 3rd study cycle students who, most of the times, feel like members that do not belong to the Students Union, not feeling properly represented in the activities carried out. The movement Building the Now is committed to integrate the 3rd study cycle, promoting and disseminating research and innovation within the University of Aveiro.

Organization of an Entrepreneurship Bootcamp

We believe that the most adequate approach to deconstruct, demystify, and understand the concept of entrepreneurship is putting it into practice. The University of Aveiro is, since its genesis, a symbol of innovation and entrepreneurship, hosting the most diverse projects. Considering our ambition to provide students at the University of Aveiro with entrepreneurial skills, we intend to hold an Entrepreneurship Bootcamp in which the different skills and characteristics that should be the basis for the formation of an entrepreneur will be discussed and put into practice.

Creation of the University 5.0 Space

University 5.0 is a project of excellence, being already recognized by most UA students. Being strongly associated with employability, we believe that the creation of a University 5.0 space would be of extreme relevance. This space

would be, due to the connotation of the University 5.0 project, closely linked to the employability issue. In our vision, it would comprise and integrate GESP (Internship and Careers Office), a GIP (Professional Insertion Office) and UACOOPEA. The main mission of this space is related to the need and greater adequacy of the assistance provided to unemployed young people and adults in their insertion and/or reinsertion in the labour market.

Development of the Entrepreneurship in Schools Programme

As previously discussed, Entrepreneurship is an extremely relevant theme, especially nowadays. The Building the Now movement intends not only to integrate all the study cycles of, but also younger students who do not yet attend UA. Thus, and because we believe that proximity is the most adequate way to connect to the Aveiro region, we intend to continue the development, in partnership with Aveiro é Nosso, of the Entrepreneurship in Schools Programme, with genesis in 2021, which allows a first contact to students, to introduce them in this wide area in which innovation is the watchword.

Creation of a Junior Entrepreneurship Competition

In order to culminate the Entrepreneurship in Schools Programme, we intend to create a competition for students to put the learned concepts into practice, having innovation as the main motto. Therefore, this contest is intended for students of the schools in the region of Aveiro covered by the entrepreneurship programme previously defined.

Internationalisation

A University of the Future is also an International and Inclusive University. Since UA has more than 2000 international students, either in mobility programmes or attending full study cycles, it is essential to create mechanisms that allow us to respond in a more complete way to the needs of our international student community, fighting all the barriers that may arise in their integration, which presupposes pedagogical, academic and housing aspects, in order to guarantee a full experience in our Academy.

In the scope of Internationalization, the Building the Now movement commits itself, first of all, to defend the following positions:

Reduction of tuition fees for International Students

A University that assumes itself as international cannot look at International Students as a source of wealth and a mere number or statistic. We will strongly defend the reduction of tuition fees for International Students, which, at the moment, can reach unaffordable values, around €5000 per year.

Creation of an agreement within the scope of the CPLP that guarantees a reduction in the tuition fee for the 2nd study cycle

Similar to what happens in other Portuguese universities, such as the University of Minho, we believe that it is crucial that students coming from the Community of

Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) see some barriers eliminated in terms of access to the 2nd study cycle. Thus, we advocate that students from the CPLP who come to attend Masters and Post-Graduate courses at the UA may take advantage of their condition as members of this community, benefiting from the advantages of this agreement, namely the reduction in tuition fees for this cycle of studies.

Clear and fair definition of eligibility criteria for Indirect Social Support for international students

As the access to Direct Social Support is reserved to Portuguese students, it is of utmost importance that the Indirect Social Support for international students is reinforced. Many international students who apply for this support have their requests refused without a clear justification, which shows that there are still no well-established eligibility criteria, at least publicly. It is urgent that these criteria are defined and made public, to guarantee fairness and equality for international students applying for this support, while ensuring that they are attainable criteria, which effectively cover the students who need this support.

Our movement also intends to carry out the following actions, in a consistent, integrated and transversal strategy of Internationalisation:

Continuing the promotion of bilingual communication

After a year of bilingual communication, we believe that the Students Union now reaches more students, who feel, more than ever, heard by the Institution. In this sense, we are committed to continue bilingual communication, extending it even further, with the aim that all the messages that the Students Union transmits, from the most informal to the most formal, are always translated into English, so that they are accessible to all the students of our Academy.

Support and follow-up of the pedagogical and social integration of International Students

The Building the Now movement is committed to creating an AAUAv that is always seen by international students as an essential support for their pedagogical integration and an institution to which they can always turn. In this sense, and in addition to the clear intention to maintain AAUAv's relations with the UA_Intercultural office and the Local Support Centre for Migrant Integration (CLAIM), we propose to:

- Expand the Buddy Programme to national students, promoting interculturality in the Academy;
- Involve AAUAv's Nuclei in the promotion of the Buddy Programme, enabling them to better integrate the international students they represent;
- To promote AAUAv's contact with new international students, before their arrival at the UA, by divulging the Students Union both in information sessions and through welcome messages.

Continued cultural promotion of the various nationalities at the UA, encouraging an increasingly stronger spirit of interculturality

We strongly believe that the Internationalisation strategy of the Students Union cannot be limited to one area of action; in our vision, the integration of international students has to be transversal and widespread, so we see in the cultural promotion a unique opportunity for the promotion of interculturality and inclusion. In this sense, we propose to expand the cultural promotion of the various nationalities in UA, through the promotion of initiatives such as the International Weeks, making them increasingly rich and affirming them as a space for dialogue and sharing of experiences and relevant issues for our International Community.

Support in learning Portuguese Language for International Students, through the tutoring project

The tutoring project, which is a responsibility of Aveiro é Nosso, has the mission of supporting students from Elementary and Secondary Schools in some school subjects. This support is given by students from the Aveiro Academy. Once again, reinforcing a longitudinal vision of Internationalisation, we propose the expansion of this program to International Students who do not master the Portuguese language, giving them the opportunity to learn the language with other students, their colleagues, promoting not only a pedagogical integration but also a social one.

To continue the constant collaboration with the various student structures representing international students in UA

Recognizing that we cannot overlap our voice to the voice of the International Students in matters that concern them, the Building the Now movement commits itself to a continuous consultation and collaboration with the various representative structures of international students of the University of Aveiro, seeking not only their opinion and their contributions regarding the initiatives and projects dedicated to International Students that the Academic Association carries out, but also opening doors to cooperation between associations, for the realization of activities of real interest for all students.

Build Nuclei Support Now

The Structure of the Associação Académica da Universidade de Aveiro is, thankfully, one of the country's most diverse. Known for its permanent renovation, the interaction between its Nuclei and the student community, as with the Management requires particular attention.

In that sense, a thorough following of the Associative Structure and consequently investing in its training, will allow for the development of better conditions for students in varied areas, especially since associative leaders with good training offer better opportunities to those they represent. We profoundly believe in the associative project, and value the characteristic experience of the nuclei, therefore it is our role to elevate its potential.

The *Construir o Agora* movement will seek to invest in the dynamization and promotion of crucial training for stable nuclei terms, both within and outside of the training moments within the structure, provided by AAUAv. These constitute an important step in the acquaintanceship between Management and Nuclei-AAUAv, in which the emphasis is placed on providing the new Coordenações with essential knowledge. We intend to focus on transmitting important notions of external negotiation (such as acquisition of partnerships, contracts and sponsorships), financial management, usage of AAUAv platforms and, on the other hand, specific training for the main sectors of the Nuclei, which can be given either by internal or external members to the Structure. We will also assure specialized training for the members of the General Meeting Board and, further, we find relevant the possibility of training offered by the Nuclei themselves, for each other.

We seek to provide the platform AAUAv Academy, developed in the previous term, and collect the feedback of the Coordinations when it comes to possible contributions to its further advances. This platform has as a main objective the permanent access to all necessary tools for the activity of a Nucleus. Initially, the goal is to create a simpler, easily accessible platform, for constant and gradual improvement. With the project's advancement, the inserted contents in the platform will improve the starting conditions of future terms, creating a methodology for support of associative leaders, more aligned with their necessities.

We propose two separate *Forma-te@AAUAv* moments, equivalent to the two Coordinations and General Meeting Boards which will take office during the mandate. Similarly, we will promote one *Fórum@AAUAv* moment, giving emphasis to sharing ideologies in debates about the path for the institution, which will be directly related to environmental and economical sustainability, digital transition, the Academic Association's impacts and revindications, proximity and dynamic within Nuclei, wherein the main goal is to add value to the Academy, promoting the associative spirit and, at the same time, defining the strategic goals for the Structure as a whole.

We intend on reviewing and proposing the evolution of any AAUAv regulations, according to the emergent necessities of the Course, Associative and Sectorial Nuclei, giving special emphasis to the setbacks for Nuclei with smaller representative volume or financial possibilities. Looking ahead to the possibility of the creation of Departmental Nuclei, we vindicate an adjustment to Nuclei Regulations, according to their specific characteristics, and to revise the Nuclei Election Process, as to accommodate larger teams in the Departmental Nuclei, if they so wish to.

We aim to logistically and financially support the realization of larger scale events, by Nuclei with small representative volume, namely Student Encounters, of national or international disposition, and such. We intend to maintain financial order of AAUAv's Structure, revising, periodically, the formulas and parameters for the attribution of the Ordinary and Extraordinary subsidies, conserving the possibility of an increase, based on the Nucleus' annual activities executed and the coordination's opinions.

At the same time, we predict the follow-up on the creation of the Plan of Activities and Budget and Annual Bills Report, executing research about the difficulties of the Nuclei in filling these documents, and acting based on promoting synergies between different Nuclei, we intend on signaling potential common initiatives which could make sense for all parts.

To better get to know the reality of each Nucleus of the Structure, with special emphasis on the Cultural and Sports Nuclei, as well as on the Nuclei on the Campi of Águeda and Oliveira de Azeméis, we intend to visit all their headquarters, surveying their individual realities and major difficulties, as well as the conditions of the rooms assigned to them, and claiming adequate spaces from the organic units and UA if needed be.

We aim to outline and register the topics covered in the Council of Nuclei (CN-AAUAv), summoning them whenever relevant, encouraging the insertion of subjects proposed by the Coordinations themselves. We also want to diversify the spaces where the CN-AAUAv will be held, occasionally bringing them to the Student's House, a place we idealize the convergence of the shared Associative Experience within the Structure.

We aim to review the Regulamento Interno do Conselho de Núcleos, in order to allow the occasional presence of more than two members of each coordination in the CN-AAUAv, and intend on allowing the rotation in attendance, within the Coordinations. We propose to facilitate the election of work commissions for projects of common interest, during CN-AAUAv moments.

We intend to bring back the annual attribution of awards to the Nuclei-AAUAv, depending on their activity, integrating this initiative in AAUAv's celebrative events.

For a better follow-up and valuing of the activities of the Nuclei, we intend to improve the current registration platform, of all activities of notoriety for the structure, which will remain accessible to any member of the Structure.

We intend to celebrate the courses of the Nuclei-AAUAv, compiling their anniversaries for common access and, together with the Coordinations, we propose to trace the historical trajectory of each Nuclei of the Structure, recording it in an accessible way for future Coordinations and valuing the collective and individual History of the Students Union of the University de Aveiro.

As close entities to the students, we encourage the Course and Associative Nuclei to promote their active and sustained participation in the initiatives of the Sectorial Nuclei promoting a more involved student community and a progressively interconnected and mutually appreciative AAUAv.

We intend to accompany the Nuclei on their events (difficulties, needs and conditions), particularly considering their participation in UA and AAUAv events, such as the Taça UA Glícinias Plaza, Universidade 5.0, Academic Week, Integration Week and joint events of larger dimension. Furthermore, we seek to have occasional meetings to, if the Coordinations so request, to help with the organization of these events.

We encourage the creation of an informal means of communication exclusively for the Coordinations and the Nuclei Support sector, where it will be possible to clarify doubts or deal with matters of common interest.

We claim the integration of representatives of the Nuclei in the Course Comissions, where their role is crucial due to the Student-Nucleus-Management proximity.

Build Internal Administration Now

The Students Union of the University of Aveiro has been increasingly nourishing its relations, becoming a fundamental pillar in the enrichment of the academic life of all students from Aveiro. The gradual growth of this structure entails a complex internal organization, so Efficiency and Effectiveness are key words when it comes to the implementation of ideas and decisions when managing goods and spaces.

This sector works for the correct maintenance, organisation and management of all resources belonging to the institution, whether financial, material or human. It is imperative that the main focus of Internal Administration is the student, and, through better management, we want the final goal to translate into a better experience for the student. That being said, the Internal Administration sector will address:

Collaborators

Collaborators are a crucial part in the development of our work as well as in helping us carrying out our events. We could not let this important part go unnoticed, so we feel the need to pay back all the help and support they provide us throughout the year. So, we are committed to reinventing the system of acquisition and rewards, always keeping in mind, the collaborator as our main focus.

Students

Our target audience. It is for them that we seek to do everything we can, and more, so that they see the Students Union as present, involved and committed. We want to listen, understand, and implement what they suggest. We want them to be close and to feel as if they were part of this Association and, with these points in mind, we will create a collective voice.

Student House

Long portrayed and understood as just a "Student Bar" our Student House unfortunately often goes unnoticed along with all the spaces it has to offer. However, to counteract this idea, we want to reinvent what we do in the Student House, raising the bar of what we believe is possible and, by adding new spaces for it to gain strength, we intend to reach its full potential, exploring every corner and, in the process, giving a voice to our students.

AAUAv Assets

The Institution has been growing so it is imperative that its assets are managed with the utmost rigour so that it continues to provide the best service available to everyone. We also want to define a new approach to selling our consumables and renting our products.

Fleet

Given the state of our fleet, we want to rethink the best way to re-qualify it; however, our work does not stop here. We also intend to establish sponsorships that will help us with the maintenance of the fleet.

Academic Events

The Academic Events are a big component of student life, marking for many years the moments lived here. We will therefore dynamise the structure of major events such as “Grande Arraial Académico”, Welcoming Programme, “Enterro”, etc.

AAUAvPlay

AAUAvPlay is our internal management platform. It is how we're able manage the institution, controlling the use/leasing of goods but also of the fleet. We intend to continuously improve the platform, facilitating the internal administrative processes of the institution.

Regulations

In order for everything to function fully, the institution has its own internal regulations. We will continuously review the regulations and keep them updated.

Student Bar

We intend to reinforce the Student Bar's continuous evolution, improving the service in order to offer the best service, trying to offer meals that accommodate the tastes of the students, trying whenever necessary, to provide a service for those who have food restrictions. We will also carry out the maintenance of the space so that, throughout the year, it is preserved and so that it can offer the best quality.

Shops in the Catacombs

The shops in the catacombs are one more of the many spaces of the institution. With these we intend to meet all the needs related to merchandising, communicating permanently with the shop in the Catacombs. We will also create a space for free expression where students can give their opinion on relevant topics at the moment and also monitor the copy centre in order to respond to the students' needs.

Digital Transformation

With the need to increasingly digitise and automate some processes, the *Build the Now* movement intends to set up the institution's web application. This application will serve as a bridge connecting the already existing services with the student community, improving, and facilitating the use of these services.

AAUAv's History

We can quickly recognise what we are today as an institution and what we have been in a short space of time, but this knowledge becomes forgotten as the years go by. We will recover this history and understand what we once were, thus

being able to remember those who were here and help future managements to better understand the history of this institution.

Presentation Protocol

As an institution we need a document that allows us to present our institution formally, clearly and objectively to other institutions and companies. We intend to develop a protocol to show all the services and valences, thus managing to encourage the business community to close partnerships with the institution.

Build Sport & Wellness Now

Over the past few years, society has given increasing importance to the physical and psychological well-being of human beings. This “Well-Being” involves several aspects, which may include the practice of physical activity, healthy eating and mental health. In this sense, and aiming to work in favor of the university, the Sports & Wellness sector of the “Construir o Agora” movement intends to have these points very present throughout the 2022 term, committing to diversify its offers and approach, so students have access to such opportunities.

As the UA Cup is our emblematic competition that has given everyone so much joy and allows everyone to unite, we intend, throughout the 2022 term, to overcome some of its limitations and make this an even stronger symbol of University Sport at a national level. To make this possible, we intend to meet the following points:

- Restructuring of the athlete registration system and respective verification before the games of the teams that make up the UA Cup;
- Review of the regulations in force and their adaptation, with the help of the Nuclei, which are the main targets. Thus, including more specific information for Erasmus students and students enrolled in isolated courses to know under what conditions they can participate in the UA Cup;
- Actively and directly support the Nuclei, namely in the standardization of equipment, in holding a general meeting to explain everything about the competition, and in the creation of a communication channel between all of those who are responsible, thus allowing to streamline game exchanges, between others;
- Specific training for referees in the context of our competition and continuous help throughout the year;
- Make this a safer competition: specific first-aid training for referees and team managers, arranging a first-aid kit and reinforcing sports equipment in order to ensure the smooth running of the competition;
- Provide the entire university community with a platform that offers all students prior access to the games to be played and the respective results;
- Reinforcement of the brand image of the UA Cup, namely the creation of a mascot for the competition so that it gains media attention and its value is recognized;
- Carry out the opening ceremony of the UA Cup, promoting it.

National University Championships are one of the ways to project the name of our Academy, as well as reinforce our quality at the national level. This way, it is essential that the representative bodies of the Academy value its strengths at a sporting level and make available to all its athletes the necessary instruments for a good demonstration of its quality and the quality of the institution. Therefore, throughout the 2022 term, we intend to:

- Allow for the disclosure of recruitment processes due, at various times, so that all students have the opportunity to show their capabilities and have the opportunity to represent our Academy at the highest level in their chosen modality;
- Monitor, in the same way, all the modalities where we have students representing the university and that their efforts are duly valued;
- Serve as a link between students and the social action services of the University of Aveiro in order to clarify communication and monitor processes such as the attribution of sports merit scholarships.

The well-being of students goes far beyond the practice of physical exercise. In this sense, we intend to raise awareness to students of ways to not only to enhance their physical well-being, but the psychological camp as well. It is necessary to be alert to the behaviours of risk that we have with our body that may be harmful in the long term, such as realizing that the simple fact of not sleeping the necessary hours, not having a healthy diet, staying long hours studying until exhaustion, can make all the difference in our personal life and consequently in our academic performance. We then propose to carry out the following activities:

- Raising awareness of what should be the student's physical and psychological well-being through various moments throughout the year where, in various ways, students can find support and equip themselves with the necessary tools to face these problems in the best way possible;
- Provide moments with health professionals so that students can have a healthier lifestyle;
- Get partnerships to be able to 'train' Wellness inside and outside the University;
- Stimulate the academic week through the realization of various Wellness moments throughout the week, namely – “UA Sem Fronteiras”, competitions, etc.

The Sport & Wellness sector of the movement “Construir o Agora” also has the following objectives:

- Claim alongside SASUA for the reduction in price of the use of sports services available at the university, and maximize their potential so that students have access to a diversified offer that is adequate to their needs;
- Create new external partnerships that offer greater sporting variety to students;
- Raise awareness of the reality experienced in adapted sports and value the sports practiced.
- Realization of inter-polytechnics, inter-residences and inter-departments championships.
- Create an Esports room, with the main purpose of training the Esports teams that represent the institution, but also open to the rest of the community, allowing for the Nuclei to carry out activities in this same room, and students to go there whenever they want.
- Creation of a university sports club, together with the UA, in order to promote our students, as well as the region. A club that can have multiple

modalities, but that must opt for athletes of the region, or athletes that are part of the UA community.

Build Culture Now

The *Construir o Agora* Movement believes that in a young and permanently changing community, such as that of the students at the University of Aveiro, culture, diversity and creativity must be insurmountable pillars in its collective behavior, so that the intellectual and personal development of each of its members is insured. Cultural experiences play a fundamental role in creating the individual's personality in society.

Thus, the focus is on extending cultural enrichment to the most diverse forms of art, entertainment and expression, so that the development of students is marked by the absorption of new concepts, experiences and the expansion of cultural horizons.

The University is all of us, and each one gathers in themselves different cultures that make up our individual identity. In that sense, as a project that seeks the representation of each of the Academy's students, we intend to continue increasing the cultural options, creating opportunities for them to demonstrate their talents not only to the academic community, but also to our charismatic region, opening doors to new experiences and that expose their projects.

Cultural approximation of the Community of Aveiro

Located in the potential European Capital of Culture 2027, the Student Union, representing all students and intrinsically nomadic inhabitants of this city, must go hand in hand with it and make this relationship continuous and of permanent support. Attention to the city's needs will enhance its approximation and, consequently, increase adherence to organized events, so the carrying out of activities in the city's various cultural spaces will be one of our main commitments.

This ambition implies the articulation and partnership of institutions and culturally emblematic places in the region of Aveiro, in order to enrich the entire Community of Aveiro with new experiences. We intend to promote the approximation to the region, including the city's cultural spaces in events.

Cultural agenda

Planning and organization will be the keys to the continuation of a cultural agenda that facilitates the presentation and dissemination of information about the activities that will take place, organized and co-organized by AAUAv, in each near future. In this agenda, we intend to include a diversified offer of activities and moments, in order to meet the different target audiences that exist in UA cities.

Dynamization of the Student House

In order to establish a strong connection between students and the Student House, so that they feel truly at home, we intend to streamline the space with recurrent activities of general interest, meeting their expectations for this space.

Student Bar

During the afternoons, we will have the active participation of students, giving them the opportunity to create their own cultural momentos, for expression and fun. One of the objectives of the *Construir o Agora* Movement is to increase the influx of students to the Student Bar, which is often difficult during the day, due to its location on campus, demonstrating the inherent valences of the renovated project.

One of the projects to be boosted in this context will be the Dr Why Cup competition, which promotes team spirit and connections within courses.

In the nocturnal register, we intend to innovate nocturnal parties, with different themes and concepts, so that monotony is absent in one of the most beloved spaces for students.

Stage Room

And as the Student's House is not short of resources and is not limited to the Student's Bar, we see great potential in the Stage Room space to become a reference, versatile space, where cultural diversity reigns, introducing to the community emerging, quoted artists, of different styles and areas, with the objective that one day a musical concert can be held, but the next day the Stage Room becomes a cozy space for conversation and reflection, as when hosting a Living Room Session.

Strengthening the cultural relationship with other Academies

We aim to sustain the connection with other Students Unions in the country through partnerships, communication and development of events together, affirming and creating opportunities to expand the cultural and academic experiences of all students.

Investing on intrinsic/inherent/"inside" culture (of the students)

In addition to wanting to get closer to what is outside of the university, and expand the cultural project in AAUAv, it is important to value what is well done internally, because in a university of innovation, the artistic and cultural dimensions must have space, because art, as well, is innovation!

That said, we intend to create internal activities, where the protagonists are our students, in order to provide them with opportunities to get involved in what is their second home. Promoting more and better the artistic projects of our students, including them in organized cultural activities and events, is something that cannot be missed. Further, with the awareness of the existing multiculturalism in our academy, we seek to develop and invest in activities dedicated to international cultures, promoting them.

Sectoral nuclei are also important for a more transversal and accessible cultural dynamism, so the support, consultation and discussion of their needs and visions are an important step towards a more aggregated Culture at the University of Aveiro.

Promotion of events from the various International Cultures represented

Organization of events promoting International Cultures represented in the Academic Community, taking a little of the countries/continents represented to students through academic and cultural activities. A practical example will be the realization of an International Arraial.

Arraiais

One of the most popular activities for students are the Arraiais that demonstrate the student's determination and pride in their culture. The *Construir o Agora* Movement intends to innovate the concept of Arraial, extending their scope and demonstrating the different cultures present on the UA Campus.

Carrying out CoMA and CoDJ's

Valuing AU's talents will be a premise of the Movement. The recognition and exposure of our University's talents is contemplated in various ways throughout our entire project.

That said, the Academic Weeks present themselves as a place of excellence for the appreciation of these artists, through the CoMa and CoDJ's Projects.

Organization of Enterro

The performance of the Enterro three years after the last edition will be a highlight for the UA Campus and for the Region. In this edition, the *Construir o Agora* Movement intends to promote greater musical diversity through suggestions given by the Students and streamline cultural activities throughout out the week's afternoons.

Artist Residencies

Culture is often something intrinsic to the individual, however its promotion and training are what make it grow and become increasingly important in society and in the individual. In this sense, the realization of artistic residencies where students will have the opportunity to learn and put into practice everything they have learned is something that we intend to promote.

Vouguinha do Caloiro on one of the Campi

The *Construir o Agora* movement means for the approximation to the Campi to be worked in different ways, through pedagogy and sport, but nevertheless, culture also takes an important median for this. In this way, we intend to promote the "Vouguinha do Caloiro", in one of the UA Campi, bringing the city closer to the poles and not the poles to the city as is usual.

Carry out a Transmission Cycle of Cinematographic Productions

Having detected the need to offer a greater cultural variety to students, we intend to focus on its cinematographic aspect through the realization of a Transmission Cycle of Cinematographic Productions in various spaces in the City.

University radio

The promotion of cultural activities is a constant challenge. That said, the *Construir o Agora* Movement invests on the creation of an interventional space through a Social Communication body, with interest for the entire Aveiro community.

Cultural Council

The strategy and cultural values defended must be discussed and shared by all elements of the Associative Structure, highlighting the Cultural Nuclei, whose mission is based on the dynamization and extension of culture, in the most varied forms. That being said, we aim to make these Councils more dynamic in order to discuss such themes and strategies to enhance the activity of the Cultural Nuclei.

Build Communication and Image Now

Communication assumes a fundamental role as an aggregating element, contributing to shortening the distances between the members of the academic community of the University of Aveiro.

With the purpose of serving as an intermediary element in the promotion of a healthy and consistent relationship of trust, not only among students, but also between them and the Academy itself, enhancing transparency and truthfulness in the disclosure of information will be the basis for the development of the activity of the sector.

Thus, the Communication and Image Sector of the Building the Now movement points as main focuses of action the following objectives:

Transparent and Informal Communication in approaching the Community

Having several digital platforms as means of communication, namely Instagram, Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, LinkedIn, AAUAv website and WebApp, it is essential that their management is carried out in an effective and interconnected way. Therefore, and focusing on minimising the apparent distance between students and the institution that defends and represents them, communication using informal language and proximity will be the strategy adopted to ensure that all information is disseminated and received not only by the Academic Community but also by the City in which it is located.

In order to fulfil this objective, a rubric will be created to transmit the work done by the different sectors of AAUAv's Management, so that the values present in the daily activity of the associative leaders who are committed to representing and defending the students' interests can be seen.

Institution's Communication Guide

The responsibility to ensure that the structure's general communication maintains a logical thread highlights the need to develop and implement a Communication Guide for the Institution. Maintaining the Individual Visual and Graphic Identity of each element of the Structure will be one of the factors to consider when creating this manual, which has as its main objective to provide a series of norms and standards for the creation, storage, and disclosure of information on behalf of the Institution. The intention is to standardise and guarantee quality in Communication throughout the structure.

Implementation of Graphic Identifying Mechanisms

In a society where the volume of content disclosed and received daily by each user exceeds their capacity to assimilate information, a communication that relies on the use of visual and/or graphic mechanisms that allow differentiation and immediate identification is the key to communication success. This will make it possible to categorise information and make it easier for our public to find and access the specific content we intend to disseminate.

AAUAv IGTV Channel

Considering Instagram as one of the most effective digital platforms for delivering and receiving information and based on the above notion of categorisation, we believe that the creation of the AAUAv IGTV concept, with informative content and records of specific activities, will facilitate the search for information by the Academic Community.

Promotion of environmental responsibility

The evolution and wide range of existing communication media nowadays allows us to choose options for disseminating information with a lower environmental impact. We are therefore committed to always analysing and selecting the form of communication that best fulfils this objective. This ambition implies an improvement of the above-mentioned communication strategy so that digital means are the main choice, thus fulfilling our duty towards environmental responsibility.

Promoting students' artistic creations

Promoting and enabling students to have an academic experience that goes beyond that defined in their curricula is one of the responsibilities to which we are committed. In this way we consider that promoting the creation of graphic, digital and/or physical contents, making them known and promoting their use in different ways, praising the work of the students who produce them, is a crucial part in the valorisation of the students' academic path. This commitment would extend to the dissemination to the whole Aveiro Community when creating and implementing a Student Identity in the City.

Identity of the Institution

Being a project which has been developed by previous mandates of the Students Union, the movement commits itself to continue reformulating and implementing a new Identity. The main objective will be to value the work done before and to guarantee the accomplishment of the project, namely through the disclosure of its Image, Normative Manual and the adequacy of Spaces

Build *Aveiro é Nosso* Now

"Aveiro é Nosso" is an increasingly important sector within the Academic Association of the University of Aveiro (AAUAv). Officialized by AAUAv in 2013, the sector is based on four fundamental pillars – social, cultural, sport and commercial matters. The "Aveiro é Nosso" sector concentrates several practices that aim to promote a closer relationship between the student community and the region, promoting social innovation and encouraging students to develop socially responsible practices, raising awareness to civic participation in the Academy.

In our view, the focus of this sector is, mainly, the dynamization of the social dimension, then extended to the other aspects, while promoting the incorporation of students into the community of Aveiro.

Keeping these values in mind, the sector proposes to:

DinneIN

The DinneIN project, founded in 2019, has allowed the distribution of meals to students who were in social isolation due to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Over time, the project's notoriety has increased, as well as the desire to expand to different goods and publics in the region. This being said, we propose a reformulation of the concept through a greater offer of services, with a view of extending it to support services for local commerce and pharmacy. The commitment to the region through initiatives such as these strengthens relations with the inhabitants, allowing support and approximation to those who welcome us.

Study Support

The "Construir o Agora" movement envisages the continuity of the Study Support initiative, reinforcing the participation of students and support in the difficulties experienced by members of the project. We aim to continue to dynamize the project, creating conditions to expand the scope for High-Schools, strengthening relations with the region's school groups.

Upgrade the "Aveiro é Nosso" Center

The creation of a physical space is essential for a stronger connection between students and the different communities in Aveiro. That being said, we intend to promote the "Aveiro é Nosso" Center, located in the neighbourhood of Santiago, through initiatives such as support for the study, carried out during the past term, giving it the missing face-to-face component. It is also our intention to dynamize the space together with the UA corps through other volunteer and training initiatives in the city and region of Aveiro.

The space will then be a joint effort to bring the academic community closer to the city, with this effort being notorious with the present reality linked to the city.

Local Producers Fair

As a sector linked to the region and due to its commercial aspect, one of the objectives is to enhance the activity of local producers, making them more accessible to buyers and bringing them closer to the academic community. Therefore, we want to hold a fair on the Alameda do Campus de Santiago with the presence of local producers from Aveiro. With this initiative, merchants are brought closer to the University of Aveiro, creating the opportunity for greater contact with the student community.

Powering the Culture

In our perspective, culture has a fundamental role in bringing people together and interconnecting. Thus, it is our purpose to carry out an “Aveiro é Nosso” Festival, special for having performances of only students and inhabitants of the Aveiro region, offering a wide range of cultural activities from theatre, dance, fine arts and music. In addition, we intend to work closely with the Town Hall, so that the Santiago campus becomes a place of passage in the emblematic “Festival dos Canais”, bringing the region closer to students in this perspective.

Solidarity Walk

Inherent in the “Aveiro é Nosso” sector is also the sporting aspect, without forgetting the social aspect by which we are guided. The Solidarity Walk, designed for this sector, intends to be a sporting event in the region of Aveiro with the participation of all inhabitants and students of Aveiro, as well as the presence of known faces who would sponsor the walk. The social aspect will not be absent, as the funds raised along the way will revert to local institutions.

Promotion of Sports Activities within the Scope of Social and Environmental Responsibility

The promotion of sports is essential and must be something consistent in the lives of students and inhabitants of the region of Aveiro. We intend to combine a socially responsible aspect to these practices, allowing students to come closer to local communities. We will promote a Tournament in the neighborhood of Santiago, which will allow an interaction that has never been worked out before, bringing the youngest athletes of the region closer to the academic community.

Promotion of Sustainability in the UA Campi and Region

The promotion of sustainable practices in the UA Campi demonstrates the concern and increased attention that the Academic Association has regarding this issue. The dynamization of conventions for the discussion of this topic allow to convey the message to the student that the future must be a space for everyone, and that it is up to every one of us to do so. By showing different practices, we want the student to adopt them and to transpose them not only within the scope of the University, but also in the region of Aveiro. To this end, the Academic Association intends, in the 2022 mandate, to measure its ecological footprint,

raising awareness in the community, and trying to successively reduce its footprint through small actions.

Promotion of Awareness Actions

Awareness actions are an effective way of alerting students and the community of Aveiro to certain erroneous practices and alarming topics. These actions go beyond the scope of the University, where the main objective is to always ensure the dynamization of many UA departments.

Climate Change Summit

The discussion and debate on climate change is more than proven to be extremely important because it is up to us to make a difference and reverse possible effects that may arise from the bad attitudes of Mankind. In this sense, the “Construir o Agora” movement intends to carry out the creation of a summit, with trained personalities in the area, alerting the community to the urgent changes they have and must adopt.

Build General Assembly Board Now

The General Assembly Board of Students is the highest deliberative body of the Students Union of the University of Aveiro. Comprising five elements elected by student suffrage, it is up to them to convene and direct the General Student Assemblies (Assembleias Gerais de Alunos, AGA), swearing in the governing bodies of the Students Union of the University of Aveiro, accompany its functioning and assure the electoral processes within the structure, respecting all the principles of democracy, independence and representation expressed in the statutes by which it is governed.

Therefore, the candidates to the governing bodies of the General Assembly Board for the *Build the Now* movement, propose to:

- Fulfill and enforce the Statutes of the Students Union of the University of Aveiro and its regulation, directing the General Student Assemblies in a transparent and impartial manner;
- Hold General Student Assemblies, whenever they are necessary, and promote the participation of students;
- Improve the communication of the notices for General Student Assemblies and render them appealing;
- Fulfill and enforce the Electoral Regulations and manage transparently and impartially all the electoral processes ensured by the Electoral Commission, composed by elements of the Board;
- Effectively train the members of the General Meeting Boards of the Nuclei of the Students Union of the University of Aveiro;
- Support, whenever necessary, the governing bodies of the Students Union and Nuclei.

Build Fiscal and Jurisdiction Council Now

The Fiscal and Jurisdiction Council (CFJ) is a governing body belonging to the Students Union of the University of Aveiro, responsible for supervising all financial and management elements.

The candidates to the CFJ of the *Build the Now* movement commit to reinforce the activity on the fiscal surveillance of the administration, ran by AAUA_v and respective Nuclei, verify the Plans of Activities and Budget (PAOs) proposed by AAUA_v and its Nuclei, issuing a reasoned opinion, verify the Annual Bills Report (RACs) elaborated by AAUA_v and the Nuclei, issuing a reasoned opinion, proposing the application of sanctions in the terms of the Statutes and Regulations of AAUA_v in effect, be directly represented in the General Assembly and assure any further competences which are legally determined.

As a key activity, within our manifesto, we propose training integrated in *Formate@AAUA_v* organized by the Nuclei Support sector, so that it is easier for Nuclei to elaborate PAOs and RACs. This activity's goal is the harmonization of PAOs and RACs, helping in the interpretation made by CFJ since they will all be written based on the standardized filling method presented by the body.