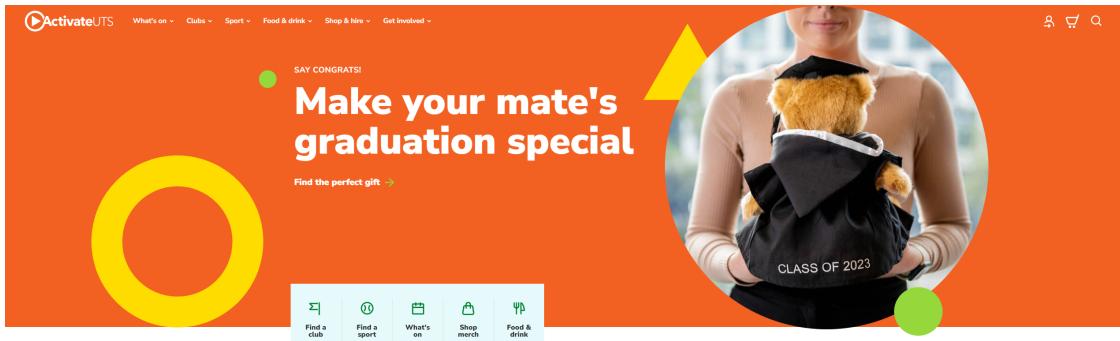


# Research

## ▼ What might a student club platform system look like?

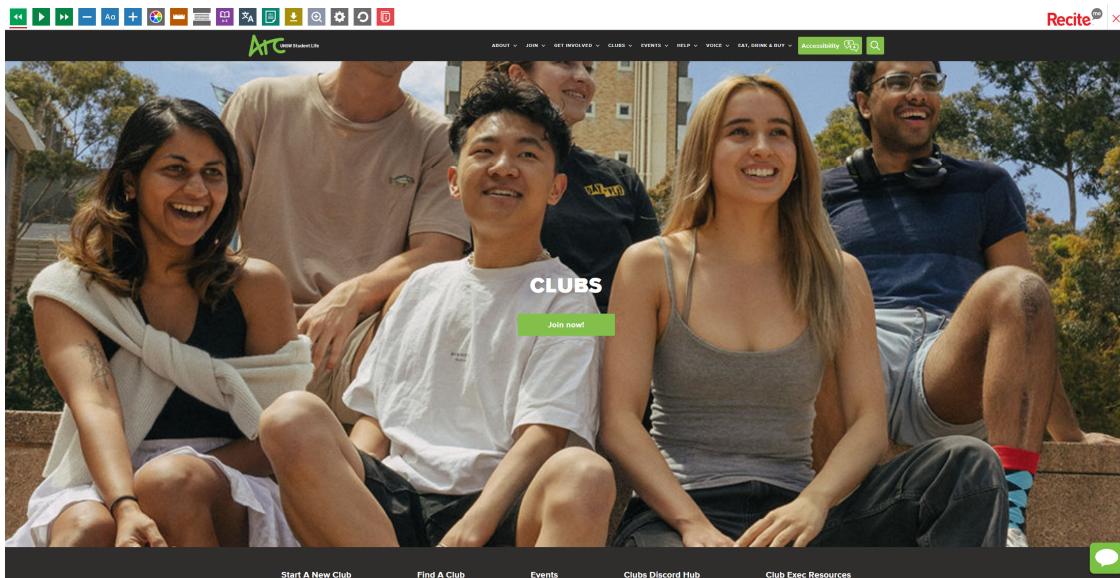
- Some student club platform systems includes:
  - ActivateUTS (Uni Technology Sydney) - <https://www.activateuts.com.au/>



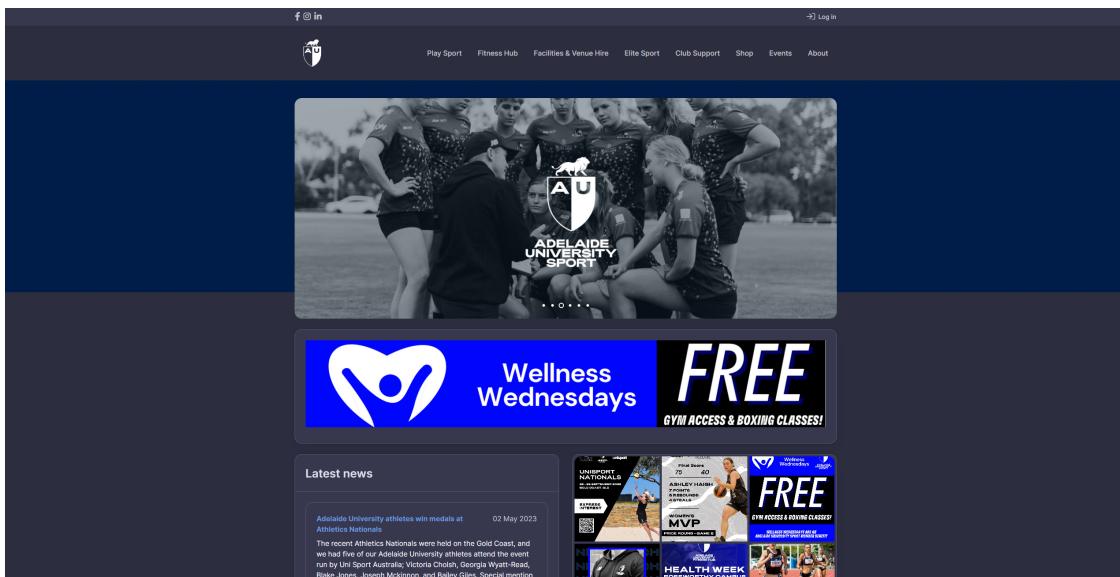
### Explore ActivateUTS



- ARC UNSW (Uni NSW) - <https://www.arc.unsw.edu.au/>



- AU Sports (Uni Adl) - <https://www.adelaideunisport.com.au/home/>

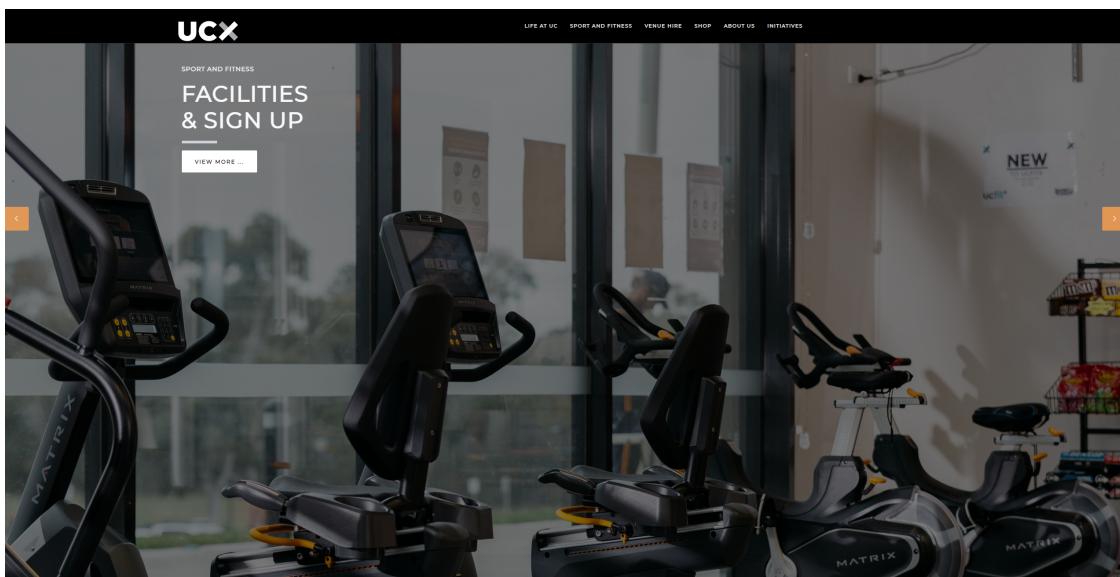


- Curtin Student Guild (Curtin University) - <https://guild.curtin.edu.au/>

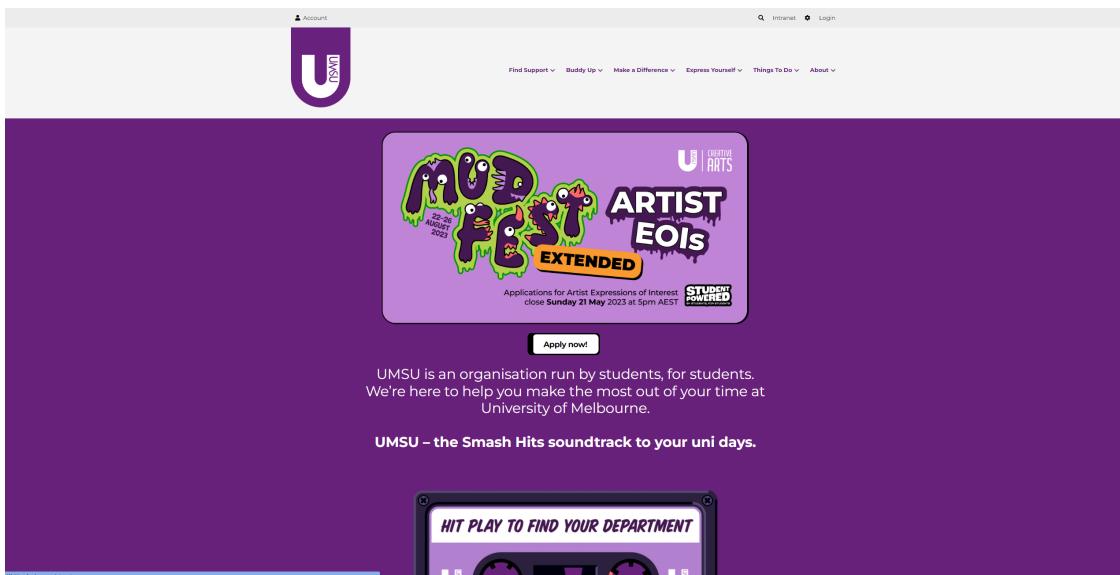
- FUSA (Flinders Uni) - <https://fusa.edu.au/>

The FUSA website has a vertical orange sidebar on the left containing the FUSA logo, the Flinders University Student Association name, and links for About, Student Support, Representation, Get Involved, Contact, What's On, and a search bar. The main content area has a magenta background. It features the slogan "We connect you to friends, skills and hobbies" in white text, with "hobbies" in a larger font. To the right of the text are two white dice. Below the main section are four colored buttons: blue (Student Assist), magenta (Clubs), green (Events), and orange (Student Council). A small URL "http://fusa.flinders.edu.au/" is visible at the bottom left of the sidebar.

- UCX (Uni of Canberra) - <https://ucx.canberra.edu.au/>

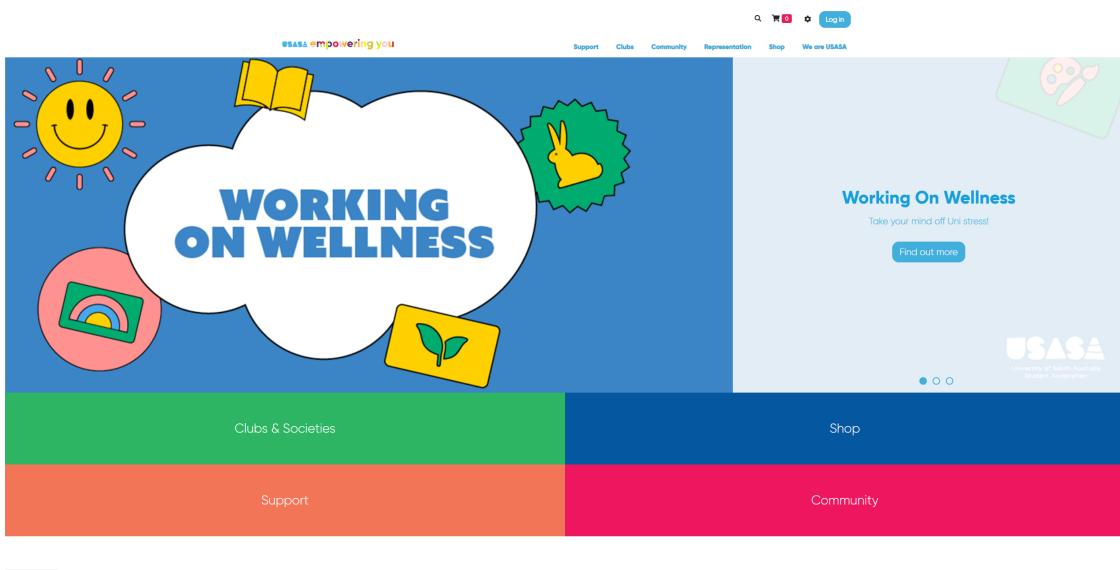


- UMSU (Uni Melb) - <https://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/>



- UQU (UniQLD) - <https://www.uqu.com.au/connecting-u/clubs-societies>

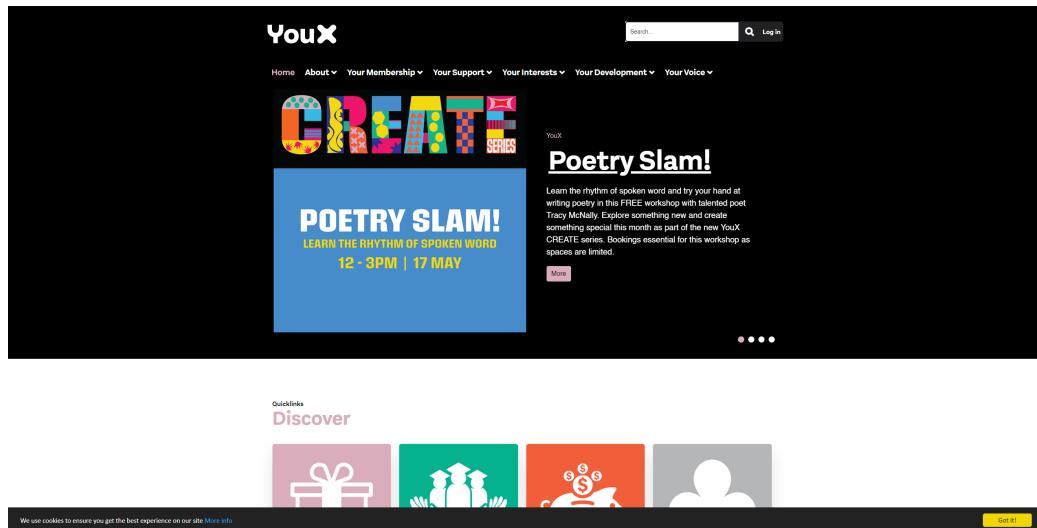
- USASA (UniSA) - <https://usasa.sa.edu.au/>



- USU (UniSyd) - <https://usu.edu.au/>



- YouX (Uni Adl) - <https://youx.org.au/>



## ▼ What information might users be required to supply?

- Account user names and passwords (Authentication)
  - This helps prevent users from having to relog in every time they visit a new page
- Agreement to Term of Services
  - Users agree or decline the Term of Services
- User provides name, email, phone number for user registration

## ▼ How will they log in?

- Website will have a user icon/hyperlink to a login/signup page.
- Users will need to sign up in order to create a new user record in the database
  - User will use the registered username and password to request authentication to log in

## ▼ How will they interact with the system?

- The website will have interactive components such as buttons, hyperlinks, menus, forms and images that will allow the user to navigate to new pages or access different components of the website

## ▼ How would club managers manage their clubs?

- There is a dashboard/summary page that displays:
  - A list of their club members
  - Club information such as Club name, Logo, Club Leadership (e.g. President, Secretary)
  - Ability to add, update or remove events
    - Can see details of members who RVSP'd to an event such as Name, email
  - Post announcements/updates to club page to public or members only (private)

## ▼ Research existing websites/apps to get ideas for your web application

### Colour

- Almost all club home pages utilize two flat colors, white or black and a primary color. This often reflects the color theme of their respective universities, otherwise, in a very ,
- Most existing student club platforms colours are not too bright or distracting and have a .

- Furthermore, the saturation of the primary color is noticeably low, in which we could gather some ideas.
- Regarding the information above, our color theme could be similar in this aspect. We'll pick a lowly saturated color from a simple flat color that reflects the theme of our club site.



## Kinematic and Cognitive Load

### 1) Club Indexing - Filtered Dropdown Menu (Cognitive Load) → Will implement

The screenshot shows the YouX Club Indexing interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with a "IN THIS SECTION" heading and a list of links: Events, Oweek, Clubs, Accessibility at Club Events, Adelaide Graduate Award for Clubs, Clubs Awards, Clubs Committee, Clubs Merchandise, Roseworthy, Clubs FAQs, Clubs Events, Find a Club, How to Join a Club, Booking Rooms & Equipment, Funding and Grants, Re-Registration, Start a Club, Guides and Info, Subscribe, and Student Musician Registration. To the right, there's a search bar with a dropdown menu labeled "Category" set to "All". Below the search bar is a "Search by name..." input field with a magnifying glass icon. A grid of club logos is displayed, each with a small "Category" label underneath it. The categories shown are "Skills and Professional Development", "Faith and Religion", "Culture and Languages", "Faculty", "Activities and Hobbies", "Issue-Based and Politics", "Roseworthy", "Volunteering", and "Wait".

YouX categorises the clubs into different club types such as “Activities and Hobbies”, “Faculty”, “Skills and Professional Development”, etc.

- With the clubs sorted into different groups, filtering/category sorting drop list can be used to help improve the users experience in finding a club the user is interested in.
- The issue with the YouX Club Index page is that under each club, there is the label “Category” which increases cognitive load due to having move text to process.
  - To reduce the cognitive load, the label “Category” can be removed and the club types can be colour coded.

- A potential improvement of just plain text for the club type below the club logos, could be placed in a coloured div or a tags box that is interactive and filters to that type when clicked on.
- Reference coding : [https://www.w3schools.com/howto/howto\\_js\\_filter\\_dropdown.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/howto/howto_js_filter_dropdown.asp)
- Furthermore, the “In this section” div is very distracting when the user is scrolling through the clubs which could be collapsible and shown when the mouse hovers around the left area of the website. Another way is having the menu transferred to the top of the page with the sub-pages shown when the mouse is hovered over the category to prevent clustering of text on the page.

The screenshot shows the 'Find a Club' section of the USASA website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Support, Clubs (which is currently selected), Community, Representation, Shop, and We are USASA. Below the navigation is a search bar with 'All' and 'Search...' options, and a filter icon. The main content area displays four club logos in rounded boxes: Access Guild, Activate Student Ministry, Afghan Students UniSA, and African Society. The page also includes a note about supporting over 80 clubs and a reminder that results update automatically when filtered.

A good example of all of the suggested improvement can be found in the USASA website as shown above where the page is very straight forward and provides all the necessary information and unnecessary clutter. This webpage is ideally what our club index page would look like with an inclusion of pagination to help reduce clutter

- The div containing the images of the club logos are rounded which makes information easier to process. Sharp corners tends to throw user's eyes off, experiencing abrupt pauses when lines changes direction. This significantly reduces the cognitive load when user's are browsing the website.
  - Sharp corners often makes each div look identical and hard to recognise, whereas the rounded corners are unique and are easier to recognise.
- The navigation menu is at the top to prevent any clutter on the side on the website.
- Each club tiles are big and evenly spaced together which reduces the kinematic load as it is easier for the users to scan through the website.
- USASA's page offers different viewing methods such as tiles and list which helps to suit the user's preference.

## 2) Club Index - Alphabetical sorted and Categorised by Club Type (Cognitive Load) \*\*IDEA\*\*

The screenshot shows a sidebar on the left side of a website. At the top, there are tabs for "WHAT'S ON" and "CLUBS". The "CLUBS" tab is active, displaying a logo for "USU" and a search bar with icons for magnifying glass, user profile, and other functions. Below the tabs, there are several category headings with dropdown arrows: "Faith & Religion", "Hobbies & Special Interest", "Political", "Professional", "Social Impact & Advocacy", "Sport & Recreation", and "Pending clubs". Under "Pending clubs", there is a list of clubs categorized by letter:

- A** Adventurer's Guild
- C** Canadian Society
- M** MIRAGE Rural Health Club
- S** South Asian Business Society
- Sydney Conservatorium Composition Society
- Cortex: Neurology and Neurosurgery Society
- Sydney University Slavic Society
- Sydney University Surgical Society

- Uni of Sydney Union sorts their clubs in alphabetical order under a variety of tabs of different club types
  - The font size of each “club type” tab is made big to help reduce the cognitive load when searching.
  - Bolded Alphabet letters on the side to help finding the club with the letter a lot easier
  - Divider lines to help separate the clubs starting with different letters

### 3) Front page - Abstract \*\*IDEA\*\*

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Activate UTS website. The background is orange. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: "ActivateUTS", "What's on", "Clubs", "Sport", "Food & drink", "Shop & hire", and "Get involved". To the right of the navigation bar are icons for user profile, shopping cart, and search. In the center, there is a large yellow circle graphic. Above it, the text "SAY CONGRATS!" is followed by "Make your mate's graduation special" and a link "Find the perfect gift". To the right, there is a circular image of a person holding a teddy bear in a graduation cap and gown, with the text "CLASS OF 2023" visible. Below this section, there is a navigation bar with icons for "Find a club", "Find a sport", "What's on", "Shop merch", and "Food & drink". At the bottom, there is a section titled "Explore ActivateUTS" with four small images: "EVERY FRIDAY" (a meal), "Photography Society" (a person taking a photo), "Session 1 fixtures now available" (two people playing soccer), and "Personalise it!" (a person holding a teddy bear).

- The Activate UTS home page welcomes the user to an abstract webpage

- The abstract front page evokes distinct feelings and ideas for the user making it look playful and easy on the eyes.
- As the user scrolls down the page, the shapes all fade or transition at different intervals, making it very
- Furthermore, the menu button helps to direct the users to important features of the website like events, finding a club, etc. with some abstract shapes/symbols complimenting what the button does.

#### 4) Upcoming Events - Implement

The screenshot shows the 'Upcoming Events' section of the Curtin Student Guild website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: CURTIN STUDENT GUILD, THE GUILD, SUPPORT & ADVICE, ELECTIONS, WHAT'S ON, DISCOUNTS, CLUBS, WASM, EATS, SHOP, and CONTACT. Below the navigation, a header reads 'CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING' and 'UPCOMING EVENTS'. The section displays four event cards:

- TRIVIA NIGHT** (Yellow card): 16th May 5pm - 7pm, TRIVIA NIGHT, Curtin Tav.
- LET'S GET Physical** (Pink card): 17th May noon - 2pm, LET'S GET PHYSICAL!, Sculpture Gardens.
- Esports Game Nights** (Black card): 17th May 5pm - 7pm, GAME NIGHTS WITH/CURTIN ESPORTS, Curtin Tav.
- TRIVIA NIGHT** (Yellow card): 23rd May 5pm - 7pm, TRIVIA NIGHT, Curtin Tav.

Most student club platform pages have a “upcoming events” section showing the different upcoming events from the different clubs. The thing that Curtin Student Guild does best is the diversity use of colours and providing crucial information.

- All the crucial information about the event such as the location, the title of the event, date and time are displayed in a way to prevent visual clutter.
  - The gap in between each component are sufficiently spaced as white space helps to reduce text clutter and makes content easier to read for users. This helps reducing cognitive and kinematic load.
- The diverse use of colours helps to attract attention especially the titles of events which highlights the importance of the event.