

AUSA ON DIT

YOUR MAGAZINE. YOUR WAY.

On Dit is the official student publication of Adelaide University Student Association (AUSA), continuing in 2026 as a student-led, merit-based editorial program. The publication retains the historic name On Dit while transitioning to a modern editorial structure inspired by the long-running and successful Verse Magazine model.

The program provides Adelaide University students with a platform for creative expression, commentary, and cultural reflection, while supporting skill development in writing, editing, design, digital publishing, and collaborative project delivery.

On Dit will publish **four editions in 2026**, supported by digital and social amplification.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The On Dit program aims to:

- Deliver a high-quality, student produced publication
- Provide meaningful paid development opportunities for students
- Support diverse student voices and creative expression
- Operate within a clear editorial, legal, and reputational framework
- Meet Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) expectations for student media delivery
- Build a sustainable, repeatable publication model for future years

EDITORIAL MODEL

On Dit operates under a **non-elected, merit-based editorial model**, consistent with best practice in student media delivery. Editorial roles are advertised openly to all Adelaide University students and filled through application and panel interview.

This approach prioritises:

- Skill and capability
- Reliability and professionalism
- Collaboration and editorial judgement
- Continuity across academic years

EDITORIAL TEAM STRUCTURE

The editorial team consists of **four student editors**, all equal in status and responsibility, each receiving a **\$750 honorarium per edition**.

Head Editor

Provides editorial leadership, sets direction, oversees quality control, manages workflows, and acts as the primary liaison with AUSA.

Deputy Editor / Features Editor

Supports content commissioning, editing, contributor management, and fills content gaps as required.

Lead Graphic Designer

Owns the visual identity of the magazine, designs and lays out each edition.

Digital, Design & Social Editor

Supports digital publishing, social media promotion, and adapts magazine content for online channels.

All roles collaborate closely across each edition, with responsibilities flexing as required during peak periods.

WORKLOAD, TIME COMMITMENT & HONORARIUM

- Honorarium: \$750 per editor, per edition
- Total editions: Four in 2026
- Workload varies across the production cycle
- Peak periods occur around submission deadlines, design and sign-off
- Work continues through semester breaks and holidays, which historically provide greater availability for student editors

The program is designed around outcomes and deadlines, not fixed weekly hours.

PRODUCTION CYCLE & TIMELINE

On Dit will operate on a six week production cycle per edition. The first edition requires a longer lead-in due to onboarding, process establishment, and team cohesion.

Production cycles overlap as standard practice. Once an edition is nearing completion, planning and commissioning for the next edition commences.

This overlap:

- Reduces risk of delays
- Improves workflow continuity
- Allows for flexibility during academic pressure points

ACADEMIC CALENDAR & HOLIDAYS

- Editors are required to work through semester breaks and holidays
- These periods often result in increased productivity
- Exam periods may require flexibility but do not halt production
- Editorial teams are expected to self-manage workloads collaboratively

CONTENT SCOPE

On Dit content may include:

- Creative writing and poetry
- Visual art and illustration
- Opinion and commentary
- Student life and culture
- Reviews, interviews, and features
- Themed or special editions where appropriate

All content is student-generated and editorially curated.

RECRUITMENT & SELECTION PROCESS

Recruitment follows a structured, transparent process:

- Applications open 10 March 2026
- Applications close 20 March 2026
- Panel interviews may occur across 30 March – 10 April 2026
- Editorial team onboarded by 17 April 2026

Interview questions are role-specific and assess:

- Editorial judgement
- Collaboration and communication
- Time management
- Creative and technical capability
- Knowledge of the Adelaide University community and student experience

Candidates must:

- Be a current student at Adelaide University
- Be able to commit to the AUSA On Dit Student Publication until November 2026
- Attend regular progress meetings, including over breaks and holidays

GOVERNANCE & OVERSIGHT

On Dit operates with editorial independence, within clearly defined legal and reputational safeguards.

A Media Panel oversees recruitment and appointment of Editors. AUSA retains final oversight for legal, brand, and reputational matters.

EVALUATION OF ON DIT

Program success may be assessed through:

- Number and quality of editorial applications
- Delivery of editions against schedule
- Volume and diversity of student submissions
- Engagement metrics (distribution, digital reach)
- Qualitative feedback from contributors and readers

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SUMMARY

On Dit's 2026 model builds on proven student publication practice, balancing creative freedom with professional standards. The program is viable within the academic year, sustainable for student editors, and aligned with AUSA's governance and SSAF responsibilities.

The merit-based model provides a strong foundation for On Dit's continued success as Adelaide University's student publication.

