UCSA in a Nutshell

A useful guide for UCSA teachers

Compiled and published by
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Dear UCSA Teacher!

This guide has been compiled for you – to help you to make UCSA an organisation of life and hope in your school.

- Use the ideas in this book and adapt them for your unique situation.
- Duplicate the pages that may be of use to your committee, group leaders and spiritual leader.
- Please keep this book in your UCSA-folder to hand over to your successor when the time comes (may it not be soon!), together with the UCSA constitution and other information from head office.

This manual is the property of the UCSA branch at

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UCSA in a nutshell

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Translated from **Die VCSV in 'n neutedop**

1. Vision and mission statement

Vision

UCSA's vision is: Guiding a new generation to a new lifestyle in Christ.

Mission statement

UCSA exists as part of the Body of Christ to glorify God and by the power of the Holy Spirit to:

- develop new leadership that impacts others by exhibiting Christian leadership values through serving in mentoring relationships;
- build a new generation that actively strives towards reconciliation in Christ and mutual understanding in the reality of our diverse society;
- bring new life by sharing the Gospel of Christ, leading young people to faith commitments and nurturing his disciples;
- establish a new culture by letting the Kingdom of God come to the hearts and lives of those who journey with us through life.

We will accomplish this with the support of:

- **Management** that is strategic, visionary, and professional;
- **Staff** who are committed, trained and motivated;
- **Facilities** that are functional and cost effective;
- Appropriate **financial** and **fundraising** strategies.

2. Why have UCSA in your school?

"I was new at the school. I had no friends to talk to, so I went to UCSA meetings during break. The people were great! And after some time I also gave my life to Jesus Christ."

"Last week we did Bible study from the book of James about prejudice. God showed us how wrong we can be about other people, and also what to do about it."

"In our group there are Baptists and Charismatics and also Anglicans, and it is wonderful to experience unity in Christ when we are together."

"Every Tuesday morning we have a prayer meeting at school. Praying together gives me strength to get through the day and also to make hard choices when I must."

"During our outreach to the squatters' camp I saw for the first time how much misery there is, and also how I can help to make a difference."

3. What are your aims?

■ Evangelisation

To introduce Jesus Christ in your school and to help people to put their faith in Him.

■ Discipleship

To help learners become disciples of Jesus through regular Bible study, living according to the Word of God (obedience) and making important life choices in terms of the will of God.

■ Spiritual support

To create an atmosphere of fellowship where members support and help one another and pray for one another.

■ Serving

To challenge members to take their faith out of the school grounds through serving and reaching out in the community.

■ Reconciliation

To expose members to other cultures and to help create understanding and appreciation for one another, and so to be part of the reconciliation process in South Africa.

4. What does UCSA look like?

- Focused on Jesus
- Focused on children and young people
- Young and new
- Focused on the needs of its members
- Up to date
- Motivating
- Challenging
- Friendly
- Fantastic

5. Who is UCSA?

- Its history goes back to 28 July 1896 when SCA was founded in Stellenbosch.
- UCSA was formed when CSA and CSV united as part of the vision to re-unite the organisations which were formed when SCA was divided into four organisations in 1965.
- It is a Christian organisation operating in schools and tertiary institutions in South Africa.
- It welcomes all learners and students who want to take part regardless of church membership, race or gender.
- There are branches in all provinces in South Africa
- Young people are shown through Bible study and discipleship training how to live for Christ at school and on campus.
- Young people are empowered to do it themselves
- UCSA organises annual Days of Prayer for learners and students.
- Holiday outreaches take place at multiple holiday resorts.
- UCSA organises camps, youth rallies, adventure projects, outreaches, and world mission outreaches.
- It offers training for leaders, teachers and entrepreneurs, and helps young people develop life skills built on Christian values.
- It presents seminars on teacher motivation, culture sensitivity, AIDS awareness, sexuality and more.
- It creates publications and training material.
- It presents courses in youth ministry and Christian counselling.
- It has 9 camp sites.

6. We believe...

- We believe in the triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) who is almighty and exists eternally.
- We believe in the sovereignty of God the Father, who created humanity in his own image.
- We believe in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer, the Son of God, and his Lordship over every aspect of society and personal life. Through his death and resurrection we receive forgiveness of sin and reconciliation with God and our neighbours.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit who moves people to repentance, sanctifies them by his indwelling power and brings through them the renewal of society.
- We believe that the Bible, as the inspired Word of God, is our final authority. We accept this Word as the source of the values and norms of our lives and society. The message of the Bible is addressed to all people and through it the Holy Spirit speaks to people in every culture to perceive its truth.
- We believe in the Holy Universal Church which consists of those who confess Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. He binds us together as members of his body, in a unity which transcends every barrier, be it race, sex, language or culture, and sends us to proclaim the gospel unto the ends of the earth.
- We believe that God calls us to obey Him above all in every aspect of life.
- We believe that Jesus Christ will return to judge the living and the dead and reign forever as King.

7. UCSA's aims

In dependence on God the organisation strives:

- to put the honour and glory of the triune God before all things;
- to proclaim the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as He is revealed in his Word, to young people;
- to encourage its members to confess their faith in Jesus Christ as the only Redeemer of the world and to live as his disciples;
- keeping the above-mentioned in mind, to encourage its members to be faithful in Bible study and prayer;
- to lead members to spiritual maturity through Bible centred fellowship;
- to encourage members to be witnesses for Christ in word and deed in every aspect of their lives;
- to help its members to face the challenges of our time with Bible-based, consistent, and Christ-centred life views;
- to sensitise its members concerning the needs of others and to encourage them to work towards justice, peace and reconciliation in society;
- to teach its members loyalty to their church and to help them become active members of their churches;
- to develop good relationships with all churches and organisations which support UCSA's aims;
- to establish a Christian presence on the campuses of all educational institutions in South Africa;
- to encourage its members to develop good and significant relationships with members of other Christian organisations with similar aims and confessions of faith;
- for reconciliation and unity among Christian students;
- to motivate and mobilise members to service and to spread the kingdom of God in the whole world;
- for unity with its sister organisations and other organisations with similar aims and confessions of faith;
- to encourage among its members a sense of co-responsibility, teamwork and leadership in contrast to the individualism of our times;
- to encourage amongst its members a Bible-based critical attitude towards life in all its facets, as well as introspection and openness towards one another.

8. UCSA and churches

- UCSA cannot substitute the ministry of churches to their young members.
- UCSA acknowledges the supervision of churches over their members.
- UCSA wishes to serve the church.

UCSA

- Encourages its members to make faith choices;
- Equips its members to become disciples of Jesus Christ.

The church

- Teaches its members its specific dogma.
- Pastors of churches represented by a significant number of the members of a branch help with the spiritual leadership of the branches.

UCSA

- UCSA undertakes to avoid dogmatic matters about which there may be differences of opinion among churches
- UCSA strives to obtain the goodwill and co-operation of all churches represented by a significant number of its members.

☎ *UCSA is there for you*

- Visit UCSA at *http://www.vcsv-ucsa.co.za* and keep up with the latest information, news and activities.
- Phone the head office in Stellenbosch at (021) 887 0212 or the northern regional office in Pretoria at (079 515 2744) if you have any queries.
- Write to UCSA, PO Box 25, STELLENBOSCH 7599, or to UCSA, PO Box 74784, LYNNWOOD RIFT 0040.
- Find the addresses of all the provincial organisers on our web page.

9. UCSA teacher: making it happen!

Thomas is a Christian teacher with a Christ centred life style, UCSA teacher and actively involved in many other school activities. When they saw his example, many learners decided that they would also like to serve Thomas's God. Because Thomas was actively involved in UCSA he could help pupils to find new life in Jesus Christ.

You are the UCSA teacher

Maybe only because you were ordered to do it, and definitely not because you have time on your hands.

BUT

- You are doing what really matters.
- You are doing things of eternal value.
- You can share your faith in your everyday work situation.
- You come into contact with unchurched or unbelieving young people, and you have a unique opportunity to win their trust and share the gospel with them.

The UCSA teacher is

- spiritually mature
- dynamic
- young at heart
- a role model
- creative
- hardworking and thorough
- motivated and focused
- a witness for Christ
- a good organiser
- an able administrator

The UCSA teacher plays a vital role in the success of the association

The UCSA teacher is the spiritual parent of his branch

- You are responsible for spiritual depth in programmes.
- You help members to find salvation in Christ.
- You show members how to live an authentic life of faith.
- You are the leaders' mentor.

The UCSA teacher remembers that UCSA is an association for pupils by pupils

- You facilitate members' initiatives.
- You allow maximum participation by members.
- You create opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and serving others.
- You develop youth-on-youth activities.

The UCSA teacher accommodates different ways of experiencing and living Christianity

- You have a differentiated ministry.
- You are flexible regarding members of different churches.
- You co-operate with all churches whose members attend UCSA.

The UCSA teacher is the glue that makes it all stick together

- You are the bridge between members and the rest of the staff;
- between members and the principal;
- and between members and pastors.
- You make sure that all who are involved know what they are supposed to do and are happy in their roles.
- You are the link between field staff and your branch;
- between provincial activities and members;
- and between head office and your branch.

You operate through your branch committee

- You inspire committee members to take the initiative.
- You help them with their jobs.
- You give council and advice when needed.
- You stay in the background as much as possible.
- You are present at committee and general meetings.
- You encourage and motivate.
- You organise the election of committee and group leaders.
- You organise training of committee members and group leaders.

10. The branch committee

The branch committee

- Responsible for the successful functioning of the branch.
- A training ground for Christian leaders.
- Helps the teacher.
- Finds in the teacher a spiritual guide, intercessor and mentor.

You are role models

- in prayer life;
- in attractive joyful Christian lifestyle;
- in discipline in witnessing and living the witness;
- in commitment to Jesus Christ;
- in commitment to others.

You are organisers

- You plan, prepare and present activities and programmes. (Find ideas in this book!)

You get together for fellowship once a week

- Often the greatest problem among leaders is strife.
- The only solution is for leaders to be honest and open towards one another.
- When there is strife among leaders, it will spread to other members.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in an Ephesians 4 ministry of unity.

You are co-responsible for UCSA fundraising

- Do this in co-operation with the UCSA teacher.
- Find more information in the chapter on marketing.

You are servants

- You are on the committee to serve as Christ did.
- Always try to see the needs of your friends, school and community and to meet those needs.

You are links in a chain

- Organise events for your region or town - liaise with you regional representative.
- Get your branch involved with all the exciting provincial and national events.
- Get to know and use the resources made available by head office.
- Also use the publications and manuals made available by the head office - each year new and different.

The teacher guides and supports the committee,
who guide and support UCSA members.

UCSA is there for you

- Contact your Provincial Organisers - they are there for you!
- The Provincial Organiser can help you to activate your branch for the Lord.
- Contact Head Office to order resources and publications (order forms are sent out each year to all branches).
- Each branch receives newsletters (UCSA-News) about UCSA doings and news.
- Check whether your branch is on your Provincial Organiser's address list so you can receive up to date news and information.

11. Branch committee portfolios

The branch committee plays a vital role in UCSA activities.

- The election of the committee is a very important part of a successful UCSA.
- Don't elect people just to make up numbers.
- Elect people who are committed Christians and who are willing to lead by serving.
- Elect the committee from the group leaders.

PRAY PRAY PRAY!

- Don't rush the election of your committee. Bring the matter to the Lord in prayer, and listen to his voice.

Some portfolios for your committee (You can combine some or create your own!)

Chairperson

- Directs the action.
- Inspires and helps other committee members.
- Co-ordinates the jobs of the committee members.
- Is the representative of all UCSA members at the school.

Secretary

- Does correspondence and e-mail.
- Organises and liaises with speakers and visiting groups.
- Takes minutes of meetings - especially decisions made. Makes sure that decisions are implemented.
- Prepares the agenda for meetings, together with chairperson.

Treasurer

- Manages the money (preferably with a teacher).
- Thinks up and executes wild and wonderful plans of action for fundraising.

Prayer meetings

- Organises and attends prayer meetings.
- Advertises them.
- Organises prayer projects (all night prayer watches, prayer marches, 10-40 window prayer projects, etc).
- Compiles a prayer list which includes the needy all over the world.

General matters

- Serves others by sending thank you notes, gifts and good-bye cards, and by remembering birthdays and other important events (teachers, leaders, group leaders' leader, etc).

Missions and outreaches

- Gets information on church planting and unreached people groups.
- Keeps members informed.
- Organises outreaches or join organised outreaches in community.
- Get the branch involved in compassion ministry.
- Organises a compassion day for the branch.
- Liaise with the Department for Missions, Service and Outreaches at the head office.

Publicity

- Advertises activities of branch.
- Special attention to grade eights and new pupils.
- All the pupils should know all about UCSA all the time.

Publications

- Subscribes to appropriate reading matter, gets newsletters and other UCSA publications.
- Hands out UCSA publications as soon as they arrive.
- Organises and runs a library.
- Organises posters of UCSA activities for bulletin boards.
- What about a branch newsletter?

Camps and youth rallies

- Advertises national and provincial camps, youth rallies and youth festivals.
- Thinks up day outings and organises these.
- Branch camps - weekends or during holidays.

Media

- Informs the head office of what your branch is doing, to be published in the newsletter or on the web page.
- Supplies information and news to local newspaper or radio station.

How to elect a branch committee

- Do it after group leaders have been appointed.
- Group leaders elect committee members from their group.
- Pray together, and ask God to guide you.
- Make sure the group knows what each committee member is supposed to do.
- Elect by secret ballot.

LOTS OF PRAYER - LOTS OF TIME - LOTS OF WORK.

The secret formula for success!

Regular committee meetings are essential

- At least once a term to decide on a programme for the term.
- Also in between to make sure everything is going according to plan, and to pray together.

For the chairperson and secretary to remember:

- Compile the agenda before the meeting!
- Give each member an opportunity to report back.
- Each member has to receive the agenda before the meeting.
- The agenda helps you to stay focused.
- It saves time.

Why should you strive for excellence in UCSA?

- It is part of your witness to non-Christians.
- It is an example for members.
- It generates enthusiasm.
- Members will be proud to be part of UCSA.
- It helps members in their witnessing - they need not apologize for the association.

☎ *UCSA is there for you*

Contact your Provincial Organiser to help you with:

- Ways in which to ensure that UCSA is THE association in your school.
- Election and training of committee members.
- Programme planning.
- Information on leadership training.
- The Service Year for Christ team's visit to your school.

12. Your programmes

Various models

All schools do not operate in the same way. There are various models which can be adapted to suit your circumstances.

Groups with group leaders and a weekly leaders' class

- UCSA members are divided into groups according to the number of group leaders available (not according to the number of members).
- UCSA Bible study material is used for the Bible studies.
- Leaders are trained at weekly leaders' meetings, conducted by a spiritual leader who may be a local pastor, youth worker or parent. (Please see the UCSA Volunteers' Agreement.)
- Training consists of showing the group leaders how to do the group discussion as well as fellowship and prayer. Group leaders should also be trained in discipleship.
- Groups should be held weekly, and there may also be an additional general meeting every week.
- The various groups meet separately.

Buzz groups

- Members meet together as a group and then divide into small groups.
- Each small group may choose its own group leaders, or the group leaders may be appointed for the whole year. Group leaders should be discipled separately.
- The Bible study/activity is presented by the teacher or spiritual leader. UCSA's Bible study material may be used.
- The group leader facilitates the discussion within the group.
- This model is often used by primary schools.

Branch meetings

- The members meet once a week to listen to a speaker, do a group activity or watch a visiting group or artist.
- Strong emphasis is placed on the branch committee and its various portfolios.
- This model should not, however, be used in place of weekly Bible studies in small groups.
- If this model is used in the school, there should be well established youth groups in the local churches.

In primary schools the teacher plays a larger role than in high schools. However, in some primary schools the committee members function independently and do a great job!

13. Great programmes = great times!

Group sessions and Bible study are very important.

But there are also other activities:

- One general meeting per term. You may decide to invite a speaker, singer, celebrity or service year team.
- Outreaches on a regular basis (once a week/month/term).
- Get-togethers with neighbouring branches.
- A special event when you invite another school with no UCSA to join in the fun and find out about UCSA.
- Day outings, branch camps, fundraising.
- Welcome to new grade eights, good-bye to grade twelves, induction of new group leaders.
- Fun events.
- Adventure events.
- Social events - getting to know one another.
- Provincial and regional activities.
- Visits by itinerant groups like Service Year for Christ.
- Organise your own missions week and get involved!

Take the following into account when you plan a programme:

Where is UCSA going?

- What is UCSA's vision?
- What is happening on a national level in UCSA?
- What is happening on a regional level in UCSA?

Where is our branch going?

- What is God telling us about our community?
- What are our needs? Prayer, discipleship or outreaches?
- What are our aims and priorities?

Where is our school going?

- How can we link to the school's vision?
- What are important projects/activities in the school?
- It is important that UCSA should add value to the school. Then everybody's attitude towards UCSA will change for the better.

What is happening in the community?

- It is not enough if everything runs smoothly at school; the needs of the community should also be addressed.
- Join community projects.

Choose a theme for the term

- Find a slogan (something like *Love in Motion*) to sell your theme - and use it everywhere.

Now plan each event

- Remember: needs, aims, priorities, theme.
- Your programme does not replace the churches' youth ministry. It should supplement it.
- You should change the Bible study themes around if necessary.

When you get a speaker, celebrity or service year team to visit you, remember:

- The reason: why him/her/them? (What are your needs?)
- The subject: tell him/her/them what he/she/they should talk about/do.
- Speakers and groups should sign the UCSA Volunteers' Agreement before they address your meetings. Get the forms from the Provincial Organiser if your teacher does not have one.
- The time should be right - not simultaneously with other events.
- Good references - at least two of you should know him/her.
- The date - remember to ask well in advance.
- Information on your group - it helps him/her/them in their preparation.
- Solid preparation: pray for the person(s) and the occasion, make sure all the VIPs are invited properly, make sure the venue is secured and prepared, make sure everyone knows his or her job.
- High profile advertising: well in advance and up to the very day. Get them thinking about your event, and keep them guessing!
- Friendly welcoming committee: someone special to receive the visitor(s) and look after him/her/them the whole time until the very last good-bye has been said. Also people assigned to look after other guests and VIPs and make them feel at home.
- Organise accommodation and meals for service year teams.
- Grateful thanks: at the meeting but also afterwards with a written note and do not forget travelling costs. Please give realistically!

☎ *UCSA is there for you*

- In the Bible study manuals there are ideas for general meetings.
- Bible studies for weekend camps are available at UCSA Head Office, PO Box 25, Stellenbosch 7599. Tel (021) 887 0212.

14. Appointing new group leaders

Group leaders are accountable to God.

Your branch and branch committee should remember them in your prayers.

Appointing group leaders

- An important duty of the teachers involved with UCSA, present group leaders, and spiritual leader is to appoint new group leaders.
- It is best done in the third term.

Remember

Duties of group leaders

- They are responsible for their small Bible study groups.
- They have to care for their group members and build relationships with them.
- They have to help them grow spiritually.
- They have to be able to witness by word and deed of new life in Jesus Christ

This does not work well

- Group leaders are chosen by asking volunteers.
- Or by asking those who are interested to write their names on a list.
- Or by using all the grade elevens or twelves as group leaders.

This works well, and is recommended...

- Have a meeting with present group leaders and committee members (pupils only).
- Pray together, asking the Lord to guide you.
- Each one receives a list of grade 10 and/or grade 11 members with the following headings:

Name	Definitely	Maybe	No	Don't know person	Reason for answer
Tracy Abrahams					
Bonga Madolo					
Peter Edwards					

- Using these lists the committee and teacher now compile a list of possible group leaders. Other teachers involved, the principal and group leaders may receive this list for comments.
- Each of the pupils on the list writes a letter telling about his/her relationship with the Lord, and what he/she regards as attributes of the ideal group leader.
- Give a deadline date and reassure pupils: it's what you write, not how you write it.
- The teacher arranges a date with each person and he, or the spiritual leader or another teacher involved with UCSA has a personal conversation with him/her about the letter.

They also make sure that each pupil understands what the implications and responsibilities of group leadership are.

- Put the matter in prayer before God. His Spirit has to appoint each group leader. If you do not feel sure about someone, pray about it, and talk to the person and only act when you have peace about the matter. Important: It is better to have fewer group leaders and more pupils per group than to appoint someone who is not committed to the task.
- Each prospective group leader has to sign the following commitment:

The Uniting Christian Students' Association

Branch:.....

I promise that, with God's help, I will:

- be faithful in Bible study, prayer, witness and church going so that I may become better equipped for my task;
- be faithful in preparing for each leaders' and group session;
- attend leaders' classes, group sessions, prayer meetings, and general meetings;
- try to be an example of right Christian living;
- pray regularly for my group members and care about them;
- attend the group leaders' seminar;
- regard my calling as group leader for UCSA as an important priority in my life.

I realize that I may be relieved from my duties as group leader if I neglect these duties and am unable to keep to the commitment I have just made.

If it should happen that I do not become a group leader I will continue to be an active and loyal member of the association.

....

Signed Date

15. The spiritual leader

You have an important role in the UCSA branch of this school.

You are the group leaders' spiritual mentor.

You need to build a relationship with them so that

- they trust you and are able to bring their questions and problems to you
- and to bring the questions and problems of their group members to you.

You are the leaders' group leader

- You need to pray for them regularly.
- You help them to grow in faith.
- You help them develop their leadership abilities.

Bible Study Guides

- Each group session is a process.
- Group leaders should be well prepared; members will mostly be totally unprepared. This will not impede the process of the group session.

Group sessions

The following process takes place during each session. The group leader leads his group through various phases:

Phase 1: Building the group

- Create warmth and a climate conducive to openness.

Phase 2: Breaking open the subject

- Talk about the aim of the session.
- Members give their own ideas or experiences.

Phase 3: Stimulating discussion

- There are NO right or wrong answers!
- Everyone can have his say.
- The leader should allow as many as possible to have their say.
- The leader takes initiative, but bewares of monologues or even talking too much.
- VERY IMPORTANT: sermons and lessons are not allowed!

Phase 4: What does the Bible say?

- Read the Bible.
- Write down.
- Talk about the doing of it!

Phase 5: Go and do it!

- Talk about how to do it and how to help one another.
- Talk about the implications of your actions: it might not be pleasant.
- Decide on a plan of action.

The leaders' class

- NOT a message or lesson.
- NOT a sermon.
- BUT a model of what is supposed to happen in the groups. Group leaders have to experience the process before they can make it happen in their own groups.
- Fellowship and prayer.

The spiritual leader

- You act as group leader.
- Divide a large group into smaller groups, leaders to emerge spontaneously.
- Get them talking and arguing!
- Give opportunity for questions and comments.
- Remember: group leaders do not need a sermon.
- Group leaders should experience the process.

One way of going about it

- In a large circle, so each one can see the others.
- Eye contact is important.
- Get to know their names as soon as possible!
- Give each one a chance to have his or her say.
- Be honest: do not try to hold up a facade of holiness. This kills openness.
- Make them inquisitive about the next meeting.
- Caring for each one individually is vital.
- **These points are true for both leaders' class and group sessions.**

Each group is a growth opportunity

- Each group is part of the body of Christ.
- Your aim: not a social get-together.
- Your aim: to get to know Jesus better.
- Your aim: to discover what the Bible has to say to each one about his/her particular life.
- Your aim: to grow together towards Christ.
- Your aim: to practice living according to God's will.
- **These points are true for both leaders' class and group sessions.**

The group

- You are there for one another: to encourage and build one another's faith.
- Help one another with problems.
- Accept responsibility for one another.
- Learn from one another by sharing your stories.
- Help one another on the road of faith.
- **These points are true for both leaders' class and group sessions.**

16. Marketing

Marketing is a ministry to the glory of God and for the spreading of his Kingdom.

If you do marketing for UCSA, UCSA will grow in your school and province.

Make UCSA known

- Use local newspapers.
- Witness in churches.
- Invite parents to join in some of your activities.
- Use assembly to tell the whole school about your activities.

Make friends for UCSA

- Nobody can survive without friends – and certainly not your UCSA branch.
- Make friends with parents and other interested adults.
- Get their postal addresses and send these to your provincial organiser.
- He will organise the UCSA newsletter to be sent to them.
- Invite them to your activities or ask their help.

Fundraising for UCSA

- UCSA needs funds in order to do its job properly among young people.
- UCSA needs about R35,00 per member per year to cover expenses.
- For these funds we trust the Lord.
- UCSA receives funds from
  - UCSA friends who regularly send contributions;
  - congregations and churches who care about young people and who take up collections for UCSA;
  - branches who fundraise for UCSA.
- UCSA needs money for
  - training group leaders, UCSA teachers, full time staff and service year teams;
  - organising camps, seminars, youth festivals, outreaches and other projects;
  - creating literature and other resources;
  - counselling young people in crisis;
  - developing and maintaining camp sites;
  - world missions and creating opportunities for young people to become involved.
- You can help the kingdom of God by helping to fundraise.
- Fundraising is usually great fun!
- Plan special projects for your branch and see that all members take part.

17. The Provincial Organiser

The Provincial Organiser is a full time staff member of UCSA.

He or she is there for you.

They would like to help you when and where they can.

The Provincial Organiser

- works for the kingdom of God
- represents UCSA in your region/province
- is accountable to the provincial council
- helps to prepare the publications and manuals that you use during the year
- is responsible for UCSA administration in your province
- organises camps, youth rallies and festivals
- helps to train group leaders
- visits all branches and helps where necessary
- thinks up new and exciting things for UCSA members and branches to do.

How do they help you?

They can

- give information about UCSA
- give information on what is happening in UCSA
- give information on how a UCSA branch works
- help you to establish a UCSA branch
- give advice and support for your specific circumstances
- help you to do new things in your branch, to change or to build your branch
- help you with training - teachers, committees, group leaders, whatever
- counsel learners when they visit your school or at camps.

Where to find them

- Phone the head office in Stellenbosch at (021) 887 0212. They will tell you!

18. UCSA resources

This may help you

Available in English:

- Online resources and bible study application
  - Bible study and discussion guides
  - Bible study for branch camps (with leader's manual)
  - Manuals for training group leaders and teachers
  - Podcasts
- UCSA News
- Puppet show dialogue
- Life skills sessions
- Online access to back tracks and videos
- Leadership training
- Badges
- Membership cards
- Code of honour for group leaders
- T-shirts and other products
- Hiking experineces
- Outreaches
- Service Year team

UCSA is there for you

You can order these from **UCSA Head Office, PO Box 25, STELLENBOSCH 7599** or phone (021) 887 0212.

19. UCSA Campsites

Are you looking for a camp site for your next branch camp?

UCSA has eleven camp sites which offer special rates for UCSA groups and affordable rates for other youth groups.

Site	Location	Bookings
Bain's Kloof *	Western Cape, in the mountains near Wellington	083 7318942
Kleinmond *	Western Cape, beach and Palmiet lagoon	(021) 887 0212
Karmel *	Western Cape, 10 km from Franschhoek in the mountains	(021) 887 0212
Strandfontein *	West coast near Vredendal, near main beach	(027) 215 166 6
Jeffrey's Bay *	Eastern Cape, near main beach (surfing!)	076 384 140 4
Retiefkamp (Maselspoort) *	Free State, 20 km from Bloemfontein, near holiday resort	078 019 535 8
Die Hoekie *	Gauteng, between Pretoria and Brits, in Magalies Mountain (swimming pool!)	079 515 274 4
Winklespruit *	Natal, near Amanzimtoti, on the beach	081 811 295 1

*** Campsites have programming opportunities (climbing walls, balance course, archery, problem solving etc.**

The Uniting Christian Students' Association

Volunteers' agreement

(speakers, spiritual leaders, camp leaders, volunteers, partners)

Dear…….

Thank you for being available as volunteer for the following:

…….

We trust that your involvement will be a blessing for all concerned. And we really enjoy having you as part of the UCSA family!

As UCSA is a free Christian organisation reaching out to learners and students from various churches, we need to focus on the central Christian message. In order to teach learners to be disciples of Jesus Christ in all aspects of their lives, we wish to focus from a Biblical perspective on matters such as spiritual growth, discipleship in practice, world missions and service.

The UCSA constitution is the basis of the activities of the organisation, and it is therefore necessary for you to avail yourself of its contents, especially the two articles dealing with volunteers. These articles are:

3.2.7 UCSA undertakes to avoid dogmatic matters about which there may be differences of opinion among churches involved in programme and study material made available to its members and in the style in which activities are presented.

3.2.9 UCSA expects the leadership of the organisation and/or those taking the lead in its activities during group discussions or any other activity or meeting of the organisation in no way whatsoever to act contrary to its confession of faith nor to allow conflict to be created about dogmatic matters or allow activities about which differences of opinion among churches may develop.

Matters about which there are differences of opinion are the charisma or gifts of the Holy Spirit, baptism (whether infant baptism or adult baptism), Toronto blessing, and exorcising demons. Should matters such as these be brought up during a meeting, they should be handled with tact and wisdom, and with regard to the various opinions held by different churches. Please tell the learners that UCSA, being a free Christian organisation and not a church, cannot discuss these matters at its meetings. Young people with specific questions about these matters should consult their pastors, spiritual leaders or parents.

Thank you for understanding that we have no other option but one of self-restraint in these matters. We do not wish to alienate our members or their churches, and we also need the goodwill of the educational authorities.

Thank you again for your involvement!

……..
pp EXECUTIVE HEAD: UCSA

Please sign the following agreement if you are willing to act under the restraints mentioned above.

The Uniting Christian Students' Association of SA

Agreement

I, ……., understand the terms of this agreement

and agree to act within the boundaries of the guidelines for volunteers at UCSA.

Signed at……..…….. on the ……. day of ……. 20…

Signature:……

✧✧✧✧