

## NZUSA...coming to a town near you

National student leaders will be helping students save their services as they visit campuses around the country this month.

NZUSA is visiting member associations and their institutions from Auckland to Dunedin in a fortnight-long tour of universities, polytechnics, and institutes of technology. The main focus of the tour will be to raise awareness of Roger Douglas' threat to student services, as well as discuss tertiary education issues with students, staff, and institutions.

The 'Save Our Services' coalition was launched last week, and many campuses nationwide are rolling out the 'Save Our Services' campaign. The campaign is designed to inform students about the possible effects of the Douglas bill on them and their education, and encourage students to take action by writing submissions against the Bill.

"Roger Douglas' voluntary student membership bill threatens the services, representation, and experience students currently receive on campus. NZUSA will be working with students and the wider community to defeat this Bill," says NZUSA co-President David Do.

"If passed, the impacts of Roger Douglas' bill will go beyond campus and into the wider community. The workloads of non-governmental organisations may increase if student association welfare, advocacy, and support services collapse. Cities and towns that embrace the vitality of student life provided by associations will see their vibrancy drop away," says Do.

As well as talking with students, NZUSA will also be putting the issues facing students to key tertiary players on each campus.

"2010 is already a challenging year for students and the tertiary sector. We are seeing high student unemployment, threats to loan eligibility, threats to access into universities, loss of student representation at polytechnics, rising student debt, and the threat of even higher fees," says NZUSA co-President Pene Delaney.

"We're looking forward to raising our concerns with Vice Chancellors, Chief Executives, and staff union representatives. By discussing common interests and issues in the tertiary sector, we can seek out how we can work together to further our goals," concludes Delaney.

NZUSA is a federation of fourteen students' associations representing the common and collective interests of tertiary students nationwide.

ITINERARY AND CONTACT DETAILS FOLLOW



## ITINERARY

NZUSA will be visiting Auckland, Hamilton, Rotorua, Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington, and Palmerston North over the next fortnight.

Here follows the specific dates and geographical locations of the NZUSA co-Presidents. NZUSA is available for interviews and other media contact throughout this time. However we may be involved with a number of locally organised events and meetings during the daytime.

March 8-9 Auckland

Visiting Auckland University on the 8<sup>th</sup> and morning of the 9<sup>th</sup>

Visiting Massey University (Albany campus) on the 9<sup>th</sup>

March 10-12 Waikato/Rotorua

Visiting Waikato Institute of Technology on the 10<sup>th</sup>

Visiting Waiariki Institute of Technology on the 11<sup>th</sup>

Visiting Waikato University on the 12<sup>th</sup>

March 15-16 Dunedin

Visiting Otago University on the 15<sup>th</sup>

Visiting Otago Polytechnic on the 16<sup>th</sup>

March 17 – Christchurch

Visiting Lincoln University on the 17<sup>th</sup>

March 18-19 – Wellington

Visiting Massey University (Wellington campus) on the 18<sup>th</sup>

Visiting Victoria University on the 19<sup>th</sup>

March 22-23 – Palmerston North

Visiting UCOL Palmerston North on the 22<sup>nd</sup>

Visiting Massey University (Palmerston North) on the 23<sup>rd</sup>



## CONTACT DETAILS

The two NZUSA co-presidents David Do and Pene Delaney will be joined on tour by Te Mana Akonga(national Maori students association) Tumuaki Jacqualene Poutu, and NZUSA National Women's Rights Officer Sophia Blair.

NZUSA contact details follow:

David Do (Co-President, 027 486 8677, [david.do@students.org.nz](mailto:david.do@students.org.nz))

Pene Delaney (Co-President, 027 486 8673, [pene.delaney@students.org.nz](mailto:pene.delaney@students.org.nz))

Sophia Blair (National Womens' Rights Officer, 027 486 8675, [nwro@students.org.nz](mailto:nwro@students.org.nz))

Jacqueline Poutu (Tumuaki, 027 483 6262, [tumuaki@students.org.nz](mailto:tumuaki@students.org.nz))

David Do was the President of the Auckland University Students Association in 2008. Prior to that, he was their Education Vice President (2007), and Welfare Officer (October2004-2006). He finished his Honours in Politics last year at Auckland University. He has also been on the Tertiary Education Commission's Learners Advisory Committee since 2007, and has been a student rep on the Auckland University Council for two years(2007-2008).

Pene Delaney is a descendent of Te Arawa, and was the 2009 president of the Waikato Students' Union. He holds a MMS (Hons) from the Waikato Management School specialising in Strategic Management and is in pursuit of PhD in the subject. Pene is a graduate of Waiariki Institute of Technology, Waikato University and Te Wananga o Aotearora. His interests include governance, strategic direction and organisational structure.

Sophia Blair is this year's National Women's Rights Officer, based in Auckland. She was the 2009 NZUSA co-President, 2008 Education Vice President of Auckland University Students' Association, and 2007 AUSA National Affairs Officer. She completed her Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies in 2007 and is currently studying towards an Honours degree in Political Studies.

Jacqueline Poutu is the Tumuaki(President) of the national Maori Students association Te Mana Akonga for 2010 as well as for 2009. She was Tumuaki at Otago University's Roopu in 2006 and 2007. She holds a Bachelors of Science in Anatomy and Structural Biology, as well as a Masters in Public Policy.