

**Media
Release****4 May 2005**Attention: Education and
Political reporters**For Immediate Release**

Students invoice Mallard over bungled allowances promise

The New Zealand University Students' Association (NZUSA) has today invoiced the Government for 10 weeks worth of living costs on behalf of the 36,000 students who should have received an allowance this year but didn't.

"The Government promised in the Budget last year that 36,000 more students would receive an allowance in 2005, and instead there have been 3000 fewer," said Andrew Kirton, Co-President of the New Zealand University Students' Association (NZUSA).

Green MP Nandor Tanczos attempted to table an invoice totalling \$54 million during questions time today at parliament on behalf of students.

"We are invoicing the Government because as a result of this bungle, students who should have received an allowance have been forced to borrow from the loan scheme just to pay for their rent and groceries," said Kirton.

Figures released on Monday found that only 40,434 students have received an allowance in the first quarter of this year, compared with 52,465 students in 2001.

"Trevor Mallard must act at once to deliver on his promise of 36,000 more student allowances in 2005. The Government must have saved millions from this debacle and this money should go to students," said Camilla Belich, Co-President of NZUSA.

"This fiasco proves that the only efficient, clear and equitable way of administering student allowances is to provide a living allowance for all students," said Belich.

Ends.

For more information contact:

Andrew Kirton

NZUSA Co-President

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NZUSA Co-President

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To:	The New Zealand Government Attention: Trevor Mallard		
Invoice No:		Date:	Tuesday, 3 May 2005
GST No:	10-387-388	Budget Code:	

Description	Amount
<p>36,000 students who should have received an allowance in 2005 but didn't x \$150 per week borrowed from the Student Loan Scheme to fund living costs in the absence of a student allowance</p> <p>x 10 weeks of the 2005 academic year so far this year</p> <p>Total:</p>	\$54,000,000
GST included	none
TOTAL	\$54,000,000

On behalf of the 36,000 students who are not receiving a student allowance when the government promised they would.

Please make all cheques payable to: **New Zealand University Students' Association**

If you have any questions about this invoice, contact: Andrew Kirton

Ph (04) 498 2500

Fax (04) 473 2391

Remittance advice: Detach and enclose with your payment

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Invoice Date:

Invoice No:

Total Amount:

Code: