

Media Release

**20 June 2002
Attention: Education and
Political reporters
For Immediate Release**

Alliance Tertiary Education Policy Sets Standard for Other Parties

The New Zealand University Students' Association (NZUSA) is today challenging all other political parties to match the commitment to relieving student debt announced today in the Alliance tertiary education policy.

"We welcome the Alliance's policies of a universal allowance, no fees and no interest on existing loans. It is now up to other parties to show how they intend to fix the student debt problem," said NZUSA Co-President Charlie Chambers.

"NZUSA has long argued that the best way to get rid of debt is to address the drivers of debt, high fees and lack of allowances. This policy addresses both of those," said Chambers.

"It is positive to see that the Alliance views tertiary education as investment in New Zealand's economic and social development. For too long the emphasis on private good has dominated tertiary education policy. The fact is that we all benefit from an educated society," said Chambers.

"All political parties need to make a similar commitment to students. This election is a crossroad for the student loan scheme. New Zealanders can vote for parties that don't support student debt relief and face the economic and social consequences in the future, or they can vote for parties that offer a new direction in the funding of tertiary education," said Chambers.

"NZUSA's message is simple. We will be strongly encouraging students and their families to vote only for parties offering universal allowances and fee reductions," said Chambers.

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