



## **NZUSA National Executive**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
10.00am – 4.00pm  
501 Gloucester Street, Taradale  
Napier 4112

### **Next meeting:**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020  
10.00am – 4.00pm  
AUSA House, Auckland

## **Agenda**

Whakataka te hau ki te uru  
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga  
Kia mākinakina ki uta  
Kia mātaratara ki tai  
E hī ake ana te atakura  
He tio, he huka, he hau hū  
Tīhei mauri ora!

### **Procedural**

- 1. Karakia and Welcome**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Disclosures of Interest**
- 4. Matters Arising**

### **Strategic Items & Decision-Making**

- 5. Approval of Meeting Minutes (29 January)**
- 6. NZUSA President Report**
- 7. NZUSA Vice President Reports**
- 8. Oral Reports**

- **Te Mana Ākonga**
- **Tauira Pasifika**
- **Thursdays in Black**

**9. Workshop: Cannabis Referendum 2020**

**10. Debt Free Futures**

**11. COVID-19 Update**

**12. National Rainbow Student Representation**

**13. Membership**

- **M@D**
- **MAWSA**
- **ASA**

**14. NZUSA Annual Plan**

**15. Oral update: Student Job Search**

**16. Tauira Pasifika – NZUSA Memorandum of Understanding**



## NZUSA National Executive Meeting Minutes – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

### **1. Karakia and Welcome**

- Isabella welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2020 and Noho gave a mihi
- Present: Sam Blackmore (LUSA), Andrew Lessells (Younited), Jack Manning (OUSA), Stefan Biberstien (MUSA), Isabella Lenihan-Ikin, Sam Smith, Matthew Schep (NZUSA), Nohorua Parata (TMA), Dallin Niuelua (ASA), Geo Robrigado (VUWSA), Mila Korokhova (Weltec Student Connection), Helen Vea (Unitec), Perina Mucalo (SAWIT).

### **2. Apologies**

- George Barton (AUSA), Faelan Sorenson (Whitireia Student Council)
  - Moved – Andrew Lessells, Younited
  - Seconded – Sam Blackmore, LUSA
  - Moved Unanimously (U)

### **3. Disclosures of Interest**

- Executive filled in conflicts register

### **4. Matters Arising**

#### *Social media use*

- Reminder to reduce non-work related content in the National Executive group chat

#### *Membership*

- In conversation with MAWSA and M@D (formerly EXMSS) about membership.
- ASA has put in their notice to withdraw on the 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020.
- AS@U are in the process of rebuilding their association.

### *Pastoral Care Interim Code*

- On Tuesday and Wednesday, Noho and Issie attended a workshop about the guidelines of Interim Pastoral Care Code.
- NZUSA and TMA suggested there be a set of guiding principles to inform decision-making, including principles of partnership with students and representatives.
- National Executive were supporting of the proposed principles put forwards by NZUSA and TMA.

## **5. Policy changes\***

- THAT the changes to the National Welfare Committee Terms of Reference be accepted
  - Moved: Isabella
  - Seconded: Andrew
  - Moved U
- THAT the changes to the National Education Committee Terms of Reference be accepted.
  - Moved: Isabella
  - Seconded: Stefan
  - Moved U

## **6. NZUSA Committee Appointments\***

- THAT the National Executive appoint the recommended chairs to the committees.
  - There were not enough application received, nomination period to be extended - these will be moved at the next National Executive meeting
- THAT Andrew Lessells be appointed as the Chair of the NZUSA FRAC
  - Moved: Issie
  - Seconded: Geo
  - Moved U (Abstain: Andrew)

## **7. IPT Spokespeople Roles.**

- THAT the National Executive appoint Andrew Lessells and Perina Mucalo to the positions as ITP spokespeople.
  - Moved: Issie
  - Seconded: Mila
  - Moved U

## **8. Kiwibank Signatory\***

- THAT Matthew Schep is added as a signatory to all NZUSA Kiwibank accounts
- THAT Andrew Lessells is added as a signatory to all NZUSA Kiwibank accounts
  - Moved: Issie
  - Seconded: Dallin
  - Moved U

## **9. Meeting Dates and Locations for 2020\***

- THAT the National Executive agree to the dates and locations of NZUSA National Executive meetings for 2020
  - Agreed to move 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 meeting to 23<sup>th</sup> November placeholder (meeting if needed).
  - AUSA cannot host Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Younited will host next meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March and AUSA will host the following National Executive meeting.
  - Host organisation to organise snacks, lunch, tea coffee, venue and must have zoom capabilities.
  - Moved: Issie
  - Seconded: Jack
  - Moved U

## **10. NZUSA Policy Manifesto**

- THAT the National Executive agree to NZUSA 2020 Policy Manifesto.
  - Changed discussed at Congress – these have been added
  - Matt suggested to include the provision of New Zealand civics education in schools. There was a general consensus that this should be included
  - Additions to be made

- *Page 1, before out landscape - That NZUSA is a non-partisan organisation and will work with the government of the day and all political parties to advance our vision for barrier free education*
- *4<sup>th</sup> page, NZUSA supports te Tiriti guided civics education being taught in secondary schools across Aotearoa*
- *Subject to engagement with refugee background students, recognising their current state - consultations with refugee background network to ensure they are represented*
  - Moved: Issie
  - Seconded: Noho
  - Moved U

## **11. Workshop: Non-member Strategy**

- How should we engage with non-members
- Andrew – perfect time to engage with IPT associations considering ROVE
  - SANIT, NMIT and OPSA
  - National Executive play a part in getting non-members to join
- Campus tour:
  - Geo – NZUSA should go to non-member associations and engage directly
  - NZUSA travel with partner association where possible
- Partner category for non-members
  - Another category (partner), they don't pay but help with our campaigns
  - A way to say we speak for those students
- Recognised the election a good way to bring people in and partner during election
- This could be in the form of an MOU between NZUSA and non-members for election
- We must lead with Manaakitanga, one of our core values
- Importance of Conference to build whanaungatanga
- Motion to agree to this non-member strategy:
  - Moved Issie
  - Seconded Stefan
  - Moved U

## **12. Sweet \$16 Billion Celebration**

- National Executive and others gathered in front of the Minister of Finance Office to bring light to student loan debt hitting \$16 billion.
- Speeches given by Issie, Noho, Ali, Betsy and Perina.
- We then cut and ate the \$16 billion dollar cake.

### 13. Workshop: Debt Free Futures Campaign

- *Video*
  - All members liked the video
  - Issie noted there would also be shorter videos for social media
  - Some minor adjusting needed, for example
    - Could add more shots of student life and be voiced over by the stories – maybe better with the shorter videos
  - Videos in te reo, partner with TP, TMA – need to think of target audience
- *#debtfreefutures Campaign*
  - Document circulated at conference
  - Agreed that the campaign is policy not party focussed
  - AUSA suggested that debt free futures might be too partisan. Members noted that there are a range of efforts to address barrier free education, but debt free futures is a significant part of that, and is in line with NZUSA core purpose
  - National Office will make an accessible document, outlining the campaign – this will include the principle of being non-partisan
- *Three Asks*
  - **1.** All members supported **free tertiary education** (for at least three years)
  - **2.** All members supported **universal student allowance** (includes undergrad, postgrad and age discrimination)
- **3. Reducing student debt**
  - Discussion about wiping student debt or reducing student debt – people agreed reducing was more palatable and not as politically alienating
  - We need to ensure that the burden of reducing current student debt does not fall on fee paying students

### 14. Annual Plan

- Workshop discussion, which will be fed back at the next National Executive meeting

# Memorandum

<b>To</b>	National Executive
<b>From</b>	Isabella Lenihan-Ikin
<b>Date</b>	12 March 2020
<b>Subject</b>	NZUSA President Report

## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the work of the NZUSA President since 1 January 2020. Please note this period is longer than the normal reporting period as it was mistakenly left off the agenda of the 29 January 2020 meeting.

## National Events:

- Hosted NZUSA Presidents Training 2020
  - First time that the Presidents/Tumuaki of Te Mana Ākonga, Tauria Pasifika and NZ International Students Association were present
- Hosted NZUSA National Conference (+60 attendees)
- Hosted NZUSA National Executive Meeting
- Campus Tour
  - South Island (9 – 11 March)
  - Lower North Island (18 – 20 March)
  - Wellington (25 – 26 March)
- ITP Summit (23 – 24 March)
  - Highest and widest turnout in engagement

## Campaigns

- Weltec
- Open Polytech
- Victoria University of Wellington
- Massey University of Wellington Clubs Day
- Albany Students' Albany
  - Executive Meeting
- Auckland University Students' Association
  - Meeting with the President
- AUT Students' Association
  - Meeting with the President



## **NZUSA Campaigns:**

- Debt Free Futures
- Lets get the polytechnics back into the black
- Thursdays in Black
- Post-graduate allowance

## **2020 student Issues:**

- COVID-19
  - Working with students and stakeholders across the sector to provide a response to the issues, experienced by international students, as a result of coronavirus.
- Formation of the National Student Working Group on COVID-19, comprised by members of the NZUSA National Executive and the NZISA
- Sweet \$16 billion stunt student Presidents' from across the country
- StudyLink
  - Raised the issues associated with student loans and allowances with the Manger of Tertiary Sector Support at MSD.
- Convened a meeting (Tuesday 17 March) with the advocates and representatives of the students' associations dealing with issues raised by students and MSD.

## **Meetings:**

- **Politicians:**
  - Green Party Tertiary Spokesperson, Chloe Swarbrick
  - Minister of Education, Hon Chris Hipkins
  - Associate Minister of Education, Hon Tracey Martin
  - National Party Tertiary Spokesperson, Dr Shane Reti
- **Government departments:**
  - Ministry of Education and NZ Qualifications Authority
    - Workshop on the Interim Code of Practice for Pastoral Care
  - Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
    - Renters and Tenancy Advocacy
    - Bond workshop
  - Inland Revenue
    - Meeting to discuss StudyLink changes
  - Department of Internal Affairs
    - Meeting to discuss Community Funding Grants including the Community Internship Fund
  - Tertiary Education Commission
    - ITP Summit and student representation
  - Electoral Commission

- General Election 2020
- Chinese Embassy
  - COVID-19 and supporting international students from China
- StudyLink (MSD)
  - Student Allowance Review Panel
- Ako Aotearoa
  - ITP Summit
- Universities NZ
  - Committee on University Academic Programmes (CUAP)
  - Coronavirus
- New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (NZIST)
  - Appointment panel for NZIST CEO
- Human Rights Commission
  - COVID-19 and anti-racism campaign
- Equal Opportunities Commissioner
  - Sexual Violence on Tertiary campuses
  - Employment issues faced by students
- Academic Quality Agency
  - Quarterly meeting (MoU requirement)

**Partner and member engagement:**

- Te Mana Ākonga Kaiarahi Hui
- Tauria Pasifika Memorandum of Understanding formalization (to sign March 20)
- Thursdays in Black Co-ordination engagement
- Tertiary Education Union
  - Monthly catch-ups
- Attendance and speaking at the U35 Conference
- Tenancy Advocacy Network
  - Submission on the Residential Tenancies Act reform
- Building relationship with the NZ Chinese Students' Association
- Student Job Search engagement (including with Debt Free Futures)
- NZ Drug Foundation regarding information on a cannabis referendum

**Current projects:**

- Website re-development
- Inaugural Te Mana Ākonga/Tauria Pasifika/-NZUSA hui (24-26 April)
- Establishment of a National Students Coronavirus Working Group including establishing a national response to address COVID-19 in the tertiary sector

- Partnership with Rainbow Youth with regards to the establishment of a National Rainbow Students' Voice
- Debt Free Futures planning, research and external engagement
- Scoping employment of a designer/videographer
- Electoral Commission Memorandum of Understanding
- Ongoing professional development for presidents (workshops at exec meetings)
- Engagement with Refugee Students' Network
- Reform of Vocational Education Student Voice
- Admin
  - Internal filing
  - Finances
  - Archiving
- National Office re-vamp including the creation of a hot desk for student leaders (NZISA, polytechnic students, TIB staff) to use
- Audit of subscriptions and external costings
- 90th birthday alumni celebration
- NZUSA Committees Appointment 2020

#### **Membership:**

- Two university students' associations (M@D and MAWSA). Positive discussion about membership with UCSA
- Two polytechnic students' associations (OPSA and NMIT)

#### **Membership engagement:**

- Governance support/membership support with HR issues
- Re-establishment of Association of Students' @ UCOL

#### **Alumni Engagement:**

- Meeting with Rory McCourt
- Meeting with Tanja Schutz
- Meeting with Fleur Fitzsimmons

#### **Media Coverage:**

*RNZ*

- Insight Interview regarding Mental Health within student community (to be published)
- <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/410760/coronavirus-universities-warn-more-staff-cuts-on-the-horizon>
- <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/410341/covid-19-coronavirus-travel-ban-students-urge-government-to-end-ban>

- <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/on-the-inside/410515/lift-travel-ban-hitting-education-sector-and-feeding-racism>
- <https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/morningreport/audio/2018735820/covid-19-students-say-travel-ban-unreasonable-and-fuelling-xenophobia>
- <https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/first-up/audio/2018735632/students-feeling-the-squeeze-as-university-halls-put-prices-up>

#### *Spinoff (op-ed)*

- <https://thespinoff.co.nz/politics/27-02-2020/the-covid-19-travel-ban-is-racist-and-disastrous-for-international-students/>

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#### *Newshub*

- <https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2020/02/university-students-union-demand-government-lift-racist-coronavirus-travel-ban.html>

#### *NZ Herald*

- [https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=12313131](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12313131)
- [https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=12305109](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12305109)

#### *Scoop*

- <https://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PO2002/S00153/reform-of-the-residential-tenancies-act.htm>

#### *Newstalk ZB*

- <https://www.newstalkzb.co.nz/on-air/mike-hosking-breakfast/audio/warwick-quinn-construction-industry-benefiting-from-govts-fees-free-policy/>
- <https://www.newstalkzb.co.nz/on-air/mike-hosking-breakfast/audio/isabella-lenihan-ikin-woman-arrested-at-border-over-student-loan-debt/>

#### *Stuff*

- <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/119122778/auckland-university-buys-5m-pannell-mansion-for-incoming-vicechancellor>
- <https://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/opinion/118911384/overseasbased-loan-defaulters-need-to-square-up-the-taxpayer>

### **Recommendation**

- THAT the National Executive approve the NZUSA President Report

# Memorandum

<b>To</b>	<b>National Executive</b>
<b>From</b>	Matthew Schep
<b>Date</b>	13 March 2020
<b>Subject</b>	NZUSA Vice-President Report

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of my work as NZUSA Co-Vice-President since 1 January 2020. NB this period is longer than the normal reporting period as it was mistakenly left off the agenda of the 29 January 2020 meeting.

## **ITP Summit**

Our annual ITP Summit is fast approaching, on 23 and 24 March. It was brought forward a month to March this year as our ITP reps requested a pre-RoVE summit. I have been leading summit preparations, both in terms of logistics and in terms of the content delivery.

We have secured sponsorship agreements with both Ako Aotearoa and the Tertiary Education Commission to fund the summit and travel/accommodation costs for attendees respectively. This has allowed us to minimise the cost to student reps and their associations/institutes.

I have maintained excellent channels of communication with all sixteen ITPs across the country regarding the summit and ensuring equitable access to those wanting to attend. We have reps coming from eleven institutes, including all institutes with a student council or association.

The summit is a busy two days packed with presentations and workshops from NZIST, TEC, Ako Aotearoa, Ministry of Education, Student Job Search, Electoral Commission, NZUSA, Thursdays in Black, BCITO, two ITP Chief Executives, the General Manager from SANITI, and a group of seasoned ITP student leaders. The content is based on what our student reps identified as their needs leading up to April 1st.

## **National Conference and Presidents' Training**

I organised most of the logistics for both of these two events in our first month, and coordinated the catering for the latter. Both were integral in bringing together the

student voice from around the country to coordinate national strategy and support structures. National Conference was attended by reps from all of our members bar one, as well as three non-member associations. The sense of unity and plan to work alongside our non-members towards shared goals was for me the highlight of the month and set the tone for my work for the year.

### **Member and non-Member Engagement**

I have engaged with and supported a number of member organisations since the beginning of the year, from offering advice on small decisions to helping support an association rebuild. I have worked with the student reps from UCol to develop a plan to rebuild their association, have provided confidential advice to a member on staffing issues, and have spent a lot of time on the phone with student reps talking about various issues. I have spent a lot of time working with Weltec and Whitireia to support their new merged student council, as a part of a contract that we have with them.

In line with my work on the ITP Summit, I have spent a lot of time reaching out to non-member ITPs too see where they are at and how we can support them. I have had significant engagement with OPSA and SANITI, whom we will be working alongside on RoVE stuff. MIT Student Council are sending nine reps to the summit and I will use this as an opportunity to engage a conversation around potential membership. NorthTec staff are open to us working with them to support their burgeoning student voice, and I am looking at a visit in April while we are in Auckland.

I did not attend the Dunedin and Christchurch campus tours, but am looking forward to our upcoming North Island tours, where we will be visiting campuses in Auckland, Wellington, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Napier, and Whangarei. Isabella and I are also visiting SANITI in Nelson in May.

Here in Wellington, I have visited MAWSA twice (ran a Thursdays in Black stall at their clubs day on the second occasion) and have worked closely with the outgoing presidents of the Weltec and Whitireia Student Councils both on and off campus. I have been a part of conversations to bring MAWSA and M@D into NZUSA membership.

### **Campaigns**

Our biggest campaign this year is of course Debt Free Futures, and National Office has collated the working feedback from National Conference and is using it to guide our next steps. I have been engaged in research on the cost of a universal student allowance and of full government funding of domestic tertiary fees, as well as exploring messaging to go with these issues.

The postgraduate allowance working group has restarted, and we are looking ahead to the 2020 Budget Day to ensure that we can secure this election promise in that budget. We met with Chloe Swarbrick in March and discussed the allowance as one conversation point, and will hammer it home early next month in a scheduled meeting with Minister Hipkins. In the meantime I am exploring options to put the pressure on, including an open letter that I have written, social media campaigning, and engaging our supporters on ActionStation.

### **External Engagement:**

I have met and worked with a number of external stakeholders in my role at NZUSA, with various deliverables. I will list these below.

- MP Chloe Swarbrick: engaging with student issues that need to be addressed by the government
- MBIE: building on the relationship established by our MOU, providing advice and student input on ministry projects
- Electoral Commission: establishing an MOU to guide our relationship long-term as we seek to step up the student and youth election enrolments votes across Aotearoa
- Tertiary Education Commission: securing support and funding for our ITP Summit
- Ako Aotearoa: securing support and funding for our ITP Summit
- Ministry of Education: supporting their project to bring the culture and messaging of the Interim Pastoral Care Code to students, and to gather student input for the development of the permanent code that will follow it
- Tenancy Advocacy Network: attending a Zoom meeting to discuss issues facing renters in the current political climate and action to be taken
- Student Job Search: working collaboratively to provide opportunities for them to engage with student reps to improve their offering to students
- Te Mana Ākonga: attended part of their national hui in Wellington

### **Contract Work:**

As a part of a contract that NZUSA has with Weltec and Whitireia, I provide up to ten hours a week of work supporting their student council. The previous person in this role did not use all ten hours, but I have been finding enough work to fill ten hours as they pay NZUSA \$50 and hour plus GST for this service. These ten hours are separate to my part-time hours as Vice-President.

So far, this work has entailed helping them write their constitution and setting up and running their March elections. I have designed posters, social media content, and

nomination forms, run their IGM, and will be the returning officer for the election. I have regular meetings with the staff at the institutions and have been instrumental in securing a strong student voice and demonstrating its importance in the institutional framework.

**Other projects:**

I have worked with Isabella to design the initial stages of the development of a national Rainbow student voice. This would involve bringing together rainbow clubs and reps from campuses across Aotearoa to a Rainbow Youth training weekend in Auckland and using that meeting as a starting point to construct something that addresses the needs of these students at the national level.

I contributed to NZUSA's press release and submission on the Residential Tenancies Act bill.

I have engaged in a substantial amount of admin since taking office. This has included chasing up severely overdue invoices, organising registrations and invoices for conference, summit, and presidents' training, rebuilding contact databases, sorting out our digital filing systems, and reorganising the office layout.

I organised updating the Terms of Reference for the NZUSA committees and facilitating committee applications from our members.

**Recommendation**

- THAT the National Executive approve the NZUSA Co-Vice-President Report



# Memorandum

To	National Executive
From	Sam Smith
Date	13 March 2020
Subject	Vice President's Report – Sam Smith

## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the work of the NZUSA Vice President since January 2020. The beginning of the year has been jam-packed with a range of projects. Our events have been successful, and planning for our various campaigns and projects are well underway. Issie and I have just come back from the first leg of our National Campus Tour which has been extremely positive and energising.

Aside from working with Matthew and Issie on events, campaigns, and lobbying, I have put a decent portion of my time to reviewing NZUSA internal systems (filing, subscriptions, archives) and general office administration. There are many loose ends that I am in the process of tying off to ensure that National Office is running efficiently, and that future representatives do not have to spend excessive time hunting for files or to sifting through email to find what contracts we are party to.

Here is a brief overview of the key projects I have been working of this year:

### *January*

- Organising and co-ordinating President's Training, National Executive meeting and NZUSA National Conference
- Creating a resource hub for all of NZUSA internal files which were previously strewn across various mediums
- Meeting with Tauria Pasifika National President to discuss finances for 2020
- Setting up Payroll for 2020
- Three meetings with the Ministry of Education regarding the Pastoral Care Code and how students can be involved with its formation
- Meeting with the Electoral Commission to begin discussion on how we can work together for Election 2020 and beyond
- Filing GST return
- Office and financial administration

### *February*

- Began research for Debt Free Futures (current debt levels, party platforms in 2017 election)
- Meeting with the Executive Director of AQA to discuss our work for 2020 as per our MoU
- Meeting with Taura Pasifika National President to discuss TP bank account set up and funding for their Executive Retreat
- #DFF planning day with National Office
- Meeting regarding NZUSA website and
- Meeting with Inland Revenue to discuss changes to student loans (incl. website changes)
- Office and financial administration

### *March*

- Drafting MoU with Electoral Commission and meeting to discuss said MoU
- First Coronavirus Working Group Meeting
- Meeting with Department of Internal Affairs to discuss options for alternative funding streams and funding to archive NZUSA's files
- Meeting with Green Party Tertiary Spokesperson, Chlöe Swarbrick
- South Island Campus Tour visits (OUSA, OPSA, UCSA, ARA, LUSA)
- Reviewing NZUSA / TP draft MoU
- Office and financial administration

### **Recommendation**

- THAT the National Executive approve the NZUSA Vice President Report

# Memorandum

To	National Executive
From	Isabella Lenihan-Ikin
Date	14 March 2020
Subject	Debt Free Futures Campaign

### Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update of the #debtfreefutures campaign following on from the discussions at the NZUSA National Executive meeting in January and the NZUSA National Conference in February.

Following on from these discussions, it was decided that the structure of the campaign and the goals of the campaign will be:



**VISION**  
Everyone in Aotearoa will have access to a debt free tertiary education, across university, polytechnic and trades training.

**VALUES**

- Unify student communities across Aotearoa
- Harness the creative talent of the student community to tell student stories
- Practice care and show manaaki to mobilise the student community
- Work across the political spectrum to run an issues based campaign

**GOALS**

- Free tertiary education for at least three years
- Universal student allowance
- Reduce existing student debt

**OBJECTIVES**

1. Receive a mandate from student representatives to fight for a debt free future
2. Receive tangible policy commitments from all political that align with our goals
3. Mobilise students and the general public to vote for a debt free future

Since then, we have been working to expand on the research and existing political discussion (i.e. the policies of the different political parties) surrounding these three issues.

We have also been scoping partner organisations, funding options, employment of a designer/videographer, the campaign delivery and the timeline.

With the hope of finalising the campaign by April, to launch internally at the next National Executive meeting there are three upcoming tasks that need finalising.

### 1. *Research*

Finalise the research on these three areas, this includes meeting with all political parties to confirm their tertiary education priorities in the upcoming election. So far we have met with the Greens, are meeting with Labour in April and have requested meetings with National and NZ First.

### 2. *Campaign delivery*

After the discussions at NZUSA National Conference, there was concern among our members about the workload required by member associations to deliver the campaign on campuses. This has led us to review the proposed campaign structure and delivery.

Although this is subject to our discussion with partner organisations, and their needs/desires, an option for the delivery of the campaign could look like a #debtfreefutures speaking tour involving politicians and student stories and social media story telling campaign (video and photos). The 'ask' (method of engagement) could be a pledge where students and our supporters sign a pledge signalling their support for a debt free future.



### 3. *Partner organisations*

We are currently working with TP, TMA and SJS to create a campaign that could bring together all four of our organisations. TP, TMA and NZUSA will be having a planning workshop in the upcoming weeks to discuss how this collaboration could work.

### 4. *Funding options*

Once we have finalised the research and determined the collaboration, we will then need to develop a proposal that we can take to potential supporters/funders – TEU, Grey Power, SJS, PPTA and NZEI.

This funding option will also include the budget required to employ a designer/videographer from April until September.

**Recommendation:**

- THAT the National Executive approve the work of National Office on the #debtfreefutures campaign, including providing:
  - A formalised outlined of the campaign, including a draft budget;
  - The formation of funding proposals;
  - An outline of the collaboration between partner organisations

# Memorandum

To	National Executive
From	Isabella Lenihan-Ikin
Date	14 March 2020
Subject	COVID-19

## Purpose

NZUSA has been following closely the issue of COVID-10, and the impact that it has had on students and the whole tertiary sector.

Since the implementation of a travel ban from China on 2 February, NZUSA has worked alongside Sabrina Alhady (NZISA), Chris Wheelan (Universities NZ), Grant Guilford (VUW Vice Chancellor) and the TEU to ensure that we can provide support for international students unable to return to New Zealand from China.

On X February, NZUSA released an open letter addressed to Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Hon David Clark (Minister of Health) and Hon Chris Hipkins (Minister of Education). The open letter is attached below.

We receive a positive media response to the letter. Although the government considered providing an exemption to international students from China to begin their study in NZ for 2020, this did not eventuate.

Since then, we have formed a National Students COVID-19 Working Group, comprised of myself, Sam Smith (NZUSA), Andrew Lessells (EIT), Rhianna Morar (VUW), Geo Robrigado (VUWSA), Sabrina Alhady (NZISA) and Summer Xia (NZ Chinese Students' Association). It was decided at this meeting that the focus of NZUSA would be on ensuring that there is a strong anti-racism message on campus and to calling on the Minister of Education to address the tertiary funding model, which has shows its failure in light of COVID-19 (namely, the over-reliance on international students to fund the rest of the education sector).

Sabrina and I met with the NZ Human Rights Commission on Friday 13 March, and we have agreed to work together to provide anti-racism messaging on campuses.

NZUSA is meeting with the Minister of Education in April to discuss the need for a review of the funding model, and we hope that the Minister will act on this.

The working group will continue to work on behalf of NZUSA, and in partnership with NZISA and the NZ Chinese Students Association to coordinate the response for students.

**Recommendation**

- THAT the National Executive approve this update on COVID-1





# Memorandum

To	National Executive
From	Matthew Schep (Vice-President) Isabella Lenihan-Ikin (President)
Date	20 March 2020
Subject	National Rainbow Student Structure

## Purpose

It is important as a national body that we support, resource and empower marginalised voices within student communities. National Office has recognised that rainbow students, students with disabilities, postgraduate students, and students from refugee backgrounds are have no national representative bodies.

At present, around the country, most universities and some polytechnics have either a rainbow student group and/or a rainbow student rep. These students are, on their own campuses, doing excellent and valuable work to strengthen rainbow voices and rights, and bringing them together to strategize nationally would allow resources to be shared, prevent work from being duplicated, offer a support structure for those who are under-resourced, and empower a collective national voice that has the mandate to speak for rainbow students.

National Office are exploring options, drawing upon the structure in which Tauria Pasifika was developed, to establish national representation for rainbow students. Work has already been undertaken by the NZUSA President, in partnership with Rainbow Youth to provide networking and training opportunities for interested rainbow students from across the country, and then work with NZUSA to secure funding for a National Rainbow Student Representative.

## Action Points

Following a similar structure to the development of Tauria Pasifika, we envisage that there are two necessary steps to successfully achieving national rainbow student representation.

### *Rainbow Youth Facilitator Training*

Rainbow Youth have invited NZUSA members to attend a facilitator training weekend in Auckland from 18 – 19 April 2020.

The purpose of this facilitator training is two-fold; firstly, to provide necessary training to rainbow student representatives to aid and enhance their facilitation and organisation skills.

The second, is to bring together rainbow student representatives across the country who could be involved and interested in establishing national student representation.

Although the hui is free, individuals would need to pay for transport.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/232635804398530/>

#### *Funding for National Rainbow Student Representation*

Core to the success, and quick establishment of Taura Pasifika was the funding to cover the salary of one person, situated with National Office, to establish national rainbow student representation. This person would work 7.5 hours per week (salary of \$7830 per annum) to support (and establish) rainbow student organisations on campus and establish an independent organisation, similar to Taura Pasifika, that represents this community.

Organisations such as Rainbow New Zealand Charitable Trust have the means of providing this funding, and Rainbow Youth have signalled that they would be very happy to support us to make this happen.

<https://rainbownzcharitabletrust.org.nz/what-we-fund/#community-support-grants>

#### **Recommendation**

- THAT the National Executive agrees to support students to attend this hui (through local associations funding or grant funding)
- THAT the National Executive endorses National Office pursuing options to establish national representation for rainbow students.

# Memorandum

To	National Executive
From	Isabella Lenihan-Ikin (President)
Date	20 March 2020
Subject	Membership

**Purpose**

NZUSA has been in positive discussions with Massey Wellington Students' Association (MAWSA) and Massey @ Distance Students' Association (M@D) about NZUSA membership.

NZUSA has also been in discussions related to ASA withdrawal from NZUSA.

M@D

M@D have agreed internally (see attached) to become a member of NZUSA. However, given the limited funding that they receive from Massey University (approximately \$8 per student), they are not able to pay the full associate membership costs.

We have been in a constructive dialogue with M@D about membership, and are wanting to secure their membership, alongside MAWSA for 2020. Keep in mind as well that NZUSA's 2020 budget **does not include MAWSA nor M@D's membership fees**, so this would be an extra for us. James did offer this membership deal in 2019, however it did not eventuate.

The membership deal that we have re-offered in 2020 (same as the deal James offered) is a membership levy of \$2000 per annum. This equates to the base payment. However, unlike our MAWSA offer, the limited financial position of M@D means that they are unlikely to be able to drastically increase this amount soon. However, as we agreed on at National Exec, it is better that we have members at the table, and we believe that this is a constructive and mutually beneficial way of doing so.

M@D would assume the position as an Associate Member, and therefore would be subject to the same conditions as other Associate Members, including the one-year notice of withdrawal.

MAWSA

In an email motion (7 February 2020) the National Executive voted to support a discounted membership rate for MAWSA for 2020.

The offer provided to MAWSA including a \$2000 per annum membership cost (in which they would assume the position as an Associate Member) with a final date of March 13. Discussions with MAWSA have been positive however unfortunately MAWSA indicated that they had not had the opportunity to consult with their students about NZUSA membership and requested more time.

I extended the original offer until 5pm Thursday 9 April, which falls at the end of the first half of semester one. This was well received by MAWSA, and they have signalled that they will be able to respond to this offer by this time.

National Office are meeting with MAWSA on Wednesday 25 March, as part of the NZUSA Campus Tour. Discussions about NZUSA membership will again take place here.

*ASA*

NZUSA has been working with ASA since their notice of withdrawal in January. I have met with Dallin twice, including one of these times being with the whole ASA executive. NZUSA understands that it is the financial cost of NZUSA that has led to this decision, and therefore we want to ensure that we do everything within our means to work with ASA to reverse their withdrawal.

### **Recommendation**

- THAT the National Executive approves Massey @ Distance (M@D) becoming a NZUSA Associate Member

# Memorandum

To	National Executive
From	Isabella Lenihan-Ikin (National President)
Date	13 March 2020
Subject	NZUSA Annual Plan 2020

## **Purpose**

In order for NZUSA to achieve its strategic plan (2018-2022), there must be an annual plan that guides the work of the National Executive and National Office in 2020. This annual plan includes the ideas that were put forward at the 31 January 2020 National Executive meeting.

Mission: why do we exist?

## **NZUSA exists to fight for a barrier-free education for all**

Values: what drives us?

### **Rangatiratanga**

We take our place as leaders of the student movement, and strive to be representative, democratic and to speak authoritatively when we are mandated to do so

### **Kotahitanga**

We are a collective voice based on collaboration and partnership, while recognising that students are experts of their own lived experiences, we act in solidarity with them

### **Whanaungatanga**

We behave as family and acknowledge that we are all connected by our whakapapa of student representation

### **Manaakitanga**

We are supportive, take an intersectional approach, and seek to make visible and address the various privileges and oppressions, to build a movement that is more just, inclusive and coherent

Vision: where do we want to be?

## **To be an influential and inclusive national voice for students**

Goals: what does it look like?

- ✓ **Trusted partner with a radical edge**
- ✓ **A hub for supporting student representatives and their organisations**
- ✓ **A representative voice that is rich in diversity**
- ✓ **Delivering tangible improvements to students' lives**
- ✓ **An authority on students in the eyes of society and students themselves**

Objectives: how do we get there in 2020?

<p><b>Engagement</b> <i>Build systems &amp; capability to engage directly with students from all walks of life</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host a NZUSA Campus Tour (South Island, lower North Island and upper North Island) of member and non-member campuses</li> <li>• Formalise a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tairā Pasifika</li> <li>• Establish a framework for enhancing the national representation of students who currently are not represented nationally; rainbow students, students with disabilities and postgraduate students.</li> <li>• Co-host the inaugural 'Whiri a te Tairā', a joint Te Mana Ākonga, Tairā Pasifika and NZUSA hui</li> <li>• Formalise a Memorandum of Understanding with the Electoral Commission</li> </ul>
<p><b>Democracy</b> <i>Have democratic systems that allow for students of all demographics to participate</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the elections for NZUSA positions, with the hope of achieving contested elections</li> <li>• Partnership with the Electoral Commission (with a formal MoU) to enhance the participation of students in the 2020 General Election.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Campaigns</b> <i>Develop locally-driven, evidence-based campaigns that make a difference</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Run a successful, non-partisan Debt Free Futures campaign</li> <li>• Run a successful 'restore post graduate allowance' campaign</li> <li>• Increase the presence of the Thursdays in Black campaign on tertiary campuses.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Student Voice</b> <i>Build a National Centre for Student Voice</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance the representation and participation of students within NZUSA conferences and spaces: NZUSA National Conference ITP summit, Student Voice Summit, NZUSA Congress</li> <li>• Continue building the membership of NZUSA</li> <li>• Enhance the engagement with non-members, including</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the professional development of NZUSA member-Presidents by offering professional development workshops at every National Executive meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Communication</b> <i>Measure &amp; report internally &amp; publicly on what we do</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grow our communication channels and traditional media presence</li> <li>Increase social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) engagement</li> <li>Monthly NZUSA member engagement (monthly NZUSA standing item on member Executive/Council meetings)</li> <li>Host a NZUSA 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration</li> <li>Enhance engagement in student magazines</li> </ul>

### Calendar 2020

<b>January</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA Presidents Training</li> <li>NZUSA National Executive Meeting</li> </ul>
<b>February</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA National Conference</li> </ul>
<b>March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA ITP Summit</li> <li>NZUSA National Executive Meeting</li> <li>NZUSA Campus Tour (Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington, Hawkes Bay Manuwatū)</li> <li>#debtfreefutures: planning and research</li> <li>Co-hosted 'Back to Black' Annual Day of Action with the TEU</li> </ul>
<b>April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whiri a te Taura</li> <li>NZUSA National Executive Meeting</li> <li>NZUSA Campus Tour (Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton)</li> <li>Restore PG Allowance Campaign</li> <li>#debtfreefutures: finalise plan, secure external funding, appoint designer</li> </ul>
<b>May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget 2020 (14 May): co-hosting budget day breakfast with the TEU</li> <li>#debtfreefutures</li> </ul>
<b>June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration</li> <li>NZUSA National Executive Meeting</li> <li>#debtfreefutures</li> </ul>
<b>July</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA National Executive Meeting</li> <li>#debtfreefutures: campaign tour</li> </ul>

<b>August</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBC National Day of Action</li> <li>• NZUSA National Executive Meeting</li> <li>• #debtfreeutures: campaign tour</li> </ul>
<b>September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• #debtfreeutures: campaign tour</li> <li>• General Election (19 September)</li> </ul>
<b>October</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NZUSA National Executive Meeting</li> </ul>
<b>November</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Voice Summit</li> <li>• NZUSA National Executive Meeting</li> <li>• NZUSA Congress</li> </ul>
<b>December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handover to 2021 National Office</li> </ul>



# Memorandum

To	National Executive
From	Isabella Lenihan-Ikin (National President)
Date	13 March 2020
Subject	NZUSA Tauria Pasifika Memorandum of Understanding

## Purpose

NZUSA and Tauria Pasifika have been drafting the NZUSA-TP Memorandum of Understanding. One of the core objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding is that it gives effect to Tauria Pasifika as an 'affiliate member' of NZUSA.

The purpose of this paper is to ensure that the powers and responsibilities contained within the TP MoU are approved by National Executive.

Clause 5.4.3 of the NZUSA Constitution requires a two thirds majority of the NZUSA National Executive to approve Tauria Pasifika as an 'affiliate member', which in turn gives TP the right to attend and speak at all NZUSA General and National Executive Meetings and propose policy and actions on issues relevant to the students they represent, provided such policy and actions are consistent with the Objects of this Constitution.

Clause 8.2 of the NZUSA Constitution provides the Tauria Pasifika President with the ability to attend and speak at National Executive meetings. However, at Congress 2020 a motion will be proposed to include the Tauria Pasifika President as a listed member of the National Executive under cl 8.2.

## Recommendations

- THAT the National Executive approve Tauria Pasifika becoming an affiliate member of NZUSA.
- THAT the National Executive notes the Memorandum of Understanding between NZUSA and TP to be signed Friday 20 March.



# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

**NEW ZEALAND UNION OF STUDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS (NZUSA)**

and

**TAUIRA PASIFIKA (TP)**

## 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to agree on and achieve shared objectives between the New Zealand Union of Students' Associations (NZUSA) and Tauria Pasifika (TP).

A shared objective of NZUSA and TP is to have a strong national student voice that reflects the diversity of tertiary students in Aotearoa New Zealand. We understand the importance and influence a strong and diverse student voice has on national discussions relating to matters and policies that affect the tertiary student community.

This MoU will empower Pasifika student voices to meaningfully contribute to national discussions about tertiary education and students.

To achieve these objectives, NZUSA and TP agree to the responsibilities set out in this MoU.

## 2. Context

NZUSA is the national voice of students in tertiary education. It represents the interests of students through research, campaigns and lobbying; and provides support to institution-based students' associations. It is owned by students' associations from universities, polytechnics and institutes of technology in Aotearoa New Zealand. Its vision is to fight for a barrier education for all.

TP is the national voice of Pasifika students in tertiary education. It represents the interests of Pasifika students nationally and provides support to Pasifika students' associations and organisations in Aotearoa New Zealand.

### **3. Aims**

This MoU aims to:

- Recognise the need for national representation of Pasifika tertiary students in New Zealand.
- Empower Pasifika student voices and encourage its involvement in national discussions about tertiary education and students.

### **4. Organisations**

This MoU is between:

- NZUSA and
- TP

### **5. Responsibilities**

NZUSA will:

- Recognise TP as the national voice of Pasifika tertiary students and its role in enhancing Pasifika student voices within the tertiary sector.
- Maintain regular communication and contact with the TP National President and meet quarterly to discuss matters of importance.
- Speak at relevant TP events, including their annual Executive retreat and Fono.
- Recognise TP as an affiliate member of the NZUSA National Executive with speaking rights.
- Provide guidance to the TP President on leadership and advocacy for their members.
- Provide guidance to TP regarding student matters in the tertiary sector, particularly in the area of Pasifika tertiary education.
- Empower Pasifika students voice by supporting TP to represent its members.
- Provide TP with a working space in the NZUSA National Office for the TP Executive to work in.
- Provide relevant resources (i.e. laptop for the TP President).
- Provide support to TP to secure external funding.
- Engage with Pasifika student representatives at local tertiary providers, both through the NZUSA President and the members of National Executive.

TP will:

- Recognise NZUSA as the umbrella national voice of tertiary students in New Zealand.
- Maintain regular communication and contact with the NZUSA President.
- Ensure that strengthening academic quality and student representation is included in its Annual Pasifika Student Fono and other appropriate fora.
- Provide NZUSA with Pasifika expertise on student issues of national significance.
- Support NZUSA by providing a Pasifika perspective on national issues.

- Contribute a Pasifika voice to the NZUSA National Executive.
- Support relevant NZUSA campaigns that impact Pasifika students (i.e. Thursdays in Black and the general election campaigns).
- Provide verbal quarterly updates to the NZUSA National Executive.
- Provide an written annual report at the last NZUSA National Executive meeting of the year.

NZUSA and TP will jointly:

- Provide a handover to both Executives, including information about this MoU and its obligations.
- Support this MoU by having a representative attend each other’s events where appropriate.
- Undertake joint activities from time to time, such as conferences and fono presentations, that support the purpose of this agreement.
- Share information about relevant initiatives and campaigns to encourage a diverse and inclusive national student voice.
- Review this MoU at least once every two years, with the financial obligations being reviewed annually.

## 6. Financial support

The operationalism of this MoU will include a financial commitment to TP from NZUSA. This will include:

- \$7,200 in the form of an honorarium paid to the TP President (fortnightly, monthly, quarterly or yearly upon negotiation between the NZUSA President and the TP President).
- \$4000 in the form of an operations budget, paid to TP by NZUSA at the beginning of the calendar year.

These financial obligations will be reviewed annually.

## 7. Operationalisation

The operationalisation of this MoU is set out in the Schedule. An annual schedule of activities will be agreed between NZUSA and TP. This will normally include the activities set out in the Schedule.

### Signed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Isabella Lenihan-Ikin**  
 National President  
 New Zealand Union of Students’ Associations

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ali Leota**  
 National President  
 Taura Pasifika

On this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_

**Schedule 1: Annual Plan**

<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Activity</b>
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA Presidents Training</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA National Conference</li> <li>TP Executive Retreat</li> </ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA Campus Tour</li> <li>ITP Student Voice Summit</li> </ul>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZUSA Campus Tour</li> <li>Te Mana Ākonga, Taura Pasifika and NZUSA Whiri a te taura</li> </ul>
May	
June	
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amatakihoa Conference (Tongan Students' Conference)</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TP Fono</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>So'otaga Conference (Samoan Students' Conference)</li> <li>Tao'kotaianga Conference (Cook Island Students' Conference)</li> <li>Papua New Guinea Independence Student Conference</li> </ul>
October	
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University Student Voice Summit</li> <li>TP Fono</li> <li>NZUSA Congress</li> </ul>
December	