

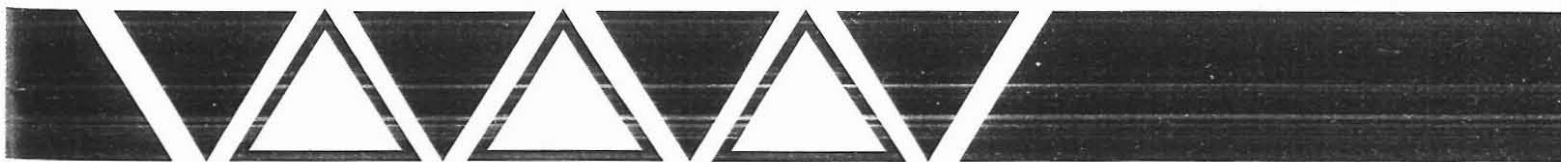
**NEW ZEALAND
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION (INC.)**

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF

28 APR 1993

Annual Report

1993





NZUSA 1993 Federation Executive

Standing (left to right)

*Alistair Shaw (Vice President), Dave Guerin (VUWSA),
Ritchie Watson (AUSA), Kirsty Graham (President),
Colin Lowe (WSU from July), John Wadsworth (UCSA),*

Sitting (left to right)

*Gary Reese (LUSA), Lisa Ducat (MUSA),
Grant Robertson (OUSA)*

*Absent: John Houstoun (WSU until July),
Jeremy Baker (Treasurer)*

Accountants: Curtis McLean

Lawyers: Russell McVeagh McKensie Bartleet & Co.

Auditors: Spicer Oppenheim

Bank: Bank of New Zealand

*The New Zealand University Students' Association, 59 Aurora Tce, Wellington New Zealand,
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President's Foreword



1993 was a very exciting and extraordinarily busy year for NZUSA. Being election year, Federation Office was focused on coordinating a high profile campaign on all the campuses as well as nationally keeping tertiary education in the media and placing education in general as one of the critical issues in the lead up to the election. Looking back on 1993 I believe NZUSA and the constituent campuses can be proud of an extremely successful year.

At times it was a very difficult year, with Auckland's notification of withdrawal in January (rejected by the students of the campus in an October referendum), and the tragic loss of WSU President John Houstoun in a car accident. The latter event was a great shock to the whole federation and a very significant loss to student politics. We pay tribute to John's long involvement in student issues on page 4.

In May, the Minister of Education, Dr Lockwood Smith announced a 4.3% cut in government funding for tertiary education, which resulted in a loss of funding to institutions of \$28 million. Response from students was quick. NZUSA and APSU launched the "Vote:Education" campaign - a campaign that was notable for its variety, sustained profile and grass root student support. It saw students on the streets in very large numbers in Auckland, Victoria, Waikato and Massey, and in council sit-ins at Otago, Lincoln, and Canterbury.

In August, the Minister announced the establishment of the Todd Taskforce on "Funding Growth in Tertiary Education and Training" - something that I was involved in for almost nine months. It was a very difficult decision for NZUSA as to whether or not it should provide a representative on the group. However once the decision had been made to do so, I strongly believed that NZUSA should see the project through. This I found personally very stressful for, as the process developed, it became clear that the group's members had irreconcilable differences in philosophy approach. This was clearly seen in terms of how they saw that education could be best provided to ensure that all in society who wished to participate were able to. I learnt an enormous amount from the process and more than ever believe that NZUSA must continue to advocate the arguments presented in the student option - the minority report of the Taskforce. I am yet to be convinced that there is anything other than strong support amongst tax paying New Zealanders for a publicly funded and provided tertiary education system.

In terms of media profile, NZUSA had an enormous amount of coverage in 1993. Meetings were held with all the leaders of the three main opposition parties and education polled as the third most significant election issue.

APSU and NZUSA worked together more closely in terms of both policy and the coordination of a campaign. "Vote:Education" was more than an education protest; it also signified the need for the whole student body to work together on common issues. As a result, 1993 saw formal acknowledgment of the need for a closer working relationship, with the decision being taken at both organisations' national conferences to share the premises of 59 Aurora Terrace in 1994. Simultaneously, it was recognised that there was a need for more full time professional support staff. As such, a Campus Liaison Officer, Tūmohe Clarke, was employed, as was a permanent research officer, Rob Graham. Perhaps though, for NZUSA, the most significant addition to the full time staff at Aurora Tce was the appointment of a permanent women's coordinator (something that campus-based women's groups had been trying to get for many years).

NZUSA was also involved in a number of wider social issues and Federation Officers made submissions, as directed, on issues as diverse as the Films, Videos, and Publications Bill, the Education Reform Bill, and the Electoral Reform Bill. The latter was closely linked in with the "Vote:Education" campaign, as students saw electoral reform as a means of limiting (and perhaps reversing) the drastic changes to public education.

November the sixth arrived. Initially New Zealand had a hung Parliament but in the days following National was narrowly returned to power but with a strong message having been delivered to it by the electorate - a user pays approach to the provision of public social services, including education, is not something that New Zealanders are convinced delivers the equity they believe in. MMP was also voted in.

While the years ahead are going to be very interesting ones in New Zealand politics, I believe that NZUSA is well placed to be a strong advocate of student concerns.

I wish to thank all the student executives around the country for putting in enormous amounts of time, and effort, into "Vote:Education" - the support from main stream students, the media profile of the issues, and the emergence of tertiary education as a pivotal issue in the election are all testament to their work. I also wish to thank Fedex for its support and for its ability to set aside differences and work as a team. To Alistair and Jeremy, my co-workers and successors, thank you for the opportunity to participate in such an exciting year, for your constant support and for your unflinching commitment to NZUSA and what it stands for.

My best wishes for 1994, and all it may bring to students in the wake of a new and uncharted political landscape. I know NZUSA will approach the challenges ahead in its rational, professional and articulate way.

Kirsty Graham
NZUSA President 1993

Testimonial to John Houstoun



John Houstoun was the President of the Waikato Students' Union from January 1993 until he was tragically killed in a car accident on 9 July 1993.

John had been involved in the WSU Executive for three years serving as the Association's Treasurer in 1992, and being elected to the Presidency in 1993. He brought a mixture of intellect and pragmatism to the position, with his knowledge of auditing and management being applied to the job. His top priority was the development of management practices that would make WSU more efficient and better value for money for the Waikato students.

Under his guidance, WSU became far more conscious of its members needs and requirements, and services became noticeably more responsive to them.

The impact and influence of John Houstoun was however more significant than streamlined procedures and stronger structures. John was more than a leader in management, he was a leader of people. His quiet, unassuming manner often gave him more influence than he himself may have realised. He was enormously respected for his loyalty, sound judgement and ability to mix with everyone. During the difficult times during Fedex meetings it was John who would come up with a solution that would be acceptable to everyone, and he would articulate his position in such a way that it seemed so obvious. It was this skill and his ability to diffuse tension, and remain clearly focused on goals that made him such a valuable asset to NZUSA, WSU and students in general.

To us all he was a very dear friend, an honest and reliable sounding board, and a very astute leader. His contribution will be invaluable.

We miss him.

Student Job Search

During the 1992/93 summer period Student Job Search placements rose to 26,984 from the 1991/92 level of 19,686. This followed successful representations to Government by NZUSA and APSU for the replacement of a limited employer subsidy scheme with a \$250,000 boost for marketing purposes. The growth in student placements followed through to the 1993 in-term period where placements rose by 36 percent to 14,785.

The growth in in-term enrolments and placements was putting an unsustainable pressure on SJS funds. After carefully considering several options, including whether or not additional Government funding might be able to be secured for the in-term service, proposals were developed for students' associations to contribute to in-term costs by way of levies related directly to placement numbers.

NZUSA and APSU provide the two elected national officers for SJS and in 1993 the President of NZUSA served as SJS national chairperson. This involved direct oversight of the work of the SJS national office, involvement in all policy development and chairing the SJS National Council meetings.

One of NZUSA's main aims is, of course, to ensure that student unemployment remains as low as possible over the summer vacation, by helping to secure adequate Government funding for SJS work. We were, with APSU, successful in 1993 in securing yet again the \$250,000 marketing boost for SJS. While most Government programmes suffered a drop in income, our representations helped SJS to maintain its funding levels.

Unemployment, however, continued to be a major problem for students, as 28,328 students received EUB payments for the 1992/93 summer vacation for a combined total of 276,110 weeks - up from the 1991/92 record of 196,797 weeks.

Student Job Search seems likely to remain a core service for students for some years yet and an area where NZUSA and APSU make direct and essential contributions to student welfare. It is an area where NZUSA has been able to work co-operatively and positively with Government. Students throughout New Zealand benefit a great deal from NZUSA's advocacy for, and involvement in the management of, Student Job Search.

Research

Higher Education Scholar

NZUSA continued to support the work of Michael Peters, a Canterbury student researching and writing a Ph.D thesis on the re-structuring of the New Zealand University Education system. His project consisted of six parts, namely:

- corporatisation and the New Zealand university system
- student fees and allowances: the case for cost recovery
- competition in tertiary education
- accountability and performance in tertiary education
- industrial relations in the university system
- possible options for the future

NZUSA is pleased to continue to support Michael's work. It is of international significance and will give us a valuable alternative perspective to that of those who currently drive social and economic theory.

Other Post-Graduate Student Support

NZUSA in 1993 slightly expanded the Higher Education Scholarship making small amounts of money available to other post-graduate students on the condition that the completed work would be made available to NZUSA.

In this way NZUSA was able to support:

Mark Ferguson, a Masters in Educational Administration student at Massey University, "Higher Education Policy and International Student Exchange Programmes".

Kelvin Taylor, a Masters in Education student at Victoria University of Wellington, "Adult Education and Lifelong Learning".

Higher Education Our Vision

Throughout 1993, NZUSA's Treasurer and *de facto* researcher, Jeremy Baker, edited and wrote *HEOV* which should form a solid philosophical base for the Association to argue its vision of tertiary education.

Higher Education Our Vision was begun in 1992. What will be the first of two volumes, "Out of the Past", will be published early in 1994. It attempts to chart what has happened to tertiary education, in particular over the last ten years, by tracing the emerging theories through the various "reviews" of the sector dating from early Royal Commissions through to the present day.

In addition "Out of the Past" tries to establish what it is that New Zealanders want and expect from their tertiary education system, particularly in terms of the democratic values underpinning Western social thought. This will provide a

foundation for consultation so that NZUSA can build a coherent alternative to free-market tertiary education - based on democratic fundamentals.

Secondary School Intentions Survey

Back in late 1992 NZUSA's research consultant contacted some 700 seventh form secondary school students and asked them what they were wanting to do past secondary school.

During 1994 these students were followed up to see whether or not they had achieved their desires and, if not, what were the factors that had influenced their subsequent choices.

Even with the socio-economically skewed sample that choosing seventh formers gave us, the results still demonstrably show the tremendous waste of potential caused by the barriers that user pays tertiary education placing before young students in New Zealand.

The Financial Situation of Students

In the odd year of its bi-annual Income and Expenditure Survey, NZUSA conducts a reduced research project aimed at determining the debt levels facing university students.

This year, the project was again conducted by the Christchurch based Business Improvement Group.

Student Debt levels continued to grow. The 1993 survey was the first to include questions relating to the Student Loans Scheme that was introduced for the previous year. There are quite clear indications that there will be considerable problems arising from the levels of debt being experienced.

NZUSA's research into the financial situation of students, including the Income and Expenditure Survey, is the most up-to-date and accurate work done of its kind in New Zealand. The Ministry of Education has nothing comparable. The research that NZUSA undertakes provides the Association with invaluable information to show what is truly happening to students, and their families, in a user pays system.

Student Views of the New Zealand University Students' Association

In a bold attempt to check whether or not its work, focuses and policies were in keeping with that demanded by the university students of New Zealand, NZUSA surveyed students over a wide range of perceptions and issues.

Scoring very well in the perception of the quality of its work and the role that it fulfils and showing overwhelming support for the policies that NZUSA promotes, the Association nevertheless learnt that it needs to do still more to publicise its activities on campuses.

A couple of the constituent campuses took the opportunity to explore what it was that their members wanted from them in the future.

Meetings and Conferences

NZUSA holds three major meetings each year, February Workshops and May and August Conferences. The aim of February Workshops is to provide student delegates with an understanding about NZUSA, and to give them skills training and background information on key education issues. All three of these meetings include plenary sessions which are the main decision making forums for NZUSA. They provide the members of NZUSA, the seven constituent associations, with the chance to set and review goals and policy, and to formulate plans of action.

In 1993 May Conference was held at Otago. Issues discussed included the situation in South Africa on the verge of blacks finally getting the vote, presentations by the Labour and Alliance parties on their tertiary education policies, the Mixed Member Proportional voting system, and some sharing of campaigning skilled by past and current campaigners. The conference was dominated by discussion about what NZUSA should be doing to put the heat on the government's education policies in election year.

Guest speakers included Nonhlanhla Mtshali, the resident SASTB scholar, Trevor Richards, former NZUSA International Vice President and current Africa co-ordinator for Volunteer Service Abroad, Neville Peat from the Electoral Reform Coalition, Steve Maharey, Labour Party spokesperson on tertiary education, Liz Gordon, Alliance spokesperson on education, Roger Tobin, Vice President of the Post Primary Teachers Association and Dave McPherson, a campaign organiser for the Alliance.

August Conference was held at Lincoln University. Apart from a presentation by the Minister of Education, most of the discussion was about how NZUSA could better serve students. There were workshops on NZUSA's International Links, on building a better relationship and plans to share resources with APSU, the national polytechnics students' organisation. Most significantly for the future of the organisation, after at least two years of talking about representing women students, NZUSA finally created the position of a national women's network co-ordinator. Guest speakers included Renalto Constantino, a student activist from the Philippines, and Dr. Lockwood Smith, the Minister of Education.

August Conference also dealt with administrative matters; the setting of the Federation's 1994 Budget and levy range, and the election of Jeremy Baker, 1990 VUWSA President, 1991 and 1992 NZUSA Treasurer, as President of NZUSA for 1994. No Vice President was elected at this meeting but in October the current NZUSA Vice President Alistair Shaw was elected to go another year.

As well as meeting at each of these main meetings, the NZUSA Federation Executive met six other times (all at the Federation Office in Wellington) to oversee the running and direction of the Association.

The Federation Executive consists of the seven campus Presidents and the NZUSA President, Vice President and Treasurer (non-voting). Participants at Conferences are delegates selected by each constituent.

Southern Africa Scholarship Trust

The Southern Africa Scholarship Trust was established by NZUSA in 1975 to provide a tertiary education scholarship in New Zealand for exiled black South Africans who are deprived of educational opportunities in their own country.

The Trust Board is chaired by the NZUSA Vice President, and Board members are appointed by the Federation Executive. The Trust is administered by the NZUSA Federation Office, particularly the Vice president, with the Trust secretary providing ideas of more work which could be done. Each year NZUSA's constituents donate approximately \$12,000 to the Trust.

In 1993 the Trust's fifth scholar, Nonhlanhla Mtshali, successfully completed the fifth and final year of her Engineering degree at the University of Canterbury. She was to spend the summer completing her practical requirements, before returning to South Africa in the new year.

The Trust met four times during 1993. Aside from administration and organising for the scholar's journey home, the main focus of the meetings was considering the future of the Trust, taking into account the changes in South Africa and using the opportunity presented by the impending completion of the stay of the current scholar to look at new directions.

All contributors to the Trust were asked to consider where they thought the Trust should be headed. The Chair of the Trust also met with representatives of the African National Congress and the Africa Information Centre. The constituents of NZUSA discussed the situation in South Africa with the SASTB scholar at NZUSA's May Conference, and the results of the consultation process at NZUSA's August Conference.

The Trust decided that the changes in South Africa meant that there was potentially even more that the scholarship could achieve than before and therefore it should definitely continue. Recognition of the changes in South Africa mean that shorter courses, courses particularly targeted to specific needs in South Africa and more joint venture work with public and private agencies in New Zealand, will be features of the scholarships in the future.

The Trust represents NZUSA's only significant international involvement. The recognition that it provides of NZUSA's place in the global picture is important and it provides a valuable base for enhancing students and other New Zealanders' understanding about the world.

1993 Goals

Goal: Educational Philosophy

To promote education as an essential investment in the future of New Zealand in the run up to the 1993 Election.

Goal: Student Support

To ensure the retention of a student allowances scheme and prevent its replacement by an expanded loans scheme in 1993/4.

To achieve the following changes to the Student Allowances scheme in 1993/4:

*Removal or reduction in parental means testing;
specifically: lowering of the age of independence, increasing the income thresholds, improving the independent circumstances criteria, making allowance for the number of students in a family.*

To highlight to the Government, students and the public the inequitable effects of the Student Loans Scheme, and the administrative costs of the scheme.

To achieve the following changes to the Loans Scheme in 1993/4:

*Reduction in the interest rate (to inflation only or none)
Increase in repayment threshold (to average wage)
Replacement of living costs component with allowances*

To obtain a government funded student hardship scheme for all universities.

To obtain student membership of the NZVCC Sub Committee on Student Welfare.

Goal: Student Employment

To retain a government funded, student administered Student Job Search service, and ensure that it is sufficiently well funded.

To achieve the permanent integration of the marketing funding into the SJS grant.

Goal: Access (Fees)

To highlight the inequitable effects of user-pays on access to education during the election in 1993.

To achieve an extension of cost equalisation of fees in 1993/4.

To prevent or minimise the use of 'top-up' fees by institutions in 1993/4.

To prevent further increases in fees for 1994.

To have both Labour and the Alliance committed to nil or reduced fees and the abolition of the Study Right differential.

Goal: Funding (Restricted Entry)

To prevent further declines in the real level of funding for universities.

To prevent the introduction of Capital Charging in the tertiary education sector.

Goal: Quality Education

To obtain student membership of the NZVCC Academic Audit Unit Board, the NZVCC Committee on Academic Programmes, and the NZVCC Committee on Entrance.

To develop and have adopted a Student Quality Education Charter.

To ensure that student evaluations are an integral part of academic staff promotions and quality assurance procedures at all Universities.

Goal: Social Issues

To actively participate in the debate on the form of MMP, the debate between FPP and MMP, and to encourage discussion on campuses.

Strategies:

Campaign:

*NZUSA will run a campaign to achieve its Objectives which will:
Promote the value of tertiary education for the future of New Zealand, and highlight the detrimental effects of user-pays on education.
Place education in the wider social context, including highlighting the detrimental effects of user pays on students and society.*

Support Systems:

Membership:

*NZUSA, in order to achieve its Objectives and carry out its Strategies, will:
Retain the support of the Federation's Constituent members and of students generally.
Retain universal membership of student associations.
Publicise its activities to students directly and through Constituents.
Facilitate improved input by Nga Toki o Aotearoa into the Federation's planning and activities.
Assist the development of a university women's network.*

Evaluation of 1993 Goals

Goal: Educational Philosophy

To promote education as an essential investment in the future of New Zealand in the run up to the 1993 Election.

In essence all the work we do publicising the problems in education and the problems regarding access and participation would be redundant if no one thought that education was important.

NZUSA adopted the Vote:Education slogan and campaign based on giving New Zealand voters the facts about what is happening to tertiary education and seeking to make sure that voters knew why education should be valued.

Who knows just what it was that brought us the result on the 6th of November 1993?

Certainly the very high profile that education in general and tertiary education had an impact with something like 75% of all voters who didn't vote for the government rating education as an important issue in making that choice.

Given that the National Party got only 34% of the votes cast (only 28% of registered voters) National were not in a position to claim a mandate for continuing their policies.

Goal: Student Support

To ensure the retention of a student allowances scheme and prevent its replacement by an expanded loans scheme in 1993/4.

NZUSA was justifiably confident that no such changes would be made in an election year.

Nevertheless, the spectre still exists with some backbench National MPs remaining committed to getting "equality" by removing allowances from the one third of students who are eligible for them.

To achieve the following changes to the Student Allowances scheme in 1993/4:

Removal or reduction in parental means testing;

specifically: lowering of the age of independence, increasing the income thresholds, improving the independent circumstances criteria, making allowance for the number of students in a family.

NZUSA had tried to get all these changed in 1992 by talking to the Minister of Education, and tried again in 1993. As a different tack in 1993 we also sought to get each of the opposition parties committed to improving the student allowance system along the lines of the objective above, and then hoped for a change in government, or at the least its policy. We came very close.

Future work for NZUSA in this area should involve bringing together opposition parties and utilising the provisions of a Private Members' Bill, there seems little other option other than waiting for MMP in late 1996.

To highlight to the Government, students and the public the inequitable effects of the Student Loans Scheme, and the administrative costs of the scheme.

To achieve the following changes to the Loans Scheme in 1993/4:

Reduction in the interest rate (to inflation only or none)

Increase in repayment threshold (to average wage)

Replacement of living costs component with allowances

It's probably too soon since its implementation to get such major changes to the loans scheme from the government that put the scheme in place. However even the only opposition party which is not committed to abolishing the scheme says it is committed to the second two of NZUSA's objectives.

To obtain a government funded student hardship scheme for all universities.

The government claims that student poverty and general management of students at the micro level are the responsibilities of the institution. NZUSA regards this as an unacceptable abdication of responsibility.

NZUSA, in 1993 unwilling to make the step of advocating a cut in per-EFTS funding to make a government funded hardship fund available, will have to revisit this issue in 1994.

Those institutions which did not have hardship funds themselves came under considerable pressure from students and there was significant movement from them in 1993.

To obtain student membership of the NZVCC Sub Committee on Student Welfare.

Although we made a number of presentations to this committee on the state of students - utilising the considerable research that NZUSA undertakes each year - we were unable to actually get membership. In retrospect this is not such a bad thing, we may have felt compromised by some of the positions the NZVCC takes. Given we have access and the ability to influence we might be better off not actually be members.

Goal: Student Employment

To retain a government funded, student administered Student Job Search service, and ensure that it is sufficiently well funded.

SJS, in the face of cuts to many other government funded activities, managed to maintain its level of income for 1993.

To achieve the permanent integration of the marketing funding into the SJS grant.

SJS achieved this goal.

Goal: Access (Fees)

To highlight the inequitable effects of user-pays on access to education during the election in 1993.

This was a major focus of the campaign activities in the latter part of 1993, timed to coincide with the fees-setting process of the University Councils.

The January NZUSA media release on growing elitism in tertiary education came back again and again as the thrust of the campaign.

NZUSA had an very high profile media image in 1993 with its position articulated in more newspaper column inches and sound bites than anytime in recent history. The media constantly asking NZUSA for comment even if we hadn't initiated an issue. This was testament to the momentum of the "Vote:Education" campaign and the competence in which the NZUSA message was being presented.

To achieve an extension of cost equalisation of fees in 1993/4.

Although one institution reverted away from a more equitable system to one with both age and course choice discrimination, all others moved away from imposing the Study Right distinction. The considerable amount of equalisation already present was generally built upon in the interest of fairness.

The groundwork done suggests that further gains towards full-equalisation are likely in the near future.

To prevent or minimise the use of 'top-up' fees by institutions in 1993/4.

The very high profile anti-fees campaign, based as it was on mobilisations on campuses forced the institutions away from trying to do any more than recover the money that the government slashed away on budget night.

To prevent further increases in fees for 1994.

The budget made this objective incredibly difficult to achieve. All universities suffered funding reductions which if directly passed on would have meant approximately 40% in fee increases. No university passed on this great a fees increase, not so much due to inefficiencies that they could do away with but at a cost to quality and in a genuine concern to keep education accessible (and fear of the hundreds of students camped outside the council room door).

To have both Labour and the Alliance committed to nil or reduced fees and the abolition of the Study Right differential.

Alliance (and the NZ First Party which burst onto the scene during 1993) are committed to no fees for tertiary education. The Labour Party moves around from 15% to inflation adjusted increase from their flat fee of 1990/91, to maintaining the current fees. Even the Todd Task Force is recommending that Study Right be abolished.

Goal: Funding (Restricted Entry)

To prevent further declines in the real level of funding for universities.

See above.

NZUSA, with much apprehension, had a representative, NZUSA President Kirsty Graham, on the Todd Task Force to argue for funding tertiary education at a level similar to what tertiary education in other countries in the OECD are funded at.

To prevent the introduction of Capital Charging in the tertiary education sector.

NZUSA made submissions, both written and oral (twice) to the Tertiary Capital Charge Task Force. We argued very strongly against the premises that members of the Task Force had regarding efficiency and competition.

Combined with the staff unions, the Vice Chancellors Committee and the Association of Polytechnic Principal, we represented quite a powerful lobby.

It appears that the Task Force is considering a nominal charge or a charge that does not come into affect until the year 2000, by which time NZUSA hopes an MMP environment will make such a proposal impossible to implement.

Goal: Quality Education

To obtain student membership of the NZVCC Academic Audit Unit Board, the NZVCC Committee on Academic Programmes, and the NZVCC Committee on Entrance.

NZUSA achieved membership of the Academic Audit Unit Board for 1994.

To develop and have adopted a Student Quality Education Charter.

To ensure that student evaluations are an integral part of academic staff promotions and quality assurance procedures at all Universities.

NZUSA started discussion with the Association of University Staff on coming up with a joint position on this issue. It will not be resolved in a short space of time.

Goal: Social Issues

To actively participate in the debate on the form of MMP, the debate between FPP and MMP, and to encourage discussion on campuses.

After democratic discussion on campuses, NZUSA officially lent its weight to the MMP campaign. Students and supportive members of the public were asked to vote twice - Vote Education and Vote MMP.

Discussion on campuses led them to feel they could ask NZUSA endorse the MMP option. In addition a speaker from the Electoral Reform Coalition came to May Conference.

Students around the country contributed a great deal of their own time to the pro-MMP campaign. NZUSA collectively, and the constituent students' associations as well, were in addition able to supply some of the resources that the campaign needed, including having the Vote MMP message in any material that was being distributed.

MMP won.

Strategies:

Campaign:

NZUSA will run a campaign to achieve its Objectives which will:

Promote the value of tertiary education for the future of New Zealand, and highlight the detrimental effects of user-pays on education.

Place education in the wider social context, including highlighting the detrimental effects of user pays on students and society.

See above.

By seeing what was happening in education in its wider social context NZUSA found itself allies in people working in the health sector, workers generally, and superannuants who were starting to flex their political muscle for the first time.

It also added to the depth of understanding that students have themselves - making them better equipped to participate in the on going campaign for an education system that everyone can have access to.

Support Systems:

Membership:

NZUSA, in order to achieve its Objectives and carry out its Strategies, will:

Retain the support of the Federation's Constituent members and of students generally.

Retain universal membership of student associations.

Publicise its activities to students directly and through Constituents.

Facilitate improved input by Nga Toki o Aotearoa into the Federation's planning and activities.

Assist the development of a university women's network.

At the end of what was a trying year for the Federation, it still ended the year with a full complement of university students' associations as members.

NZUSA undertook a large research project to determine what students thought of NZUSA and the direction it was or could take. This dispelled a few myths and should serve the Federation well as it determines its future over the next few years.

Universal membership of students' associations was not a large issue although it was clear that a campaign was brewing for the future.

NZUSA supplied quite regular articles to local associations' newspapers. In addition NZUSA produced fliers and publications which gave greater profile to the organisation. Most publicity to students, like other members of the public, was undoubtedly obtained through the high media profile that NZUSA had for the duration of 1993.

NZUSA fell down in its efforts to facilitate involvement by Māori students, and Ngā Toki in particular, in 1993. We did start talking again though, which was an improvement on most recent years, and maybe the foundation has been laid for NZUSA to more fully recognise its obligations towards biculturalism in 1994.

NZUSA finally registered more than token support for women students and created the position of a national women's coordinator - first mooted at least a year earlier. The women's network should experience enormous gains from this move in the years

to come. The network however is still finding its place within the NZUSA superstructure, this will need some work in 1994 and beyond.

Finally and significantly, NZUSA also moved to formally share resources and to work much closer with APSU, the national polytechnic students' organisation. Much of this should be achieved by APSU moving into to share 59 Aurora Terrace and establishing a joint budget for work being done together. This too should bode well for the future as all students together strive towards their collective goals.

THEY
SAY
CUT
BACK



WE SAY
FIGHT BACK