



First  
Annual Report  
1999

***FIRST***  
***ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT***  
***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999***

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## **MEMBERS OF THE 1999 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President	Maria Cavanagh
Vice President (Administration)	Nadia Malizia Sue Moselen Vaughn Penn
Vice President (Education & Welfare)	Mary-Elizabeth Broadley
Maori Students' Representatives	Sue Moselen Michelle Herbert
International Students' Representative	Ajay Ranipeta
Mature Students' Representative	James Costello
Pacific Island Students' Representative	Rita Pogai Vaughn Penn
Post-Graduate Students' Representatives	Emma MacDonald Hilary Boyd
Recreation & Leisure Representative	Julia Clark
Women Students' Representatives	Amber Fitton Rachel Giesbers Sarah Colquhuon

## Students' Representatives on 1999 Committees

Federation of Massey University Students' Associations	Maria Cavanagh Nadia Malizia Sue Moselen Vaughn Penn
Academic Committee (Albany and Palmerston North)	Mary-Liz Broadley
Committee for People with Disabilities (Albany)	Mary-Liz Broadley Michael McCool Agnes Sneddon
Disciplinary (Palmerston North)	Maria Cavanagh
Equal Opportunities Committee (Albany)	Mary-Liz Broadley Rachel Giesbers
Education Quality Group (Albany)	Mary-Liz Broadley
Graduate Advisory (Albany)	Emma MacDonald Hilary Boyd
Harassment (Albany)	Mary-Liz Broadley Ajay Ranipeta Sarah Colquhoun
Health and Counselling (Albany)	Mary-Liz Broadley Rachel Giesbers
Health and Safety (Albany)	Ajay Ranipeta Sarah Colquhoun
International Students' Advisory (Albany)	Maria Cavanagh Ajay Ranipeta
Library Advisory (Albany)	Rachel Giesbers Mary-Liz Broadley
New Migrants Advisory (Albany)	Ajay Ranipeta Maria Cavanagh
Pacific Island Students Advisory (Albany)	Maria Cavanagh Vaughn Penn
Recreation and Sport Advisory (Albany)	Julia Clark Vaughn Penn
Spiritual Advisory (Albany)	Maria Cavanagh Ajay Ranipeta
Student Services Advisory (Albany)	Mary-Liz Broadley Sue Moselen
Te Whanau Ururu Tau (Albany)	Sue Moselen Michelle Herbert
Visual and Performing Arts Advisory (Albany)	Rachel Giesbers, Nadia Malizia

























## President's Report

### ❖ Introduction

Talofa lava, Kia Ora and Greetings

Six years ago the Albany campus of Massey University became operational. The campus and the quiet country town of Albany have grown rapidly together over this period. When the campus was originally opened, the Students' Association was set up as a branch of Massey University Students' Association (M.U.S.A), based in Palmerston North. During those first years, Albany campus provided first one then two representatives to the M.U.S.A Student Executive Committee. While this level of representation was acceptable in those formative years, as time went on, it became necessary for Albany campus to establish its own President and Student Executive Committee to deal with Albany-specific issues.

### ❖ Separation from MUSA

In August 1998, at a Special General Meeting, the students of Albany campus voted to separate from MUSA and establish their own identity. Effective from 1 January 1999, the Albany Students' Association (ASA) would exist to serve the needs and wants of Albany students.

ASA has the best opportunity presented yet to continue to improve student advocacy, student representation and student services. Unfortunately, with a government forced referendum approaching the students in the first semester, ASA faced an uncertain future. Compelled to run a campaign for compulsory association fees in order to provide the best possible advocacy, representation and services for students, the newest students' association in the country had its back to the wall.

### ❖ Voluntary Student's Membership (VSM)

With approximately 4,500 students, A.S.A sought sponsorship for this campaign from local and regional businesses, by way of funding posters, stickers, flyers and whatever assistance they could provide. The battle was fought on both fronts - the Government as well as the University. While one implemented legislation designed to cut off students' voice, the other was silent, compliant and unhelpful.

### ❖ University Relations

All this, yet the relationship between Albany staff and students has been very good. This seemed to be spread to Palmerston North as I had requests to meet with the Vice-Chancellor on his visits to our lovely Campus and also Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Barrie Macdonald has requested to meet with my executive and myself.

Changing the University's mindset and persuading them to accept that we were no longer part of MUSA proved more difficult than expected. We were relieved to be informed by Ms Kylie Martin, the MUSAPN President, of Council's acceptance of our new name but were however, disappointed in the way that we were treated upon our attendance to Council. While we thought Council would allow us to speak, on the issue of our name change directly, we were not granted speaking rights and we had to fight for them to even acknowledge our attendance.

Albany Students' Association believed that Council was established as the governing body of the institution, and that decisions made by this body would only be made after hearing from all concerned, thereby enabling them to make the best decision possible for all concerned. At least this lesson was learned early into my term rather than later.

As the battle with Council continued, ASA continued to focus on the issue of survival. It was imperative that we persuade as many of our students of the worth of supporting the association at Albany Campus. We had been touching base with other students' associations and comparing notes and ideas. Paramount was the development of effective inexpensive campaign ideas that would break up the monotony of "same old, same old", and help us to win the battle against the push for Voluntary Student Membership (VSM).

### ❖ **Auckland Tertiary Institution Students' Associations Group**

One of these strategies involved ASA's participation in a recently formed group of Auckland Tertiary Institution Students' Associations. The Presidents of each Association met regularly to discuss common issues confronting students and ways to resolve them. We also sought to promote social activities between each Executive as a great way to unwind with people in similar positions. Members included Unitec Student Union (USU) Auckland University Students' Association (AUSA), Auckland College of Education Students' Association (ACESA) and the Auckland Institute of Technology Students' Association (ATISA).

### ❖ **Open Day**

Albany held an open day for 7th Form students on April Fools' Day. This was a great success for the University and ASA, for the purposes of promoting Albany as the best choice for tertiary education, in Auckland.

### ❖ **Creative Writing Award**

As part of the Albany Campus celebration of creativity, a prize-giving ceremony was held to appreciate the creative writing skills we have on this campus. The judge for the evening was Briar Grace Smith, well-known short-story author and playwright. All participants got to read their stories to the audience before the top three authors were awarded their prize. Then we were all treated to a MADSODS (drama club) extravaganza that capped the evening beautifully.

### ❖ **New Zealand University Games (NZUG)**

The University Games in Christchurch proved a success. Albany sent 25 participants, due to constitutional issues impeding the decision to join University Sport NZ, and as such attending the games. Our participants had two weeks to prepare and did extremely well considering. I should thank our Recreation and Leisure Representative, Julia Clark, the University Recreation Officer, Sarah Barson and the Albany Team Manager, Johnny Kale for their hard work in organising our teams for the University Games. So on behalf of Albany Campus, thank you. The Blues Award ceremony was also a success, Albany excelled taking four Massey Blues Awards.

### ❖ **Minister of Finance Visit**

Albany students were given the opportunity to question Bill English, Minister of Finance in person. ASA attempted to get as many Students as possible to come along on the day (his visit was organised during the Easter break, when no one was on campus). A handful of Albany students turned up and questioned him on the Government's policy on Student Loans. When asked why the government continued to seek profits from tertiary students who are already experiencing expenditure overload, the Minister's response was to compare Tertiary Education to a Farmer buying the farm's first truck. "Education is just as much a tool of the trade for students as a truck is for a farmer, a farmer, however, doesn't get an interest-free loan to buy his truck, so why should students?"

Here I am mistakenly believing an education is a right, not a privilege. Unfortunately, the current Government does not agree. It is time for a change of Government, I think. Did anyone notice this was the third Voluntary Student Membership Referendum the National Government has put before the House? Probably because they did not get the results they were hoping for?

And so the discussion began and ended. We, however, did invite the Minister back to discuss what he can do for us as opposed to what he hasn't done for us, but he declined.

### ❖ **Graduation**

With Graduation creeping up, ASA planned some tasteful Graduation stunts and activities. These included the traditional 'Champagne Breakfast', held in Takapuna, a body-painting exhibition-come performance art and also a fly-over by the College of Aviation with a banner saying "Congratulations to Graduates from Massey University, Albany". The possibility of a celebration of Pacific Islands' Graduates is also in the pipeline for next year. This is an idea that has been thrown around for a couple of years, so to see it become a reality in the near future will be wonderful.

On behalf of the students that graduated, a big thank you to Ada Marama for her organisational skills. You and your teams made graduation that extra bit special for all our graduating students. Thank you also to the Recreation Officers, Sarah Barson and Vicki Hudson and Communication Liaison Lianne Granville for the organisation of the Champagne Breakfast and our famous body painters (who also get a big thank you). Graduation was awesome. Once again, a proud moment for me, as Student President.

### ❖ **ASA-TWONAM Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

Te Waka o Nga Akonga Maori and ASA are currently working together on a 'Memorandum of Understanding', similar to the one that exists between the New Zealand University Students' Association and the national Maori Students' Association, Te Mana Akonga. We hope to be the first students' association to implement such an agreement at a regional level. The M.O.U is a policy agreement between the two associations that complements Te tiriti o Waitangi.

### ❖ **Te Whare**

Discussions over 'Te Whare a Iwi' began in April. The University appears to want to address the issue of provision of a whare on the main campus site within the next few years and have resolved to include the design into the future development programme. In the meanwhile, they are making available Building 75 on the Oteha Rohe precinct as somewhere for Te Waka o nga Akonga Maori (TWONAM) and all Maori students to use.

### ❖ **Pacific Island Students' Liaison**

Last year a part-time Pacific Islands' Liaison position was established through the Department of Social Policy and Social Work budget because the University did not have sufficient funds (in the general budget) to provide one, yet the need was there. This year, I was pleased to hear, the university has not only taken over the contract, but also provided the position with an office.

### ❖ **Compulsory Student Membership it is!**

We won the referendum. Despite the National Government's attempts to silence Students' Voices, Massey University students have spoken loud and clear: WE WILL RETAIN OUR VOICE!, (unlike the current Government in the next elections). A big "thank you" to all that voted, especially those that voted Compulsory. You Rock!

### ❖ **Opening of Quad A**

The Governor General, Sir Michael Hardie-Boys, also visited our Campus. He made a lovely speech at the opening of Quad Block A. Marilyn Waring brought to our attention what a great photo opportunity it was to have the Governor General, the Principal of Albany and the three Women Presidents of Massey University together. It was great to see Liz Barker and Kylie Martin in Albany, for Graduation. Liz is the President of the Extramural Students' Society (EXMSS), and Kylie the President of Massey University Students' Association Palmerston North (MUSAPN). Both are Student Representatives on Council. Auckland College of Education Students' Association (ACESA) President Chris Judd, also came to Albany to celebrate us becoming Compulsory.

### ❖ **Work and Income New Zealand**

I have read articles, of late, informing the general public of the dysfunctional role WINZ has undertaken with respect to the issuing of Student Allowance payments. This issue has been around since day one of WINZ taking over Student Allowances and will only be exacerbated when they seek to assimilate Loans as well. We have had continual complaints of WINZ losing students' original documents (birth certificates, passports, etc.), huge delays in Allowances, together with the "Mission Impossible" of speaking to anyone except their recorded message, on the phone. I spoke to one student that applied for their Student Allowance in December, and did not receive a payment until after April. These are reasons why Students' Associations have had to establish Hardship funds and Food banks. Once again, a lack of support by the current Government for Students, yet unlimited support for APEC.

## ❖ APEC

Don't get me started on APEC. The clearing out of the homeless, because they will reflect badly on the Government. That's it - sweep it all under the carpet. Let's just hide them from view for the short term so that we don't have the time to deal with them on the long term. After APEC, who cares where they go, as long as it's not embarrassing for the Government of course, because we don't have poverty in Aotearoa.

## ❖ NZUSA @ Albany

The ASA student executive worked extremely hard preparing and hosting the New Zealand University Students' Association (NZUSA) July Conference. This was our chance to put the Albany campus of Massey University on the student political map. NZUSA July conference dates were the 8th - 11th July. Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July was "Women's Conference", where issues relating to women in university studies were raised and discussed, along with future campaigns to raise awareness and support for women in tertiary study. Over 51% of tertiary students in Aotearoa are women and statistics show it takes a woman four times longer to repay her student loan due to lower wages in the workforce, family obligations and child-rearing. With 1999 being an election year, these are issues that need to be tackled and will play a major role in how students vote nationally.

Christina Rizos was the "National Co-ordinator for Women's Issues" and this was Christina's time to inform us of the campaigns already underway. The one that grabbed my attention was "Thursdays in Black". This campaign has been running for at least two years, where women wear black on Thursdays to signify "Women demanding a world without rape and violence". This is a campaign anyone can participate in and which takes virtually no time or effort. One of our leading fashion magazines, Fashion Quarterly, has also taken up this campaign in support of NZUSA.

Friday 9th July began with a powhiri welcoming 60 students from across Aotearoa onto our campus. Nga Puhī and Ngati Whatua representatives came to validate our powhiri. The continual remarks of amazement at the beauty of our campus filled us with pride; the majority of the students had never seen a brand new building in a University before and were astonished at how clean they looked!

After the kai, we went straight into the difficult discussions on restructuring our national body. NZUSA had been representing students nationally for over 70 years, with restructuring occurring where and whenever necessary. However, the restructuring had never been as serious as it was this year. With the National Party Government effectively declaring war on tertiary students and succeeding in dragging Auckland University Students' Association (AUSA) into the "No Funding" lane of its "Privatisation Highway", the single most important aim of the conference was to restructure to accommodate the budget shortfall created by AUSA's move to becoming a voluntary organisation as well as Canterbury University's notice to withdraw from the national body.

Saturday 10th July included a "De-colonisation Workshop" for the first half of the day. Each campus did a round of what was happening on their campus in regards to our commitment to "Te Tiriti o Waitangi". Unfortunately, I missed the first part and as such the report on Albany. However, I am told ASA was, if not the worst, a close second place to the worst nationally. So there is a lot of room for improvement.

This was hardly all that occurred throughout the year, but touches on most of the major issues we faced. Finally I would like to thank my Executive and Staff for their support throughout the first year of ASA and look forward to the association serving the needs of students well into the next Millennium and beyond.

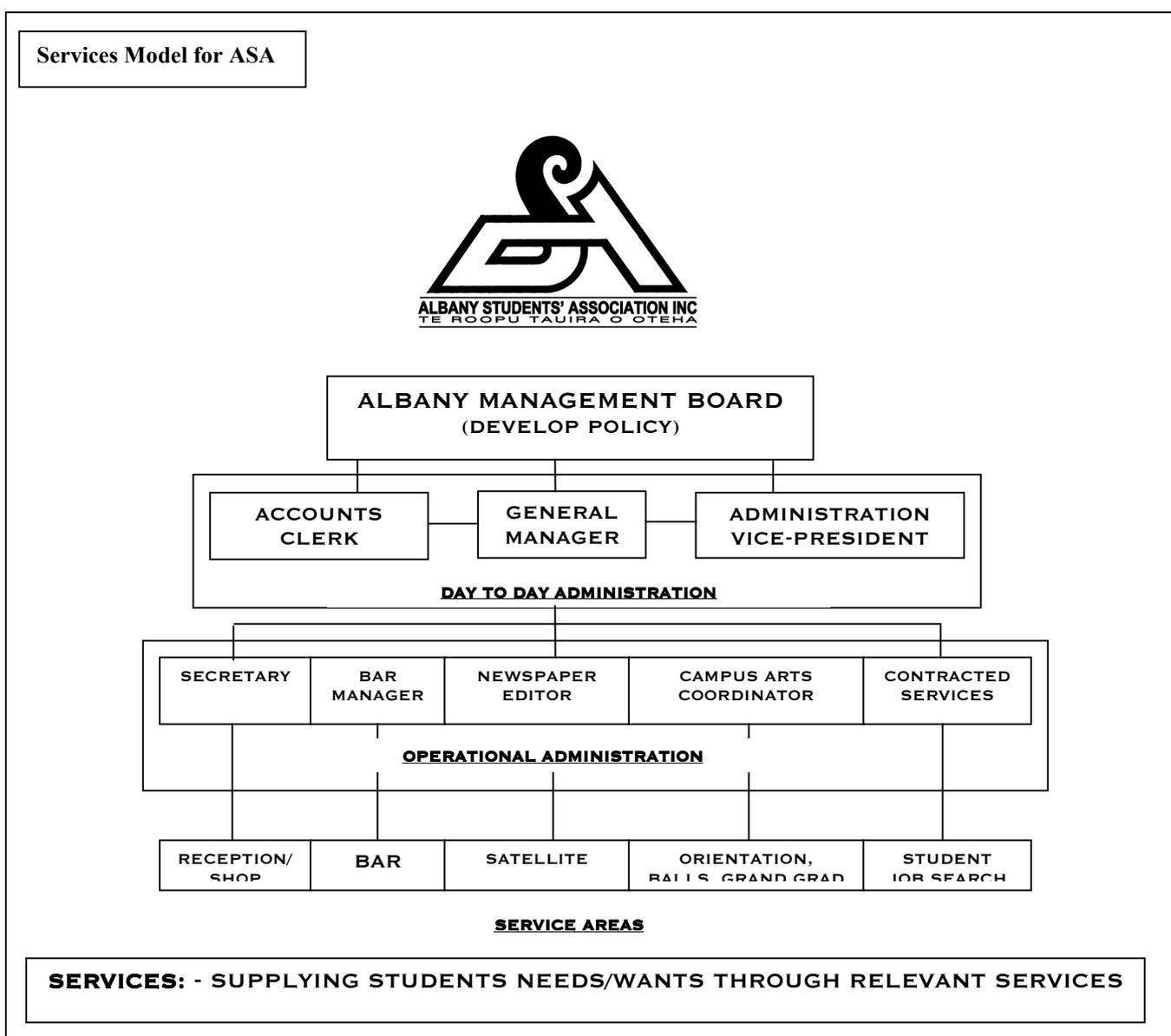
Fa'afetai lava I le avano mo le nei lipoti.

**Maria Cavanagh**  
**President 1999**

## Manager's Report

### Introduction

The ASA Manager is the head of the Services and Administration arm of the Association (see diagram below). It is an appointed, as opposed to an elected, position and one that I have held since 1993, although this is the first year of operation for the Albany Students' Association Inc. It is also the only full-time (40 hours a week plus) position for the entire association which often means that the work-load at certain times of the year can be extreme.



A vast number of things came across my desk throughout the year of varying importance. Here are the high points:

### ❖ **Separation from MUSA**

The Special General Meeting held in 1998 allowed for the separation from Massey University Students' Association along with the formation and incorporation of the Albany Students' Association Inc. I helped draft the Constitution and Regulations, organised and submitted the documentation to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, aided in the selection of an Auditor and a Legal Firm for the association and helped set things on track for the start of the year.

### ❖ **Federation of Massey University Students' Associations**

Massey University Council initially refused to recognise a separate students' association for the Albany campus. Their specious argument was that they were precluded from doing so due to the current legislation which meant the institution was only allowed one association of students – this was even though they already recognised the Extramural Students' Society (EXMSS) and were in the process of merging with both Wellington Polytechnic and Auckland College of Education.

The problem of recognition extended to collection and payment of the ASA fee but held similar problems for other students' associations assimilated by Massey. In order to solve this as equitably as possible, I assisted in the drafting of a Constitution and Regulations for a proposed "Federation of Massey University Students' Associations". I also acted as Returning Officer for the first Council Representative election and kept the minutes of the inaugural meeting. The desire is for a structure that will allow for adequate co-ordinated representation to Council of matters pertaining to all associations as well as a spokesperson that refers information back to each campus for comment and resolution. Progress to date is slow, there are still problems especially in the establishment of clear lines of communication and the group has been renamed the Students' Associations of Massey University (SAMU).

### ❖ **Accounting System**

The separation from MUSA has also meant a separation of the accounts. Where previously we were only responsible for recording and referring information to the Accounts Clerk at Palmerston North, we are now directly responsible for disbursements, payroll, debtors and creditors, and keeping clear and accurate records. This part of the job has grown to occupy more and more of my time and it became necessary to employ a part-time Accounts Clerk to assist in the preparation of the paperwork as well as outside assistance in the preparation of GST returns.

### ❖ **Staff and Contracts**

The separation also made ASA directly responsible for all its own employment matters. Technically, all staff are employed through the Manager who is in turn employed by the Executive Committee. Being a mainly volunteer organisation has meant that most of the staff are students, part-time or contractors. ASA employed a total of around 60 people in mainly minor capacities but the staff base here has a core of six persons working a minimum of 20 hours a week. The best, although slowest part of the separation, was the opportunity to finally review all the contracts held by the association for both staff and executive. Many inconsistencies had crept into an ad hoc system that needed desperately to be reviewed by someone in contract law. The matter was taken to the Association's lawyers – Davenports, and we finally possess a set of self-consistent contracts that ensure that the Association meets all its obligations towards its employees and its membership.

### ❖ **Policy Manual**

We inherited a policy manual from our MUSA cousin that, although extremely helpful in part, is largely representative of the Palmerston North environment. The long process of reviewing this document to make it appropriate to Albany continues.

### ❖ **Lease**

With our own legal representatives, another long-standing issue – that of a full and correct lease for occupation of Buildings 67 and 70 could be reviewed and sent to the University. This document will, among other things, allow us the opportunity to apply for a separate Club Licence for Scholars', finally removing the control of its licence from the University.

### ❖ **Management Board**

A sub-committee of the Executive committee that deals specifically with the Services arm of the association, Management Board sought to meet on a monthly basis in order to review the financial position of the association and consider and resolve matters for later ratification by the Executive Committee. I acted as Minute Taker and prepared the agenda for the various discussion items. This forum gave me the opportunity to discuss various important matters directly with the Executive, which was particularly helpful in that previously I would only submit reports to the Executive committee without the opportunity to partake in any of the discussion. This way I could offer more help and advice and I hope this proved beneficial to all involved.

### ❖ **Te Waka O Nga Akonga Maori (TWONAM) and the Heads of Agreement (HOA)**

This is another long-term matter that is hopefully heading for resolution in 2000. Our partner Maori Students' Association – Te Waka o nga Akonga Maori (TWONAM) incorporated separately from us back in 1997. At this time, a Heads of Agreement (HOA) was developed that set out terms and conditions between TWONAM and MUSA Albany (as we were then). It included details in terms of collection and disbursement of fees, provision of representatives to the ASA Executive (including a job description later incorporated into the Constitution and Regulations) and charges for services provided by one group to the other. However, when ASA incorporated separately to MUSA, the document ceased to have any legal standing.

The opportunity then arose to revisit the terms and renegotiate them as part of a new Heads of Agreement. TWONAM's Maori Students Representatives – Sue Moselen and Michelle Herbert took the first step by drafting an agreement based in part on the HOA between the national body NZUSA and its partner, Te Mana Akonga (TMA). This was referred to me for comment. I reworked it and referred it back. At this time the matter remains unresolved and although we are dealing with TWONAM in the same way that we always have, it remains imperative that this contract is finally resolved.

#### ❖ **University Relations and Information Provision**

For all the conflicts that arise throughout the year, the University administration at Albany is generally pretty amenable and approachable. 1999, however, saw the University restructure its service arm – contracting, shrinking, repositioning and generally re-centralising to Palmerston North. As a consequence, many of the things that we had grown accustomed to occurring here suddenly disappeared. This led to a variety of administration problems and will unfortunately lead to more.

The largest single problem that affects the association is the provision of information relating to its membership. Because the University collects the fee on our behalf, we are totally reliant on them providing us with accurate and timely information relating to our members, particularly when it comes to money. Students should technically not be allowed to attend class before paying their now compulsory students' association fee as laid out in the Education Amendment Act. This should place the association on a tier as a preferential creditor of the University, however the University has chosen to deal with the association somewhat differently. The legislation suggests that the institution is required to pay the fees it collects across to the associations within one month of collecting them or face a 10% penalty, however it did not set out a method for auditing the institutions to ensure that this occurred. We remain totally reliant on what they choose to tell us and this is very little.

Every year when it comes around to the budget and the audit, we need to know exactly how many students paid what amount of money to the University in what point category in order to correctly account for the fees we receive through our counterpart at Palmerston North (Council refuses to pay ASA directly for reasons all its own). The fight to acquire correct reconciled information is a nightmare at best and must be resolved with the University administration quickly at the highest level.

#### ❖ **VSM Referendum and Planning**

Tony Steel's amendment to the Education Act was a badly worded inconsistent and rushed piece of legislation at best. The referenda around all the tertiary institutions of New Zealand were extraordinarily costly in both monetary and political terms to the institutions and their students' associations. We were placed in a position as the newest students' association in the country of facing an administrative nightmare where we would have to somehow account for and reimburse monies collected from students enrolling at Albany. Considering my point about information disclosure from the University above, this was not a good situation at all. We had little idea as to how much money would be collected or disbursed. No one was discussing process and all the discussions with the University left you wanting to tear your hair out.

Add to this that Massey took an extremely hands-off approach to the entire process. They were content to bide their time and wait and see the outcome of the referendum, even though the association went to great lengths to convince them that we should enter into some sort of contract for provision of advocacy and services. I dread to think what would have happened to the ASA if the result had been voluntary, personally I don't think we would be here at all. Thanks to the students and the ridiculous wording of the legislation, it seems we will be here in perpetuity.

## **Services**

The Association seeks to provide students with services that they would otherwise not receive from the University. Albany is still young and consequently slowly developing and moulding the range of services it can provide. The growing campus population continually stretches the association's ability to do this successfully and it can be very frustrating for both students and the association alike when we would like to be able to offer a wider range of services but simply don't have the financial where-with-all to do so. The following are the major issues that arose in terms of services:

### **❖ Space and Location**

Space remains a premium on a campus that continues to grow faster than anywhere else in the country. The association building is now expected to cater for a population of almost 4,000, while its location means that the ever-growing State Highway 17 side of the campus is rapidly becoming the main focus of the majority of the campus' students. Some space will become available in the new Atrium building which is due to be completed in Semester 1 of 2001 which is earmarked for the association. How we can best use this is something that needs to be carefully addressed over the coming months.

### **❖ Bar**

Scholars' did not enjoy its best operating year for a variety of reasons. We were still tied to opening one night per week and considering the number of associated security problems, this was sometimes one night too many. The word got round about the bar being a place for underage drinkers to congregate and this in turn created problems with the Police, Liquor Licensing and the University administration. The association does not have its own licence; it is reliant on the licence that is held by the University (and which I helped initially organise back in 1994). The building was also never really designed to accommodate a bar at night and a common room during the day - there are too many doors, too much carpet area, no dining facilities, the bar is cramped, has no cold-store, and the list goes on. Making a reasonable profit when you open only 30 nights a year is something of an uphill battle. The plan for the New Year is to work more closely with our auditors on adequate control mechanisms for the bar and to ensure a better system of stock control and rotation. Better reporting structures and a new Bar Manager backed by external Security should aid settle relations with the Police, DLA and University and we are looking at applying for our own club licence to end the University's stranglehold on when we operate. Finally, the lowering of the drinking age means new entrants to University can finally legally go to their own bar before they graduate. With more advertising and better-linked promotions, students should be able to look forward to a better overall service.

### ❖ **Satellite**

The newspaper began 1999 more or less as it ended 1998 - as an insert into Shore News. While this saw a distribution higher than any other student newspaper in the country, the general feeling was that it was not serving the direct needs and wants of the Albany student. By half way through the year, the Editor resigned to take up work elsewhere and the paper went into a kind of limbo. I continued to edit it to ensure we met the contractual sponsorship arrangements we had but the time commitment meant that the paper wasn't getting the attention it deserved.

The Executive encountered significant problems in deciding on a format or making any substantial financial commitment to the development of the service, so it ticked along until the Election issue when the printer, Shore News started asking us to subsidise the full cost of the advertising space that went unfilled. At around \$2,500 per page, this would have quickly made us the most expensive student newspaper in the country as well. The plug was pulled and Satellite went into hiatus while the format and design was again debated.

Finally, it was a member of the current staff who put their hand up and approached the Executive with the stop-gap measure of producing a photocopied "on-campus" edition. This was accepted and the popularity was soon noted in terms of the feedback received. The way was paved for a return to an on-campus format for the 2000 year.

### ❖ **Orientation Week**

Evaluating Orientation is always really difficult. From the administrative side of the fence it almost always constitutes a huge headache dealing with the various logistical nightmares that arise. From the student side of the fence the range of activities is what makes the week a success. 1999 saw the last time that we sought to stage large-scale events on the Oteha Rohe precinct. Crowd attendance was down on previous years and the range of performers and entertainment didn't quite spark the interest of the students. The late appointment of the Orientation Week Co-ordinators meant they faced an uphill battle in terms of acquiring sponsorship as well as organising sufficient effective advertising. Its final costs were significant and the income markedly reduced from previous periods. Having said that, Albany continues to produce a financially successful event less than half of the time and perhaps the week should be recognised as an important subsidised service to new students and more as a marketing tool by the association. After all, the argument constantly raised by students is what are they getting for their money. Orientation Week contributes significantly to the image students have of the association as well as giving us our first best opportunity to make a good impression. We can manage costs down but we can never ensure that people will come. Without this, this can only ever be regarded as an expense item on the budget line.

### ❖ **Diary**

The Auckland Institute of Technology Students' Association (ATISA) managed the combined tertiary student diary. We contributed the change-out pages for our particular section, which I edited, and left the management and advertising to them to co-ordinate. This hands-off approach was not the recommendation I brought forward after editing the entire project in the previous year and it became evident throughout the project that insufficient advertising revenue would be generated to markedly off-set the cost. The Diary continues to be a good marketing tool and is well received by students, however its future depends largely on the economies of scale afforded by a combined institutional approach.

## ❖ Ball

The Graduation Ball was proposed by Kelly Henderson to the Executive Committee. They accepted her proposal and she was contracted to provide the service to the association. The arrangements were simple and cost-effective and the ball proved a popular and profitable success that went a large way towards subsidising the "Compulsory Party" organised by the Executive after the result of the referendum. Congratulations are due to Kelly for her work.

## Final note

I would like to extend a personal note of thanks to all of my staff throughout the year. To Andrew, Scott, Michael, Darrin, Jo, Nadia, Tania and all the volunteers who gave selflessly of their time - thank you for your efforts throughout the year. The association is a challenging environment in which to work and you all contributed a certain special something to the year.

**Nigel Green**  
**Manager 1999**

## **Vice-President (Education & Welfare) Report**

Kia Ora, Talofa and Warmest Greetings,

1999 has been a year of change, uncertainty and upheaval. In my position, I have found this to be a challenging and eventually rewarding year. The impact of the 1999 VSM legislation dominated the first three months of the year. Thankfully, our students stood behind the association and '*voted compulsory*'. With this pressure being lifted from the Executives' broad shoulders, we could settle-down into our elected positions and do the work we were hired for!

Before, I list my professional achievements and a few recommendations for forthcoming year that I would like to acknowledge a few people. I would like to thank Nigel Green (Student Manager) for his historical advice and support; co-workers on the past/present Executive for giving hands-on support for education/welfare campaigns and some University staff that have listened to my suggestions and made appropriate changes. However, at this stage my biggest thanks/aroha goes out to the students that have come to A.S.A for support. Thank you for sharing yourselves and your hardships with me. This trust has never been broken (ask my supervisor).

I believe the best way to discuss my year's achievement is to highlight the various University committees and discuss the successful outcomes that have occurred.

At the end of this report, I will mention 1999 special events and some suggestions for my successor Sheetal Narayan. Sheetal - I wish you well in the Education/Welfare position. This position has one of the biggest portfolios. Sheetal will need some time to settle-in and find her wings. However, I'm sure she will find them! Good Luck for 2000 Sheetal.

### **Committees**

#### **❖ Academic Committee**

This committee meets every month to discuss arising Albany-based academic issues. During this year I have tried to get the Class Representatives' system up-and-running. This is a huge process that needs incredible support from the Heads of the various University Colleges. I had some support from Colleges, however, not enough to make this an effective system! I hear the 2000 new executive have decided to revisit this process. Good on you; we need this system in our ever-growing Albany-based campus.

During these meetings, I would discuss the students' non-identifying academic issues. For example, the present SECAT (Student Evaluation of Courses and Teaching) procedure; Summer/Block Code of Practice; Academic Grievance Procedure; Graduation format; Tangata Whenua different academic problems and many other arising issues.

I feel that I was respected and valued within this forum and, in turn would like to thank the other committee members for there support and advice. Kia Ora!

### ❖ **Student Support Services Advisory Meeting**

This committee was to meet four times a year. This committee was constructed so that all service providers for example, the Health & Counselling Centre, the Sport, Recreation and Cultural Centre and the Accommodation Services could present reports for discussion on achievements and maybe future recommendations. Unfortunately, this committee has only met twice this year. In many ways it has been ineffective for it is only an *advisory* committee. However, once again many thanks to the student service providers - it was interesting to read their reports and more importantly, to witness and benefit from the 'fruits of their labour'. Kia Ora!

### ❖ **Harassment Committee**

Thankfully, we were all trained in the What/How/Who and the Where's if students approached us with an alleged 'harassment case'. I am pleased to say that I have had little cause to access this knowledge. Big thank you to Frances White, Anna Fenwick and other people who trained us at the beginning of the year.

### ❖ **Health and Counselling Advisory Committee**

The Health and Counselling Centre has struggled during 1999. For whatever reasons, the numbers of students' using the centre dropped. With this drop I believed it was A.S.A.'s responsibility to support the centre. Consequently, I purchased apples (H&C paid the bill) and walked the campus beat advertising our medical/counselling service. This was one of a number of simple strategies that I employed alongside the H&C staff to help to publicise the service, however attendance numbers are still low. To the students' reading this is I would recommend to go for a free check-up. Book Now!

"Healthy Lifestyles Week" was a great success. Thank you to the Executive for collectively supporting this campaign. A.S.A did some amazing events; the non-alcoholic cocktail/ smart-drink afternoon; herbal tea and healthy snacks in the Women's Space; 'make your own healthy sandwich' and soup, sausages and salad lunch. What an incredible week and thanks to the other University services for all their support.

### ❖ **Accommodation Student Support**

Lots of support was needed for our poor accommodation students. Many of the students who came to A.S.A were seeking financial support. The basic reoccurring message was that the rent was too high and students could not keep-up the payments. Luckily we could provide them with food vouchers and other financial support. Also, A.S.A did not believe that putting a plaster on weeping wound and so organised a 'Budget Advice, Student Job Search and Student Financial Assistance Evening'. Thanks to James Costello and Michael Goldthorpe for their support. In the forthcoming year A.S.A intend to have a lot more involvement within the established accommodation committee.

### ❖ **Disabilities Committee**

A great, proactive, up-beat committee! Thanks to Patricia Kay for setting-up and chairing this committee for so many years. Jo, the newly- appointed Disability Co-ordinator has some amazing plans for this committee – so watch out! How has A.S.A been instrumental in promoting disability awareness and acceptance? Well, we made a small start by helping out with the new advertising that will be presented in 2000. Actually, I would like to see A.S.A give financial and hands-on support to this evolving service.

### Special Events

#### ❖ **Graduation ‘Champagne Breakfast’**

Well, A.S.A came in at the eleventh-hour. We did help out on the day, but if we had planned more effectively we could have made this an even better event. Many thanks to Vicky and Sarah (Rec. Centre Staff) for their hard work. A.S.A.'s input was to serve champagne, provide ‘body-painting by MADSODS (Drama Club) actors’ and give a hand at the inevitable clean up. Next year, I would suggest that the Recreation Centre and A.S.A sit down a month before the graduation to really plan the event. This is a chance for our supportive students to reap some of the rewards for all their financial support during their three years at University.

#### ❖ **Conference on the building of our own Tangata Whenua Tauira o Albany Marae**

What a privilege to be involved in these early negotiations. The seed has been sown for Albany to have it’s own Marae. Te Roopu Tauira o Oteha (A.S.A.) has asserted in its constitution that we will adhere to the values of tikanga Maori. During my term, I believe, wherever possible, I have consulted with our A.S.A Maori Reps for advice on Maori issues. I totally believe in bi-culturalism and hope that the new Executive presents the same genuine equality stance. Please remember the saying ‘actions speak louder than words’ in regards to giving support to our Te Roopu.

#### ❖ **Promoting Students’ Assistance Programme (Hardship)**

Well, I’ve had a great pleasure in spending the hardship fund this year. Total revenue spent on grants was \$11,613.11 and \$2000.00 on loans. The average applicant came for living cost concerns. I’m glad to say the accounts that I set up with Albany Pak & Save and Shell Service Station have been well used. A good percentage of the hardship revenue went to supporting our University accommodation students’ care of Buildcorp. “Buyer beware” is my personal advice before signing contracts that locks you in to a big financial commitment; although, the choice is yours!

How have I promoted the hardship fund? Strategies included the scream posters of “A.S.A is here for you” the many hardship basket raffles organised alongside the Women's Reps and incoming Ed/Welfare Advisor (most gratifying was the fact that the people who received these baskets were actually in need).

Personally, I have loved meeting all the students who arrived at A.S.A.'s back door looking for a financial support. Please do not now or in the future be too proud to knock on our doors.

The hardship fund comes from overdue book loans and traffic fines, so hey, it's yours anyway!

At this stage, I need to reiterate that I saw a professional supervisor during my term in office and everything that has ever been disclosed to me in confidence has never been divulged.

### ❖ **Academic Grievance Procedures**

I believe that I have learned a lot this year. I have brushed up on my mediation skills. The conflict resolution process is such a tricky number. My advice is any academic grievance is best if it's quickly 'nipped-in-the bud.' At this stage I would like to thank my supervisor and other academic staff who have been open to resolution. Kia Ora!

### **Recommendations for 2000**

- ❖ Food Bank;
- ❖ Advocacy Service;
- ❖ Budget Advisor;
- ❖ Ed/Welfare with professional supervision;
- ❖ Put College reps on Academic Board – that's what they're there for;
- ❖ Class Rep system that works;
- ❖ Try to get a representative on the Accommodation Advisory Committee;
- ❖ Separate the position into two (e.g. Education VP, WelfareVP);
- ❖ Be full of initiative!
- ❖ Always attend meetings that you are required to go to, otherwise give apologies (make it known that you can be counted on to be there);
- ❖ Discuss student's issues in a non-identifying manner – it's a small world;
- ❖ First represent students, then ASA – don't get locked in to doing too much in too little time;
- ❖ Network with other University Students' Associations, and campus staff;
- ❖ Work with the staff of Massey Albany, not against them;
- ❖ Set up a diary with student appointment times – set office hours and stick to them;
- ❖ Record information after committee meetings, and file. Let other executive members know what's been going on – especially if it affects their portfolios;
- ❖ Have Fun;
- ❖ ALWAYS keep personal and professional lives separate. Your integrity is key to the position;
- ❖ Liaise with other representatives – collective effort is more effort;
- ❖ Always consult Maori, Pacific Island, International Students and their representatives on matters that may concern them;
- ❖ Be flexible with Academic Grievance and SAPs, especially when dealing with other cultures.

## **Conclusion**

I would like to thank Students, The ASA Executive and Staff, University Staff, and Supervisors for all their advice and guidance through this year. I have learnt a lot, and have enjoyed my term in office. Once again, I wish Sheetal all the best and anything I can help with, I am only a phone call away

Arohanui

**Mary-Elizabeth Broadley**  
**Vice President (Education and Welfare) 1999**

## **Co-Women's Representatives' Report**

Well, it's almost the end of the year, and it feels like it's only been a few weeks since we came on board. There is a lot to review and these few pages make it difficult to give justice to a whole year, but here goes:

### **Committees**

Sarah has been regularly attending the Health and Safety committee meeting each month. This committee considers Occupational Safety and Health issues that arise as a consequence of the University environment. Student input here helps ensure a safer campus for Women. Rachel has been attending the Library Advisory Committee meetings which consider such issues as the long distance service that seeks to provide additional support to Albany students from the Palmerston North campus, acquisition of texts and development of the general Library service. Unfortunately Rachel had to put in her apologies for the only meeting of the Visual and Performing Arts Advisory Committee to have occurred since being given the job as student representative, as the meetings occurred during the hours she was at work. This committee exists mainly in an advisory capacity and without a budget of any description so it has a limited impact on student life.

### **Representation**

Together, we helped in the holding of a healthy open day in the Women's Space on the Wednesday of Healthy Lifestyles week. We had Jessie Crawford (the nurse from Health and Counselling) in the Women's Space throughout the day to answer any health-related queries that may be brought up by interested women - contraception, health checks, counselling, stress, etc. The Open Day was not as successful as we had hoped, probably owing to lack of effective advertising, which points towards the need for better advertising earlier, however we did manage to alert quite a few people to the existence of the space.

### **On Campus**

We took part in the protest over the educational debate, however we have not been as active in the protest side of things. The debate was awesome, and we generated some good reactions over this. It was heartening to see that while students on Albany campus seem generally unconcerned about the state of their fees for next year, they turned out in force to hear the various political parties' representatives debate the issues prior to the election. Sarah has also helped out with staffing the polling booths during the Student Executive elections for 2000.

### **Conferences**

Rachel attended the Tertiary Women's Focus Group (TWFG) Conference and New Zealand Universities Students' Association (NZUSA) Conference at Lincoln and Canterbury Universities during the 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of August. This included the (unsuccessful) first set of elections for the NZUSA Co-Presidents for 2000.

Both of us attended the Women's Teleconference on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> September. There were a lot of important issues raised at this teleconference, the main topic of conversation being the pros and cons of an elected women's officer versus an employed women's co-ordinator. It was recognised that there were a lot of employment issues associated with the dis-establishment on one and establishment of another relevant positions. The general consensus seemed to be that the Women's Officers supported an elected position, as that would increase the accountability to and representation of Women at tertiary campuses.

### **Other**

We have both been assisting with the "Hardship Raffles" run by Mary-Liz Broadley to promote the Student Assistance Programme (SAPs) grants and loans. During the last set of raffles Sheetal Narayan, the Education/Welfare Vice-President-Elect, also assisted us for 2000. These raffles have been very successful, and we would like to thank Bennetts Campus Bookshop for their assistance with these, as well as all the staff who allowed us to display our raffles in their buildings.

Sarah has been helping out Tania with EFTPOS and the BBQ on bar nights.

Rachel has also spent a bit of time working with the SAP application process, also filling in for Mary-Liz with hardships while she has been away for various things.

We have both met with Beverly Dowling, the Women's Representative-Elect for 2000 on various occasions, to break down what we've done this year, and what we wished we'd done. She seems to be an excellent woman for this position, and it seems that Women will have a strong voice on the Executive next year.

**Sarah Colquhoun and Rachel Giesbers**  
**Co-Women's Students' Representatives 1999**

## **Co-Maori Student Representatives' Report**

### **Beginnings**

Starting life with the Albany Students' Association was fun indeed. The first week of January 1999, seven of the members attended the campsite at Muriwai beach. The first team-building/problem solving exercise was erecting the 8-person tent. First problem – ‘finding someone who could read the bloody instructions’. After much argument, confusion and fighting with a big piece of canvas, we managed to get something up that resembled an A-frame structure. The general Hui and discussions were a great pre-cursor to the tasks ahead. The after meeting functions were even better – Maria’s chop suey and drunken wheelbarrow races on the beach at 3 o’clock in the a.m. We weren’t, however, too popular with the locals (other ‘unhappy’ campers)! Anyway ... back to campus and into the mahi!

The beginning of semester one got underway in the usual fashion, with the first powhiri for the year taking place on Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of Feb. The powhiri was well attended by both students and staff. The members of the kapa haka team had put in heaps of mahi with Mere-Heni Ruwhiu prior to this, also in preparing the kai, and it was well appreciated by Professor Watson and the university staff. Great to see members of the Albany Students' Association in attendance, as well as a visit from the President of MUSA Palmerston North, Kylie Martin. The powhiri was an overall success, with the numbers of manuhiri having increased markedly from last year.

The first powhiri was quickly followed by a second, this time at Awataha Marae. Representatives from both ASA and TWONAM were invited by Ken Ryba, (Head of Educational Psychology) to attend the powhiri for all Educational Psych. Post-grad students. Maria Cavanagh attended for ASA and Sue attended for Te Waka o Nga Akonga Maori (TWONAM). It was most encouraging to see a staff member taking the initiative to liaise and arrange a powhiri with local iwi, and begin the academic year for both himself and his students in a manner that does justice to the university's commitment to its charter.

### **Academic Board**

The first Academic Board meeting was held on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> of Feb and was attended by Sue of TWONAM and Mary-Liz Broadley of ASA. This was a gruelling induction for the uninitiated into University processes. In high-academic style, the various staff waxed-lyrical around the boardroom table in a fashion that would have the most discerned member of the literati drooling for more. Not me! What a load of poppycock! All of this gibberish was obviously geared to put us off, and a very weakly feigned attempt to hide their hidden agenda was put up by most of the players, (all who shall remain nameless – we’ll just refer to them as ‘the Prof. contingent’). Glad to say that we didn’t bat an eye-lid and managed to put forward our views and objectives in a concise and intelligent manner. (I think even they were impressed!). Unfortunately our attendance at Academic Board has been sporadic at best. Again this is a reflection of the extra demands placed on the kaimahi of TWONAM. I understand that attendance on Academic Board is essential to safe-guard the needs of Maori, and future meetings will be attended now that a Tumuaki is in place within our roopu.

However, this would not be absolutely crucial if the University would revisit its Charter and 'walk the talk' on its supposed commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, because whilst the non-Maori liaison is invited to sit on Academic Board, our Maori Liaison Officer, Mere-Heni Ruwhiu is not; obviously a gross oversight on the University's behalf.

### **NZUSA -February Conference**

The NZUSA February Conference was held in Whanganui a Tara. Four members of ASA attended, Sue included. Workshops covered ranged from "Queers on Campus" to "Privatisation". The second day Sue found herself marching through the main streets spouting the slogan "one, two, three, four A-P-E-C out the door..." - a great way to learn about how APEC policies will affect Maori. APEC undermines Te Tiriti o Waitangi by superceding domestic government and its obligations to Maori in favour of international 'economic' obligations. In many ways APEC (the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation) can be viewed as MAI (the Multi-lateral Agreement on Investment) in APEC clothing. Both pose substantial threats to Maori. Fortunately for Maori, APEC poses threats to other marginalised groups, namely; women, the aged and the poor (i.e. the majority of people in Aotearoa, the majority of students included). APEC is due to fully hit Aotearoa in September, when APEC leaders are convening in Tamaki makau rau. In the build-up to the summit, Jenny Shipley and her cohorts are holding meetings all around the motu. Maria and Emma of ASA and myself from TWONAM have attended protest action on the steps of the Aotea Centre. So far we haven't been arrested, but those police are pretty militant and there has been more than one scuffle with protestors. With the threat growing daily the numbers will swell, hopefully we will see more students both Maori and non-Maori attending from Albany campus to tautoko this important kaupapa. Kia kaha tatou!

### **Waitangi Day**

Following on from February conference, it was time to tautoko that all-important kaupapa Te Tiriti o Waitangi. It was great to meet with other members of TWONAM (Iona Maxwell, Jenny Baker, and Louisa Wall) on the marae atea of Te Tii, also great to see members of other student roopu and the co-presidents of NZUSA Tanja Schutz and Karen Skinner. All in all, a peaceful event, no crying from Members of Parliament anyway. The tangata whenua gathered around the Flagstaff as Hone Harawera voiced over the mega-phone "... like moths to the light-bulb". Nga tama toa scaled the pole for the traditional lowering of the 'New Zealand' flag and the raising of the many flags representing 'Te iwi Maori', an emotional and wonderful sight. However, it was equally emotional but heart-rending to see them come down again. The police standing idly by, paid little attention. One officer was overheard as saying "stupid bastards, hope they fall and break their neck". But Maori being both strong and determined, succeeded in their objectives for the day, with no damage to anyone. Leaving brought a sense of renewed vigour in the struggle and an even stronger determination to come back next year and the year after and the year after that ... until the flags and the crown's commitment stand permanently.

## **Health & Counselling**

Both of us have attended Health and Counselling meetings. The first meeting was held on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and Maori issues were put aside at that meeting as a meeting was being scheduled with Mere-Heni (Kaihono Maori) and counselling staff. Suggestions of alternative counselling and health services for Maori have been posted in the whanau room. It is intended that when the marae complex is built that hauora services for Maori will be established on campus. This would give our students more options for their health and counselling needs and offer culturally safe services for Maori, which currently do not exist.

Building 75 has been set up as a temporary Maori space on the Oteha campus, until the marae is built. Currently our students have little area to study, especially in collective groups; our current facilities are unequipped and unsuitable for holding wananga, kapa haka and Hui. We have yet to take charge of these premises, a few minor details are being negotiated and a date to move in will hopefully be announced early in semester two.

The Ceremony to Honour Maori Graduates was the highlight on TWONAM's calendar for semester one. Owing to the hard work and organisation of our Kaihono Maori, Mere-Heni, the graduation was a huge success. Many staff and students attended the graduation. It was a day of celebration, emotion and kotahitanga, culminating in an after grad social; a great night to end a brilliant day.

## **Conclusion**

End of semester has been as hectic as ever, not only is there full-time study and exams to manage, but the general biz of the students association continues to tic on. The end of semester has also seen a change in my (Sue's) position within the Albany Students' Association. Nadia Malizia has resigned as Admin Vice-President, and I have been offered the position of acting VP, elections for this position will take place in July. The decision to stand down as MSO for TWONAM was one that was weighed carefully; finally I arrived at the decision to take up the post as acting VP, and run for the role permanently in July. Knowing that I was making available another position for Maori on the ASA Executive, and placing myself in a better position within that structure to ensure that decisions and actions are both fair and beneficial to Maori. Looking forward to semester two, and working toward a better relationship between ASA and TWONAM.

## **Recommendations**

The following are considerations for ASA:

The Maori Student's Association of Te Waka o nga Akonga Maori (TWONAM) had a rocky start to 1999. Owing to heavy study loads, many of our incoming Kai Mahi had to relinquish their positions before semester had started, (including our Tumuaki). Considering the circumstances of our Tumuaki, (a full-time mother and student; who also works part-time to support her study), it is not difficult to understand the arduous and unenviable position she was placed in, which resulted in the very difficult decision she made in standing down as Tumuaki. Members of the TWONAM kaimahi work for aroha for their association. They do so because they are committed to the operation and philosophy of a parallel and autonomous body that represents the needs of tauira Maori alongside the non-Maori association ASA that represents the needs of their non-Maori constituents.

This structure represents the relationship proscribed in Te Tiriti o Waitangi. It represents the relationship between tangata whenua and tauwi and the spirit in which they conduct their work together.

However, for this relationship to function effectively, both parties must have equal status and ability to participate at all levels of the University system, its processes and practices, other tertiary institutions, local, national and international arenas. TWONAM's current position does not afford it such abilities or status; our numbers are small 230 as opposed to 4,000 non-Maori students on campus; yet the tasks of running a student's association that parallels that of ASA are enormous. Whilst the recognition of the Maori Student's Association is paid lip-service through references to Te Tiriti in the constitutions of ASA and the MUSA Federation, the reality of such a position and the resources afforded are token. The expectations of non-Maori bodies placed on their Maori partners are not only unreasonable but by their own volition – unconstitutional, and in direct contradiction to and in violation of this country's founding document - Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Therefore, it is the aim of the representatives of Te Waka o nga Akonga Maori to impress upon the executive of their Treaty partner Albany Students' Association to correct the imbalance in the position and status of both associations, by addressing the needs and issues of Maori students who are striving, through their student's association, to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. In addressing this issue it will be necessary for members of the Executive to acknowledge the past history of Pakeha and Maori relations, that have placed Maori in such a disparate position.

Such enlightenment might include reviewing the history of Maori subjection in Aotearoa, which has been well documented (see for example: Walker, Durie, Kawharu, Smith). The running of De-colonisation and Treaty of Waitangi workshops are strongly recommended as is consulting Maori staff on campus for their expertise and guidance on these issues, (e.g. Mereana Taki, Mere-Heni Ruwhiu, Glenys Phyllip-Barbara).

Furthermore, the implementation of policy that will ensure the survival and effective running of TWONAM should be instituted in the ASA Constitution in the form of a "Memorandum of Understanding". Negotiations for this document will be undertaken by a working party, consisting of two members from both associations. It is hoped that these issues will be resolved before the end of the year.

KIAMAUMAHARA  
'HONOUR THE TREATY'

Noho ora mai,

**Sue Moselen and Michelle Herbert**  
**Co-Maori Students' Representatives 1999**

## **International Students' Representative Report**

This part-time role of approximately ten hours per week was often stretched by the commitments associated with attendance at the various University committees. However, wherever possible, I attempted to push forward with a number of smaller special projects. For example, in the second semester, I basically worked more on a petition (discussed in the International Students Advisory Committee meetings section).

### **Committees and Meetings**

This year, I was on the Library Advisory Committee, Harassment Advisory Committee, International Students' Advisory Committee and the New Migrants' Advisory Committee.

#### **❖ Library Advisory Committee**

There were two Library Advisory Committee meetings. The main issue arose from a study prepared co-jointly between co-Post Graduate Student Representatives, Emma MacDonald and Hilary Boyd's who conducted a survey into the needs of Post-Graduate students. Emma joined myself and co-Women Students' Representative, Rachel Giesbers, in pointing out these students needed more books checked out in batches as they have a lot of things to research. This in turn placed a strain on the Albany Library's resources and led to pressure on undergraduates. Our push was therefore for a better distance delivery service and more funding. This was well received by the other members of the committee with many positive responses. The other issues revolved basically about 'upgrading' the Library to be 'more user-friendly': signs in other languages, tours of the facilities, and a more proactive profile. In the course of the committee it was also learned that as part of the final main Albany development, that the Library would be moved to the main campus (SH17) round about the year 2005, but this could be delayed to financing issues.

#### **❖ Harassment Committee**

I attended the initial Harassment Advisory Committee meeting where we just discussed processes and strategies surrounding the issues likely to be raised by students harassed by lectures and vice-versa. There was some roleplaying of scenarios and general discussion which I found fruitful, and which I was able to put into practice as a contact person for about five international students who found themselves harassed or being 'ignored' by other people.

#### **❖ International Students' Advisory Committee**

There were two or three International Students Advisory Committee (ISAC) meetings and the main issues from the students' point of view was the reoccurring issues of a common room for the international students. This formed the basis of a petition that I circulated collecting many international student signatures supporting a case for separate space for study and recreation. My case was well received by the Committee, but it was again pointed out that space and its full utilisation remain critical issues on the campus.

In the last meeting, just before the semester 2 exams, a member of the committee pointed out that since this is the end of the year and some of the student endorsements would be by students who are graduating or graduated, they may not carry any weight towards the petition.

So we reached a decision that I would be working with Diane Bailey, the International Students' Officer, and Phil Mann, the Students Affairs Manager, and put a section in the enrolment forms to the International students to canvas a wider response and see if students think they would need and use a common room.

Positive responses from the students mean that the ISAC would advise the University of the output of the survey with a recommendation to push for specific space. Unfortunately, I couldn't get into contact with Diane or Phil, as I was sick from the middle of the exams.

#### ❖ **New Migrants' Advisory Committee**

There was one New Migrants' Advisory Committee meeting, and there was nothing much on the agenda but just a review of the previous meeting earlier this year. There was another meeting, which I wasn't able to attend, the last meeting for this year.

#### **Summary**

1999 was a good year. Our first year as ASA and I think we started off pretty well. We had a few ups and downs but we got through, and I think that's what learning to work as a team is all about. The main reason for those ups and downs, I think, was because the 1998 outgoing Executive did not give us as many pointers, and we spent a large part of the beginning of the year with the compulsory student referendum against us. But we all got through and that's what counts.

**Ajay Ranipeta**  
**International Students' Representative 1999**

## **Co-Post Graduate Students' Representatives Report**

This position started on 18 March when the two of us became ratified as Executive members for the position. Prior to this date, Emma had attended Graduate Students' Advisory Committee on 12 March at the bequest of Maria Cavanagh.

### **Compulsory Student Membership Referendum**

At the time of our ratification, the present Executive was well into the swing of campaigning for Compulsory Student Membership. Due to the referendum forced on all students' association by the Government, this campaign took up a large percentage of the Executive's time for the first half semester. It is with great pleasure that we can write in this report that Massey students, as a whole, voted to retain universal student membership.

To celebrate this positive response and affirmation of Students' Associations, the Albany Students' Association held a "Day of Celebration." The first part of this was an afternoon tea held on 2 June on the main campus. Together with Mary-Liz Broadley, we organised this afternoon celebration. Included was a marvelous array of music supplied by Steve MacDonald, as well as food and coffee. Holding the celebration on the main campus meant that students who would not normally frequent the Oteha Rohe precinct were involved in the festivities. This proved a great success. The two of us would be very keen to have another afternoon gathering on the main campus as the students' response was very positive.

### **Post-Graduate Students' Survey**

As Post-Graduate Students' Representatives, we completed and sent out over 850 surveys to all the post-grads at Albany. A copy of this survey was made available to the Executive as well as to the Library Advisory and Graduate Advisory committees and was generally well received.

The survey had approximately 6% return. This was encouraging as postal surveys have notoriously low returns. Respondents were asked to provide some information about themselves and then rank eight issues in terms of importance. Finally, they were given the opportunity to make any other comments on issues that concerned them.

The top three issues were funding followed closely by access to information and user pays for library inter-loans. Other issues of concern were the opening hours of the Library, and the lack of forum for postgraduates students to discuss ideas. Other issues that rated lower down were that of computer access followed by café opening hours and childcare.

#### **❖ About the respondents**

Of the post-grads who responded to the survey, approximately 28% were male and 72% female. Ages ranged from 22 through to 94 years, the average age being a surprising 43 years! Sixty percent of respondents identified themselves as New Zealand European. The other 40% consisted of students who identified themselves as Maori, Asian, Sri Lankan or other.

The majority of respondents were undertaking Masters degrees, but there were some Diploma and Ph.D. students. There was a good range of subject representation including social sciences, business, nursing, education, psychology and mathematics.

Sixty-six percent of respondents indicated that they were part time students and 34% were studying full-time. Eight-five percent of the students were in paid/unpaid employment with the average number of hours per week totalling thirty-three.

### ❖ Issues

Respondents were asked to rank eight issues - child care, computer access, forum for post-graduates, access to information, user pays for library inter-loans, library opening hours, café hours and funding - in order of importance. The top three issues were funding followed closely by access to information and user pays for library inter-loans. Library opening hours and a forum for postgraduates were closely behind. Sixth was computer access followed by café opening hours and childcare.

Respondents also made comments on a number of areas. Generally the library was viewed in a positive light and the staff was seen as helpful. Other comments about library services included criticism about the limited number of books, access to books of readings not being made available early on, journal article holding time of five days not being long enough for students who are on campus infrequently, difficulty in getting requested books for block course students and reserve books not being available to distance students.

Payment of health fees also drew lots of comments. The general opinion seems to be that membership to its services should be optional. The hours were seen as inaccessible for part-time students. The question is should student be obliged to pay if they are unable to access the service.

The cafes drew some criticism for the quality of the food, prices not being clearly marked the cost of food and not being open for block courses. On the other hand, one respondent highly praised the macaroni cheese.

Other comments included issues around the distance of the car parks in terms of safety, access to supervisors for research, access to photocopiers in the Quad Block, insufficient information surrounding the academic grievance process and the quality of certain courses. Respondents suggested that there should be more social activities, assistance with employment opportunities for mature students and more interaction between lecturers and students.

### ❖ Comments

It is important to note that a large number of postgraduate students are completing studies on a part-time basis. As these students (and some full-time students) are working as well, the actual time spent on campus is limited. Given this, Massey University and its associated services need to be more flexible in terms of the type of services offered and the times. One idea is to have late night and weekend hours where administration, academic staff, health services and the like are available for students.

The University needs to provide good quality and timely information. One suggestion is to produce a postgraduate pack sent to **all** postgraduate students, which would include sections on scholarships and funding available, academic requirements, research funds, academic grievance procedures and so on. The University currently sends information to students, but it is piecemeal. One issue causing confusion at the moment for example is the deadline for handing in theses. Rumours abound that the University has changed the deadline this year, yet the students we spoke to all had all been told different deadline dates by their faculties. This issue requires immediate attention.

Also it would be timely for the University to examine the facilities provided by different faculties for postgraduates. Some colleges provide rooms, computers and free tea, coffee and even milk! Some provide more limited services. Some consistency would be good!

Given the large number of post-graduate students at Massey University we believe it is time that the University acknowledged their importance by providing a more responsive service through flexible opening hours, co-ordinated and comprehensive information and better post-graduate facilities.

### **University Committees**

Our role has also been to hold positions on a variety of University committees. In this capacity, we sit on the Graduate Students' Advisory Committee and the Equal Opportunities Committee. Alongside this, Emma has attended Library Advisory committee with Ajay Ranipeta. The major issue at the Graduate committee surrounded the continuing problems of access to the post-grad Computer Laboratory. We managed to push for a separate sub-committee to address this particular problem alongside the Registrar, Andrea Davies. Although we are not on this sub-committee, we look forward to positive results from the members who are. Anecdotal evidence from post-grad students on campus indicates that many of the identified problems are being worked through.

Our role has also been to hold positions of a variety of University Committees. In this capacity we sit on the Graduate Students Advisory Committee, the EEO Committee and the Library Advisory Committee. On the Graduate Students Advisory Committee issue from last year concerning access to, and the quality of, the Post Grad computer labs were still being addressed. This looks to be an on-going issue. Although some of the issues have been addressed, it is recommended that monitoring of this issue continues.

Another issue that has surfaced in respect to the computer labs in that of under-graduate access to them. A formal complaint was made in regards to students who have post graduate status, but who are studying at undergraduate level. This problem also occurred in 1998 as well. Due to lack of space in the labs only students who study at post grad level have access to the computers and study areas. This year undergraduate students with post graduate status were allowed to use the labs for the beginning of the year. In September they were informed that they no longer had access to the post grad facilities. After discussions with the University their under-grad status was confirmed and access was not granted. We have been assured that in 2000 access will only be given to post-grad students, so the confusion faced by these students will no occur again.

On the Library Advisory Committee, Emma requested that the number of books post graduates can take out be increased to 100. Valerie Cohen is looking into this matter.

**Emma MacDonald and Hilary Boyd**  
**Co-Post Graduate Student Representatives 1999**

## **Recreation and Leisure Representative's Report**

I have thoroughly enjoyed my position as the Recreation and Leisure Representative. Towards the beginning of the year I found it difficult moving into my role and felt I'd been "thrown in the deep end" as I did not really know what to expect. As the semester moved on and the New Zealand University Games (NZUG) quickly approached, I began to understand my role better and was able to put greater effort into the role, thanks to the help of many others.

This report covers a variety of aspects of my role, what I achieved personally and throughout the association. Some of the major areas of my role include the establishment and development of clubs on campus, organisation of the NZUG alongside the Team Manager, and attendance at several University committee and Board meetings.

Below is a list of objectives that I hoped to achieve throughout the year and which will benefit the students' association and hopefully challenge my own skills which I aim to develop as a result:

- ❖ To increase the involvement of students on campus in the form of recreation and sporting activities;
- ❖ To ensure all activities are well-promoted and available for all students to participate;
- ❖ To be the first point of contact for students regarding sporting events and other leisure activity queries;
- ❖ To increase the number of clubs on campus and membership levels in general;
- ❖ To send a team down to the NZUG who are representative of our sporting levels at Albany;
- ❖ To ensure that Albany is a campus that values sport and recreation as an essential part of the future direction and development of this campus in years to come.

### **Major Events**

#### **❖ Clubs' Day**

Clubs' Day was the first bid event of the year. It was held on a very windy Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 1999. This day was hugely successful, with the venue being changed from previous years from the Oteha Rohe Precinct to the Quadrangle courtyard. From this day, great interest was generated in many clubs and from this, fifteen new ones have been established and affiliated. All existing clubs made a great effort to promote themselves and raise their membership numbers in the process. The amount of interest in the NZUG to be held in April was also considerable.

### ❖ **New Zealand University Games (NZUG)**

This is perhaps the biggest event of the year for all universities sports people to take part in. This year, the national competition was held in Christchurch from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> April. Johnny Kale was hired as the Team Manager two weeks prior to the event, which made the job very difficult. A Team Manager is traditionally found seven months in advance in order to organise sponsorship and plan a large team to go down and compete in the various events. Due to Albany Students' Association not yet being accepted by University Sport New Zealand (USNZ) as a separate body, and our AGM being postponed, we could not hire a Team Manager or seek sponsorship for the entire team in time.

Despite these few hiccups, the NZUG was a huge success. We took down a team of 24 competitors who competed in Men's Touch, Mixed Touch, Powerlifting, Multisport and Mountain Biking. Two of our Badminton players became forced to play for the Otago Team, due their team-mates pulling out at the last minute.

Albany's results were as follows:

- ❖ Men's Touch                    3<sup>rd</sup> equal;
- ❖ Mixed Touch                    5<sup>th</sup>;
- ❖ Powerlifting                    2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placings;
- ❖ Multisport                        4<sup>th</sup>;
- ❖ Mountain Biking                1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placings.

The Men's Touch team managed to receive a sponsorship grant from 3B's (a bar located in Hibiscus Coast). We managed to get a set of highly discounted flights through a friend of Johnny's, that assisted our team considerably.

Like anything, there is always room for improvement. In the middle of the second semester it is recommended that the Team Manager for 2000's NZUG be appointed. In so doing, sponsorship can be organised in advance that will see more competitors able to take part. More research will need to be conducted by the Team Manager to find out the sporting talents amongst our students and ensure that everyone has the opportunity to compete in the event they want to. Unfortunately, this year we encountered a problem whereby only one or two competitors registered in a sport which meant that we would not take that particular team down. Next year, more effort will be required to find more students from Albany to represent these sports.

Considering the constraints, I think we did a great job and we heard only positive feedback from the competitors who went down. Many have even confirmed their interest and involvement in 2000. A big thank you to Johnny Kale (Team Manager) and Sarah Barson (Recreation Officer) who made this trip possible with their countless hours of effort and assistance.

### ❖ **Compulsory Party**

Due to the ASA receiving news of Massey's confirmed compulsory student membership vote in the referendum, the Executive committee thought it necessary to celebrate with a "Compulsory Party" held 2<sup>nd</sup> June at Scholars' Bar. Scott Rice, Tania Dickinson, Michelle Herbert and I took the responsibility for organising the event that went off as a great success.

### ❖ Sports Council Planning Weekend

This event is run by USNZ on an annual basis. This year, the dates were the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May. Unfortunately, due to a lack of organisation by the Sports Councils, the weekend was postponed to 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July in order to organise appropriate representatives to participate and because this is in the holiday break freeing more people to attend. The only team to receive training from Albany was the Ski Club who worked with the Snow-sports Council.

### ❖ Foot-E Rugby Tournament

The Auckland Rugby Football Union organised a social competition held between the various Auckland tertiary institutions. The competition ran from 18<sup>th</sup> July – 29<sup>th</sup> August as a seven-week competition series played on Sunday afternoons with a 1 p.m. kick-off. We entered three men's teams and one women's team at a cost of \$300 per team so a degree of fund-raising was required in order to support the teams.

### Club Life on Campus

We started the year with six affiliated clubs and finished the year with sixteen. Here are some of the high points:

#### ❖ Ski Club

Attended the Snow Sports Council training in Wellington. Mark Andersen, President organised a trip to the Winter Festival in Ohakune and ran a fun-raiser at the bar to support it. With the enthusiasm generated by the members, the ski club has been very successful and worthwhile.

#### ❖ International Club

Developed by myself in association with the International Students' Representative, Ajay Ranipeta, this club aims to encourage international students to interact with one another in a social setting. Many students travel from overseas to New Zealand and study at university without seeing much of the country or its culture. One of the primary aims is to organise trips around the country to give these students just this sort of opportunity.

#### ❖ MADSODS – Drama Club

This year, MADSODS completed two projects. The first was the performance of "Vampires Suck" held in the Common Room during Orientation Week. The other was the "Wetfish" workshop, which sort to encourage students with little knowledge of drama or performing arts to come and participate in a range of drama workshops and activities. Many attended both activities and as a consequence the club continues to grow from strength to strength. MADSODS is our only visual arts club on campus and needs to be supported by all. They are already planning for the 2000 Orientation Week.

At this year's Graduation ceremony, they also took the plunge and contributed a visual display with body painting and rolling on canvas as light relief at the Champagne Breakfast.

## ❖ Netball

Ten social teams interacted in an on-campus competition. Even the Staff contributed a team, although the “Wharfies” managed to retain their title. A fantastic effort was put in by Sarah Barson to organise both the teams and the games.

## Conclusion

This year has been great. I have personally learned a lot and have achieved many of the objectives I set myself initially. I recommend that ASA continue to seek to increase the involvement in sport on campus through promotion of events such as the Tertiary Challenge, Foot-E Rugby, Netball and Touch competitions as well as increase our profile by continuing to take Albany cream to the NZUG.

It was a very busy year including my study so I would like to extend a big thanks to our President, Maria for her assistance in the political side of the job.

A big thanks to everyone and here's to 2000!

**Julia Clarke**  
**Recreation and Leisure Representative 1999**