



Third
Annual Report
2001

THIRD
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2001

Contents

Page No.

3	Members of the Executive
4	Students' Representatives on 2001 Committees
5	Statement of Financial Position
7	Trading Account – Scholars' Bar
8	Statements of Financial Performance
9	Statement of Movements in Equity
10	Notes to the Financial Statements
16	Audit Opinion
18	President's Report
23	Manager's Report
29	Vice- President's (Administration) Report
37	Vice-President's (Education and Welfare) Report
38	College Representative's (Business) Report
41	College Representative's (Humanities & Social Sciences) Report
46	College Representative's (Science) Report
47	Co -Maori Students' Representatives' Report
50	Mature Students' Representative's Report
53	Pacific Islands' Students' Representatives' Report
56	Co-Recreation and Leisure Representative's Report
57	Women Students' Representatives' Report
59	Post-Graduate Students' Representatives

MEMBERS OF THE 2001 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Nick Shand
Vice President (Administration)	Rachel Giesbers
Vice President (Education & Welfare)	Tanya Vegar Denise Lane Paul Dowd
College of Business Representative	Sally Fortmann
College of Humanities & Social Sciences Representative	Michael Wynd
College of Sciences Representative	Debbie Jackson
Maori Students' Representatives	Daniel Harrison Anita Elers
International Students' Representative	Herbert Ma
Mature Students' Representative	Jawed Mohammed
Pacific Island Students' Representative	Analosa Ulugia
Post-Graduate Students' Representatives	Jawed Mohammed
Recreation & Leisure Representative	Michael Veukiso Fiona Page Nick van Beek
Women Students' Representatives	Helen Van Asch

STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVES ON 2001 COMMITTEES

Students' Associations of Massey University

Academic Committee (Albany and Palmerston North)	
Committee for People with Disabilities (Albany)	Michael Wynd
Disciplinary (Palmerston North)	
Equal Opportunities Committee (Albany)	Tanya Vegar, Denise Lane, Paul Dowd, Helen Van Asch
Education Quality Group (Albany)	
Graduate Advisory (Albany)	
Harassment (Albany)	Helen Van Asch
Health and Counselling (Albany)	Sally Fortmann, Debbie Jackson
Health and Safety (Albany)	Rachel Giesbers, Helen Van Asch
International Students' Advisory (Albany)	Rachel Giesbers, Herbert Ma
Library Advisory (Albany)	Rachel Giesbers
New Migrants Advisory (Albany)	Rachel Giesbers, Herbert Ma
Pacific Island Students Advisory (Albany)	Analosa Ulugia, Michael Veukiso
Recreation and Sport Advisory (Albany)	Michael Veukiso, Nick Shand, Fiona Page, Nick van Beek
Spiritual Advisory (Albany)	Debbie Jackson
Te Whanau Ururu Tau (Albany)	Anita Elers, Daniel Harrsion Michelle Herbert
Visual and Performing Arts Advisory (Albany)	Michael Veukiso, Fiona Page, Sally Fortmann, Nick van Beek

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

TRADING ACCOUNT – SCHOLARS’ BAR

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AUDIT OPINION

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President is responsible for overseeing and supervising the administration and effective running of the Association. He or she chairs all Executive committee meetings and are responsible for Executive matters in the absence of the Executive. He or she is an ex-officio member of all clubs and societies, a cheque signatory of the Association, co-ordinates the work of the Executive, acts as media liaison, and represents the needs and wants of the members to all external bodies.

(a) Be responsible for the supervision of the affairs of the Association.

- *Atrium Information Office* - Made myself useful in covering the A.S.A. Information Office area when necessary, such as in the selling Ball Tickets.
- *Check signatory* - As a signatory for the Association, I have maintained a good understanding of our budgetary commitments as to ensure the best possible communications to all relevant parties in dealing with matters as they arose.
- *Committees* - I have been an active representative in all the committees I attended throughout the year.
- *Employer for the Association* - Acted as the direct liaison of the Executive Committee that employs the General Manager, Nigel Green on behalf of the Executive and maintained close communications and an excellent working relationship with him that has enabled the Association to rapidly address problems as they arose.
- *Event Marketing Manager* - Initiated the development of a new staffing position in order to allocate responsibility for the effective marketing events of the Association in 2001 and beyond.
- *Executive Meetings* - Chaired almost all of the Executive meetings held in 2001.
- *Massy Ball* - Enlisted volunteers to successfully co-ordinate the 'Fire & Ice Ball' and monitored their progress from start to finish.
- *Special General Meeting* - Chaired a SGM to ratify the A.S.A. 2000 Audited accounts amongst other things.
- *Satellite Magazine* - Maintained a weekly overview of the operations of the magazine and contributed a regular column outlining significant events that arose during my tenure.
- *Scholars' Bar* - Acted as bar manager on numerous occasions as well as being event Manager for the 'Mid-semester blow-out' organised by Daniel Harrison.
- *Welfare issues* - Dealt appropriately where possible with numerous student concerns both welfare and academic but the sheer volume of complaints I encountered was made extremely difficult to manage by the lack of a dedicated and trained Education & Welfare Vice President throughout 2001.

(b) Be responsible for the co-ordination of the work of the Executive.

I have utilised a SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats) analysis format in this portion of my report for the important reason that the major function of the President is to keep everything in perspective. The President in their role is required to maintain a clear overview of the operations of the Association and have keen understanding of the population we represent as well as the University system we exist and work within. In truth it takes a substantial amount of time and energy for anyone person to build up a base of knowledge to be successful in all facets of the role. When you become President, like it or not, you can suddenly be in the centre of almost everything that is going on. Being that the role is both political and transient by design, the obvious problem that exists is lost knowledge during the changeover. This next portion of my report is an attempt to address this issue

Strengths

The great strength of any student population is its ability to develop good ideas to overcome many of the barriers and difficulties they encounter. Rapidly increasing numbers of students will strengthen the developing community spirit. With more and more people living locally, well-promoted events will attain greater levels of participation.

The age of the Association can work in its favour, as the organisation is able to adapt the use of its resources in a rapidly changing environment. For example, students expressed their desire for A.S.A. to operate a school holiday programme. While this desire may not eventually prove feasible considering the size of the organisation and the resources it can bring to bear on the problem, such a suggestion opens the door to new opportunities that have yet to be fully explored.

New facilities provide new opportunities. It has been exciting watching the changes that have occurred since I began in July of 1998. Students have had input into all the developments on this campus and there will be many more to come. The Principal has kept the A.S.A. President appraised of all the developments and the suggestions we made this year have been incorporated in future designs.

Weaknesses

All the student populations in Auckland area seem to have less time and are less open to opportunities at our institutions than their peers around the country. There are many reasons why this is a noticeable problem for social life on Albany campus but overcoming apathy is unlikely to be a war that can be won in this age of information. You may win some battles, but the very nature of the continuous turnover of students as they graduate, move on and/or drop out means that the core social culture needs to be re-established every semester. Furthermore, students seem to have a very limited understanding of how representation works which makes the role the Students' Association has to play in the environment all the more difficult.

The Albany Students' Association is in many respects weak by national standards. Like all voluntary organisations, they go through cycles with peaks and troughs for they are completely dependent upon the commitment of the people involved. The experience of this year shows us that many of those who do volunteer are already over-committed.

With the rapid increase in people studying at Albany, many indicators point to a potential of up to 1,000 new Asian students in 2002. Managing ethnic diversity on this campus is going to become an issue of high priority. Breaking down the barriers that cause both group and individual isolation will require substantial resources from the University to lead the way to a multicultural New Zealand.

The main weakness in New Zealand's tertiary sector today stems from the continued under-funding that brought about the adoption of the corporate model for education providers. Quality has been systematically sacrificed for quantity as every education provider competes for students under the EFTS (Equivalent Full Time Students) funding model. Sadly, with the slow erosion of funding for public tertiary sector over the past ten years, the damage is only now becoming acute, therefore the only positive is that 2002 is an election year and we will see more promises.

Opportunities

People are your greatest assets, look after them and they will look after you. Constant commitment to developing a core community is essential. Albany Students' Association has no assets of any great monetary value, but what it does have is a place and a name within a fast expanding University campus.

The Albany campus is fortunate to have a very student-friendly Principal and Registrar. Good information is essential to quality decision making and their 'open door' policy has proved to be advantageous to both the Association and the University. In all respects, the hard work of the New Zealand University Students' Association has been of substantial benefit to the students of Albany and their elected representatives, and will likely to be so again in the future.

Threats

As the student population pays more and gets fewer returns, the demand for efficient and quality services will increase. The Association will be on the front line for students' complaints.

As the Albany Students' Association is part of the Massey Federation of Students' Associations we are not threatened by the sudden onset of 'voluntary' membership. Our biggest threat therefore comes internally with the lack of understanding of the uniqueness of each demographic between representatives. While as Massey students we share many common causes, our differences have proven to be substantial barriers towards resolving mainly the lesser issues affecting each group.

Threats to Massey Albany will come from many directions not least Palmerston North decision-making processes that lead to negative impacts up here. After the University's stance on 'Repositioning' (or in other words downsizing), staff morale has been low and turnover has risen as a consequence.

The vast majority of staff can in fact be earning three times more overseas and this impacts on our learning environment in a number of very serious ways. In my time here I have witnessed the overall level of commitment from staff drop significantly.

New Zealand's tertiary sector is under threat from the political view held jointly by both Labour and National parties that New Zealand can not afford to fund an ever-growing education sector. The dire impacts of the Student Loan scheme introduced in 1992 will become increasingly more apparent in the next few years. I hold serious concerns for New Zealand society as the consequences of students borrowing against future earnings kicks in. Whether any future Government will be capable of redressing the major problems is yet to be seen.

(c) Represent the Association in the media, to other organisations and nationally on issues effecting the Albany campus.

- *Association of University Staff (AUS)* - Liaised with both the Palmerston North and Albany staff representatives to ensure that quality debate about many important issues relating to education quality was undertaken.
- *Federation of Massey Students' Associations* - Facilitated the further development of the Federation as well as helping to mediate the dispute the MUSA President had with this year's Council Representative from Wellington campus.
- *Heads of Colleges* - Met with the various Heads of Colleges informally, and when need arose, to work through problems.
- *Local Media* - Was misquoted on occasion by the Local media but the highlight was a very good article concerning the 'Fee Freeze' that raised awareness of the plight of the tertiary sector.
- *Massey Council* - Submitted a number reports highlighting the issues of greatest concern to the students that we represent.
- *Massey Contact* - Established and maintained effective lines of communication with the reception area that provided a lot of useful information throughout the year.
- *NZUSA* - Attended July conference and held September conference at Albany Campus. Admittedly my prioritising other campus-based issues, that needed the majority of my attention, lessened my level of participation.
- *Registrar* - Developed a good working relationship with the campus Registrar.
- *Principal* - Participated in the strategic development of Albany campus and utilised a co-operative relationship with the Principal to address the issues of greatest concern for the students of Albany from the Library to Massey's Equivalence Policy.
- *Student Job Search (SJS)* - Attended Regional Management Committee meetings for SJS.
- *Student Services* - Maintained regular contact and co-operation with Student Learning Services, Recreation Centre Staff and Health & Counselling as well as meeting with the Student Services Manager, Gary Williams in order to keep apprised of changes due to ever-increasing student numbers.
- *Work & Income NZ* - Liaised monthly with the WINZ representative on campus and initiated a letter of commendation recognising Maree Douthett's excellence in supporting the students of Albany campus.

Summary

It has been a challenging year and I have learnt a great deal. I came to University with the intention of finding ways to apply the theoretical teachings of my Media/Psychology major and it's surprising what opportunities like this can teach you on top of the academic viewpoint. All things considered I am grateful to be and have been a part of Albany Students' Association.

Nick Shand
President 2001

MANAGER'S REPORT

Introduction

My area of responsibility extends to the general management of the Association's various services. I report directly to the Executive Committee who set policy for me to implement and provide direction through the setting of the annual budget. I oversee staff appointments and ensure that the Association meets its financial, legal and statutory requirements. I report all this information back to the Executive either through the Albany Management Board Sub-committee or directly to the Executive Committee. I also co-ordinate all the administrative and clerical support systems for all services and for the Executive Committee and devise and implement strategies to improve service provision at Albany.

Policy Matters

A complete review of current policy was undertaken in the area of Administration first, as the issues surrounding compliance in respect of Staff were considered to be of a higher priority than reviewing the Executive, Organisational or Financial areas. This included a system for Performance Appraisal with a view to benchmarking the various staff positions and determining wage and salary scales commensurate with long-term strategic objectives for the Association. This supplements staff individual contracts, policy on employment, standards of behaviour and performance, professional development and training, reimbursements and health and safety in the workplace. This allows the Association the ability to attract, train and maintain staff in a professionally run environment with commensurate rewards. The remaining major sections are still in draft form and are being reviewed with a view to releasing them in 2002.

Legal Matters

The Association was faced with a complicated and expensive legal action defending itself over a claim brought to the Employment Relations Authority (ERA) by ousted Education and Welfare Vice-President, Tanya Vegar. Ms Vegar contested that after having lost a motion of confidence before the membership at the 2001 Annual General Meeting, that she was in fact an 'employee' rather than an 'elected official' and therefore was justified in taking an action of unfair dismissal before the ERA and if necessary, the Employment Court. The Executive considered that it was essential to contest this position, as it would have far-reaching repercussions for all students' Associations and potentially incorporated societies. The eventual decision of the ERA was that it did not have jurisdiction to hear the case, as it could find no grounds to support Ms Vegar's claim that a contract for service existed. This has established a precedent against which any future case of similar circumstance might arise. It points to the necessity to separate the officers of the Association from its staff and this view was supported by the Executive and membership when, at the first semester Special General Meeting in 2002, they voted in favour of a clause to the Constitution and Regulations prohibiting Executive members from being employed in future as staff.

Audit and Accounting Practices

The second audited set of accounts highlighted the need for better systems for accounting and as such the Association has moved towards a set of quarterly accounts in order to aid the Executive in their financial decision making and in their stewardship. We are seeking to reduce other associated accounting costs by moving from an 'invoice' to a 'payments' system for disclosure of GST and to a two-monthly payment thereof. Unfortunately, the Association met a large number of areas that cost it money that were unbudgeted and ate into reserves. This was brought in part by a lower than expected surplus, lower than anticipated enrolments as well as the purchase of several large extra-budget items being brought from the 2000-year into 2001. This put a strain on our cash flow that was not helped by the University defaulting on the payment dates for the Association levy on at least two occasions throughout the year.

Financial and Budget Matters

2001 was an awful year for a number of financial reasons. We faced higher accounting costs (including a large repayment of GST for a previous period that was completely unanticipated), increases in Executive honoraria, our staff and staff costs increased, we spent a lot on developing the office space in the Atrium (including retro-fitting equipment not installed by the University), purchasing signs and computer systems, loaning money to the Massey University Childcare Centre to keep it solvent, loaning and granting money to students suffering from Hardship, fighting protracted legal battles with past Executive members, watching the bar, Orientation and the NZU Games all post losses and run significantly over-budget.

In 2001, we started receiving our payments for our membership fees directly from Massey and were for the first time able to get a feel for the cashflow implications attendant upon it. As we didn't finish 2000 particularly well, we didn't have a large enough cash buffer to offset the effects of the various areas that didn't perform in 2001. This was of course very disappointing and could have had serious implications for 2002 that were only mitigated by direct negotiations over our initial payments from the University as well as with our bank. It certainly meant that wherever possible in 2002 the Association would have to consider managing down its exposure to potentially risky ventures.

Lease

We finally completed negotiations with the University over production and signing of a three-year lease for the use of Building OR96 (the Student Common Room and Bar), Building OR90 (the Administration Offices for the Executive, Manager and Editor), Room AT1.27, (the Atrium Information Office) and Rooms ATLL1.30, 1.31, 1.32., (the Games Room, Games Room Kitchen and Clubs' Room). This is on a peppercorn rental, with a fixed amount for water consumption and variable costs associated with power consumption, gas consumption, repairs and maintenance, phone and fax lines.

Standing Orders

One matter that arose as a direct consequence of the case taken to the ERA was the difficulties that may arise within the Executive Committee when members fail to deal with one another on a professional level. Unfortunately, after a meeting to discuss this and related points held by the Administration Vice-President, College of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative and myself with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Rt. Hon. Jonathon Hunt (who incidentally used to be an Executive member of the Auckland University Students' Association back in the 1950s), the general consensus was that 'personality politics' are part of the political playing field for students' Associations.

The recommendation from the meeting was the development of a 'Code of Conduct' for Executive as well as a set of 'Standing Orders' for use during all Association Executive Committee meetings. Thankfully, a revised set of 'Model Standing Orders (NZS 9202:2001) for use in meetings of Local Authorities and Community Boards' had just been released and, with a few minor revisions to bring them into line with the A.S.A. Constitution and Regulations, was quickly adopted by the Executive. The 'Code of Conduct', which is meant to extend to the mediation of disputes that may arise between members, proved more complicated and is still in a working draft.

University Information Provision

Financial disclosure of information relating to the reconciliation of levies received by A.S.A. was greatly improved and we now have a calendar for most of the information that we receive from the University. It still fails to comply completely with the Education Act, but is a great step in the right direction when both groups recognise the impossibility for the ideal stated in the legislation. What is probably more important is to have the University provide this information routinely without even having to ask. The issue of accurate budgeting, for example, involves confirmation of second semester enrolments that cannot be provided until around the end of July. This means, that the Association's budget estimates can vary by as much as 20% depending on the accuracy of the information and in 2001, this effect impacted heavily on the A.S.A.. Even more so, when you consider that over 45% of the money we expect to receive is allocated back out in the first half of the year. If critical areas of expenditure (e.g. Orientation Week) go significantly over-budget, the Association spends the rest of the year playing catch-up.

Student Assistance Programme (SAP)

The Association jointly operates a hardship programme alongside the University. This SAP programme originated in Palmerston North and was adopted at all subsequent campuses including Albany. The fund was supported by a grant from the University Disciplinary Fund that gets its money from car parking and library fines from the campuses. However, this money was capped in the fund and A.S.A. had to invoice its sister Association MUSA to obtain reimbursement. When the funding ran out, no one bothered to tell A.S.A. or the persons operating the system.

This meant that, after a run of students applying in the first semester for funding due to significant problems arising from the administration of the Student Loans scheme by WINZ, a sizeable debt was piling up so that when we went to apply for reimbursement, none was forthcoming. It was only through the philanthropy of the Albany Regional Registrar that the Association was eventually reimbursed.

The upshot was a complete restructuring of the scheme to avoid any further lapses in communication similar to the situation outlined above. Funding of schemes such as SAP would devolve to the Regional campus. This would be more equitable and easier to monitor. Also, as the responsibility for overseeing the funds would ultimately be those of the Regional Registrar, funding limits would be set and communicated after the setting of budgets prior to the start of each year. The Association would continue to offer no-interest loans but with more strict guidelines (to avoid defaulters being sent to collection agencies) and on a one-to-one basis with University funding.

Election

After problems that arose during the running of the 2000 election, it was decided that a complete review be undertaken into all aspects of the process. This was to ensure that no one could level a claim of bias against the Association Executive or Staff, and to ensure that any future election be run as effectively, efficiently and democratically as possible.

The University administration was approached with the suggestion that a senior member act as the Returning Officer. All thanks to Massey Contact Manager, Phil Mann for accepting this position in 2001; his work contributed greatly to the smooth running of the election.

Next, a sub-committee comprising members of the Executive, who could claim no vested interest in the outcome of the election (i.e. were not intending to stand again and were not seen to support any potential candidate), met to consider the marketing of the process and to set a calendar for the preparation and dissemination of critical information.

Finally, student Association and staff from Unitec were approached to act as polling clerks during the voting and counting, while members of the local Community Board provided assistance as Invigilators during the count.

The result was a very close one for the pre-eminent position of President, and although a recount was taken, the final result did not change and the system worked very well.

Services

As previously noted, I am responsible for overseeing the provision of services by the Association here at Albany. This is the historical separation of this area of responsibility from the advocacy and representation services that are provided through the student Executive. A large proportion of this is strictly clerical in nature - recording and filing of information, accounting, repair and maintenance of assets, liaising with the various staff who co-ordinate services such as the newspaper, bar, cleaning, Information Office, as well as dealing with internal and external contractors and suppliers. This work does not vary widely from one year to the next and the detail does not make for interesting reading. Instead, here are the highpoints relating to the various services in the 2001 year:

- *Atrium Information Office*

With the completion of the newest addition to the campus skyline, the Atrium Building, the Association finally got a foothold on the main site. Unfortunately, regardless of numerous requests for a roll-up counter to ease the serving of students while retaining a degree of security for staff, the University Engineers vetoed the idea due to fire requirements. This also meant that to have the door open in the building, the Association was required to pay for an electronic door lock and also a monitor alarm for times when money was stored in the room.

With the addition of a new full time Information Officer, the purchase of a safe, till, computers, tables, filing cabinet and other equipment, provision of this service for students came at an unavoidably high price for the Association considering the necessity to have a contact point on the main site.

- *Ball*

The 'Fire and Ice' Ball was organised by a sub-committee of interested persons who worked tirelessly to provide the students with a memorable occasion without pay. Unfortunately, as the preparations for the event started quite late into the piece, although attendance was good, sponsorship was down and these sorts of events are almost inevitably well sponsored if they are to break-even.

- *Club License*

We were finally granted our Club License early in the year. Since students' Associations as incorporated societies are prohibited from holding On-Licenses without setting up either shell companies or trusts, a Club License was determined to be the fastest option in the interim. Even so, the process has taken well over two years to complete and was relatively expensive and involved fronting before the Licensing Authority at a hearing to discuss the separation of management from Association Executive. The club license allows for all students who are members of the Association to access this service along with a couple of guests. The intention is to provide a membership card to more easily police the admission and restrictions of patrons and guests and in the long term, look towards obtaining a On-License for some future facility on the main campus.

- *Computer services*

We petitioned the University Computing Services to allow the Association to access its Intranet facilities only to be refused again. This means that we continue to maintain stand-alone systems that we may yet consider networking. We continue to upgrade the hardware and software as necessary.

- *Orientation Week*

This year's effort was very disappointing. Sponsorship was significantly down on previous years. There was insufficient effective advertising. This in turn led to poor attendance at events that, when staged for the first time on the main campus site, proved extremely expensive. The last big event, for example, involved top NZ band, 'Fur Patrol' who had literally driven from the '2001 Band of the Year' dinner to perform before only about 300 Albany students. The costs associated with staging, lighting, fencing, security, and sound, meant that anything less than full attendance (around 1,500 persons) would lead to the night and the week posting a loss and this was exactly what happened. The high expectations promised by the Co-ordinators were not delivered upon, in part as they overextended themselves and let us down. What it has gone to show is that until the campus has one large in-door hall and a larger student roll, these sorts of events and their attendant risk need to be managed much more carefully. It also goes to show that Orientation is an event that will need to be underwritten as a budget item in the future instead of expecting it to post unrealistic profits.

- *Student Planner*

The student diary was replaced by the trial concept of a 'Student Planner'. This was basically a week to a page pad stuck to the inside of a glossy folder that could be carried around by students who might wish to use it for note taking. Around 3,000 units were produced at roughly the same cost as the previous student diary. The design was done in-house and the Orientation Week Coordinators took the responsibility for selling the advertising space to subsidise it. It was not well received by the students, the University or some of the advertisers. The limited amount of space to advertise meant that it also cost much more to advertise and, since something akin to it had never been produced and marketed previously, it was hard sell all the way. At the end of the year, it was decided by an overwhelming number of Executive members to revert to the diary format of the previous year.

- *Website Development*

As part of its continuing strategy to increase awareness amongst the membership as to the range of advocacy, representation and services that the Association provides, we began development of a permanent website. By the end of the year, most of the content was complete and over the break, information pertaining to 2002's Executive, Staff, Orientation and other information is intended to be made available to current and prospective members either directly or through a link from the Massey University site. In future it is intended to contain elements such as a Gig guide, Satellite online, the Bar, and an Event Calendar for the year.

Final Note

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of my staff throughout the year: Shauna, Lea, Phil, Nicole, Mary, Jolene, Matthew and Vanessa, Michael, Anita, Kirsty, Erica and all the volunteers who gave selflessly of their time - thank you for your efforts. We all studiously work in the shadow of the Executive, so it would be nice for you all to take a step forwards into the light and take a bow.

Nigel Green
Manager 2001

VICE-PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION) REPORT

It seems like just yesterday that I returned from holiday at the beginning of the year and started planning out what needed to happen to ensure that A.S.A. got off to a good start and kept its feet on the ground and running! Of course, over the past year, we seem to have accomplished a fair bit. It's not all been easy, it's not all been perfect, and there are several things I wish had been a bit better.

Of course, the beginning of my role as Administration VP was training, which began when last year's election results became known, in October/November 2000. Tony Meyer (2000 AVP) passed me the job of taking minutes at Executive meetings almost immediately. I also prepared the first Committee List for 2001 (without knowing exactly what any representative was interested in), and attended the hearing for the Scholars' Club License, in order to gain background information, as well as provide evidence of continuity of information and leadership to the authorities.

The beginning of the term of office that I was to be paid for started soon after the New Year. I was up north for the Christmas/New Year break, and the first 'contact' I had with the 'outside world' was a phone message on my cellphone on the 6th of January – "When you get back in range, please call me". I started work on A.S.A. stuff as the Administration Vice-President on Sunday January 7th, beginning with a 'tour' of the Atrium Building, brainstorming what we wanted to do with the year, and a LONG list of what to put on the first Executive agenda.

Executive Meetings

The first couple of Executive Agenda were mailed out to people, in order to (try to) ensure that everyone was as aware of the meeting as possible. Each Agenda (for the first few meetings, until I simply ran out of time to prepare extra) included an Agenda Synopsis with more information about the items to be discussed at meetings. As the year has progressed, I've become more lax with the preparation of Agenda, but this has not made a bad impact on the running of the Executive Meetings.

I've attended most meetings, and taken minutes at most meetings. The typing of minutes (or rather lack of typing) is something I'm not particularly pleased with, but there are always other more important things to work on and deal with, and I'm afraid typing minutes just falls by the wayside every time.

Training Weekend – January

Training 'weekend' for all A.S.A. Executive Committee Members was held on Friday January 26th, and Saturday January 27th, (otherwise known as Auckland Anniversary Weekend) with many Executive members popping in and out of various workshops as their schedules permitted. But for Nick Shand and myself, Training weekend in reality began earlier.

Together we planned out what 'workshops' were needed, when the best time to have the weekend would be (prior to the NZUSA February Conference, but as late as possible to ensure as many representatives as possible would be back from summer break). We met with Andrew Barney to organise one workshop, and talked about what needed to be covered and by whom. Meetings with College HODs and other important people, as well as Afternoon Tea with Health and Counselling were planned out. Our mission was to make it as easy as possible for all representatives to start the year with all engines running smoothly.

Training of course involves more than two intensive days. For those who attended NZUSA February conference, training lasted an extra week. Just getting involved, absorbing information and learning the ropes is also important to the training process, and that's how a lot of Executive members always seem to learn most of what their job entails.

NZUSA February Conference

I did not attend February Conference, as I felt that as many members as possible needed to attend, and wherever possible, those who were new to the Executive should attend, in order to gain a 'fuller' idea of what the job they were elected to do entailed. Meanwhile I stayed behind in Albany, and helped keep the home fires burning.

A.S.A. simply does not have the funds to be able to send every Executive member to every conference. This is where the importance of reporting comes in handy, as those who stay behind can learn what was covered at conference.

By-election I

I was quite happy with most of the process for the by-election, especially as it was the first time an A.S.A. By-election had gone to polling! (A minor milestone methinks.) We had some great candidates, and a great by-election, and (despite a few complaints regarding a certain sheep) all seemingly ran according to plan. Thank you to all those who helped out. Congratulations to Sally Fortmann, Michael Wynd and Herbert Ma who joined the Executive afterwards.

2001 Budget

The General Manager and I worked on the budget together in the weeks leading up to Easter Break. While we were to 'put the finishing touches' on it over Easter, the "heavens" intervened, and he ended up finishing it himself. Thanks Nigel.

AGM: Round I

The first attempt at having the Annual General Meeting (and we hoped it would be the only attempt) got off to a rushed start, as various Executive members rushed around doing last minute tasks. Quorum was held for almost the entire amount of business on the agenda, which was very useful as it enabled us to get through a backlog of constitutional amendments, although these were block voted in a confusing manner. The end of the meeting had a satisfactory outcome (for most, or so it seemed), and the calling of a Special General Meeting was started to move through the remaining items.

Unfortunately I was away on bereavement leave at the time notice was required to be posted on the Official Noticeboard. An oversight of the Executive led to the meeting being well advertised all over campus, yet with nothing posted on the Official Noticeboard, the meeting was unconstitutional and had to be re-held.

AGM Round II

The second attempt at holding an Annual General Meeting went much smoother than the first, presumably because we were more organised, prepared and united the second time around. MUSA President, Kylie Martin did a commendable job in chairing the meeting, keeping things moving so that no one had time to get bored!

Whilst it was beneficial to the entire 2001 Executive to have two chances at running the meeting as it provided good practice, I would not recommend it to future Executives.

AGM Saga

The continuing saga of AGM's and validity, and clarifying what will comprise sufficient notice for a General Meeting kept both myself and the General Manager rather occupied for a few days, with more than a couple of phone calls to check things out with the Association's legal representatives, Davenports Harbour.

Committees:

Committee List

I had a few tries at organising and reorganising Executive Representation on University committees, and yet it was still only vaguely workable. I 'sat' on 3 committees on a regular basis: Health and Safety, Library Advisory, and International Students Advisory.

Health and Safety

Despite this committee having a reputation as being the most boring University Committee, I've actually found most of it fairly interesting. The best bit is making a difference (however slight) that students will appreciate, for example, repairing the tiles outside the Atrium Building. Although the lengths I went to affect this change left much to be desired, I would suggest that cracking a bone in your foot is not the measure that should be taken to prove a point.

Library Advisory

Unfortunately for all students it seems that the plans to build a library on the main campus have been 'shelved' (hopefully neither in the depths of the stacks nor indefinitely). Part of this is due to the Government Budget, which doesn't allow enough money for the fee freeze to be accepted and the plans to go ahead. This is currently the main topic of discussion at Library Advisory Committee Meetings.

Another topic of discussion at meetings was the extended number of Summer School papers offered, and the impact of increased numbers of students studying on Library resources and staff time.

Library Submission

As students were concerned about the proposed shelving of the Library plans, the Students' Association made a submission to Council through the Albany Principal, in which we suggested that the Library Building be built alongside the Science block. I was one of the main contributors to the submission, with my 'association' with the library ensuring that I had perhaps a more informed view of the problems inherent in remaining with the current facilities. We have yet to hear whether the suggestion was taken up by Council, but it would seem to be disappointing were the campus to only have the current facilities, as they are getting over-taxed.

International Students' Advisory

I was unable to attend the first meeting of this committee so far this year, as I was in New Plymouth for my Grandfather's funeral. The major decision of this meeting (as far as some students are concerned) was the International Student's Lunch, held a couple of weeks later. The second meeting was also doomed, as it was set during a time in which I had an exam to sit, and the third meeting was at an odd time, at which I had a prior commitment. I attended the beginnings of this third meeting. Despite this, it seems the committee has been running quite well, and there have been some good initiatives by the committee.

International Students' Lunch

As a member of the International Students' Advisory committee, I attended this lunch to mingle with students, and find out some of what is bothering them (or pleasing them, as the case may be). There was a very good turnout for this luncheon – perhaps the prospect of free food had something to do with it? – and some valuable feedback was gained.

International Students' Speech Competition

International Students, somewhat to the surprise of various people, requested this event, and as a member of the Advisory Committee I was invited to attend. It went quite well, although the number of people who decided to prepare speeches was a little disappointing. The wide range of topics was interesting, and the winner; a clear audience favourite.

Disabilities Lunch

Michael Wynd asked me to attend this lunch and talk to the students, mainly regarding the possibility of creating the position of 'Disability Officer' (or similar) on the Executive committee. I got some very useful feedback on this matter, and on a number of others.

Flying Start Course

Commencing prior to the beginning of the academic year, this course was run by Paul Fenton, Student Learning Co-ordinator (with a little bit of help from us!). Nick Shand, Michael Veukiso and myself attended the first session and gave a bit of a "speech" to students, talking about what University was like for us (when we started), what students can do to help the study process, and other useful things like that. To provide a bit of an 'ice-breaker', the Executive agreed to a minimal budget to purchase such things as tea, coffee, biscuits etc for the first two-hour session. A second Flying Start Course was held at the beginning of the Second Semester, and again A.S.A. provided biscuits etc.

Satellite

Throughout the year I have written various columns, articles, letters, advertisements etc. I have also acted as a 'proof-reader' to the odd page in the odd issue, to make sure we print "news that's fit to print". I have heard many good comments about the appearance of Satellite this year, and hope this to continue long into the future. ☺

Student Assistance Programme – Grants/Loans

Whilst the Education & Welfare Vice-President was unavailable for varying periods of time (both throughout the semester, and before the beginning of the Academic Year), I found myself with the unenviable task of administering the SAP fund. This job fell to me as I had had some experience with administering the programme in 1999, when I acted as backup for the then EWVP. This job can be rewarding when you are able to help someone out of sometimes somewhat dire circumstances.

Office Staffing

The first week of the University Year saw me ensconced in the four walls of the Atrium Office, from approx. 10 a.m. to 5 or 6 p.m. daily. By the end of that period, I felt I understood far better than many other people, what it is like to have an office job when you can't even leave for 5 minutes! Thank you to everyone who helped to keep me sane throughout that time. After we hired Shauna Bergmann as Information Officer, I continued to fill in at various times, and generally be of assistance whenever the need arose.

Management Board

The meetings of this 'committee' have been few and far between this year, mainly due to the extreme 'busy-ness' of all members of the committee, including the General Manager. Those meetings that have occurred I have attended, and helped make decisions pertinent to the running of the Association. Since around the middle of the year, most Management Board 'discussions' have occurred via email, as selecting a meeting time has not been very easy.

Orientation Week

Being at University from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. or later for 3 weeks in a row was bound to catch up with me earlier rather than later. Luckily this didn't happen until the pressure had eased off slightly! I was one of [perhaps not so] enthusiastic people who turned up to stuff Orientation Packs on a wonderful February Day so long ago. And by the day's end I was absolutely exhausted. And it wasn't over... the next day things still needed to be done, and it seemed a never-ending task. I would have liked to take part in many of the daytime events of Orientation, however I'd drawn the short straw and staffed the office for the week. Orientation always seems to be the time when the Executive discovers just how ready they are (or aren't) and the job immediately becomes almost too hard to cope with.

Toga Party

This event, the first MAJOR Orientation Event open to all students, WENT OFF! It rocked, and almost everything went well. I was pleasantly surprised at the number of people who got into the spirit of the thing and came in costume. Let's do it again!

Big Huge Party

Yes, it was Big. Yes, it was Huge. My memory of the evening is not a particularly happy one, as it seemed that I was called on to do far more than I had the energy or responsibility for. Having Michael Wynd and myself spending a large part of the evening running around in search of rather last minute items was a bit of a hassle, and the lack of appreciation hurt even more. I wanted to see SODA play – I saw only one or two of their songs, I wanted to enjoy the evening that I'd paid for. I did not expect to leave the party in tears before the end of the evening, and know that I had to wait up for a phone call, to sign a cheque I'd tried to sign before I left. Apart from all the bad stuff, it seems that most students present enjoyed themselves, especially with the two big name bands we had playing.

Induction Day

On Friday the 23rd of February, this took place in the Auditorium. I had volunteered my time to act as a tour guide, to show new students around our wonderful campus. Nick also put me on the spot, getting me to stand up and say a few words to the crowd. A second version of the Induction Day was held immediately prior to the Second Semester beginning. I attended the end of this and yet again acted as a tour guide, showing students around the beautiful campus. This is always a good opportunity to gain a first impression of campus from the only people really qualified to give one.

Wine Food & Jazz Festival

I volunteered my services (or rather, had them volunteered for me) to act as a Tour Guide for this illustrious event. After 6 hours on my feet constantly, running tours around the main campus, I was slightly more tired than when I'd started... and students think we do nothing? I'm shocked! All in all it was a good day, and lots of people enjoyed themselves. It was good to see so many people enjoying themselves on a sunny day at Massey, and most people on the tours we were running had nothing but good comments about the day, and the campus.

Shutdown meeting

I attended the first part of the Shutdown Meeting on Wednesday 30 May. In doing so I learnt a great deal about how NZ Funding of the Tertiary sector measures up against that of other countries, both large and small. Bring on the days when students run the country, I say! (That is, students who have been through the trials of student-ship with a decent sized loan attached, and who really understand what the numbers they propose will actually mean. They don't have to stay students...).

Host Responsibility Training

I attended a 3-hour training session on a Saturday prior to Orientation Week to learn what our responsibilities are under the Liquor Licensing Act, and our club license. The information I learnt has proved useful, though only from a background perspective, of which I am very pleased. Very useful training, although pricey.

EWVP By-election

I helped to run this by-election, giving the new election policy a test run before the major elections (General Elections) at the end of the year. Phil Mann acted as Returning Officer, and the elections seemed to go well for the two candidates concerned. It was a close battle, but Denise Lane won the position for the second semester. Sally Fortmann, Phil Mann and myself were the Election Sub-Committee for these by-elections

Recreation & Leisure, PI Rep By-election

As the only candidates for Recreation and Leisure Representative stood as a collective, and no one stood for Pacific Islands Representative, this by-election did not go to polling, making it an easy ride for all concerned. Fiona Page and Nick Van Beek therefore jointly took up the role of Recreation and Leisure Representatives sooner than expected and seemed to do an excellent job of it.

Special General Meeting (SGM)

An SGM was organised late in the semester in order to pass the Annual Report for the year 2000. The SGM also dealt with a matter brought forward by a group of student parents, requesting that A.S.A. co-ordinate a school-holiday programme. Both motions were successful, although it was unfortunate that a Draft Budget was not ready to be accepted at the same meeting.

General Elections

Phil Mann again acted as Returning Officer, and together with Debbie Jackson and myself, ran the elections (through the Election Sub-Committee). The elections ran relatively smoothly, with a few minor hiccups. Several candidates were disqualified for failing to attend the campaign briefing meeting, and three others withdrew from the race – leaving it a contest between two individuals for President and against No Confidence for every other position. The election was a close race for President, and each successive recount did not do much to change the results. More information can be found in the Election Report.

Training of (and hand over to) 2002 Executive

I began to pass on information to relevant members of next year's Executive almost immediately after the elections. Training weekend is still in the process of being organised, and will hopefully go a long way towards closing the information gap.

Budget

The General Manager has done most of the work on this, as he has had slightly more time as other members of the Executive wander in and out of the office, probably doing more to disrupt than help.

Fire and Ice Ball

I attended the Fire and Ice Ball on September 8th, and had an enjoyable time. A huge THANK YOU goes out to the Ball Committee, who did a stunning job creating an evening that went very well. It was good to see a fair number of Executive members present on the evening.

September Conference

I was one of the few A.S.A. representatives to attend September Conference, and the Women's Conference on the day before. It was good to meet up with other student politicians, and to increase my knowledge and awareness of what is happening in the national body. I acted as one of the Harassment Contacts for the conference, as well as doing a fair bit of running around sorting out last minute hassles. Unfortunately my free time ran away, and I have yet to produce a full report on the Conference.

Policy Manual

The General Manager has gone through and updated a large amount of the material in this, and I have subsequently gone through and amended other sections. The Political Policy needs a severe revamp, and it is envisaged that this will occur over the training period, with input from both 2001 and 2002 Executive Members.

Atrium Whiteboard

Midway through the second semester I started posting relevant and interesting information on the Atrium Whiteboard, partially as a way to combat the somewhat ineffectiveness of the Executive Drawers. The Whiteboard is making it easier for people to be aware of what is happening at present, without a lot of work having to go into contacting everyone and repeating what is happening.

TEAC Report

As the fourth report was leaked to the press, I found myself disseminating information that had been given at NZUSA September Conference, at a workshop I attended. Stephanie Thompson from AUSA and I set up a joint press release, which was not released as we missed the timeframe and other information put ours out of date. For a while the Atrium Whiteboard contained a lot of information, articles, notes, etc. regarding this fourth report.

Academic Grievance

One of the papers I was taking in the second semester had a lot of complaints from students. Because I was taking the paper and was known to be a student representative by the majority of the students in the class, I found myself involved in trying to sort out an Academic Grievance. As the semester drew to a close I met with Prof. Larry Rose regarding the paper, and a rather useful solution was worked out.

Checks and Balances

My major project the second semester was the creation of a set of Checks and Balances to guide Executive members. Some of the work involved in this bordered on the creation (or updating) of effective training material. Nigel and I have been busy on different aspects of this, it was completed in printed in bright yellow booklets by training weekend, which were distributed to each Executive member. A more detailed report on the reason for and results of this process is available.

Well, apart from all the background work I've been doing that I either forget, or don't think is worth writing, that is what I've been up to this year. There's bound to be things I've forgotten or just omitted. Thank you to everyone on the Executive for pulling their weight and for doing stuff that I ask them to, I really do appreciate it, even if I'm too absent-minded or busy to say so at the time.

Thank you to the students for giving me this chance.

Rachel Giesbers

Vice-President (Administration) 2001

VICE-PRESIDENT (EDUCATION & WELFARE) REPORT

There is no report from Denise Lane who held the position prior to me. As I have only been in the position for a short period of time most of this report will look forward to the sorts of things I hope to achieve next year.

LOOKING BACK:

Over the past two months since the elections my views on the Education and Welfare position have changed dramatically. I was well prepared by Nick Shand (President 2001), but I was not expecting the learning curve that I would be thrown into for the next few months. This is a learning opportunity that I believe I have grasped with both hands, and will continue to do so for the rest of my term in office. I have only been in the position for two months, and these two months have included the exams – a relatively quiet period for the Association. Hence, I have had little work that has needed immediate attention; instead I have been able to find out more about the Association's history, the problems I might face in my area and possible solutions.

THE FUTURE:

Computing Facilities

There have been many complaints about the Post-Grad computer room being inoperable. This issue will be resolved in the near future as I have been assured that it will be fitted out with the latest model computers for semester one next year. Also, there will be the introduction of a Design School Macintosh lab next to the labs in the Atrium for the use of graphic design students once the course has been introduced. The possibility of expanding the labs on both precincts is being looked into – especially the possibility of an undergraduate lab on the Oteha Rohe precinct, and a Post-Graduate lab in the main precinct. I will be following this closely and will report on any findings and achievements.

Vice President of Education and Welfare's Role

To the eyes of many, the role of the VP of Education and Welfare is too broad and large. Over the year I will be researching the possibility of splitting the position into two roles – an Education VP and Welfare VP. The split will enable the positions to be more specialised, and focus on more than core problems. It will also facilitate the significant increase in student numbers at the Albany campus. The two roles will also be looked at in respect to the job description, and what the Vice President can expect to be doing, and what they will be expected to do.

Student Bar

Over the summer break there will be much work on how we can bring the student bar back into a profitable position. There are many problems with the current set-up, notably the licensing arrangement and the actual building. Over the summer break the different possibilities for the management of the bar as well as improving the premises will be looked into in considerable depth. The Executive, Chris Warner and myself (others may be included)) and the bar sub-committee will be working together on this.

Paul Dowd

Vice-President (Education and Welfare) 2001

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

As well as all information regarding my position, this report also includes a brief outline of some of things that I have done throughout the year.

Executive Meetings

I have attended most Executive meetings throughout the year and I feel that I have contributed wherever possible. I believe that these meetings were an important part of learning the way an Executive of this type runs and they are essential if you intend to be able to keep up with the every day happenings of the A.S.A. I took minutes for these meetings whenever Rachel was unable to attend. Although we started off the year with a bit of difficulty, I think we have all learnt to work together as a team so that we could be there for our fellow students as much as possible.

Committee meetings

I represented the Students' Association and College of Business on a few committees. These included: the Election Sub-Committee, Catering Committee, Health and Counselling Advisory Committee, Visual & Performing Arts Committee and Ball Sub-Committee.

Election Sub-Committee

I was part of this committee for the by-elections in August 2001 for the position of Education and Welfare Vice-President, Recreation and Leisure Representative and Pacific Island Students' Representative. The Committee consisted of Rachel Giesbers, Phil Mann (Returning Officer) and myself.

Although Rachel did the majority of the work for us, I assisted her and Phil in the general decision making of the by-elections, promoting of the elections, polling and counting of the final votes. After the election of Denise Lane as the new Education and Welfare VP, I spent a bit of time with her and sharing all the information I had learnt about SAPs.

Catering Committee

During the first semester of this year my position on this committee was very minimal (basically filling in for Debbie when she was unable to attend), but during the second semester, my position became a bit more official. Michael Wynd and I attended bi-weekly meetings with the manager of the Atrium Brassiere, Andrew and Amanda Stark from the Principal's office. Both Michael and I have developed a good working relationship with Amanda and Andrew regarding catering issues at Massey Albany. Due to the slight uproar from students after the opening of the Atrium Brasserie, we had a fair amount of things that students asked us to take to this committee, many of which have been discussed and dealt with and I am pleased to report back that the feelings towards the Atrium Brasserie are a lot more positive than they were at the beginning of the year. With the newly acquired couches, plants, music and hopefully a little bit more student friendly menu, we now have a much more relaxed café environment that we can all enjoy.

The cafeteria on the Oteha Rohe Campus, (which can't seem to compete with the popularity of the main campus) is hopefully going to be re-modelled and re-vamped. So after that has been re-painted, re-furnished and basically re-done, we will have two good places to rendezvous ☺. We have also had discussions with Amanda regarding a garden bar outside the Scholars' Bar area which should also add to our hopefully increasing Scholars' environment!

Health and Counselling Advisory committee

This committee has only called two meetings this year, in which we discussed the possibility of moving part or all of the health and counselling centre over to the main campus. We also discussed ways in which we could make the students more aware of the facilities and services available in this centre.

Ball Sub Committee

This year I was lucky to be part of the committee in charge of organising our yearly ball. We had a few meetings at the end of semester one in which we discussed what the theme would be and who would be in charge of the various features of the ball. Unfortunately I missed a lot of the organising with going overseas during the holidays (although that was pretty good ☺), but I still helped out with some organising and the decorating of the venue in the 'Fire & Ice' theme. I'm sure that everyone who went to the ball will agree that it was a great success.

Student-Staff Liaison Committee meetings

Unfortunately this year's committee has not been much of a success. With many attempts to have more meetings, we only managed three this year. Mainly because the initial establishment of this year's committee was a bit later in the year than was hoped. Having come in to this position later in the year than most, I also unfortunately missed out on its development. We decided to put our meetings on hold at one stage to try and design a more formal purpose for our committee, but that too got put on hold when our Education and Welfare Vice president, who was researching a new way of running this committee, stepped down from her position. Having been elected for this position again next year, I hope to get students to gain interest in this committee and what it can do to get it up and running to its full potential.

Massey Albany Coffee Society (MACS)

Yes, believe it or not Massey Albany Coffee Society is still up and running! Although the interest and amount of members does seem to have dwindled somewhat throughout the year, those loyal coffee addicts are still with us, many of them volunteering some of their time (for free coffee of course) to keep it going.

Due to the arrangement made with the Brassiere, during our time of difficulty with them, and not being able to advertise on the main level of the Atrium, awareness of MACS presence has dropped a fair amount. I have however got permission from them to put some posters up and about and upstairs with the action, just to remind people that we are still open, so hopefully we can get MACS running at full strength again. Thanks again to all those people who volunteer their precious time to MACS ☺.

Student Assistance Programme (SAP) Report

Towards the end of semester one this year I got quite involved with the Students Assistance Program. I worked on a few cases, along with other Executive members, whilst we were covering bits of the Education and Welfare portfolio and was also given the task of compiling a report on the program. This included how it worked, people to speak to, things to remember, funding and anything else someone working on SAP's would find helpful or interesting.

I had many meetings with Maree from WINZ regarding what they had available for students (as well as ways she thought we could improve our system) and also gained input from various other people including Nigel Green (A.S.A. General Manager), Huia Welton (MUSAPN President 2001), Liz Barker (EXMSS President) and Toni Hyde (Welfare VP MUSAPN). I attended a meeting with the Regional Registrar, Andrea Davies regarding funding for the programme, in which it was announced that a percentage of all money gained from vending machines around the Albany campus would be collected to fund this program in an attempt to become independent from the running of Palmerston North and Wellington's campus' programmes.

Special General Meeting (SGM)

I attended the SGM held to discuss the budget and 2000 audit. We also discussed the possibility of developing a holiday programme for the children of some of our students to make their studying and attending lectures during school holidays a little less stressful. This will hopefully be implemented next year.

Women's Festival

I attended the Women's Festival organised by Helen Van Asch, our Women's Representative for 2001, which was a great success and a lot of fun was had by all! ☺

Meeting with Candidates for Events and Activities Marketing Manager position

I also stood on the panel for deciding on a new Events and Marketing Manager in which Nigel Green, Nicole Young and myself interviewed the two candidates. Congratulations to Steven who took up that position.

Academic Grievance

I have worked with Rachel Giesbers on resolving an academic grievance in the College of Business.

A.S.A. Daily running

I have spent a lot of my spare time in the Atrium office helping our Information Officer, Shauna out in managing the office or wherever she needed a hand.

Elections for A.S.A. Exec 2002

In September I ran for the position of College of Business Representative for the 2002 Albany Students' Executive Committee and am pleased to be carrying on with my position.

Congratulations to the rest of the 2002 exec, and thank you to the 2001 exec for a great year! Best of luck to everyone in the future ☺.

Sally Fortmann

College of Business Representative 2001

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES' REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Introduction:

I was asked to assist the A.S.A. as the designated representative to the Disability committee for this year. To secure my role, I also assumed the responsibilities for the College of Humanities (CoH). This was due to the withdrawal of the elected candidate.

Mission Statement:

‘To promote the interests and act as a voice within the College of Humanities for the students of Massey Albany. To act as the representative on the Disability committee and serve as the liaison between the disabled group and the Students’ Association to ensure both the Association and the University best serve their needs and interests.’

Job Description

As per the Constitutional job description for the College Representative Position. The Disability role has been a case of making it up as we have progressed this semester.

Overview of Duties

Attended Staff-Student Liaison committee for the CoH as A.S.A. representative. Promoted the interests of students of the CoH. Promoted the interests of Disabled Students on campus with the University and Association. Attended Executive meetings and participated in student life on campus. Assisted activities of the Association on a general basis.

Meetings and Committees

Regular Meetings & Committees Attended:

- CoH Staff Student Liaison committee;
- Catering Committee (taken over from Nick Shand);
- Disability Committee;
- Executive Meetings;
- Massey Ball Committee.

Special or Irregular:

- Special Executive Meeting #9;
- Amanda Stark - Catering Issues;
- Gary Williams - disability issues;
- Rec. Centre Staff- disability/ personnel issues;
- MACS - administration issues.

Representation:**Meetings with Representative Group and Constituent Members**

I held a lunch for the disabled students on campus in May in association with the University Disability Committee, which was well attended. I had a number of meetings with Massey Staff while trying to resolve issues for one student with disabilities. I have also acted as advocate for a number of students in dealing with academic staff. I have acted on behalf of my Social Anthropology class in order to reinstate a tutorial that had been dropped. I have made it a point to attend to any problems amongst CoH students and many things I have handled without the need for formal meetings.

Achievements:

- Moved Disabled Resource Room to Quad Block A from Bldg 81;
- Taken responsibility for Disabled issues;
- Made the CoH move on referencing issues with an aim to standardise or minimise various systems;
- Forced changes in Catering services, access for disabled students;
- Got the notice boards put in Round Room in Atrium Building;
- Gained a microwave for students in Study Centre (Thanks to Helen for offering to keep it clean);
- Participated in O-week and fostering student life;
- Fed the masses at the Toga Party and the Irish Night;
- Made a positive contribution to the A.S.A. as Executive member;
- Have built networks of contacts in Massey Administration that can be used to the advantage of the A.S.A. and students.

Goal Setting:

- Set up a functioning College Rep. system for the CoH;
- Had a successful Disabled Conference at Massey in September;
- Completed the Fees project by July 31st;
- Attended NZUSA conference in July and built some contacts at the national level;
- Formed a Humanities' Club (Epsilon) as a social resource for students within the College and used my budget to promote the College.
- Via the Staff-Student liaison Committee promoted the interests of students and maintained a watchdog brief on the College.

Shared Experience and comments on Executive Structure**Experiences:**

This first semester has been an education in the ways and means of student politics and operating such an organisation within the university structure. It is my opinion that the Executive this year is being run for the majority of students, unlike the situation last year. Apart from the obvious distraction of Ms Tanya Vegar's non-performance, I believe that we have achieved, as a body, some important things for students on campus. The first AGM was interesting to say the very least, but the second go at an AGM was a master class in how to hold an effective meeting.

Conferences

I had gone to Wellington to the national February conference, but due to an unfortunate accident I was incapacitated and was not able to take part. This was regrettable, as I missed an opportunity to network and make some contacts and gain valuable information on disabled and student issues.

Goals at National Level

As stated previously, attended July conference.

General:

Self-Assessment

I have not done I feel nearly enough in the area of College representation, as I was not officially elected to the role until April and, with the lack of support from the VP of Education and Welfare, I never got the system up and running. I have tried to make the most of my abilities and experience on behalf of the A.S.A. and students. I put a lot of work in during the three weeks around the O'Week that put me in good stead for the rest of the semester. I have furthered that by joining a number of clubs and supporting the Massey Ball. I have been a vocal member of the Executive, within the Executive while representing the A.S.A. or fellow students. My next real task is to make it at the national level and take what I can from the July conference. I have maintained an excellent working relationship with our General Manager, Information Officer and the University's Recreation Officer, Craig Hunter.. In summary, I feel my time so far this year as been effective, except in the one area already mentioned which I shall re remedying next year.

Other:

Staff

The A.S.A. is well served by our current employees. This shall improve I believe with the employment of a new Accounts Clerk. Our Information Officer, Shauna has proved a valuable asset to our frontline in the Atrium. Furthermore, our Satellite Editor, Mike Matthews is doing a great job with the magazine.

Offices

The Atrium office is a valuable contact point- but we need more space eventually on the main campus.

Orientation Week

This was a disappointment in so many ways from a financial viewpoint. The blame can and must be laid directly at the feet of last year's Executive and the co-ordinators. We were stuck with the problem and I hope that we shall not repeat the mistakes of last year in hiring for 2002.

Epsilon

This is my initiative to promote student life for the CoH and find an outlet for my budget line. Given also the level of funding available, there are resources that can be utilised for the club to develop. This has been stimulated in part by the success of Alpha Sigma Sigma under the College of Science organised in part by the A.S.A. College Representative, Debbie Jackson.

Catering Committee

As stated I have continued sitting in on this committee with Sally Fortmann. The reasoning was so that I could continue the chain of knowledge. The issues raised with the contractors have been as follows:

- Service-staff issues have been in need of improvement as the service has been suffering since a noted improvement from the start of the year;
- Certain staff members have been disciplined as unwelcome comments have been made to female students;
- Some improvements suggested by the A.S.A. have been adopted with the support of Massey- in fact, at present it seems that Spotless is under a lot of pressure to improve. Massey had done a survey of staff that was almost overwhelmingly negative - it should be suggested that it was Massey staff, and not students that are driving the changes and increasing the pressure to make the required improvements;
- Wood fired Pizzas-this is a classic of mis-management, perhaps illustrative of the problems. Spotless managed to run out of manuka wood to fire the ovens then was unable to continue the service. Furthermore, they have not sorted an ongoing supply, and lack the storage space to keep the wood dry;
- Meetings are still fortnightly until we can fix the majority of the problems.

College of Humanities & Social Sciences

- I have kept my attendance at this meeting as I was asked to do so by Prof. Paul Spoonley. I also have a personal stake in this College;
- A memo was leaked to me from within the College regarding marking standards. It appeared that the College of Business was concerned that marks within Humanities were higher overall than in other Colleges. In part this feeling is due to the scaling that is carried out within Business but it has to be remembered that the size of classes and the calibre of students are higher;
- There are concerns still in the Social Work course-there is a lot of work to be done but some improvements is being made;
- A referencing standard that is consistent across the schools is being finalised.

Executive Business

- I attended Executive meetings until my illness made it impossible to attend.
- Upon discussion, it was suggested to me that I offer my resignation, which was accepted on the 6th of August.
- I went out with the Ball committee to view venues for the Massey Ball. Upon looking at what was available around the key dates, the 'Top of the Park' at Alexandra Park Raceway was selected.
- A memo was issued to Andrea Davis and Paul Spoonley regarding to marking policy within Massey, following an article on the resignation of a lecturer from Lincoln University

NZUSA conference

- This was held weekend of 8-9th July at Lincoln University. I flew down on the Saturday morning and attended the workshops and plenary sessions as one of the two A.S.A. reps alongside President, Nick Shand. I raised concerns with the NZUSA Co-presidents about Disabled Students and the needs of International/Asian students. It seemed that there is no focus on these two areas of student life. Instead, much more effort and focus seemed to be on fulfilling Treaty of Waitangi issues. Some interesting things came out of the workshops. What is interesting this year is that the political focus of the A.S.A. is more inwards than nationally focussed. I also pointed out that the NZUSA couldn't claim to be a truly national body until there was full representation from all the tertiary institutions, especially in Auckland.
- It was also interesting to see how out of step the A.S.A. is with other Associations - but one is confident that we are on the right track as our situation within Albany, a more 'unique' campus than other campuses.

Michael Wynd**College of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative 2001**

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

As the College of Sciences Representative I was responsible for attending Liaison Committee meetings for the College of Sciences and reporting back to the Student Executive Committee. I was part of the Education Team who monitor the University's ability to deliver quality education to students inside each College and act as a point of first contact for students experiencing problems.

Class Representative System Report

At the beginning of semester two I completed the special project report on the Class Representative System which I had begun in the first semester. I made several important recommendations as to the best way to implement a structure here at Albany that I hope are picked up and utilised by the Education and Welfare VP when they review the system for 2002.

Staff/Student Liaison Meetings

There were four Staff-student Liaison meetings held throughout the year, and I was in attendance at all. One focused on the Engineering/food Science students and another was for Information Science, Computing and Mathematical Science students. I had a chance to catch up with the Class Representatives throughout the year and there were no major problems raised at the meetings.

September Conference

I was unable to attend this conference due other commitments, however I did show my support for A.S.A. by assisting with catering for the event.

Women's Conference

I attended this conference along with Rachael Giesbers. In my opinion this was not worth the effort as I found it uninteresting and right wing.

Health & Counseling

I attended two Health & Counselling meetings, at which the budget and fees for 2002 were the hot topic.

Science Social Club - Alpha Sigma Sigma (ASS)

This year saw many events for A.S.S. I formed and participated in the A.S.S netball team in the Massey Competition, helped organise and attended a social evening and also a movie night for members. 2002 is looking a bit sad for Alpha Sigma Sigma with as yet no one putting their hand up for President, however I believe that 2002's Science Representatives should endeavor to promote a Science social club on campus.

Debbie Jackson

College of Sciences Representative 2001

CO-MAORI STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Kia ora Koutou!

Summary

This is a report on all activities as Maori Students' Representatives for both the Executive committee and Te Waka o nga Akonga Maori during 2001. This report includes brief statements about regular meetings, events and special occasions that we have helped organise and/or attended.

As the year has passed, the bond of the Roopu - Te Waka o nga Akonga Maori - has grown stronger. Both Maori Students and staff members have pulled together triumphantly to make the many events a success. The combinations of knowledge, courage, support and guidance have proven to be a strong component of the Roopu. Tu tonu mai e hoa ma - kia tu, kia oho, kia mataara!

The Executive Committee

Firstly, congratulations to all those elected for the Albany Students' Association for 2002. And secondly, a big thank you to all the Executive members of 2001 - this will truly be a memorable year, both a challenging and interesting learning path, that we can learn from our mistakes to better both ourselves as representatives and as a whole Executive team. The prospects for 2002 look promising, with a new focus on the facilitation of student life, there are many opportunities to form stronger links between the A.S.A. and Te Waka o nga Akonga Maori as the two equivalent Students' Associations of Albany.

Events

The following is a list and a brief outline of the events, which took. These events took place through the Co-operation of Maori Staff, students, Maori Representatives and Kaimahi of Massey University Albany and also Tangata Whenua and the wider community of Massey University, Albany.

Healthy Lifestyles Day

Wednesday 25th July, Maori students, staff, and the wider community were invited to celebrate Healthy Lifestyles Day - The Maori way. With the main focus being "smoke-free - Auahi kore", we had the pleasure of being entertained by three great speakers (c/o Te Hotu Manawa Maori): Mr Scott Morrison, Mr Gordon Hatfield Toi and Mr Cliff Curtis. Our whare was "full as" and a great day was had by all. Each that attended received an Auahi Kore pack (containing information about smoking and quitting)

Young Maori Leaders' Conference

Hui-a-Taiohi 2001: Monday 6th - Tuesday 7th August, The opportunity to attend this hui was provided through the support of Te Puni Kokiri, Te Rawheoro Marae, the Albany Students' Association, Te Waka o nga Akonga Maori, my family and friends. Throughout the two days, a wide range of highly respected and intelligent speakers, both past and present Maori Leaders, each gave a presentation on their thoughts of leadership. Differences it, how it was in their day, and what leadership means for us today and for the future generations to come. There was a lot of encouragement to be leaders - no mater who you are - and what we can so to insure we have more Maori Leaders in the future.

The conference provided a forum where everyone could speak freely on each topic, which allowed interaction between rangatahi, pakeke and rangatira. Some points made by the speakers reinforced the path that we are already pursuing, while others gave interesting new twists and innovative strategies that were questioned by both the other attendees and ourselves.

Te Huinga Tauira 2001

The National Gathering of Maori University Students - Te Huinga Tauira was held on 24th –27th of August at Tapu Te Ranga Marae in Island Bay hosted by Ngai Tauira of Victoria University, Te Whare Wananga o te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui. The Roopu (T.W.O.N.A.M) flew down, attended and took part in the: Te Mana Akonga Annual General Meeting, Karaoke Competition, Mystery Tour, Workshops and came back with 2nd Prize in the Kapa Haka Competition - Tu meke rawa atu wahine ma! We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and hopefully one day we will be able to return the hospitality to Ngai Tauira and the Kaimahi if Te Herenga Waka Marae.

Dr Rangimarie Rose Pere Wananga

Saturday 29th September, we had the pleasure of listening to Dr Rangimarie Rose Pere, who shared with us knowledge, inspiration and motivation through education as great Maori Women.

Shakespearean Day

Wednesday 19th September, we attended a preview of short scenes of the Maori Movie adaptation of Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice' alongside the Roopu Members and their friends and family. A fun night with a lot of laughs - just the remedy needed for pre-exam nerves.

Moana Jackson Visit

Wednesday 17th October, we had the pleasure of listening to Moana Jackson, one of the great Maori Lawyers, who shared with us his knowledge about Maori History and his life.

Other Events:

Te Putake Awards

Thursday 19th July, all Maori Scholars received their awards for Te Putake Mentor Programme and the Maori Bursary Scholarships.

Coca-Cola Youth Expo

Monday 23rd July-Friday 27th July, we were given the opportunity to be student-exhibitors for Te Mana, celebrating and promoting achievement among young Maori.

Through a presence on the Bar Sub-Committee Daniel Harrison was delegated the task of organising an event for mid-semester. This Event was called the 'Mid-Semester Blowout' held at Scholars' bar 31st August 2001 (being the last day of the first half of Semester Two). Around 250 people attended throughout the night with further numbers being put off by poor weather. The organisation and event management required for this event was intensive Overall the event was a success with all that attended having a good time.

Conclusion

We have been honoured to represent Maori Students at Albany this year. 2001 has been long, challenging but also very rewarding. 2002 looks positive with the new Executive team being inducted on the weekend of the 16th of December. Have a safe and Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

Ma te Atua koutou hei manaaki.
Tena ra koutou katoa.
Na Nga Mangai Maori

Daniel Harrison and Anita Elers
Co-Maori Students' Representatives 2001

MATURE STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Elected as a Student Representative

It was quite an experience to cross the first hurdle of the election process to get elected as a representative of the students in the Association's Executive committee. My agenda from the very beginning has been and will remain, as long as I am in the Executive, to be the "STUDENTS' VOICE". Concern for the students' benefits and rights has been the prime issue of my entering into student politics. Moreover, value for money, quality service, staff-student liaison and overall congenial environment for the appropriate development of academic as well as professional and social life was on my agenda. Having been elected, after a row over the whole election process, I shot off to achieve what I set myself up for into student politics.

NZUSA Conference - February 2001

Attended the Conference as Chief Delegate of Albany Students' Association. The New Zealand University Students' Association Conference in February 2001 at Wellington was the starting point for most of us in the Executive committee of the Association. Prior to that, a training session was held at the Round Room in Atrium that almost all of us attended. The training set us up for the year ahead and suggested the ways to plan a goal and achieve them.

The travel to Wellington was a good experience and the events that followed there was an enlightening phase into student politics locally as well as nationally. I must admit that driving down to Wellington was better than flying as we could also enjoy the scintillating scenery and natural beauty of picturesque New Zealand. Besides having fun, serious business was the core of the Conference. Attended workshops and seminars. As my focus was the issues related to mature and graduate students, I was more involved in workshops related to them. However, where opportunity arose, I also took part in general student issues as well as administrative matters relating to the operation of Students' Associations. An interaction with Executive members from other Universities and discussion regarding the functioning modes of various Associations across the country was also enlightening.

National level political discussion involved active participation by the Executive members in raising issues of their respective representative branches and raising their voice in achieving the best for the students. The future students will enjoy what we achieve today. And as today's students are the diplomats, bureaucrats, administrators or leaders of tomorrow, it is incumbent on us to make sure that they get the best training possible in the best of environments.

One of the highlights of the Conference, was putting a senior Minister, who attended as a speaker, in a tight spot when I questioned him about the government policy related to graduate research funding and facilities as well as overall policy on the welfare of students across the country. My concern in raising these issues was whether students are getting value for their money and if government was active in providing support for their welfare. The loud applause in the hall reflected agreement of my concerns by students' representatives from all over the country. I also raised number of students' concerns with our meeting with the Chairperson of the TEAC (Tertiary Education Advisory Commission). There were serious issues that need to be addressed and I continued to pursue them more vigorously throughout the year.

Academic Audit

In March 2001, I traveled to Palmerston North to attend the Academic Audit of the University. During my meeting with the Auditors, I raised several issues related to the postgraduates as well as mature students. A better library facility was one of them. One point of note, the Academic Audit is focussed on 'process' as opposed to 'content'; the University administration want to know that they have in place adequate processes to deal with situations rather than attempt to redress past inequities in the system.

University Committees

I represented the students in the University Committees that discussed and decided on various policies and overall administration of the University. As mentioned earlier, my agenda has been to raise student concerns wherever and whenever possible.

Massey University Academic Board & Albany Academic Committee

One of the important University Committees I am a member of is the Academic Committee. The meetings are held monthly and chaired by Professor Graham Fraser, the Asst. Vice Chancellor (academic). During my attendance at the Committee, I raised concerns relating to students. Issues relating to grants and funds available for the International students in emergency circumstances and I tabled their problems in various meetings. Further, better facilities for the postgraduate students have been a demand on my side, which I was assured, would be looked into by the Committee. I am glad to state that the University has addressed most of the issues I raised.

The campus has developed extensive facilities for postgraduate students this year. Every building has a postgraduate room equipped with necessary amenities. A locker room has also been provided for the postgraduates in the Atrium Building. Better liaising between staff and students has been achieved. I am working closely with the Learning Centre, which provides seminars and guidance on postgraduate research.

Several students approached me for guidance and support with their matters. I advised them and guided them to the best of my capability. I personally also attended to one of the academic grievances of a postgraduate student. He was harassed and failed twice in the same paper and only required that paper to complete his course. After knocking on all the possible doors he could, he was denied justice. I took up his issue and advised him accordingly. I even guided him to the proper channel. I am glad to state that my support was fruitful and the guidance I provided resulted positively. The student was finally given justice. He passed the paper and completed his course. Similarly, I guided a number of postgraduate students in their problems and always tried to be their "VOICE".

Graduate Advisory Committee

I attended Graduate Advisory Committee meetings and raised issues related to graduate students. One of the outcomes of the meeting was my suggestion for including doctoral students with their profiles in their respective departments' WebPages. I am once again glad that this has been fulfilled. This enables better networking among the graduate students.

I am also working on building a network of doctoral students in the Albany campus. I have been working on this for a while and am in contact with the Doctoral Research Committee to provide the required information. The network of doctoral students in the Department of Management and International Business is already in place.

Another issue that is on my agenda, which I intend to pursue, are the employment opportunities for the postgraduate students in the University. I am holding discussions with various University authorities and will table this in the Academic Board as well as Graduate Advisory Board meetings.

Albany Management Board

Attended meetings of the management board that are crucial to the administration of the Association. Participated actively and, through my experience, tried to contribute to the decision-making in the running of the Association.

Executive Committee Meetings

Attended almost all the Executive meetings, barring a couple of them. I have been quite vocal and active, as my colleagues would agree, whenever issues relating to postgraduate students arose. I have participated in the meetings and at times mediated in solving disputes. Coordination between the Executive members has been exhilarating.

Jawed Mohammed

Mature Students' Representatives 2001

PACIFIC ISLANDS STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Executive Summary

In the Executive Staff Induction Manual it states *'the Pacific Island Student's Representative is responsible for working with and representing the needs of Albany's Pacific Island Students They are there to provide support, facilitate forums for discussion of PI issues and work with a variety of special interest groups representing the needs of a significant section of the campus community.'*

This has been an enjoyable yet time-consuming position. There are 150 Pacific Island internal students here at Albany, and Pacific Island students are quite active in University Life. There is a P.I Club on Campus (MAPISA) that caters for the 40 members. For my position, I have felt that it is necessary, with our cultural views, to make all these students aware of the support networks that are available here at Albany.

In this position, I have worked with the Executive, worked with staff concerning Pacific Island Student affairs, and I have liaised, supported and facilitated forums for P.I students. I have liaised with students either directly through the Pacific Islands Students' Club or I have sent P.I Newsletters bi-monthly to all internally enrolled Pacific Islands' students.

Outlined below is a short explanation of what I have been involved in.

Executive

My attendance at Executive Committee meetings was affected by my going on placement for my degree in the second half of the year. However, I attempted to ensure that I still obtained copies of the agenda and when PI issues arose, made sure I had the opportunity for appropriate input.

The Executive has provided useful resources for Pacific Islands students, through support networks such as the Student Assistance Programmes, and for funding of the highly successful Pacific Islands Graduation which took place in April.

Special mention must be made of Michael Veukiso who has been an important key Executive member who has assisted me greatly in this role.

Staff

I have liaised closely with Mr Sione Tui'tahi, the Pacific Islands' Learning and Support Co-ordinator at the Student Learning Centre. We have worked closely on particular issues such as the Pasifika Festival 2001. Pasifika 2001 was held on 3rd March at Western Springs in Auckland. This was achieved through an arrangement between the Pacific Islands' Club (MAPISA) and the Liaison and Recruitment Unit of Massey University. Sione Tu'itahi kindly represented our club along with the University. This was Massey University's FIRST stall at Pasifika. Billed as the biggest showcase of Pacific Cultures in New Zealand, this was an opportunity for Massey University - Albany to publicise and market directly to the Pacific Island communities.

I have also spoken with Mr Tafa Mulitalo, the Pacific Island Lecturer in the Dept. of Social and Cultural studies, who has also been advocating in his own line of work, the needs of Pacific Islands Students.

Massey University, alongside with the Pacific Peoples Consultancy Group, appointed the following people as part of the Tagata Atū Motu Mentor Awards. Peer Mentors; Fiona Machett and Lui Poe are both fourth year students and active members of the Pacific Islands' Club.

Students

In serving the Pacific Islands students at Massey University - Albany, there were two avenues: the Pacific Islands' Club and the Pacific Islands Newsletter, that existed in reaching out to these students, and finding out their needs.

Massey Albany Pacific Islands Students' Association (MAPISA)

The Pacific Islands' Club has been running for four years now. The first activity that needed to be co-ordinated was the first semester Clubs' Day (28th February). I was part of the organising group that had members from last year organise the stall. This year the club has been involved in planning, preparing and presenting the second Pacific Islands Students' Graduation Ceremony.

Pacific Islands' Newsletter

The Pacific Islands' Newsletter is the only way that information can be passed to all the Pacific Islands Students on Campus. Throughout the year I have sent out issues that have outlined the following:

Pacific Islands' Club Positions

The Newsletter enabled students to be aware that there was a club on Campus for them, and outlined the positions President, Secretary and Treasurer. The first meeting was held on Wednesday 7th March that I chaired until these positions were filled.

Resignation of Maria Cavanagh as Co-representative

Earlier in the year, Maria Cavanagh tendered her resignation as Co-P.I Representative, leaving me on my own in this position. Although Maria has been a constant support and guide in this position.

Come-along-And-Have-A-Feed Lunch

I organised a lunch for new students to University life which was a great success. This was a chance for new students to mix and mingle with those of us who have been around for a while. This took place on Friday 23rd February in the P.I Space

Student Executive

I submitted reports to the Student Executive Committee throughout this year and outlined to Pacific Island students how we had other Pacific Islands members in Executive Committee positions in the presence of Michael Veukiso and Helen Van Asch. I also outlined when Exec. Meetings were, and invited them to come along to find out what is happening on our Campus. One of the issues sent out outlined the NZUSA Feb. Conference and the Pacific Islands' workshop that was on the agenda.

Pacific Islands' Space

Students were also made aware that there is a room that has been set aside for Pacific Island students. This room is a hangout area, where they could come and chill out in-between lectures. In the room is a phone, stereo, couches and textbooks that can be of use to students.

Special Supplementary Grants

I received a memo from Professor Graeme S Fraser, Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) concerning the proposed Grant from the Government for Pacific Island Students. In consultation with our P.I unit (Pacific Staff, Students and Community Representatives) we discussed these issues and a report was submitted by Sione Tui'tahi on behalf of our Pacific Island Students, that recommended strengthening the existing structures for the learning and support of P.I Students at Albany.

Student Assistance Programme (SAP)

In the job description for this role found in the A.S.A. Induction Manual, one responsibility of the P.I Rep. is to provide support for students. In PI newsletter I included a piece on the Student Assistance Programme here at Albany, and how it caters for students facing significant financial hardship, and students were made aware on whom to contact for this assistance.

Input From Other Sources

I also invited other members of the Association, or those organising things, to plug their events through the Newsletter, which saw input from Jolene Rodley and Simon Kelly, the Orientation Co-ordinators, Nick Shand (President of A.S.A), Helen Van Asch (Women's Rep), and Sam Huggard (President NZUSA). It also included plugs about the University Games and MADSODS Wyrld Sisters' production earlier this year, as well as other events such as the Big Night Out 2, Women's Festival and the P.I Social.

Pacific Island Graduation

The Pacific Islands' Graduation Celebration Night has been a big event for the Pacific Island students here at Albany. This celebration was the second ever at Albany, and it was an important event for our cultures, because it recognised the success of our Graduates in a way that reflected and honoured our cultures. Those who have been behind this project, which included the P.I Club and P.I Staff, had a vision that the celebration to become an annual event recognised by the University. Recognition also means that the University will in future fund this event, in the past it has been through the hard work of the students, often at the expense of their studies. This year we were fortunate to get funding from the Albany Students' Association Inc, which helped this event become reality.

Review

This position is vital within the Albany Students' Association, as Pacific Islands' Students are very actively involved in University life. It is pleasing to see the direction in which we are headed and the future can only look brighter. The Association needs to share in this vision and recognise that the struggles faced by Pacific Islands' Students need to continue to be addressed by the University.

Analosa Ulugia

Pacific Islands Students' Representative 2001

RECREATION AND LEISURE REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

We took over the position of Recreation and Leisure representatives in the second week of August. During our short term at office we have achieved the following goals.

We affiliated six new clubs including the Dragon Boating club, Fishing club, Chinese Culture club, Anthropology Not Students Club, the Millennium Village and the Soccer Club.

We attended two Sport, Leisure, Cultural Services Board meetings, where we discussed present plans and looked at new opportunities for the future, mainly in the area of building better student life on campus.

We attended two meetings for the allocation of Clubs' Grant alongside the Recreation Officer, Craig Hunter. These went well and saw many clubs benefit from the grants. It has been brought to our attention that certain areas of wording in the A.S.A. Clubs' Manual are unclear and can be interpreted in different ways. Fiona is looking into clarifying this matter with a view to releasing an updated version for 2002.

The Students' Life Committee was set up and consisted of the Recreation Officer, the Recreation and Leisure rep and the A.S.A. President. It was formed so students could approach A.S.A. for funding to help with activities that would improve student life on campus. At present only an outline of the Terms of Reference and application process and funding rounds to gain the grant have been organised. This documentation should be completed over summer in time for next year.

The appointment of Kylee Daniel as team manager was made for the 2002 NZ University Games, which is being held in Hamilton.

The Recreation centre and a list of 2001 affiliated clubs have set up a web site and contacts have been put on it.

We have attended many functions and competitions set up by the Recreation centre. These included the Blues Awards dinner, the 'Fashion show' (where a few of the Exec. got to strut there stuff on the cat walk wearing Massey apparel), the 'Bachelor of the Year' contest, the mixed Social Netball (which had six teams enter and MVX were the winners), and finally, September conference where Nick had one of his ideas taken and used for promotional purposes. Massey was host to this year's Tertiary Challenge. Unfortunately problems arose in trying to secure grounds, but the Recreation Centre staff did manage to find other grounds, and all those that attended had an enjoyable time.

As Fiona is continuing in this position next year, she has been trying to gain interest for clubs and societies for next year. She has managed to put up sign up sheets and talk to current club members about taking on key roles in their clubs for next year. We also attended the A.S.A. dinner where we had an enjoyable time. Thank you to those that organised it.

From what we have done so far this year, we have realised that to improve clubs and societies on campus we need to act early and get people's interest from the start of the year. It has been suggested that we join in the Induction seminars given at the start of each semester for all new students, as well as organising Clubs' Day.

Michael Veukiso, Fiona Page and Nick van Beek
Recreation and Leisure Representatives 2001

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

July Conference

I attended the NZUSA Conference in Christchurch during the Winter break this year, and found the workshops to be interesting and very resource filled.

Women's Conference, hosted by The National Women's Co-ordinator, Dayna Bergham, occupied the first two days of conference week. One workshop taught us how to become politically active using non-violent techniques and ideas. I was inspired by this session and applied these techniques such as chalking and placards for promoting my upcoming Women's Festival at that time. Women's Conference also allowed us to recap on this year's events and achievements as well as planning for future campaign plans such as 'Who is not in your Classroom?' It was a great couple of days that allowed me to catch up with women I had met at February Conference this year whilst meeting new women from different campuses and sharing ideas and information with everyone.

In the remaining days of Conference, I attended the Pacific Island Workshop as well as a Seminar on Student Debt, how it is approaching 4 billion dollars in the next 10 years and how it is affecting students today, along with any possible plans to avoid this. The Pacific Island workshop taught me about the many schemes and grants that are available to Pacific Island students as well as the different issues P.I students face whilst studying at tertiary institutions today. Being a Pacific Island student myself, I attended this workshop on behalf of our P.I representative, which was vacant at that moment and organised for the workshop notes to be sent to the P.I club.

These were the major highlights of July Conference this year. I was very grateful to have attended this, but it may have been more effective if a few more representatives from A.S.A. had attended it as well so we could promote those ideas and campaigns on the Albany campus more efficiently.

Women's Festival

In the first week back of Semester Two, I organised and co-ordinated my first ever Women's Festival at Massey University. Most of my efforts within my portfolio were dedicated to this project, and this was a valuable experience in which I had learnt a few lessons!

The festival had run from that Tuesday until the Thursday and featured a collection of events, which were of the student's choice. In response to a questionnaire I had designed at the beginning of the year, a proportion of female students wished to experience female entertainers along with talks and workshops discussing women's issues. Therefore I organised firebreathers, fortune tellers, impersonators, massage and meditation workshops, and discussion groups along with a special appearance by female comedienne, Jan Maree during those days in which those who participated thoroughly enjoyed.

There were a few hiccups experienced in which I took responsibility, including the 'washable' chalk that didn't quite come off the nice big white walls of the Atrium and the disappearing act of the microphone which commenced after the comic routines, (which wasn't very funny at the time). These sort of things were quite expected when undertaking something one has not had any experience in, and with the feedback I had received, it wasn't such a bad Women's Festival I held after all.

September Conference

A.S.A. hosted NZUSA September Conference for the first time this year. It was the last time members of NZUSA 2001 were to meet together again; so much was planned on the agenda.

Women's Conference, as always, occupied the first day of conference. Debbie Jackson kindly hosted Dayna Bergham during the conference days and I did the general running around with Dayna helping organise the final food preparations and bits and pieces for Women's Conference. Women's Conference was quite full on because it was only one day and being the last one we had to discuss a lot of things. This included possible candidates for next year's National Women's Rights Officer (NWRO a.k.a Dayna's job) as well as a final restructure and amendment of the TWFG constitution and next years budget. It was a long day, but it ended nicely with the Mid Semester Blow out at Scholars' Bar.

The remaining days of conference was mainly about the election for NZUSA's Co-presidents, in which A.S.A fully-participated. Andrew Campbell and Charlie Chambers were fully voted in with no votes for no confidence. Other issues discussed were about upcoming campaigns and next year's budget along with a much-anticipated seminar featuring Associate Education Minister, Steve Maharey, which was unfulfilled due to technical problems before his flight to Auckland.

Unfortunately, I was moving house during the September conference, so I was unable to attend all the workshops and talks, but I did manage to make it to the P.I workshop and the final caucusing. It was a sad final goodbye to those who were not returning as members for NZUSA 2002, but a great opportunity to look back on this year's achievements with a positive focus for next year.

In General

I believed I had made up my hours in this position with time dedicated to writing articles in the Satellite which were mostly promoting my festival along with a feedback for those who were interested in how it went. I have also attended the majority of A.S.A. meetings as well as the Special General Meetings and any additional AGMs that had sprung up. More recently, I was involved in the final election for the NZUSA position of NWRO, and put forward my votes whilst keeping in touch with Dayna.

I have thoroughly enjoyed performing in this position and being part of A.S.A. during all its ups and downs. I look forward for another year of fulfilling this position with the experience gained and the knowledge learnt with my friend Natasha, and to see A.S.A continue to provide for its members.

Helen Van Asch

Women's Students' Representative 2000

MULTINATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Executive Summary

In this position I have worked with all the Executive members, as well as other people concerning the multinational students in our Albany Campus. I have had a very good time in this position, and I would like to say, "Thank you" to all the members who giving me support. This position plays a vital role in our Massey University at Albany. It enhances the relationship with all the overseas students and ethnic groups and ensures there is adequate national liaison on overseas students and ethnic issues. It is pleasing to see the direction in which we are headed and I believe that the future will be brighter for all of us.

Executive Meetings

I have attended all the Executive committee meetings since I was elected in March. I have brought the issues from the multinational students to the meeting, such as provision of a microwave, a Study Room for undergraduates, the development of a Basketball Team and a Court extension and a Tai Chi Club. I always participated in discussions with other Executive members, and I think it is a very effective way to exchange ideas and thoughts among all the Executive members through the Executive meetings. From my personal view, I believe I really generated valuable information for my job.

Tai Chi Club

The Tai Chi Club, which was organised by our Information Officer and me, runs very well. We have more than 25 club members, and I think that club really can facilitate student groups and ethnic groups in our Albany Campus.

International Students' Speech Competition

On 12th of September I attended the International Students Speech Competition. I met more than 30 international students and other people from our Albany Campus. They were quite happy to meet with others during the competition. With seven competing students, I got the first prize for that competition. All of those international students who did not participate in the competition also contributed their recommendation to our international office. During the break time, I talked with some other university staff, most of them are very happy to interact with students. They said that such events could enhance the relationship between students and university staff.

Meetings with Student Support Services, Dianne Bailey

I had several short meetings with Dianne Bailey. We exchanged ideas about the International Students' concerns. We discussed ways to improve communication with international students. I presented most international students' concerns about Graduation Ceremony. Most international students suggested that our Albany Campus should offer a Graduation Ceremony twice a year. The reason is that some of the international students are planning to graduate in June. However, Our Albany Campus does not offer such a function until the following April, then some of them want to work in their own countries, of course nobody wants to wait for half year or fly back for one ceremony.

Meetings with Regional Registrar, Andrea Davies

I had a short meeting with Regional Registrar Ms Andrea Davies. She asked some information about international students, and also she explained to me the 'NetBig' project, which is in the pipeline. The reason behind it is we have a substantially increasing number of international students at our Albany Campus. It is very important for our management to look after our international students. They bring huge amounts of money to our campus, so we need to provide excellent services and quality education to them. Otherwise they might switch to our competitors. There is also the current set of guidelines being produced by the Ministry of Education for the protection of international students. This is a code of practice for adoption by all tertiary institutions who seek to attract international students to ensure that they are being properly cared for and nurtured while in NZ.

Other Events

I organised a small group (8 Chinese international students) to attend the Moon Festival and National Day Celebratory Concert at ASB Theatre Aotea Centre, which was organised by the Chinese Consulate. Prime Minister Helen Clark also attended the celebration. We had a great time!

I attended the first day of the NZUSA seminar. It was a pity. I did not have much time to participate in the discussions because our ASA organiser did not prepare well, so I had to spend most of my time running around (helping to provide services to those participants). I think that NZUSA offers a very good opportunity for most of our Executive. Firstly, we can get more information about our sisters and brothers who are studying in different locations around New Zealand. Secondly, every participant is very important to the meeting, because we are representing different groups of students, and therefore we should bring other students' concerns to the attention of the meeting especially for the purposes of policy development and the dissemination of information. We are the voice of other students. The NZUSA works for all the university students in New Zealand. I really hope it can do something for our students. I would like to recommend that our Executive members seek to attend the meeting next year.

Conclusion

This position plays a vital role in our Massey University at Albany. It enhances the relationship with all the overseas students and ethnic groups and ensures there is adequate national liaison on overseas students and ethnic issues. It is pleasing to see the direction in which we are headed and the future will be brighter for all of us. I am very happy to have the opportunity to continue to work with most of our Executive members for the coming year. Once again, I would like to say " Thank you very much our Executive member year 2000". However, for the coming year, I hope our Executive members can build a strong team in Albany Campus in year 2002.

Herbert Jingwu Ma
Multinational Students' Representative 2001