

Media Release

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Attention: Education and
Political Reporters
For Immediate Release**

TEAC attacks student support

Students are shocked by the attacks on student support proposed by TEAC in a leaked copy of their report on funding.

“If TEAC do recommend gutting student allowances, making the student loan scheme harsher and cutting access to tertiary education they should be sacked immediately,” said New Zealand University Students’ Association (NZUSA) Co-President Andrew Campbell. “They are an embarrassment to the government and are flying in the face of all the evidence of how the student loan scheme is harming our society and economy.”

NZUSA is fearful that the TEAC funding report could contain the worst attacks on students since the infamous Todd Report recommended \$10,000 tuition fees – a nightmare scenario that is now a reality for many students.

“Students already struggle with high fees and long student loan repayment times. Now TEAC want to take allowances off the minority of students who receive them, cut no interest on loans while studying, and restrict access or charge huge fees for students who don’t get top grades,” said Campbell.

“TEAC was set up to fix competition and duplication in tertiary education, not rip money off students. They have not consulted with the public at all about reducing student support, instead they have sat in a back room and planned how to take money off the least powerful group in the sector – students,” said Campbell.

“However, students have shown in the past we can be very powerful when defending attacks on our meagre resources,” said Campbell. “If TEAC do persist with their ill-informed recommendations on students, we will be making sure the recommendations are not implemented.”

ENDS

For further information

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