NUSAS CONGRESS 1984

HEAD OFFICE REPORT

1984 has been a watershed year for NUSAS, a year of enormous intensity, in which the National Union has not only faced many historic challenges but has met these challenges effectively. It has been a year in which the political turmoil of our country has yet again placed a responsibility on our shoulders; not only to distance ourselves from the policies of South Africa's rulers, but to act to show our support for democratic demands, and our solidarity with those who feel the cutting edge of apartheid as part of their day to day lives.

NUSAS has risen to these challenges in a context of an increasing attack from the right wing which is prepared to resort to extreme measures to undermine the credibility of our National Union, and of elected student government.

Yet NUSAS has continued to mobilse large sectors of the student community; organisation has grown from strength to strength both in terms of student government structures, and in terms of the political involvement of students in our organisations. The political climate has necessitated increasing degrees of political understanding from those actively involved yet while responding to the issues of the day, we have not fallen into the trap of neglecting the bread and butter issues of student rights, representation and services on the campuses. We have reached out to new constituencies on campus, in varied and creative ways, not only in mass meetings but in lecture halls, residences campus leadership forums; through pamphlets, meetings, posters, drama, TV, radio, seminars and sit ins; developed working relationships with UDF affiliates, with church groups and others on such structures as ECC, with sympathetic Afrikaans and technikon students, in a context where NUSAS is the key organisation in the white community working closely with the UDF. We have assumed new responsibilities in relation to the white through public meetings and pamphlets to white schools. A

As we have challenged the complacency of white students and the white community, so students have been confronted by intimidation and repression - bricking of houses, tyres being let down and even cars fire bombed, threatening phone calls, death threats security police car tails and dawn raids, arrests for protest against injustices; sjambokkings at the polls, teargas at community meetings and detention.

Yet students in NUSAS have shown an ongoing commitment that augers well for the growth of a community of white democrats in South Africa.

TOURING

National coordination and contact is one of the most important roles that HO plays and touring is a vital part of this. We have tried to keep campuses in touch with what's happening on the other campuses and to give a national perspective on trends as well as specific events in the various regions. At the same time it has been very important maintaining and extending contacts with the democratic movement and representing NUSAS at meetings and conferences. Co-ordinating discussion and plans for the many national gatherings (the list grows every year) has also been time consuming.

These are but some of the duties that have kept Kate and Ilana beetling around the country - Ilana having completed 7 tours and Kate having visited the campuses many times for differing periods. Most of Kate's tours were largely determined by speaking commitments (of which there have been a great deal) while Ilana was more easily able to keep to a schedule. It is sometimes difficult for the President to spend more than a few days on any one campus, but it should possibly be considered that the Projects Officer spends more time on each campus. One problem is that national gatherings are coordinated on these tours and therefore all the campuses need to be visited quite quickly.

If possible there should be more contact between touring people. A bit more overlap would enable them to discuss what work they have been engaged in on the campuses and what needs to be attended to. It is also very important when touring to keep in touch regularly with the rest of the HO as well as phoning the campuses regularly as things happen so fast! In this regard we sometimes found that that on our arrival on a campus people would expect that we know about everything that had been happening as well as all forthcoming events. This was not always the case - so don't forget to keep HO informed about 'what's on'.

More forward planning of tours has happened this year, particularly in Natal, and this has been bery useful. However, more regular national reportbacks could still be arranged.

As far as other HO people go, touring has not been high on the agenda. Besides for Mike, who has travelled between Durban and PMB innumerable times, Laurie, Tony and Cathy have not travelled as much as previous HO people have.

Laurie has visited Rhodes on 3 occasions to present seminars and speeches and visited Durban briefly and Tony has given seminars at Rhodes twice. Cathy has been tied to the light table so continuously that besides for a few days on other campuses over national gatherings, has not had an opportunity to leave Cape Town. It is important for the Cape Town based HO people to get a practical experience of other campuses and regions and should try to do a national tour each - possibly early on in the year. While it is always difficult for the Media Officer to get away as there is constantly media work to be done - it might be possible for the Research Officer to be used on more campuses. Sec Gen could play more of a role in co-ordinating national gatherings and should possibly do a tour in the first term with the Projects Officer. It would be useful, where possible, for non-touring people to have the opportunity to pass on their skills and input to other campuses besides UCT.

Overall, touring has been valuable and varied. Ideas for extending and improving this role should be discussed. We've always felt well looked after and sometimes pampered. Thanks to those who've accommodated us and picked us up at airports in the middle of the night. PS. The HO car is back on the road and doing well.

NATIONAL GATHERINGS

National Gatherings are an integral and stimulating part of NUSAS' activities. They provide the opportunity for campuses to get together, compare notes, share input, get involved in debate and discussion and of course, to develop social cohesion in NUSAS. Each year the number of National Gatherings increases so that during 1984, excluding National Councils, NUSAS has held 6 compared to 1982, when there were three. This year attendance was consistently high which is an indication of the strength of our organisations. The variety of conferences that we have held this year has enabled NUSAS to provide forums for an increasing range of students to meet and discuss their areas of involvement. Although taxing on our resources all the gatherings have been valuable and constructive.

Faculty Council Conferences

This was the second National Faculty Council Conference and will hopefully continue as an annual event. Attendance was double that of 1983 which indicates the growing strength of Faculty Councils. Emphasis was placed on discussion which enabled many ideas and plans to be formulated. Input was provided on various areas such as SAPSE 110 and 115, and discussion centred around strengthening the class rep system, the role of Ed Comm and Faculty Councils, problems of confidentiality and representation. The NUSAS class reps guide and National Student Review were assessed with positive feedback. Workshops on media skills, public speaking and chairing were presented to assist Faculty Council members in the smooth running of their organisations. A highlight of the conference was a panel discussion including COSAS students from Atteridgeville, an Ngoye student as well as AZASO and NEUSA representatives.

Katberg

This year NUSAS returned to the traditional Katberg site much to everyone's pleasure. This, the 1st National Gathering of the year which provides an opportunity for people new to our organisations to meet one another, was the best attended for many years. This year it was emphasised that not only Projects Comm members should attend with the result that people from a range of organisations

participated. The programme was very full but quite a bit of time for socialising was available. Each campus prepared a section of the programme with Head Office organising the other sections. Sessions dealt with an overview of South Africa, history of resistance, the Freedom Charter, Media and Ideology, and UDF. The standard of these presentations was remarkbly high with most creative thought having gone into them. This enabled each session to be full of input without being boring. An innovation to NUSAS was the Cultural Evening which involved quite a few people. This went down so well that it has become a feature of National Gatherings since and has been used on all the campuses during the year.

Law Conference

Organised by UCT NUSAS Law Directive and Pmb Law Students Council and hosted by Pmb, this proved to be a highly successful conference combining high profile speakers as well as student input and participation. There was a very good attendance and a high level of enthusiasm generated. The conference improved contact between law students and reached a constituency that does not always attend national gatherings.

The Conference tackled many of the issues and debates that are important to lawyers and law students. Geoff Budlender discussed the Hoexter Commission and Prof Dugard and Raymond Wacks debated whether liberal judges had a responsibility to resign from the bench. Kathy Satchwell provided an interesting critique of the law on rape, and Fink Hayson's talk on the role of the democratic lawyer was probably the highlight of the Conference. Laurie Nathan gave an analysis of legal education and UCT and PMB students discussed the roles of Legal Aid, LSC's and the Law Directive. Students attending the conference felt that it should become a regular event and this suggestion should be discussed.

July Festival

This year's Festival was held at Durban and entitled: Peace and Friendship: Meeting the Challenge of Change. It was designed to examine and flesh out the demands of the Freedom Charter, examining the problems that face South Africans today and the changes that are required for peace and friendship to exist. We are very honoured to have had the opportunity of bringing together the range of speakers that gave input at Festival. The opening panel was of great historical significance with some members not having seen one another since the early 1960's. We are exceptionally privileged to have been able to bring together such a group of people with such a rich history of involvement in struggle who shared with us some of their experience. Several of the Festival speeches are not publishable as the speakers have subsequently been detained under Section 28 and as a result, are listed.

As with previous July Festivals we tried to provide various levels of input. This is always a difficult balance to achieve. Many people felt that discussion became too abstract and inaccessible at times. While the issues under consideration are very important the level of debate should remain accessible. Overall, feedback was very positive and the many participants, the largest ever at a July Festival found most of the sessions informative and interesting. Speeches were transcribed and sent to campuses soon after Festival so as to facilitate follow up discussion. Before Festival readings covering areas to be discussed were circulated to the campuses so as to prepare participants. Most campuses had preparation seminars and this aspect should be improved next year.

Womens' Workshop

This was held in September at UCT and was attended by many more people than initially expected. It was the first of its kind for NUSAS and was felt to be significant in that respect. The motivation for the workshop was that the level of understanding of Feminism is low in NUSAS with a definite lack of clarity about the issues. At the workshop we were able to discuss our ideas and improve out understanding of Feminism in the South African context and what Feminism means for us in NUSAS. Cheryl Carolus spoke on Women's STruggle and National Democratic Struggle and the rest of the input was provided by Women's Movements. This covered a History of Women's Movements and Feminism in NUSAS and a paper on Feminism and Ideology. Emphasis was laid on discussion groups. The groups discussed what we

understand by Feminism, how Feminism can be integrated into our organisations and the role of Women's Movements. It was strongly felt that we need to integrate Feminism more directly into our organisations but it was not clear how this could be done. Discussion on this will continue in the Feminism Workshop at Congress. In the process of preparing for and at the Women's Workshop itself, a range of ideas and a sophistication of our understanding emerged. This is only the first few steps however and discussion needs to be taken further next year.

Head Office Seminar and National Councils

The Head Office seminar was held in January in Cape Town. It was aimed at discussing concrete plans for the year and beginning to follow up suggestions made at Congress 1983. There was intensive discussion and a solid basis for the year's activity was established. A short national council session was held which dealt with plans for the first few months of the year.

National Councils have been held at WITS, Durban and UCT this year. These gatherings are crucial for the effective and dynamic functioning of NUSAS; they ensure regular assessments for the SRC's and the activities of sub committees, as well as providing a quarterly forum for the exchanging of information, ideas and problems whereby campuses concretely benefit from the experiences and lessons of other campuses. National Councils also ensure that ideas raised at Congress are followed up and that National campaigns are co-ordinated.

60th BIRTHDAY

Ideas for celebrating NUSAS' 60th Birthday were discussed at March National Council; campuses felt that it presented a good opportunity to boost NUSAS' profile and to inform students about NUSAS history. Each term has been so busy that little time was available for Birthday Celebrations. However during the third term, at WITS very creative ideas were implemented.

A 60th Birthday Committee was set up consisting of a broad range of campus organisations. This was very important as student leadership were able to actively support and participate in the planning of the Birthday week. A well-attended FONS Cocktail Party was held at which Kate and Nadine Gordimer spoke. The 60th Birthday Run Run went down well with a good number of students participating. This kind of activity should be considered by the other campuses as well. Other Birthday activities included free movies and jorls. The media for 60th Birthday deserves a particular mention as it was of a very high standard! It certainly helped to bring the Birthday to students attention with statement posters of people like Nadine Gordimer, Boesak, not to forget Vorster. These posters were distributed to some of the other campuses. WITS STUDENT brought out a souvenir edition on NUSAS 60 YEARS which was well received.

NUSAS Orientation media picked up on NUSAS' Birthday and Tony prepared the copy for SA OUTLOOK's December edition on NUSAS 60 Years. We could however have given this occasion a higher profile through our media and on the campuses through cocktail parties, concerts etc.

DIRECTIVES

Each year Directives experience problems with co-ordination; this is largely because two of the Directives (Women and Labour) only have organisations on two campuses and Law and Health Directive only exist at UCT and WITS respectively. The role of the Directives in coordinating activity therefore becomes rather unclear. A thorough assessment of the role of the Directives needs to be made. It is not feasible to set up structures on all the campuses and so we should look towards using existing organisations through which to coordinate activity and to circulate material.

While coordination has not been consistent it should be noted that all Directives participated in national workshops/conferences.

Women's Directive

Co-ordination was good at certain times during the year particularly around Orientation Week and National Womens' Day when media, T shirts were sent around to the campuses. This is particularly useful for campuses without a women's movement who are still able to receive this kind of media.

The highlight of the year was the Women's Workshop which provided much needed input into NUSAS. It generated a lot of discussion both within Womens Movements and other organisations and was very important on campuses that have no womens movement. A problem with the preparation for the workshop was that there was not sufficient contact between the Directive coordinators and a lot of coordination was done by HO. Generally throughout the year more contact between Women's Movements and other campuses was maintained by HO while this is certainly part of touring people's role - the Directive should be maintaining contact itself. This possibly relates to the problem of lack of clarity about the role of the Women's Directive as well as the responsibilities of the national and regional coordinators which should be discussed during the Directive session.

Overall, the Directive has had a busier year than during 1983 and has, through the Women's Workshop, played an important role in providing input on feminism and alerting all our organisations as to our joint responsibility for the direction of Womens' Movements.

Labour Directive

While both ERC and Wages Comm have had productive years there has been very little coordination between the two. The role of the Directive is made more difficult in that there are only two organisations within it. One of the main problems is the lack of labour input and discussion in our organisations; although this problem has been identified on many occasions, concrete proposals are needed in order to overcome this problem. Education programmes both within ERC/Wages Comm as well as in other organisations is crucial as well as constant monitoring of current events and debates in the labour movement. The workshop in July and the labour workshop at Congress go some way to addressing this need but we still need more continual input.

An interesting development this year has been the increased consumer boycotts eg Simba, Grand Bazaars and strict action on the part of campus workers at Durban, WITS and UCT. The role of Labour Directive in these situations should be discussed as most activity has been campus specific and could possibly be coordinated or ideas swopped.

Law Directive

The Law Directive exists only at UCT and it is therefore difficult to talk of a national Directive. However, 1984 has seen a much higher level of coordination and contact between law students on the campuses. This contact was structured around the highly successful Law Conference held at Pmb in July and organised jointly by UCT NUSAS Law Directive and Pmb Law Students Council. We need to look towards using existing LSC structures on some campuses through which to coordinate contact because it is not feasible or necessary on some campuses to establish an independent Law Directive. We need to assess whether there is a need for a national coordinator and what role the Directive could play in sending round resources and coordinating activities. As far as UCT Law Directive is concerned it has continued to grow this year and people have been involved in a range of activities during 1984. An internal education programme is still lacking but this will hopefully be introduced next year.

Health

As with the Law Directive, Health Directive exists only at one campus, WITS. This organisation has grown incredibly this year and has organised some seminars,

displays, pamphlets and coorganised a 3 hour boycott around the elections. Members from Health Directive attended the UCT MSC Conference on Medical Education. Contact with HO has been fairly consistent. At UCT contact between HO and people involved at Medical School was established early in the year and has also been maintained. HO also made contact with a few Pharmacy students at Rhodes and this could be more successfully followed up next year.

UCT Medical students do not feel that it is necessary to establish a separate Health Directive at this point in time. The MSC is very active and PULSE has appeared regularly this year and has drawn in many students.

A particularly exciting development amongst medical students this year is the establishment of a coordinating body between WITS, UCT, Durban Medical School and Medunsa. Many medical students feel that this is the most appropriate structure for co-ordinating the activitiy of medical students.

ADMINISTRATION

Efficient administration is an essential part of running a national organisation. NUSAS administration consists of filing publications, pressclips, articles and correspondence; maintaining and running office equipment; making contact with other organisations in SA and internationally; distributing national council minutes, and other publications and reports of interest to the campuses; keeping track of finances; and meeting numerous small day to day requests for information and resources.

All our office equipment has been serviced and is used regularly - the printing press, telex machine, photocopier and roneo machine. Extensive use is made of the photostat machine by HO, students and other organisations. The machine is temperamental though and does not always produce good copies - the possibility of trading it in next year should be investigated.

The printing press is used frequently. The use of the press is now coordinated by a core group of printers who took responsibility for training new printers and maintaining the press. The group also took responsibility for ensuring that printing materials were always in stock and for allocating payment for them. This system has worked well and should bemaintained next year.

The office is used frequently for meetings, workshops and banner painting by campus and other organisations. A major source of frustration this year has been trying to keep the office tidy. Despite much nagging and niggling, organisations did not tidy up properly after themselves. Punitive measures - like 'banning' a persistently messy organisation from the office - were invoked on one occasion but had little broader effect. The Observatory Area Committee, a UDF affiliate which uses the office once or twice a week, paid us between R50 and R150 a month towards administrative costs.

The lease on the office expired at the end of October. At September National Council it was reported that the estate agents intended to raise the rent from R280 to R450 a month and that HO felt this increase to be beyond our budget. We hunted for new premises but to no avail. After negotiating with the agents we managed to reach a compromise of R375 a month whic is secured for two years with a one year option.

The telex machine has been useful in getting messages of support from international organisations, like churches and student unions, for NUSAS and UDF meetings. A number of students have been trained to use the machine now, but payment for the use of the machine by other groups is not always made properly. The bromide machine, which was never used by NUSAS, was sold to the Community Arts Project for R350.

At least ten collections of various media were sent to the campuses during the course of the year; these included NC Minutes, UDF Media, newsclips and articles on Khayelitsha, conscription and Admissions and Subsidies. The packages were usually sent to the Projects or Edcom Officers but were not always passed on to other people.

A serious problem experienced, particularly in the third term was Laurie not being in the office enough. This meant that HO did not function as the nerve centre of the National Union during the election period, as it should have. The extent and intensity of political activity on and off campus placed exceptional demands on HO and made it impossible for the Sec Gen to be in the office all the time. In the fourth quarter the other Cape Town based HO members took greater responsibility for being in the office; this system should have been implemented throughout the year. HO feels that a system for relieving the Sec Gen from the office should be established at the beginning of next year.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Prior to 1973 NUSAS had an annual operating budget of over R100.000. In 1973 NUSAS was declared an affected organisation, which precludes our raising funds from overseas sources. Since 1973 NUSAS has therefore been forced to operate on a greatly reduced budget. Ten years later our budget is still less than R50.000 per annum. By comparison the NSF spent at least R20.000 on one advert alone that was placed in daily newspapers around the country.

Over the years NUSAS activity has expanded greatly and increased our expenditure considerably. This year we have had six national gatherings: Law Conference, FAculty Council Conference, Womens Workshop, July Festival, Congress and Katberg. Additional travel and salary expenses have also been incurred by the new HO portfolio, the Natal Coordinator. The NUSAS President and Projects Officer travel between the campuses more frequently than in previous years, and the inflation rate of 15% pa causes all costs to rise.

To sustain this expanded activity and meet the increased costs it is imperative that income is raised in proportion to increased expenditure. This is an on going struggle. Affliliation fees for 1984 were only R2000 more than in 1983 (this is an increase of 6.7% about half the rate of inflation. Campuses need to make a greater effort to boost FONS membership and through fundraising additional finances for NUSAS.

Since Mog resigned at the end of August Laurie has been responsible for NUSAS finances This has been an extremely time consuming and difficult job without any book keeping experience and HO next year should seriously consider getting assistance from someone that has this experience.

MOG DAVIDS

At the end of August NUSAS accepted with regret the resignation of Mog Davids, Mog left NUSAS to work full time for SASTS, having been with NUSAS for 23 years. In this time Mog performed a number of tasks, the most important of which were keeping our books of account in order. Mog did this and other work with great efficiency and enthusiasm, and was invaluable in ensuring the smooth running and administration of NUSAS. MOg's resignation is a great blow to NUSAS and the enormous contribution that he made will be greatly missed.

FONS

In providing NUSAS with financial assistance and public support, FONS has played an important role in the past. HO therefore decided at the beginning of the year to improve contact between NUSAS and FONS members. Three FONS newsletters were sent informing FONS of National Gatherings, publications and activities on the campuses. NUSAS News' and other NUSAS media accompanied the newsletters.

However not enough effort was made by the campuses to recruit new FONS members. At July National Council, SRC's agreed to work towards doubling FONS membership from 200 to 400. There are only about 260 members at present though. There must be many academics, old SRC members and parents of students involved in NUSAS who would be prepared to join FONS, but who have not been approached by the SRC FONS coordinators.

Writing letters to potential members has proved to be insufficient; the letters should be followed up by personal visits or by activities to which existing and potential FONS members are invited. A good example was the Wits FONS Cocktail Party at which Nadine Gordimer read her poetry and which brought in many new people.

At the beginning of the year a new system was introduced whereby FONS records were centralised in Joburg under the auspices of Geoff Budlender and Charlie Nupen, the national FONS coordinators. The names of FONS members were put on computer to ensure that new membership and changes of address were recorded and that subsciprtion renewal notices were sent. HO would like to thank Christina for all her assistance in this regard.

Special mention must also be made of the contribution made this year to NUSAS by Sir Richard Luyt, the FONS Chairperson. We maintained regular contact with Sir Richard who was always keen to hear about NUSAS activities and offer useful advice. He undertook with enthusiasm the many tasks we requested of him: assisting with FONS newsletters and other functions, writing supporting letters to July Festival sponsors and contacting newspapers when Kate was detained. We are fortunate to have such a committed NUSAS supporter in Sir Richard and are extremely grateful to him for all his help this year.

The FONS AGM will be held this year in Maritzburg on the opening day of NUSAS Congress and we look forward to FONS members attending our opening. We are sure that the hard work being done by John Gultig, a former NUSAS Projects Officer, to encourage potential FONS members in Maritzburg to attend the AGM will bear fruit in the long run.

STUDENT SERVICES

Our student services are operating in various numbers and to differing extents on our campuses. However we need to look at ways of ensuring a far more vigorous promotion campaign. The Charlie Chaplain poster was very effective and is an indication of the sort of advertising that is necessary. In general our promotion has not been creative or systematic enough. For example we have tended to present our services in a piecemeal fashion rather than promoting them forcefully in a package.

In Durban during Orientation Week the SASTS Durban director spoke about SASTS on a platform with the SRC President. Such platforms must be used far more for this purpose. SRC leadership weekends and general campus leadership forums can be explored far more.

We should encourage societies, faculty councils, house comms etc to help expand and promote the benefits. One idea would be for a cocktail party for student government at large for the sole purpose of the promotion of our services. We can also utilise some of the ideas and techniques of marketing taught in our commerce faculties. AIESEC could provide us with valuable advice in this regard.

None of this is to negate the work being done on student services nationally. Rather it is to say that we need to develop a more sophisticated approach to one aspect of our student services - that is the promotion of them. For example Swift Lift books and noticeboards show extensive usage, SASTS is doing brisk trade despite the fall in the rand and the student handbook has been well received.

We could be making our services much more inviting and accessible.

Alf James, National Student Services Coordinator, has been unable to make headway on many of his bigger projects such as sponsorship for a national free people's concert tour. The experience of this year indicates that the position requires a person who does not already have too many other SRC and other commitments and who can get off to an early start. Furthermore to clinch a big deal such as the Free People's tour requires work up to a year in advance. Other than ensuring national coordination on a short term basis, the coordinator needs to spend time on long term projects.

NATAL COORDINATOR

The original motivation for the position of Natal Coordinator was twofold. Firstly, given the expansion in the range and intensity of NUSAS activities over the past few years, the existence of two affiliate campuses in close proximity of each other and given those other campuses in the region as well, it was recognised that a full time coordinator could assist the strengthening of organisations and both the extension of NUSAS/SRC profile and the linkage with our fellow student organisations AZASO and COSAS.

Secondly, given the re-affiliation of PMB last year, the enormous potential of student government and that they had been seriously isolated from the significant development within NUSAS and the student movement over the previous 3 years, it was agreed that a full time coordinator could provide valuable assistance as PMB took the building of student governemnt many steps further through rejoining the student movement.

The assessment of both Durban and Maritzburg has been that the portfolio has been very useful. It has been useful to have a HO person permanently in Natal to give and ensure our profile. The extensive contact with student government across the board has assisted the development of an integrated student government and facilitated an understanding of the crucial role of NUSAS in this regard. More low key input to individuals and organisations has been well received. In Durban particularly relations with off campus groupings, most especially UDF affiliates have been much improved. On campus Mike has worked with a wide range of groups including RAG, AZASO, SCA, Community Services, Projects Committee and Intercollege Committee.

At PMB this year the SRC has been able to advance a more comprehensive program on campus. SRC sub committees do seem stronger than a year ago. And rather than PMB only learning from NUSAS, PMB has also made significant contribution to the approach of other NUSAS SRC's and NUSAS in general.

In Durban the SRC has increased its legitimacy on campus. Notable has been the building of sound relations with the residences which have become fairly receptive to the issues taken to them. As in PMB, relations with our fellow student organisation, AZASO, are sound and contact with other progressive organisations in the Durban area has been extended.

The portfolio has proved to be worthwhile. Progress has been made in terms of the original objectives of the portfolio. The SRC's are now in a position to do much of the public work of the Natal corodinator - that of promoting student government at a national and local level. However it would seem that there is still much low key work to be done, particularly at the level of building up faculty council and class rep structures and SRC sub committees.

MEDIA

NUSAS media plays a vital role in challenging student perceptions of SA Society while at the same time creating progressive alternatives at the level of ideas.

The national media that Head Office produces should supplement campus media and help to consolidate the politicising and educative process that occurs on NUSAS campuses. For people involved in organisations the publications and pamhlets should serve as a starting point for further seminars and therefore a more thorough understanding of SA society.

The pace of political activity has been so rapid that it has been difficult for the Media and Research Officer to produce pamphlets, publications and posters on ALL of the urgent issues that have faced NUSAS this year. The key areas addressed were - The Education Crisis, - 'The Darker Side of Apartheid Education,' Nkomati Accord - 'Peacing it all together', the Anti Election campaign, the United Democratic Front and Conscription. All of the above consistently explained the growth of the democratic movement and UDF campaigns and helped to promote an understanding of, and build support for, extra-parliamentary opposition.

A strong NUSAS profile was projected on all of the campuses with the use of diverse forms of media ranging from 'NUSAS supports the UDF'statement posters to buttons, stickers and a student services poster - 'get the full Benefit'

In 1984 Head Office put out more pamphlets and posters, as a result in depth publications were neglected. This problem could be alleviated if campuses sent bromides of their media around the country. Obviously, the content would not always be appropriate for all campuses, but where possible the National Union should exchange posters, pamphlets and stickers regularly, leaving head office to produce the more substantial publications.

With regards to finances - printing, paper, bromides and everything else - has gone up! For example, it is difficult to produce an A5 publication for under R1.00 and July Festival Speeches for under R6.00 a copy. SRC's must allow for this increase in their 1985 budgets.

MEDIA REPORT

1. Orientation Folder: Included theme sticker, 'FACTS about NUSAS' pamphlet and a student Services Brochure. Head Office Orientation Media could be expanded to include Support Statement posters and a more comprehensive booklet explaining how NUSAS works.

2. Theme Publication: A lot of time is put into producing the theme publication but it is never sold that extensively on the campuses. Aside from the disaster cover this year - the role of the theme publication should be more thoroughly assessed, ie. how many first year students read it, is it used for seminar purposes in projects comms.

3. Class Rep Guides: The guide helped to facilitate contact between Faculty Councils and new class rep systems - we do however need feedback on how useful the content of the publication was.

4. Education Crisis Pamphlet:

'The Darker Side of Apartheid Education'

5. Nkomati Accord: Peacing it all togehter

6. Conscription Publication:

Conscription and the SADF, in whose Defence?

7. UDF Media: Pamphlet and 'NUSAS supports the UDF' poster

8. NUSAS News: NUSAS News has been badly neglected this year, with only 2 editions reaching students. Although NUSAS NEWS up until now has not been enthralling reading, it does help to promote our National gatherings. Its role could definitely been expanded.

9. Faculty Conference Media
10 Law Conference Media posters, invites, programmes
11. July Festival Media

12. Student Benefits Poster: 'Get the full benefit'

13. Congress Media: programme, poster, invites etc

14. July Festival Speeches 1983

15. July Festival Speeches 1984: After the speeches have been proofread and corrected, the July Festival Speeches will be ready for printing. Since we are nearing the end of the year and NUSAS budget is running low, it is more feasible to have them printed in 1985.

RESEARCH AND SEMINARS

NUSAS research has traditionally taken three forms of presentation: The in-depth publications, the pamphlet and the seminar. Although these are often aimed at different levels, they all complement on general organisational work on campuses. During 1984 most research went into short term projects, i.e. pamphlets and seminars, with in-depth publications suffering as a result.

We produced three in-depth publications; Students Meeting the Challenge of Change, In Whose Defence? Conscription and the SADF and the November edition of S.A Outlook which focuses on the 60th anniversary of NUSAS. A publication on white politics was scheduled for early in the year, but was continually postponed due to priori tising other areas. Although much research on this area has been completed new developments (e.g. resent events in the PFP) are constantly rendering this out of date, and it remains an important focus for next year.

Printing in-depth publications was a continuous problem in light of the pace of NUSAS campaigning. Slow production of publications from Head Office's side was also a problem, often leading to situations where publications arrived at campuses later than expected. Campuses have also been reluctant to sell publications at times, which is a problem in terms of our budget. These areas will all have to be addressed next year. More direction and feedback from the campuses on publication needs is also an important requirement.

Campus based research in the form of publication has also improved. Here Spiked, Update and Wits ERC's Labour News have provided important input on contemporary affairs alongside Women's Movement and anti-conscription publications which have adressed particular issues, This form of publication should be encouraged, and campus based research groups should also consider the possibility of producing the type of in-depth publication on a particular theme produced by Head Office.

Head Office produced 5 national pamphlets this year; The Darker side of Apartheid Education, Education Update, Nkomati: Peacing it all Together, Make your Mark and August Elections: Boycott - the only dignified response. The education wins and Nkomati pamphlets proved useful, but those designed to fit into campus campaigns (Million Signatures and August elections) were inappropriate and badly timed on some campuses. The lesson to be drawn from these is that pamphlets of this

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type should come from the campuses themselves, and that Head Office should concentrate on in-depth publications and information pamphlets. Head Office should also attempt to develop the idea of providing regular resource material to campuses which can facilitate the production of campus based pamphlets.

SEMINARS

Seminars play an important role in developing the understanding of people in our organisations. They provide an opportunity for a dynamic and interesting education process difficult to achieve with publications. Campuses have recognised the need to supplement their broad campaigning work with seminars designed to situate campus activity in a broader context. Internal education programmes have run at a number of levels on most campuses (although there is still much scope for extension) and Head Office have been called on to play a role in this.

Between us we have given as many as 70 seminars, and this has been an important focus of short term research. Campused have requested seminars relating to campaigns NUSAS is currently involved in, contemporary issues and to a broad understanding of conflict in South Africa. The input at July Festival was a particular stimulus in the latter regard. We were also asked to give seminars on various topics to other sections of the democratic movement. (See Appendix)

Much Head Office energy has gone into presenting seminars, and hopefully this will continue next year. Campuses are encouraged to make use of Head Office in this respect.

Campuses have used internal seminars extensively this year, and in some instances campus seminars have proved very useful. This development should be encouraged, particularly the use of students to present seminars, which provides a valuable learning opportunity for them. In this respect the student movement has become increasingly self-sufficeint if compared with a few years ago, when extensive use was made of academics. (This is not to say that academics should not be used where necessary). With an increasing emphasis on seminars, it is also important that we give attention to the need to develop more creative methods of seminar presentation (Audio visual etc.)

RESOURCE PACKS

In order to facilitate the process of internal education around our campaigns,

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Head Office this year introduced the notion of Resource packs. These were compilations of photocopies of relevant articales sent to the campuses for use in seminars, pamphlets and student newspapers. The Conscription Resource Pack proved very useful in this respect, containing material on the history of conscription and resistance to the military, militarisation, the SADF's civic action programme and the role of the SADF in education. The admissions and Subsidies Resource Pack contained material on the SAPSE proposals, University restructuring and the role of the University. It was sent to campuses and distributed among Faculty Council members. Two additional resource packs of miscellaneous material were distributed among the Projects Officers for use in internal education. These contained material on student struggles in other countries, aspects of South African struggle etc. A fifth resource pack containing preparatory reading for July Festival was also distributed.

The idea of resource packs is one that should be extended and systematised next year.

PRESSCLIPS

We have compiled Pressclips from the commercial press on South Africa throughout the year (The Argus, The Cape Times, also Eastern Province Herald, Evening Post, Mercury, Rand Daily Mail occasionally City Press, Sunday Tribune, Sunday Star, Drum and Newsweek). These are subdivided into various categories (National Politics, Education, Southern Africa, Labour and Economy, Conscription and South Africa overseas) and stored in Head Office. Given the collapse of the weekly S.A Pressclips publications it would be useful for Head Office to examine the viability of a fairly regular pressclips service to the campuses to keep everyone informed of national developments.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER GROUPS

AZASO

Contact with AZASO has been maintained both by HO and people on the campuses. In most cases our working relationship with AZASO has strengthened significantly this year, particularly at the level of joint planning and coordinated projects. This has led to greater contact between NUSAS and AZASO memberships which is important for both organisations. Cooperation was very productive around the education campaign, Million Signature Campaign and Anti-Elections activities. Through working more closely together a greater sensitivity and understanding of each others constituency and needs has developed and will hopefully grow towards even closer cooperation. We look forward to consolidating our relationship through the Education Charter campaign.

COSAS

HO have met with COSAS in the different regions this year as have some of the campuses. Kate has given seminars to COSAS Tvl. WITS have had increased contact with COSAS this year through the Alexandria Tutoring Scheme. Generally contact with COSAS has begun to be consolidated through the Education Charter Campaign.

Education Charter

This is the first joint AZASO-COSAS-NUSAS and in some regions, NEUSA, campaign with NUSAS having reps on all the Education Charter Committees that have been elected. HO and the campuses have been involved in a series of discussions and planning for this campaign throughout the year. In the Tranvaal and Natal, we have developed a closer working relationship with NEUSA and this should be extended next year.

This campaign is a high point in the growth of the non-racial student movement based on our common commitment to non-racialism, democracy and the Freedom Charter.

Youth

Contact with youthorganisations has largely taken the form of seminars in various regions. In the past few months there has been increased contact through planning for the International Year of the Youth campaign and 1985 should see a closer working relationship developing.

NANSO

Namibian National Students Organisations was launched this year. NUSAS Sent a message of support to their first congress at which 32 institutions were represented.

UDF

NUSAS is affiliated to the UDF through SRC's or Projects Comm's on the different campuses. At Rhodes Local Comm is affiliated to UDF. NUSAS reps attend UDF General Councils and UDF sub committees in the various regions thereby keeping closely in touch with UDF activities and decision making. In Cape Town HO is represented on the UDF Media Committee and UDF anti-conscription committee.

White Democrats

Over the past year and a half, organisations of white democrats have grown in number and strength and are now functioning in Cape Town, Jhb, Grahamstown and Durban. NUSAS has a close working relationship with the UDF area committees in Cape Town adn JODAC in Jhb. Discussions have taken place on areas of common interest. NUSAS representatives have been asked to speak on JODAC and Area Committee platforms and WITS recently held a joint public meeting with JODAC around the stayaway.

In Durban several NUSAS students were involved in setting up the Association of Durban Democrats (ADD) and have helped plan and coordinate several of its activities. It is encouraging that in Grahamstown, where not many students stay on after completing their studies, the Grahamstown Committee of Democrats has been established.

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Many of the people involved in these organisations were involved in NUSAS when they were students and it is encouraging to see many ex-NUSAS people continuing their organisational involvement. We must continue to develop closer links with these organisations and discuss possible joint activities.

Academics

There is still much scope for building closer relations with academics on the campuses. There was close contact with a few academics on the SAPSE proposals but the discussions on this issue could have been conducted with a larger group of academics in a more systematic way. Academics at Durban were worked with on the Million Signature Campaign where AZASO, NUSAS and JASA (Joint Academic Staff Association) coordinated signature collecting.

Relations with Afrikaans Campuses

NUSAS policy has been that there can be no structured relationship with SRC's from Afrikaans campuses that are not prepared to condemn apartheid and commit themselves to a non-racial and democratic SA. In 1979 the Stellenbosch SRC submitted a copy of 'Varisty' to the censors, asking for it to be banned. UCT broke off formal relations with Stellenbosch as a result. A few years later the ASB refused to condemn the detention and banning of Andrew Boraine and NUSAS concluded that there was no basis for a relationship with SRC's on Afrikaans campuses.

Over this year however there has been significant informal contact with students from Afrikaans universities. UCT SRC is in contact with some Stellenbosch students who receive NUSAS media, and contact with an SRC member from Tuckies has been maintained. Relations have also been established with a group of students at RAU that are sympathetic to NUSAS and the UDF - Kate and Brendan have met with these students and Terror Lekota spoke on the campus. To strengthen this relationship, one of the RAU students, Willem Botes, applied to become a member of NUSAS, National Council in July was excited by the application and accepted it. Since NUSAS is comprised of affiliated SRC's and not individuals, Willem would only have observer status at national gatherings. The whole question of individual membership of NUSAS was referred to the Structures and Finance Committee at this Congress. A delegation from RAU attended July Festival and students from Stellenbosch and RAU are expected to attend Congress.

At the March National Council, SRC's discussed how they should respond to requests from Afrikaans campuses for formal contact with them. It was decided not to formulate comprehensive policy on this but to leave it up to each SRC to assess carefully each approach made to them. Afrikaans SRC's that had passed anti-NUSAS motions or motions against black students should not be met with.

Right Wing Activities

The major development in right wing strategy has been the emergence of the National Students Federation. Launched in the Carlton Hotel with extensive media coverage (including the SABC) and without any public discussion on any of the campuses beforehand, the NSF simply echoed the previous line of attack of its members, the Moderate Students Movement (UCT), Students Action Front (PMB), and Students Moderate Alliance (WITS).

The NSF has had access to unlimited resources. Its primary activity, pamphleteering has been the most costly propaganda campaign ever seen on the campuses, with a barrage of glossy, multicoloured pamphlets emerging at the rate of up to 3 a week. In one week recently, estimates are that the NSF spent about R15 000 on a national advertising campaign in the commercial press.

This recent publicity spree indicates an attempt not only to reach students but also to have the effect in the 'voting' community at large of undermining and smearing NUSAS and UDF. This is in part an attempt to undermine student government and the name of the universities and so to reduce private sector financial support for the universities. Consistent with its track record of alleviating themselves from the student population, the NSF has now successfully cultivated antagonism of the university administration as well. At PMB there has been an official enquiry into the activities of SAF, at Wits a University court action is pending against SMA, and at UCT, action is also pending.

It is clear that the NSF is having no effect on our campuses. In fact the NSF may be doing a disservice to its cause - at PMB there are comments such as 'As right wingers we think that the SAF should be closed down because they give us right wingers a bad name!' It has been easy to point out that the NSF has no elected and representative voice (in fact none of its office bearers ever serve on SRC's), that its president has a post in the National Party and still has dubious connections and that there is something suspicious about the NSF's source of funds.

Nevertheless we must not ignore the very sinister attempt (and possibly the major objective) of the NSF to undermine student government and to smear NUSAS and UDF amongst others. The NSF was a small part of a coordinated attack from the SABC, Gatsha Buthelezi, the government and others on the UDF. It is the exact

same smear on the UDF which Le Grange has been spouting for the last 4 months. It has been a calculated attempt to lay the basis for the more repressive action taken against UDF and its affiliates.

The NSF must take responsibility along with the National Party government for the detention of half the UDF national executive. And it must also take responsibility for the recent detention of Kate. This sinister role must be relentlessly exposed.

More generally, early this year a vicious and anonymous pamphlet, 'The Price of Treason', was sent to students in student government and newly in organisations or to their parents. This was an attempt to intimidate students out of NUSAS structures and was a forerunner of the NSF line of attack on NUSAS and the UDF.

Earlier in the year the window of the office car was smashed in Grahamstown. In Jo'burg, student leaders have received death threats and had their vehicles damaged. The car of a former NUSAS President was mysteriously destroyed by a fire in the middle of the night. Wits students came in for particular attack during the UDF Million Signature Campaign and anti election campaign. In addition half the WITS SRC offices were destroyed in an arson attack and a former member of projects comm but now full time member of the Security Police has been constantly attempting to intimdate students at Wits.

While all this indicates a more violent form of attack it is simply the reverse side and corollary of the attack mounted by the NSF. Moreover the smear by the NSF indirectly and implicitly countenance the much more overt attacks.

ADMISSION AND SUBSIDY CAMPAIGN

At the 1983 Congress the proposed admissions and subsidy proposals were seen as important issues to take up on campus-Sapse 110 and 115 propose a significant restructuring of the university subsidy allocation, admission criteria and degree structure. The key areas of concern are the raising of admission criteria that would discriminate against black students and the increasing tendancy by the university towards research and away from teaching.

It was clear by July that these issues, although important, were not ones around which students could mobilized: The SAPSE proposals are extremely complex and it was uncertain how the different universities would actually implement them. Furthermore, the significance of other political events inevitably drew the attention of organisations and students away from the proposals.

In the light of these problems it was felt that the proposals should be taken up by formulating key questions and demands , getting the support of Faculty Councils and class reps for them and then taking them to Admin. This approach was only adopted on a few campuses where some success was had with class reps. Generally, systmatic work around admission and subsidy proposals was limited to articles in student newspapers and faculty councils publication.

Although the campaign has had limited success, the restructuring of the white university remains an important issue and one which students should be aware of. The most effective ways of raising this awareness and the relationship between admission and subsidy issues and the Education Charter had to be considered at Congress.

SOLIDARITY ACTION AROUND THE EDUCATION CRISIS

At the beginning of the year Curtis Nkondo, President of Neusa, warned that the Department of Education and Training's continued refusal to meet student demands would lead to a situation that made 1976 'look like a picnic'. 1984 has in fact been an exceptional year in black education.

Tens of thousands of pupils and students at 1000's of schools and universities throughout the country have boycotted or are still boycotting classes. Before

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the August election 150,000 students had already gone on boycott over their own grefivances and in solidariry with Unita students. The joint Cosas/A.aso call for a boycott of classes in protest against the tri-cameral elections swelled this number dramatically - over 600,000 students in coloured schools alone stayed away - and involved virtually all the black and some of the Nusas campuses. Many of these universities, including UWC, University of the North Ngoye, Unitra UDW and Durban Med. School experienced crises that brought students into confrontation with the Administration and led to the closure of some of the universities.

The boycotts were met with an exacerbated by extremely heavy responces from the DET and the police. By September the DET had closed 23 schools involving 20 000 students. Pupils were beaten, whipped, baton charged, teargassed and shot by police. Many pupils have been killed, included the Cosas branch secretary Bongani Khumalo. In the last two months much of the Cosas leadership in the Transvaal and Eastern Cape have been detained or gone into hiding; some have disappeared 'missing'only to be discovered later to have been shot. Black student leaders in the Transvaal are living in fear of going 'missing'.

As long as the students' immediate demands remain unmet the crisis in black education is likely to intensify. We must therefore assess carefully the strengh and weaknesses of our solidarity action this year to guide our activity in 1985.

Solidarity action was organised on all the campuses this year. There were education focus weeks, mass meetings around Attridgeville and UNB, solidarity action around Unitra followed by lecture boycotts at Wits and UCT, and ongoing educative work through student newspapers. Meetings the anti-election campaign on the subsequent unrest in the Vaal usually included a focus on the education crisis.

A number of gains were made in the course of these activities: we were able to draw the links between Bantu education and our own education; our solidariy action was an important boost to the morale of students facing repression, and this action contributed to the building of a non-racial student movement in practise. The protest outside the DET building in Pretoria was a significant public joint action by Agaso, Coasa and Nusas , and Nusas/A·aso relations on our campuses were strenghtened.

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(an exiting example of the possibilities of ongoing projects with Azaso was the tutorial scheme jointly orgaised by the Wits Academic Freedom Committee, BSS, Nusa and Cosas). The effect of black student militancy on white students must be assessed carefully however.

Another positive area was the role played by education Action Group (EAG) type structures. As happened at UCT, the EAG can maintain awareness of developments in black schools and universities in a low-profile but ongoing way. It is also an appropriate structure into which student that attend education mass meetings can be drawn.

Dispite all these gains, several weaknesses can be identified. Our solidarity action did not really reflect the extent and intensity of what was happening in schools throughout the country. Campuses were initially slow in realising the importance of mobalizing students at Pretoria, Cradock, Graaf Reneit and Unitra. Some of these events were burning issues in the press and demanded a strong response from Nusas, yet were not taken up. The full potential of the gains that could have been made were not realised.

A second problem was that those process meetings that were held never in fact attracted the kind of response expected from white students. We must be clear on the reasons for this. One reason (and another problem) was that our solidarity action was not taken to all constituencies on campus and the support of a wide range of campus orgaisations was not sought. Faculty Councils in particular should have been more involved in campus action and should have initiated their own activities around the education crisis. In this way our response would have reached a far broader range of students and would also have served to strengthen faculty councils.

In general, there does not seem to have been sufficient pre-planning, laying the ground work over a period of time and then building to a peak. The Education Charter Campaign next year will assist in this regard and provide a link between different activities around education. The Charter also provides for a further strengthening of our allience with Cosas and Azaso. We must work out at Congress how Nusas will participate in this campaign.

END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN

At the 1983 NUSAS Congress the End Conscription Campaign was prioritised as one of NUSAS's three national campaigns for 1984. Our objectives in taking up the campaign were:

- To raise the question of militarisation generally showing students how the military had come to influence many aspects of their lives.

- To counter state propaganda on the role of the SADF both internally and externally

- To channel students gut antagonism to the military into an understanding of the reasons for conscription and the role of the SADF in upholding apartheid.

- To highlight the Civil War character of conflict in South Africa.

- To draw the broadest range students into a campaign rejecting conscription.

- To focus on resistance to the SADF in the form of conscientious objection and on the Board and its limitations.

- To promote non-racialism by linking the campaign against the extension of conscription to the campaign against existing conscription.

- To popularise the 'Peace and Freindship' demand of the Freedom Chrter, and for a lasting peace in South Africa.

We saw the campaign as ongoing, not restricted to a particular time period. At other times it would peak with direct campaigning against conscription while at others the issue of conscription would be incorporated into our general campaigns. Our involvement in the End Conscription Committee together with a variety of organisations in the broader community (Churches, Black Sash, JODAC etc.) served to legitimize our campaign. Our involvement in UDF anti-conscription work linked our campaign to the broader demands of the UDF. Despite being involved in these broader structures, NUSAS campaign against conscription was determined according to the conditions that prevail on campus.

ASSESMENT

The campaign has had an uneven impact on the different campuses. Conditions on the different campuses meant that the campaign was taken up in different ways and to different extents.

The conscription surveys on all the campuses proved to be a useful start to the campaign, raising important question for discussion among students. Follow up input was given on most campuses. A variety of organisational methods and approaches to the issue were used. Rhodes and UCT set up specific organisations, CRAC and CAG. These orgaisations drew in new people who were particularly motivated by the conscription issue. At Wits the campaign was run by an inter-orgaisational ad hoc committee, while Pietermaritzburg's focus was initiated by Projects Comm. Other innovations included distribution of the survey by Faculty Councils ad class reps at Wits and door to door surveying in Rhodes' residences. Cultural evenings at Rhodes and UCT provedvery successful, while debates against pro-conscription spleakers went down very well. Conscription was also taken up in particular constituencies e.g. Law and Medical Students Council focuses and the Wits women's movement seminar on sexism and the military. Exciting forms of media were produced with buttons, t-shirts, concerts and poetry etc. contributing towards anti-conscription culture.

Internal education on various aspects of this campaign needs to be more systematic next year.

Besides direct focuses on conscription a varitey of other issues were used to maintain the campaign: Namibia, Nkomati, the New Deal, cost of living, University Military Units and removals. However at certain points we allowed important and potentailly useful issues to slip by - Nkomati, the Coventry 4 and the SADF in the townships did not receive sufficient attention. In the coming year we must be alert to topical issues through which we can campaign against conscription.

ECC

End Conscription Committees were established in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town. The Johannesburg and Cape town Committees have developed tremendous momentum and NUSAS has playd a major role in both. NUSAS has participated in ECC planning and

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implementation, and also given input to ECC organisations through seminars and the In Whose Defence? publication which was widely distributed in ECC.

The launching of the ECC declaration in the broader community has stimulated intense debate in the commercial press and the PFP and provide an extremely conducive context for on campus campaign. We must look for ways of extending our role in ECC and contributing to the overall success of the campaign in the white community.

LOOKING FORWARD

The campaign against conscription, in terms of the objectives outlined above, is an ongoing one. The SADF's regular deployment against township residents graphically highlights its role in upholding apartheid, The stormy debate in the PFP has also ensured a consistatly high profile for the conscription issue in the press. In the comming year we need to intervene in this situtation, education and mobilising students against conscription, and build on the gains made this year.

UDF

During 1984 the UDF has grown phenomenally in terms of affiliates and its impact on the national political arena.

It has drawn together a broad range of organisations into a coordinated political working relationship. Organisations that previously worked outside of the democratic movement eg Black SAsh, churches, have been drawn in and have found a political home. The democratic movement has developed in UDF, a national political voice that had not been heard for years.

The UDF has also facilitated the blossoming of organisation, particularly in the rural areas like the West Coast, South Western Districts and the Karoo Amongst white democrats, the UDF has provided channels for political involvement that were previously non-existent. The growth of UDF area committees and JODAC and establishment of ADD is of great importance to us in NUSAS; we need to give careful consideration to our relations with them.

To some extent there has been closer cooperation this year between unions and political organisations (eg May Day Rallies, Vaal stayaway, union reps on Committee of Concern). UDF has stimulated a high level of political awareness amongst the people and has developed a sense of politics defined in the democratic movement's terms rather than in the state's terms. While people have been politicised by the mass mobilisation of UDF, they have also become involved in political work be it attending mass gatherings or boycotting the elections.

One of the prime objectives and expose the New Deal of the UDF was to achieve a very low poll in the elections. The results speak for themselves .
UDF has denied the New Deal legitimacy both nationally and internationally.
UDF has drawn international attention to South Africa more so than in the past. Within SA, while SATV initially chose to ignore the UDF completely, the UDF has almost become a household word with frequent references, usually negative, to UDF on SATV news. The commercial press has also been forced to give UDF a fair amount of coverage whether on press statements, rallies, campaigns.

The national contact that has been facilitated both at a leadership level and amongst

activists in organisations is a phenomena that has not been witnessed on such a scale since the 1930's.

Despite these successes UDF has also experienced problems. Much of UDF's activity has been orientated towards the elections and therefore primarily to the Coloured and Indian sectors. Although it has always been a priority to link reform and repression and to organise in the townships, this has not always been successful.

This relates to one of the problems of a Front which at times adopts political approaches familiar to certain sectors but not others. It is important that tactics used be acceptable to everyone but this has not always been possible, very lengthy discussions and policy making being postponed. It is extremely difficult to develop common strategies to suit a range of regions with different histories and dynamics.

Within NUSAS, a great deal of work around UDF has been done during 1984 both on and off campus.

Throughout the year UDF's profile on the campuses has grown through sinature collecting, mass meetings, media, (this has been very creative on most campuses) anti-election activities leading up to the boycotts etc. We have achieved one of the objectives we set ourselves which was to establish a profile for the democratic movement. Certain UDF speakers have become drawcards on our campuses particularly Terror Lekota. UDF has given students a concrete extra-parliamentary force to relate to and most importantly to get involved in.

For our own activists participation in UDF has provided the experience of building non-racialism, becoming involved with a range of groupings and participating in decision amking. We are closely in touch with activities and campaigns and a heightened political awareness has spread in our organisations. People in our organisations have had the opportunity to participate alongside other organisations in signature blitzes and anti-election work in the communities. This has led to a far higher level of political education, sensitivity and an understanding of other communities' needs and demands.

The constant pace of UDF activities has led to certain problems in that we were not always able to plan our activity to suit our particular conditions. The unrelenting pace has also made consolidation difficult on some campuses. At times, particularly during the fourth term, we failed to respond sufficiently to events like the UDF detentions and the unrest in the Vaal, Eastern Cape and other areas. A tremendous amount of state propaganda has been fed to our constituency over this period and our response has not been sufficient.

While students must understand that the UDF's programme is a non-violent one we also need to explain why so much violence is occuring. The state continues to lay the blame at the UDF's door and we cannot allow them the last word on this matter. Constant monitoring of SATV and the press should continue and regular responses coming from us. We must also continue to expose right wing attacks on NUSAS and the UDF.

During Congress we need to discuss and assess the future direction of UDF and what role we are to play next year. A tremendous amount has been achieved by UDF nationally and a great deal of support has been won for UDF on our campuses. We still need to generate amongst students on awareness of being involved in UDF and not just supportive onlookers. We need to develop methods of actively involving on ever increasing number of students in extra-parliamentary opposition.

APPENDIX: Seminars presented by Head Office (incomplete list)

TOPIC	GROUP
Education	Wits Focus (Kate)
	PMB Focus (Kate)
	Durban Focus (Kate)
	COSAS Tvl. (Kate)
	UCT Project Com. (Laurie)
	Medical Students Conference (Laurie)
Education Crisis	UND Boycott (Kate)
	Rhodes (Laurie)
	UCT Medical School (Laurie)
	UTC Boycott (Tony)
	PMB UNITRA meeting (Mike)
Admissions and Subsidies	UCT ED Comm Weekend (Laurie)
	Faculty Council Conference (Laurie)
	Durban Faculty Councils (Ilana)
	PMB Faculty Councisl (Ilana)
	Wits (Kate)
	Rhodes (Kate)
	Durban campus leadership weekend (Mike)
	PMB campus leadership weekend (Mike)
Legal Education	NUSAS Law Conference (Laurie)
National Democratic Struggle	UCT (Tony)
	Durban pre-festival (Tony)
Working Class Leadership	UCT Organisational Workshop (Tony)
	UCT - SSD (Tony)
History of resistance in S.A.	Wits Projects Comm (Ilana)
	Durban Prijects Comm (Ilana)
	UCT Projects Comm (Ilana)

TOPIC	GROUP
UDF	Head Office Seminar (Tony) Rhodes Local Comm (Tony) UCT Projects Weekend (Tony) PMB Projects Seminar (Kate)
NUSAS Role/History	UCT Projects Weekend (Ilana) Rhodes Projects Weekend (Ilana) Wits Projects Weekend (Kate) Rhodes Local Comm. (Kate) Durban University Forum (Ilana) Institute of Citizanship - Cape Town (Laurie)
Labour	UWC May Day meeting (Tony) UCT Wages Comm Introductory Seminar (Tony) Rhodes Local Comm. (Kate)
Namibia	UCT - Toivo meeting (Laurie) Churches Urban Planning Commission - Cape Town (Laurie) Mitchells Plain Youth Movement - Cape Town (Laurie) Landsdown Youth Movement - Cape Town (Laurie) July Festival (Laurie)
Nkomati/Souther Africa	Durban Projects Comm(Laurie)/Mike) Rhodes - CAG Focus week (Tony) Churches Urban Planning Commission (Tony) CUPC National Training Course (Tony) UDF Obsevatory Area Committee (Tony)
Conscription	Rhodes Debate (Laurie) UCT Med School Debate (Laurie) PMB focus (Proposed but not presented - Ilana)

TOPIC	GROUP
Extension of Conscription	C.O.S.G. - Cape Town (Tony) UDF Anti conscription Committee - Cape Town (Tony Assisted)
SADF and the State	UCT - CAG (Tony)
Resistance to conscription	Rhodes - CAG (Tony)
University Military Units	UCT (Lamie)
Women/Feminisim	Wits Ponel (Kate) PMB Ponel (Kate) Alexandra Youth Congress Workshop (Kate assisted UCT Womens' Movement Orientation Week (Ilana)
US in Central America	July Festival (Tony)
Legal Education	July Festival (Tony)

PROGRAMME FOR WOMENS CONFERENCE

P R O G R A M M E

THURSDAY 13 September

6.00 p.m.	Registration
	Supper
8.00 p.m.	Introduction
	"Women's Struggle and National Democratic Struggle" - Cheryl Carolus

FRIDAY 14 September

8.30 a.m.	"Feminism and Ideology"
10.30 a.m.	Tea
11.00 a.m.	"History of Women's Movements - A National Perspective"
12.30 p.m.	Lunch
~~2.00~~ p.m.	"To be or not to be" - small group discussion
3.30 p.m.	Tea
4.00 p.m.	"Where to now?"
5.30 p.m.	Summing up

VENUE: RHODES ROOM
(just below Red Level canteen, in Student Union Building)

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NUSAS FACULTY COUNCIL CONFERENCE.

Friday 6 th	2.00 pm	Opening
	2.30-4.00	Simulation Game - representation in the university
	4.30-5.30	COMMITTEES - role of the edcomm and education action groups. - class rep system - role of the faculty council with regard to the faculty boards and students - confidentiality and related problems - course and lecturer assessment
	7.30-8.30	repeat of committees, so each delegate may attend two
	8.30	JORL
Saturday 7 th	8.30-12.30	admissions and subsidy - input from Mark Orkin (Wits Sociology Dept) and Jeremy Bowen (Rhodes University Academic Support and Ex-SRC Education Officer) - Group Discussion - Campaign Planning
	2.00-4.00	Reports from Committees
	4.30-5.30	Skills Workshop -Media -chairing meetings -public speaking
	7.30-9.00	Problems of representation on black campuses
	9.00	Jorl
Sunday 8 th	8.30-11.30	assessment of class rep guide book survey assessment of and future planning for National Student Review
	11.30-12.30	assessment of conference and closure

NUSAS JULY FESTIVAL

10.00am	T E A		
10.30am	Resettlement	Jo-Ann Yawitch Paddy Kearney - Diakonia	SH 5
12.30pm	L U N C H		Charles Smith
	"THERE SHALL BE PEACE AND SECURITY"		
2.00pm	Overview of the Trade Union Movement	Jay Naidoo - Sweet, Food and Allied Workers' Union	SH 5
3.30pm	T E A		
4.00pm	History of SACTU	Billy Nair	SH 5
6.00pm	S U P P E R		Charles Smith
	Free time		
8.00pm	Working Class Politics	Auret van Heerden	SH 1
10.00pm	Pub Opens		Union Ref

SATURDAY 7th JULY

Time	Event	Speaker	Venue
	"ALL SHALL BE EQUAL BEFORE THE LAW"		
8.30pm	Criminalising of Political Activity	Raymond Suttner - Wits Law Lecturer	SH 5
10.00am	T E A		
	"THERE SHALL BE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP"		
10.30am	Angola	(Video)	SH 5
11.30am	Free transport to beach or town. Videos will be rescreened.		SH 5
12 noon	L U N C H		Charles Smith
2.30pm	Peace in Namibia ?	David Smuts - Lawyer of Mariental case Mike Evans - Cape Town End Conscription Committee Chairperson.	SH 5
4.00pm	WORKSHOPS		
	Uncle Sam's Backyard: US in Central America.	Tony Karon - NUSAS Research Officer	SH 7
	"Constructive Engagement": US and UK in Southern Africa.	Jonty Joffe - Former NUSAS President	SH 9
	The Arms Race: Threat to World Peace.	Max Ozinsky - UCT SRC Media Officer	SH 11
	"Dirty Tricks": The Operations of the CIA.	Keith Gottschalk	SH 13
	Laws and Justice: Changes in Mozambique.	Andy Durbach - Former NUSAS Law Directive Co-ordinator	SH 15
6.00pm	S U P P E R		Charles Smith
	Free time		
8.00pm	Nkomati and Obstacles to Peace	Trevor Oosterwyk - CAYCO Vice-President; Convenor of UDF Anti-Conscription Committee Curnick Ndlovu - Natal UDF	SH 1
10.00pm	Pub Opens		Union Ref

SUNDAY 8th JULY

Time	Event	Speaker	Venue
	"THERE SHALL BE HOUSES, SECURITY AND COMFORT"		
8.30am	The Politics of Housing	JHAC - Durban Housing Action Committee JORAC - Joint Rents Action Committee	SH 5
10.30am	T E A		
11.00am	WORKSHOPS		
	Natal Organisation of Women (NOW).	Victoria Mxenge	SH 7
	Diakonia.	Paddy Kearney	SH 9
	Natal Indian Congress.		SH 10
	Youth Organisation.		SH 12
	Organising in Pietermaritzburg.	Committee of Concern	SH 14
	Lamontville.	JORAC	SH 16
12.30pm	L U N C H		Charles Smith
2.00pm	Videos		SH 5
3.00pm	T E A		
3.30pm	Women in Struggle	Dorothy Nyembe Cheryl Carolus - UDF Western Cape Secretary Nozizwe Madlala - NOW member Ruth Bekker - Former NUS's Projects Officer	SH 5
6.00pm	S U P P E R		Charles Smith
	Free time		
8.00pm	Assessment		SH 5
9.00pm	Closing Address: Kate Philip		Union Ref
	Pub and Jorl		

'THERE SHALL BE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP:' MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE

TUESDAY 3rd JULY

Time	Event	Speaker	Venue
8.00pm	Welcome	Kate Philip - NUSAS President David Ensor - Durban SRC President	SH 1
	"THESE FREEDOMS WE SHALL FIGHT FOR "		
	Panel on the Congress Alliance	Steve Tshwete Liz Abrahams Helen Joseph Dorothy Nyembe Billy Nair	
10.00pm	Pub Opens		Union Ref

WEDNESDAY 4th JULY

Time	Event	Speaker	Venue
	"THE PEOPLE SHALL GOVERN"		
8.30am	UDF one year on: An assessment	Mosiuoa Lekota - UDF Publicity Secretary	SH 5
10.00am	T E A		
10.30am	Restructuring and Resistance: Local Government	Garth Seneque - Town Planner Ian Mkhize - JORAC DHAC	SH 5
12.30pm	L U N C H		Charles Smith
	"THE PEOPLE SHALL SHARE IN THE COUNTRY'S WEALTH"		
2.00pm	The Development of Monopoly Capital in South Africa	Graeme Bloch - UCT Lecturer Avril Joffe - Community Researcher	SH 5
3.30pm	T E A		
4.00pm	WORKSHOPS		
	Women and Work.	Avril Joffe	SH 9
	Trade Unions in Natal: An overview.	Food and Canning Workers' Union	SH 10
	Social Reconstruction in Namibia.	Laurie Nathan - NUSAS Secretary General	SH 7
	Mozambique since Independence.	Keith Gottschalk - ex UCT Lecturer	SH 4
	None but Ourselves (Slide Tape show)		SH 5
6.00pm	S U P P E R		Charles Smith
	Free Time		
8.00pm	State of Struggle	Jerry Coovadia	SH 1
10.00pm	Pub Opens		Union Ref

THURSDAY 5th JULY

Time	Event	Speaker	Venue
	"THE DOORS OF LEARNING AND CULTURE SHALL BE OPEN"		
8.30am	The History of the Student Movement		SH 5
10.30am	T E A		
11.00am	Current Crisis in Education	Kate Philip - NUSAS Sipho Cele - AZASO Mike Hart - NEUSA COSAS	SH 5
12.30pm	L U N C H		Charles Smith
2.00pm	WORKSHOPS		
	Resistance Poetry.	Keith Gottschalk	SH 10
	Workers and Drama.	Astrid von Kotze - Founder member of the Junction Theatre Company	SH 9
	UKUSA.		SH 7
	History of the Natal Indian Congress.	Paul David - NIC Executive	SH 4
	INKATHA.	Gerry Mare	SH 5
3.30pm	T E A		
4.00pm	Media and the Anti-Election Campaign	Alf Karrim - UKUSA Editor	SH 5
6.00pm	S U P P E R		Charles Smith
	Free time		
8.00pm	Nation, Culture and the National Democratic Struggle	Jeremy Cronin	SH 1
10.00pm	A Taste of South African Culture	Keith Gottschalk - poetry reading Jeremy Cronin - poetry reading Abafana Bomoya - local musicians	Union Ref

FRIDAY 6th JULY

Time	Event	Speaker	Venue
	"THE LAND SHALL BE SHARED AMONGST THOSE WHO WORK IT"		
8.30am	Exiled in the Land of their Birth: Bantustans	Jo-Ann Yawitch - JODAC Chairperson Steve Tshwete - UDF Border Region President	SH 5