

March 2011

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Message from the President



Dear Members

Welcome to the first NZAPEP newsletter of 2011, and on behalf of the Executive Board I would like to extend my very best wishes for a productive and successful year. I also want to officially welcome John Diggins and Luella Bartlett, the two newly elected members, to the Board. Collectively, Board members bring to the table substantial skills from the educational and business worlds, and I look forward to working with them as we remain committed to our goals and objectives in this challenging tertiary education environment.

This year is an important one – we have the Rugby World Cup and the national elections. While the World Cup may not impact hugely on our work at NZAPEP, the election, and the build up to it, will. So this year promises to be even busier, but importantly it calls for us to be opportunistic, to act smartly and to choose carefully those seminal issues we want to take to the politicians.

If I had a wish list for the political parties, at the top would be a significant relaxation of the funding cap. There seems to be one political constant in the life of the private tertiary education sector, a constant that has been prevalent for quite a number of years now: *there is no money*. It is highly questionable however, whether the continued lack of investment in the sector will save the country any money. On the contrary, I would argue that the building of what is crucially an important part of the nation's infrastructure will not only enable an economic recovery but will be a solid investment for the future.

Second on the list would be further work on the 103% overprovision policy with the private sector being given better opportunities to offer tertiary education above its funding cap. We can prove to the Government that a relaxation in this area will not impose greatly on the tax payer; rather that this is the best value for money since the only cost to the Government is the interest on student loans. If New Zealand cannot sustain a burgeoning student loans and allowances system, then innovative, agile and strategic thinking is crucial in order to balance this debt without shutting the door on tertiary study. The current system excludes a significant number of students from furthering their education, and my premise is that a radical re-think of this policy would make high performing institutions with provision that is deemed to be of strategic relevance, a highly feasible proposition.

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Third on the list would be further work on ensuring a level playing field with the public sector. While we have made considerable gains in this area, I believe that we are now at a stage where it is no longer acceptable to go cap in hand but rather, we need to increase our efforts towards achieving what is right and what is just. While political ideologies differ in their stance on private education, the basic principle of access to quality education is the issue here, irrespective where it is and which institution offers it, especially when institutions, private and public, are now equally judged on quality and performance.

There are additional important matters on the list but I will leave you with these thoughts for a start. In the meantime we will continue our work in other significant areas and without doubt, we will face further challenges this year, including the impact of further restructuring of the governmental agencies we work with, the implementation of the Targeted Review of Qualifications and the Training Opportunities strategy as well as further policy impacting international education, to name a few. Already we have had meetings with the Chair of the Tertiary Education Commission and the Labour Party education spokespersons. More of this is found elsewhere in PEPTalk.

I encourage you therefore to keep in touch with me, Chuck Wareham, or the appropriate Executive Board member, so that together we will strive towards the very best we can offer our students, we can challenge those systems that hinder quality education, and we can continue to make a vital impression on tertiary education in New Zealand.

Best Regards



Edwige Fava
President

NZAPEP Board News

The next NZAPEP Board meeting will be held on Wednesday 16 February 2011 at the Professional Bar & Restaurant School, Auckland.

At the meeting Board members will be expected to identify ways of aligning their portfolios with the NZAPEP Annual Plan and Marketing Plan. The Board will also be giving consideration to the Marketing Plan for 2011, Research and Events for 2011.

Portfolios allocated at the last meeting were:

Edwige Fava:	President; Lead: Media, Communications & PR, NZQA, Research & Degree and Schools Assist: TEC, International, Events, TEOs, Marketing and Membership & Services
Karl Yates:	Vice-President ; Lead: TEC, Industry Training and International Assist: NZQA, Foundation Learning, Schools and TEOs
Fiso John Fiso:	Vice-President; Lead: Foundation Learning, Maori/Pacifica, TEOs Assist: TEC, NZQA, International, Schools and Research & Degree
Luella Bartlett:	Assist: NZQA, International and Industry Training
John Diggins:	Assist: Maori/Pacifica, TEC, Membership & Services and Research & Degree
Keith Heathcote:	Lead: Events Assist: Research & Degree and TEOs
Margie Sorensen:	Lead: Marketing and Membership & Services Assist: NZQA

NZAPEP Conference and Events 2011

Who can believe that it is February already!

As a wise man once said, "time and tide waits for no man". Well NZAPEP has not been waiting either – planning is now well advanced on the first round of events for 2011 and the NZAPEP annual conference in September.

Continuing with the successful regional forum format from the past two years, the first regional forums are scheduled for later this month with NZAPEP travelling to two new locations; Whakatane on February 23 and Whangarei on 24 February. These new locations are part of NZAPEP's commitment to meet with members and the sector throughout as much of the country as possible. TEC, NZQA and Ako Aotearoa will have representatives at both of these meetings.

March will bring the first round of Roadshows; this round to be held in the major centres of Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. Dates and venues are below. The Roadshows will be repeated post Budget in early June with the additional venues at Hamilton and Palmerston North.

The NZAPEP Conference this year will be at the Amora Hotel, Wellington (formally the Duxton Hotel) on Thursday 1 and Friday 2 September. There will be an additional and optional Workshop day on Wednesday 31 August. Conference will have numerous highlights including a Political Debate hosted by Mai Chen from Chen Palmer. All political parties have already indicated that they will attend. A Welcome Reception at Parliament House is also being planned as another of the highlights.

Please start to think who you will nominate for this year's NZAPEP awards. Announcements will be made shortly on some new awards that will recognise leaders in the field of private education. All awards will be presented at the Conference Awards Dinner which will be held on Thursday 1 September.

Conference Registrations will open shortly and a draft programme will be available on the NZAPEP website.

The following indicative programme is subject to change and modification due to presenter availability.

Date	Type	Location
23 February	Regional Forum	Whakatane
24 February	Regional Forum	Whangarei
15 March	Roadshow	Christchurch
16 March	Roadshow	Wellington
17 March	Roadshow	Auckland
26 May	Regional Forum	Dunedin
8 June	Roadshow	Auckland
9 June	Roadshow	Hamilton
14 June	Roadshow	Christchurch
15 June	Roadshow	Wellington
16 June	Roadshow	Palmerston North
31 August	Workshops	Wellington
1 September	Conference	Wellington
2 September	Conference	Wellington
1 November	Regional Forum	Auckland
2 November	Regional Forum	Tauranga
8 November	Regional Forum	Christchurch
9 November	Regional Forum	Wellington
10 November	Regional Forum	Wanganui

The cost to attend the Roadshow will be \$40 for NZAPEP members and \$80 for non-members.

The Regional Forums will be free for NZAPEP members and \$20 for non-members.

Meeting with Labour MPs

On Wednesday 2 February NZAPEP President, Mrs. Edwige Fava and Executive Director, Chuck Wareham met with Grant Robertson, MP, the then Labour Spokesperson for Tertiary Education and Carmel Sepuloni, MP, the then Labour Associate Spokesperson for Tertiary Education. (On Thursday 3 February the Labour Leader, Hon. Phil Goff, announced a new Caucus line-up and named Darren Hughes as the new Labour Education Spokesperson)

The meeting was very cordial and canvassed a number of issues around proposals around international education and private tertiary education. The NZAPEP representatives were able to point out areas where the private sector disagreed with the proposals and the MPs were keen to talk more on these. It has been suggested that further meetings be held so that policies that evolve are realistic and do not have a negative impact on the private sector.



Pictured above: Carmel Sepuloni, MP, Edwige Fava, Chuck Wareham, Grant Robertson, MP

Letters to the Editor

NZAPEP welcomes letters to the editor and comment on articles. These should be addressed to PEPTalk at: exec@nzapep.co.nz

NZAPEP reserves the right to not print, or to abridge any letter. However comments and opinions are always welcome, as is news about NZAPEP members.

If any members have articles or news they wish to be included in PEPTalk please contact Chuck Wareham. We are always pleased to acknowledge "good news" about members as long as space permits.

Meeting with Chair of the Tertiary Education Commission

On Thursday 27 January NZAPEP President, Mrs. Edwige Fava, Vice President, Fiso John Fiso and Executive Director, Chuck Wareham, met with the Chair of the Tertiary Education Commission, Sir Wira Gardiner.

The meeting was an opportunity for Sir Wira to talk to NZAPEP representatives about the current restructuring of the Tertiary Education Commission and also to learn more about the association and the members it serves.

NZAPEP also took the opportunity to raise with Sir Wira a number of ongoing issues and he has agreed to look into these. However NZAPEP also awaits with interest the outcome of the restructuring and the impact it may or may not have on PTEs.

Sir Wira in closing has asked for further meetings so that he and the TEC Board can gain more knowledge of the sector and issues surrounding funding and the TEC.

Congratulations to the Cut Above Academy

The letter read,

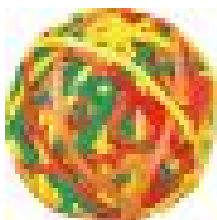
“Forty years ago we wore platform shoes and flares and permed our hair. Women took the pill, burnt their bras and entered politics. Men applauded the Pill, unsnapped bras and laughed at women in politics. Today the Pill remains, platform shoes and flares are hot, perms are not, underwear is outerwear and women hold up half the world.

Born from the Age of Aquarius and liberation, we remain “The Cut Above”

Celebrate 40 years of Fabulous at the Cut Above’s Ruby Anniversary Hair and Beauty Extravaganza and After Party”

NZAPEP congratulates the Cut Above Academy and Gael and Earl Thompson on the Academy's Ruby Anniversary.

The invitation only Showcase, with a vibrant mix of fashion, dance, theatre and awards is bound to be an event to behold and the after-party will no doubt be the opportunity to mix many from the sector along with those from the industry.



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Higher Education Summit 2011

The organiser of the Higher Education Summit has announced that Karen Sewell, Secretary for Education will be making a keynote address at the Higher Education Summit on 9th & 10th March in Auckland.

Karen will be speaking on *"Meeting the challenges for a modern higher education system"* focusing on the main challenges; priorities and strategies facing higher education.

Karen joins an unprecedented line-up of speakers representing all the major higher education institutions for the education event for 2011. [Click here](#) for full list of speakers.

If anyone wishes to register the early booking fees of \$995 +GST close on 25th February. There is also a group booking discount of register 2 and a 3rd can attend free!

For event website with further details and online registration please [Click here](#)

You can also register by phone on 09 280 3330, or email your full contact details to anthony@abcevents.co.nz

This event is once again endorsed by NZAPEP



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Employer Obligations - Immigration Act Update

Employer obligations

The Immigration Act 2009, which came into effect from 29 November 2010, continues the principle that businesses must not employ a non-New Zealander who isn't entitled to work for them.

Employer's obligations essentially remain the same as under the previous Act – but there is a key change to the “reasonable excuse” provisions. A tax code declaration IR330 form is no longer a reasonable excuse for employing someone who is not entitled to work for you.

The Department of Labour recommends it is good practice to check all prospective employees are entitled to work in New Zealand, in the job offered, and to keep good records of this.

Who can work in New Zealand?

- New Zealand citizens, including Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau nationals
- New Zealand residents and permanent residents
- Holders of Australian current permanent residence visas (including a resident return visa) and who are granted a New Zealand resident visa on arrival
- Australian citizens who entered New Zealand on a current Australian passport
- Non-New Zealanders who hold a valid visa with work entitlements.

'Work' means any activity for 'gain or reward'. Gain or reward includes any payment or benefit that can be valued in terms of money, such as board and lodging, goods (such as food or clothing) and services (such as transport).

To ensure that they are meeting their obligations a growing number of employers are signing up to Immigration New Zealand's free online tool VisaView.

Employers can use VisaView to check information such as a passport number and surname against Immigration's database for (in most cases) a quick online 'yes' or 'no' as to whether a person is entitled to work here, together with any specific work conditions that may apply to the individual.

The system also enables registered employers to confirm New Zealand passport information provided by the jobseeker, and therefore confirm New Zealand citizenship and entitlement to work in any job.

About three-quarters of New Zealanders between the ages of 16 and 65 hold, or have held, a passport. Legislation is before Parliament that will, if passed, allow registered employers to confirm the citizenship of most New Zealanders via confirmation of birth or citizenship information.

Immigration Act Implementation Project Manager Wayne Levick says VisaView is getting good feedback from a wide range of businesses. Employers are using VisaView because it not only confirms work eligibility and visa expiry dates, but serves as a record of the checks they have done. It also provides certainty about electronic visas, such as those issued to working holiday makers, and means employers don't have to interpret passport labels and stamps.

The combination of online checks and Immigration's dedicated employer phone line make it simple to check that job seekers are legally allowed to work for you, and easy to show you've done the right thing should visa issues arise.

For more information about VisaView, see: www.immigration.govt.nz/visaview

NZ Vocational Education and Training Research Forum

The Industry Training Federation is proud to be running the **NZ Vocational Education and Training Research Forum** for the 8th year in 2011.

This year the Research Forum will be held on **27 & 28 April** at Rutherford House, Wellington. Information about the forum can be found in the attached flyer.

Registrations are now open. For more information or to register please visit:

www.itf.org.nz/research-forum-2011

International Delegation to USA: Community Colleges

TAFE Directors Australia and the LH Martin Institute are jointly hosting a **delegation to the USA** [<http://www.lhmartininstitute.edu.au/conferences-and-events/44-international-delegation-to-usa-community-colleges-reviewing-four-year-degrees-and-the-tertiary-agenda>] **9-16 April 2011 (New Orleans-Miami)**, which will examine the community college system and offer a range of international networking opportunities.

This delegation is designed for institutional leaders in TAFE institutes, dual-sector universities and private cross-sector providers; individuals involved in education policy development, higher education regulation, registration, accreditation and quality assurance; staff development practitioners involved in workforce development; and researchers in tertiary education.

The program incorporates the **American Association of Community Colleges 91st Convention**, which attracts over 2,000 community college presidents and senior administrators, as well as international educators, representatives of business/industry and federal agencies.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE: Friday 11 March 2011, unless filled earlier.

Find out more: [Click here](#) or copy the following into your browser address bar: [<http://www.lhmartininstitute.edu.au/conferences-and-events/44-international-delegation-to-usa-community-colleges-reviewing-four-year-degrees-and-the-tertiary-agenda>]

LH Martin Institute

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Contact Details for the 2011 NZAPEP Board

Name	Office	Areas of Representation	Address Details	Contact details
Edwige Fava	President	Media Liaison, Communications & PR, NZQA, Research & Degree and Schools	Catholic Institute of Aotearoa New Zealand PO Box 1937 Thorndon Wellington	Ph.: (04) 496 1712 email: e.fava@wn.catholic.org.nz
Karl Yates	Vice President:	TEC, Industry Training and International	Avonmore Tertiary Academy 202 Cashel Street Christchurch	Ph.: (03) 977 2711 email: karl.yates@avonmore.ac.nz
Fiso John Fiso	Vice President	Maori/Pacifica, Foundation Learning	New Zealand Institute of Sport PO Box 1260 Wellington	Ph.: (04) 495 8390 email: john.fiso@nzis.co.nz
Luella Bartlett		Assist: NZQA, International and Industry Training	The Professional Bar & Restaurant School PO Box 14-7076 Ponsonby Auckland	Ph.: (09) 920 3934 email: luella@barcourse.co.nz
John Diggins	Secretary/ Treasurer	Assist: Maori/Pacifica, TEC, Membership & Services and Research & Degree	Te Tari Puna Ora o Aotearoa NZ Childcare Association PO Box 12-725 Thorndon Wellington	Ph.: (04) 471 6801 email: john.diggins@nzca.ac.nz
Keith Heathcote		Events	AMES IT Academy PO Box 105-380 Queen St Auckland	Ph.: (09) 309 0777 email: keith.heathcote@ames.ac.nz
Margie Sorensen		Marketing and Membership Services	Information Technology Training Institute PO Box 18023 Auckland	Ph.: (09) 528 9753 email: margie@itti.ac.nz
Chuck Wareham	Executive Director		NZAPEP PO Box 6411 Marion Square Wellington 6141	Ph.: (04) 471 2460 Mob: 027 471 2460 Fax: 0800 692 737 email: chuck.wareham@nzapep.co.nz

Correspondence to Members

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