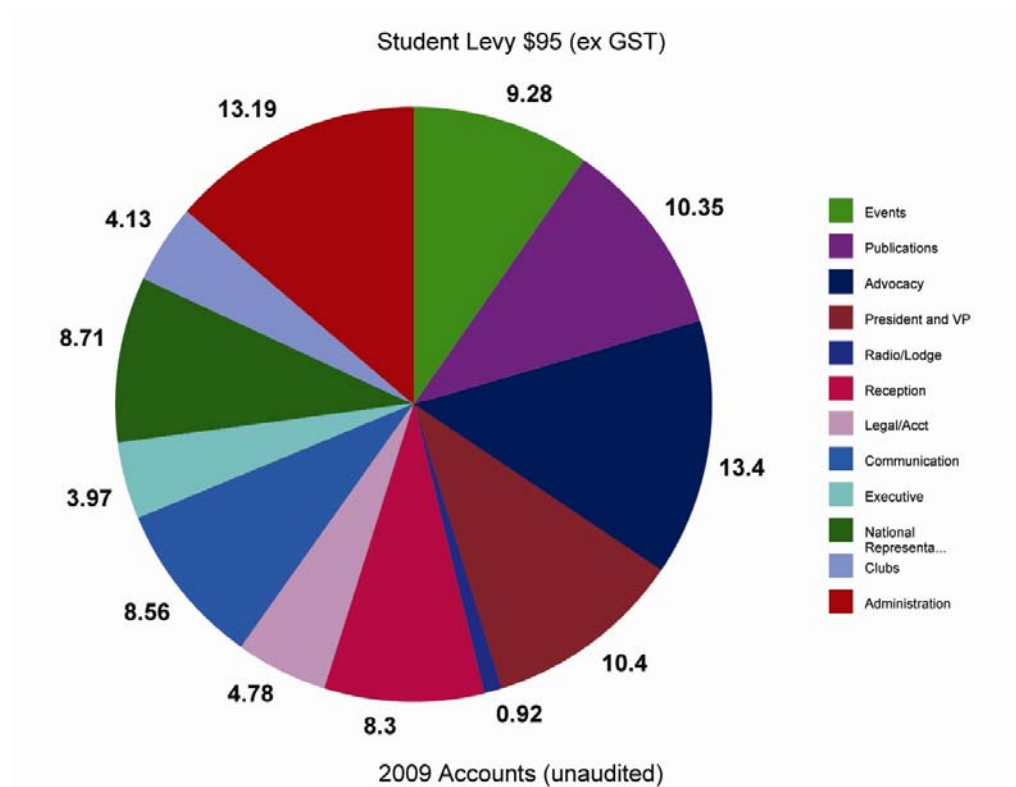


STUDENT LEVY – WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

Currently every student pays a small fee to the Association which is used to help the Association achieve all of the work noted above. For 2009, the fee was \$108. As LUSA has to pay 12.5% of this fee in GST, this leaves approximately \$95. This small cost is equivalent to the price of a textbook and is used to provide services, representation, advocacy, events and clubs and activities for all students for a whole year.

It should be noted that \$108 (incl GST) has been the Student levy for the past 5 years and was only increased to \$150 (\$131.25 plus GST) in 2010. However, the 2010 figure was not used because LUSA wanted to base the findings on actual expenditure and not forecasted income. The University makes incremental payments to LUSA throughout the year and while we may know what the student levy figure is, we do not know the final EFTS total for the year and are dependent upon the University for this information. However, this information is not known until later into the second semester (according to the University). The first instalment at the new rate is not due from the University until the middle of April 2010 and the final payment is due around January 2011. It is envisioned that more funding will be made available to areas that the Association would like to expand in such as welfare, food banks and clubs and societies.

The following graph illustrates where the Student Levy was used in 2009.



As we can see in the graph, **Advocacy** (\$13.40) and **Administration** (\$13.19) is a major portion of the budget. Advocacy includes representation on the large number of committees as noted previously as well as independent representation on behalf of individual students.

Administration is the centre of any organisation and consequently it also takes up a large portion of LUSA's budget. These costs which include ACC payments, insurance,

photocopying and staffing costs, are offset by income generated throughout the year. Income of around \$30k is generated each year to offset the cost of **LUSA's publications** (\$10.35) which includes the Rough Guide, Diary, Wall planner and the Student Survival Guide. While it could be argued that a good portion of the budget goes towards admin and salaries, it is also used to employ skilled and experienced staff to run advocacy services, to facilitate our numerous clubs and facilities, organise events and activities, to write and publish our student magazine Caclin, Wall planner and Diary, and provide valuable reception services. Staff deliver these services every day of the year and not just when the University is in semester.

The **President and Vice-President** (\$10.40) are elected representatives and sit on a number of committees. The President receives an annual salary of \$33,072 and the Vice-President receives a taxable honorarium of \$4,500. Other costs such as **Events** (\$9.28) are also offset by sponsorship. The Events include many of the fun activities and for many students this may be your main interaction with LUSA. The events and activities change regularly and LUSA works hard to enhance the Lincoln experience by providing the regular events as noted above as well as other activities as decided by the Association.

The **Executive** (\$8.71) are the other people you voted in to represent you. The Executive receive an Honorarium (subject to satisfactory completion of agreed tasks) and are expected to work 10-12 hours per week. As well as attend and assist with all of the events that are promoted by the Association, and any others as determined by the Executive member during the honoraria period. While there is an honoraria payment available, this is a small contribution towards the large number of voluntary hours actually worked by the Executive

LUSA also recognises and acknowledges the importance of **national representation** (\$8.56) and is a member of several national organisations including University Sport of New Zealand, Student Job Search, New Zealand Union of Students' Association and Te Mana Akonga, the national Māori Tertiary Students' Association. Representation at this level ensures that local issues can be addressed at a national level (and vice versa) and ensures that students' voices are heard and taken seriously on issues that are of importance to students.

The **Reception** at (\$8.30) is the place you can always come for friendly reliable help. We run a small retail service to offset costs, and run book sales for you at least twice a year. Other costs like legal fees, accountant and audit fees (\$4.78) help the Association to remain accountable to its members, keeping everything transparent and above board.

Effective communication is valuable in any organisation (\$3.97). The communication costs include computer leasing, telephone line rental and call costs, plus web site which are all essential for the day to day running of the Association. Finally, LUSA hosts a radio station on campus – open to anyone who wants to come along and have your own show. The Lodge is a ski lodge we own at Craigieburn Ski field. This is currently under repairs and review and we hope to have it available for use over the coming winter.

We have identified and highlighted the essential services, independent representation, advocacy, sports clubs and societies, and activities and events that are provided by your Students' Association and other organisations that LUSA interacts with. These same essential services are mirrored on a larger scale by other students associations throughout New Zealand. LUSA believes that many of these essential services can **only** be provided by students associations in order to be a truly independent, student-focused service. Other services provided by LUSA include liaison between the University and students, liaison between academic staff and students, class rep training, clubs and activities, events, and support and further advisory services.