



PAPAIOEA
PALMERSTON
NORTH
CITY

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

MINUTES ATTACHMENTS COUNCIL

9AM, WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2023

COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR
CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
32 THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH

COUNCIL MEETING

1 November 2023

Presentation - Students Against Cuts

1. Presentation - Students Against Cuts 4

Additional Items

1. Rectified Recommendations - Economic Growth 9 October 2023 meeting 10

Students Against Cuts



Background

- Potentially the biggest cuts in history of the sector (Belgrave, 2016, p 246.)
 - Approx. 400-500 job cuts proposed at Massey.
 - Major programme cuts in College of Sciences, 60% proposed staff reduction (Goer, 2023.)
 - 31% proposed staff reduction in Humanities and Social Sciences (White, 2023). Paper and programme cuts to proceed in 2024.
 - Digital plus and low and no enrolments policies are designed to cut back on in-person teaching, meaning (further) diminished campus vibrancy, student choice and educational quality.
 - Fear of 'death spiral' scenario: reputational damage and loss of teaching provision leads to fewer domestic and international enrolments, leading to more cuts, resulting in further reputational damage, loss of teaching provision.
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How will this impact PN?

- Massey Manawatū campus has 5000 internal students, and most of Massey's 18000 distance students are taught from that campus (Massey University, 2022).
- Loss of millions of dollars of revenue as student and staff numbers reduce (education sector accounts for 8% of GDP in PN [pncc, 2020]).
- Diminished choice and in-person teaching will mean students will choose to study elsewhere, particularly in disciplines not suited to online or blended delivery.
- Loss of public good research provision.
- Intersecting and compounded impacts on PN businesses, community wellbeing and employment.

What we seek

- Pause cuts and return funding
 - Open the books; allow fair comment and alternatives
 - A full five-way discussion between MoE/TEC, management, community stakeholders, staff, and students
 - A better university: that serves the community; and is directed by the needs and aspirations of mana whenua, staff, students, and community
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How PNCC can help

- Appeal to Tertiary Education Commission & University Council, on behalf of Palmerston North
- Support a Palmy 'Save Massey' Huivenue, networks, publicity
- Submissions on behalf of PN during Massey's consultations; pressure University Council to Open the Books
- Join our call for a summit of govt, staff, students, and communities

Resources

- PNCC, Manawātū education sector report (2020)
- Massey University Annual Report (2022)
- Belgrave, M. (2016) From empire's servant to global citizen: History of Massey, Massey Uni press
- [O'Neill, J. \(2023\) The Fraser-Beeby Ideal: Is it time to abandon it? Policy Quarterly, 19:3.](#)
- [Wood, J. et al. \(2023\) Complex Education Policy for Complex Times, Policy Quarterly, 19:3.](#)
- [Tertiary Education Union. \(July 2023\) Massey Policy Changes will Diminish University.](#)
- [Stannard, S. \(Oct 2023\) "Massey estranged from what was once a student city", Manawātū Standard, October 2023.](#)
- Amos, L. (2023). "Student Issues - Content Analysis of Massey Confessions", in [What Really Matters: ideas to Inform the PNCC Long-term plan, 2024-2034, PNCC, 2023, pp 56-58.](#)
- [Boston, J. \(June 2023\) The crisis in tertiary education is caused by inadequate funding, Newsroom.](#)
- [Johnson, M. et al., \(2023\) Blessing or bloat? Non-academic staffing in NZ's universities in comparative perspective, The NZ Initiative Research Report, August 2023.](#)

