

NUSSAS

1982 Resumé

Introduction

THIS is a record of the main events NUSAS has initiated and been involved in over the last year, 1982. The list is by no means complete but shows that the National Union is as active as ever.

1982 has been a very productive year. The theme, Campus Action for Democracy has provided the direction for organizing students on campus around issues which affect them as well as mobilising students to play a supportative role in the broader struggle for democracy.

The campuses are strong having elected SRCs dedicated to building NUSAS. Students are organizing on campus and demanding a say in the running of their lives. NUSAS continues to fight for a democratic and just South Africa.



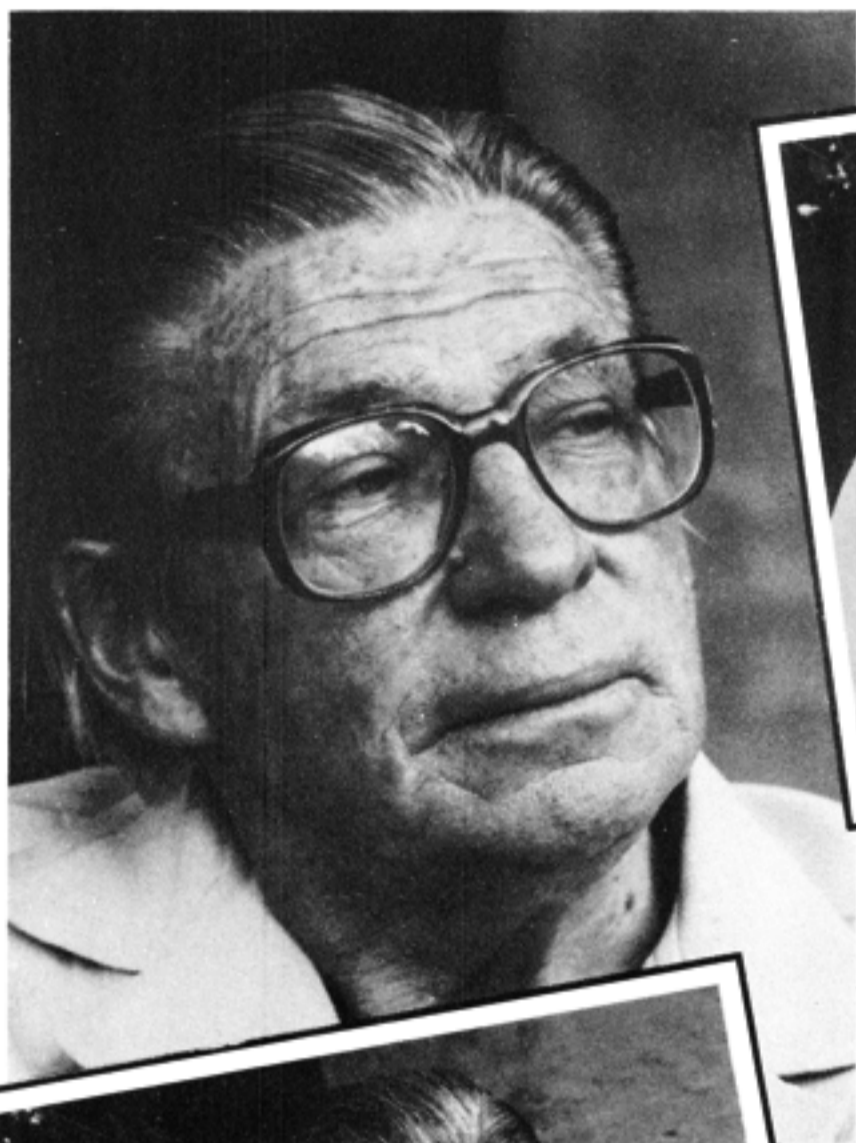
1982 NUSAS HEAD OFFICE

*Di Sandler (Sec Gen), Annette Griessel (Media), Bruce Irvine (Projects)
Mog Davids (Admin), Jonty Joffe (President), Mike Evans (Research)*

Contents

1982 NUSAS THEME	2
REPRESSION AT FORT HARE	4
BEYERS NAUDE	5
NUSAS CAMPUSES GET TOGETHER	7
NUSAS MEDIA	8
STUDENTS AND STATE REPRESSION	10
DURBAN	12
PIETERMARITZBURG	13
RHODES	14
UCT	15
WITS	16
DIRECTIVES	17
STUDENT SERVICES	19
FONS	19
TOWARDS 1983	20

NUSAS Honorary President 1982



Beyers Naudé

ON the 31 October this year, 67 year-old Dr. C.F. Beyers Naudé was banned for a further 3 years. This was in addition to the 5 he had already served since the widespread bannings of October 19, 1977.

In banning Beyers, the government has attempted to silence someone who has come to represent the role of whites in the struggle for democracy in South Africa. Born within the heart of Afrikanerdom, by the age of 25 he was a Dutch Reformed dominee, a Broederbond, and a Nationalist. Later he was to be elected Moderator of the Transvaal synod of the DRC but by this stage his political views had begun to be shaken by the struggles of oppressed South Africans.

In 1963 he became the first (and only) director of the Christian Institute. In the 14 years of its existence, the C.I. consistently and constructively challenged the racist and exploitative practices of much of white South Africa, including the establishment church. Operating more than a decade ahead of their time, Beyers and the C.I. offered challenges to the church which are only now beginning to be taken up.

For the past 5 years Beyers has been annually elected as NUSAS honorary president, although his banning order prevents him accepting the appointment. Throughout this period he has remained a constant source of strength and inspiration to the student movement.

NUSAS Honorary Vice-Presidents

Guy Berger
Adv. George Bizos
Dr. Alex Boraine
Prof. G.R. Bozzoli
Geoff Budlender
Dr. Jacklyn Cock
Dr. Coovadia
Paul Davids

John Dugard
Sheena Duncan
Colin Gardner
Fink Haysom
Barbara Hogan
Zac Jacob
Helen Joseph
Paddy Kearney

Sir Richard Luyt
Florence Mkize
Mike Morris
Curtis Nkondo
Charles Nupen
Dr. Philpott
Prof. S. Saunders
Michael Savage

George Sewpersahd
Helen Suzman
Prof. P. Tobias
Auret van Heerden
Nick Visser
David Webster
Eddie Webster

1982 NUSAS Theme Campus Action for Democracy

THE 1982 NUSAS theme, 'Campus Action for Democracy' has been a particularly popular slogan for activities during the year. 300 students gathered in Cape Town for the annual NUSAS Congress. The outcome of five days of discussion, evaluation and planning was the adoption of the theme. "Campus Action for Democracy" called on NUSAS to play a dual role. Firstly, to mobilize students to play a role in the general fight for democracy. And secondly, to organise students to specifically challenge the undemocratic nature of our university campuses and our education system.

The 1982 theme has, in many ways, brought together the lessons of the recent history of the national union. It has integrated the educative, low-key initiatives of the late 1970s with the outward-looking, high profile activity of more recent years. At the same time as being exciting, its primary impact has therefore been in consolidating the organization of the student movement.

From the very beginning the theme has been a "living one." It was launched on the campuses by focussing on the issue of security legislation and particularly the

massive wave of detentions which gripped the country for the early part of the year.

For the rest of the year it continued to serve as the common thread, linking together the numerous issues highlighted. These included the expulsion of students from the University of Fort Hare, the militarization of

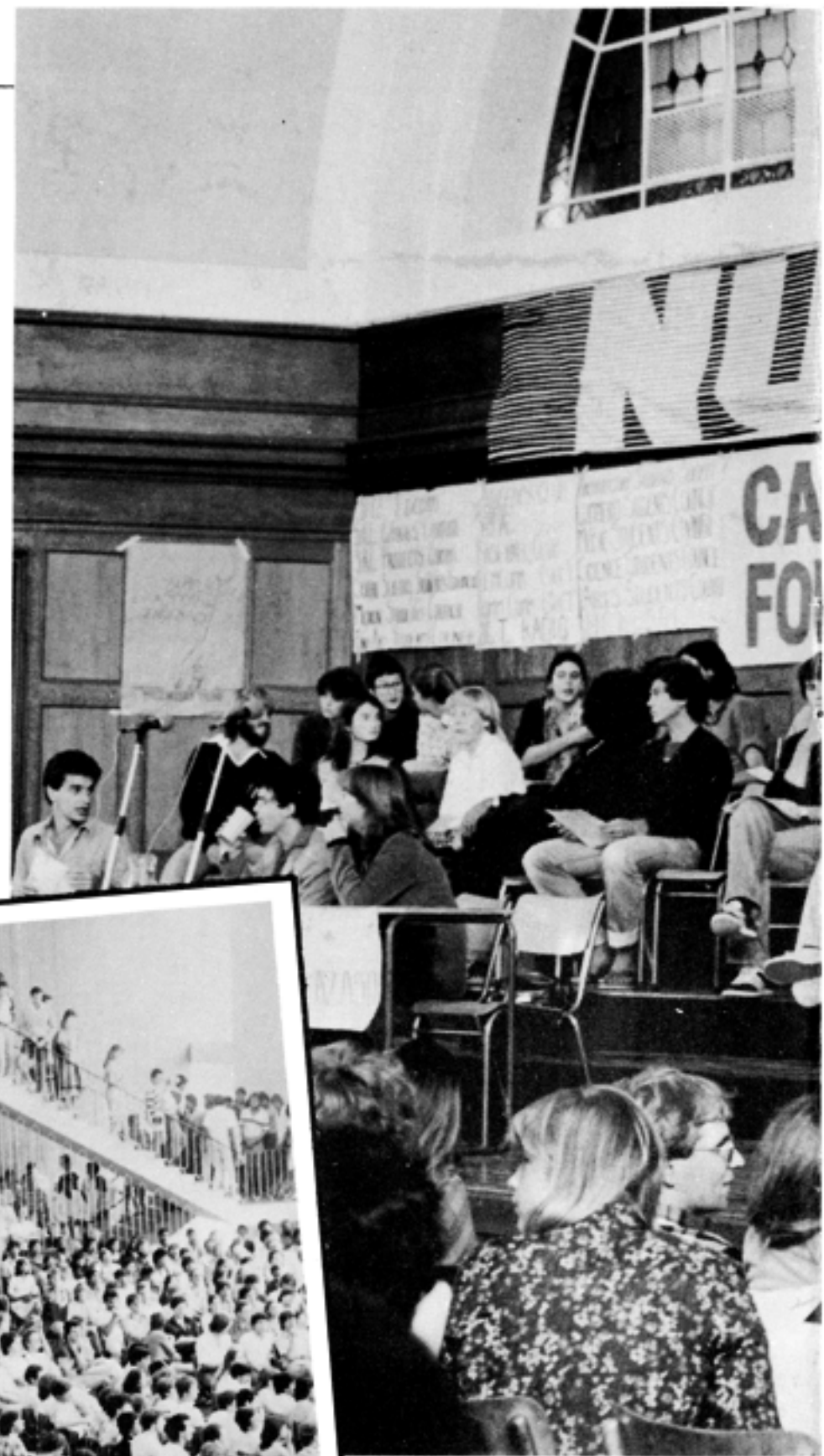
South African society and the Nationalist Government's continued attempts at "reform".

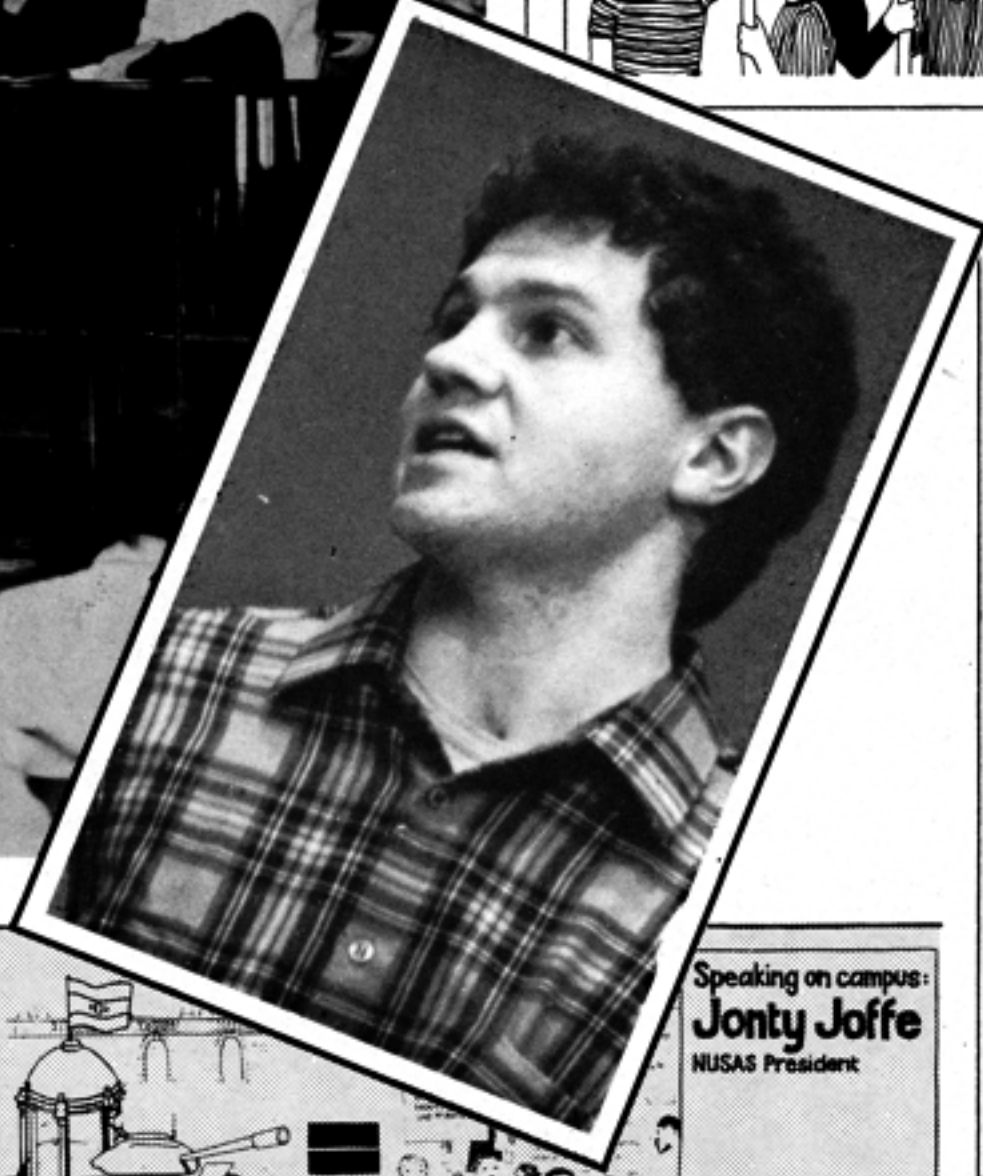
A central focus of the theme has been the severe crisis currently facing the South African educational system. The publication on "The Crisis in Education",

the July Festival entitled, "Education: weapon and tool" and various talks have examined the nature and extent of the crisis. They have exposed the fact that State initiatives have failed to come to grips with the crisis, even in the short-term. In this context the de Lange Commission and newly established "Vista

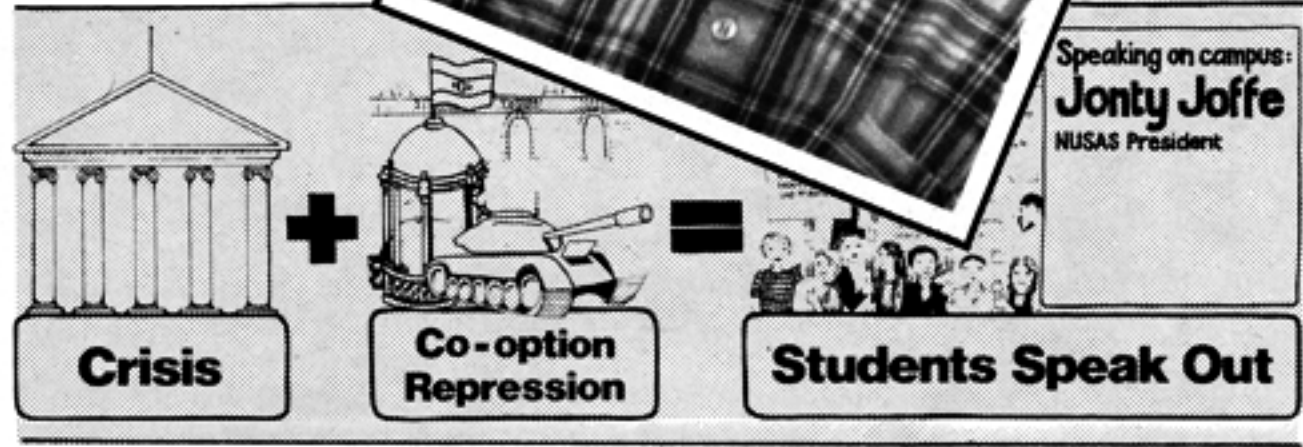


*Left: student body meeting, Durban
Above: over 30 representatives from UCT organisations sit on the stage at a Fort Hare solidarity meeting attended by 1000 students
Right: Jonty Joffe speaks on how the state's co-optation/repression strategies affect students*





- ially relevant education that can be put to the services of the majority and education geared for action and application.
- * We must demand that no police be allowed on campus and no university collaboration with the police.
- * We must demand freedom of access to information, knowledge, ideas and research.
- * We must call on our university administrations to take an active role in supporting the movement for change in South Africa.



University" came under scrutiny. The fact that the year ended with massive student boycotts at Fort Hare and Turfloop universities, has dramatically re-emphasised the severity of this crisis.

1982 has seen students shifting a considerable amount of energy into working for democracy on the cam-

pus themselves. Campaigns like that for Residence Reform at Rhodes and around Academic Freedom in the science faculty at UCT have taught students invaluable lessons about the capacity to organise around the issues that concern students most – their educational environment.

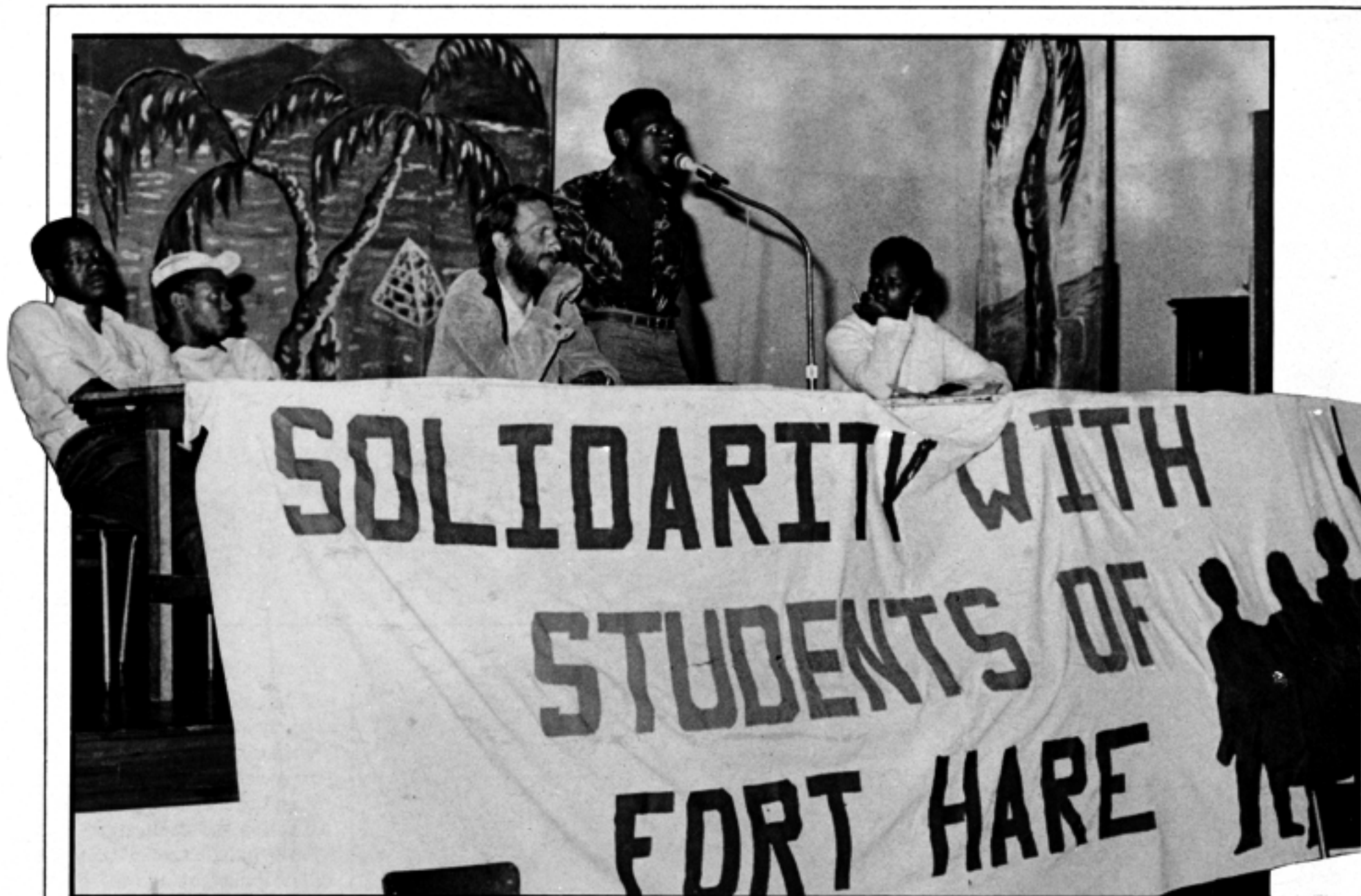
The 1982 theme publica-

tion summed up the demands and aims of these initiatives

- * We must demand that we as students, have a substantial say in the running and direction of the university.
- * We must challenge the authoritarian nature of our campuses.
- * We must demand a soc-

Most importantly, we must begin to gear our universities to a South African future. We must begin to work out now what role they should play in working for change in South Africa and ultimately, what the role of the universities should be in that democratic future.

1982 has been the year in which the national union has truly begun to establish the university as a real "site" of democratic struggle. The challenges remain great, but the lessons learnt have focussed the attention of students firmly in the right direction. ■



FORT HARE

STUDENTS UNDER ATTACK!

1500 ARRESTED
2 SHOT
25 DETAINED



SOLIDARITY

Repression at Fort Hare

VIOLENCE erupted at the University of Fort Hare when Lennox Sebe, President of the Ciskei bantustan, arrived for the graduation ceremony. The students warned before the eruption that the situation would be inflammatory. Police opened fire on the students - 2 were wounded and 22 detained.

Students called a boycott and demanded the release of the detainees. 1500 students were charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act. The campus was continually occupied by para-military vehicles.

AZASO called for a National Day of Solidarity with the students of Fort Hare. The NUSAS campuses responded to the call. At UCT a mass meeting was held. The 1000 students supported the call for a one-day solidarity boycott.

Students used the opportunity to educate themselves by participating in a programme looking at issues such as the homelands, resettlement and education. Rhodes, the NUSAS campus closest to the situation, also had a solidarity boycott and ran an educative programme. Meetings were

held at Wits and Durban.

However, the situation did not remain peaceful. Students returning to Fort Hare in mid-July experienced bad study conditions. Continual power failures in the hostels were not rectified by the administration. Students decided to protest, by occupying 'freedom square', a courtyard with extensive lighting. The rector reacted by disbanding the interim SRC that had recently been formed. A mass boycott of lectures by students followed.

When an admin ultimatum to return to class or leave campus was not met, students were forced to leave by Ciskei police. A lecturer sympathetic to student demands, Jonathan Jackson, was suspended. Attempts to reinstate the students through court interdicts have been unsuccessful. At present 2000 Fort Hare students, 65 per cent of the student body, remain expelled.

NUSAS campuses again responded. Meetings were held and pamphlets distributed. The disbanding of the interim committee was condemned, as students felt that all students should have the right to representation in the form of democratic organisation, students also condemned police harassment of Fort Hare students and involvement of police in campus affairs.

At NUSAS National Council in September a call was made to our university administrations to condemn the actions of the Fort Hare administration.

In taking up the issue on the NUSAS campuses the differences between black and white university campuses was clearly analysed. NUSAS campuses resolved to continue to express solidarity with and support for the students of Fort Hare. ■



Rhodes students attend alternative lectures at a 2-day Fort Hare solidarity sit-in

Beyers Naudé

South African democrat



**Banned 19 October 1977
Unbanned 31 October 1982?**

At September National Council it was decided to focus attention during the 4th quarter on the 5th anniversary of the banning of the NUSAS Honorary President, Beyers Naudé. It was felt that whether his ban was lifted on October 31, or whether he was rebanned, it was important for us to pay tribute to a man who has played such a significant role in the struggle for democracy in South Africa, and who has been such an inspiration to the student movement.

Broadsheets were produced on all the campuses focussing on Beyers Naude's life, his work (particularly in the Christian Institute), and on the reasons for, and effects of the bannings of October 19, 1977. Head Office also produced a national poster, which was displayed on all the campuses. ■



1



2



3



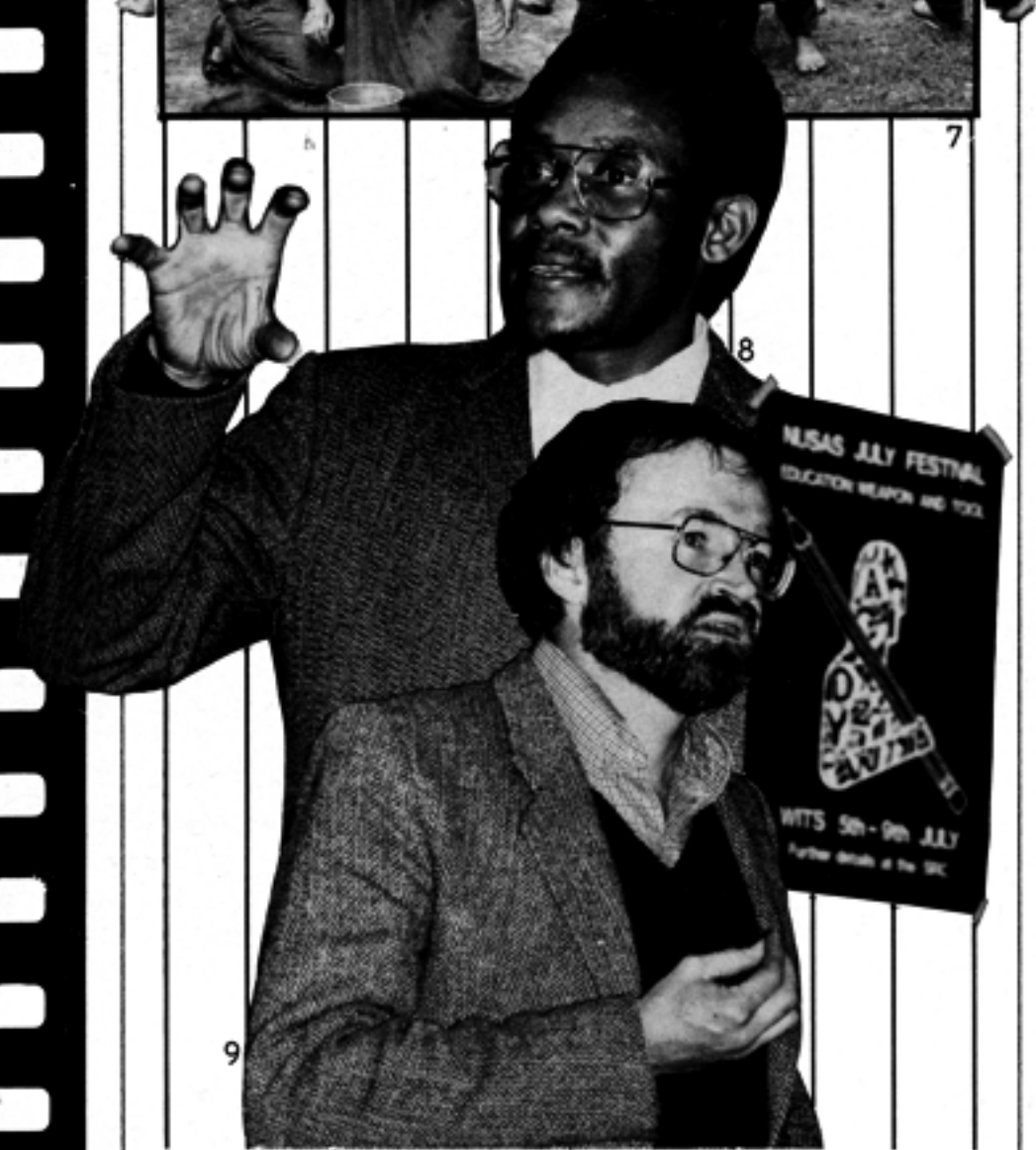
4



5



7



8

9

1. Eliot Shibangu opens the July Festival 2. Delegates at Katberg 3. Gary Cullen delivers the Durban report, Rhodes National Council. 4. July Festival: Nusas, Cosas, Azaso and Saspu presidents in a panel discussion on 'the education struggle'. 5. Group discussion at July Festival. 6. Delegates to Wits National Council. 7. Katberg: UCT Projects Comm members present a play on 'socialisation'. 8. Festival: GAWU's Eric Molobi speaks on 'the role of intellectuals in the struggle for democracy'. 9. Festival: Dave Webster on 'the political economy of education'. 10. Rhodes SRC delegates at Rhodes National Council.



6



6



NUSAS campuses get together

Laughter all round: product of a July Festival drama workshop

THE coming together of NUSAS students from all over the country at national events are in many senses the highlights of the NUSAS calendar. This year saw particularly successful gatherings.

The Katberg April seminar, an introductory seminar for people newly involved in campus organisations, is one of the longest standing NUSAS events. In the April vacation this year over 90 students met for 4 days of papers, drama, film, simulation games and

discussions.

A wide range of topics were covered including socialisation, the history of the student movement, the struggle over land and labour, propaganda and education.

Students from the different campuses were able to relax together, exchange ideas and get to know each other. All in all it was a very valuable learning experience.

Perhaps the educative highlight of the year was the July festival held at Wits. The theme of the conferen-

ce was 'Education : weapon and tool.'

Talks, seminars, panel discussions and films covered many issues related to the student movement. Over 200 students participated in the intensive 5 day programme.

The festival was preceded by a Labour Directive workshop and followed by a 4 day conference on women. (These will be discussed under directives).

Delegates from SRCs and the Pietermaritzburg NUSAS local committee met four times this year at

NUSAS National Councils, to assess, discuss and plan activities for the term ahead.

Official delegates include 3 NUSAS representatives nominated from each SRC. Many other students, including representatives from the NUSAS Directives, also attend to contribute and to find out more about NUSAS.

Reports from the different campuses are presented on SRC and other NUSAS activities. Issues are discussed and plans for the next term coordinated. ■

NUSAS Media

NUSAS

National Union of South African Students



ORIENTATION WEEK FOR

The Crisis in Education



ORIENTATION FOLDER

NUSAS believes it has an extremely important role to play in providing political and ideological input to both students and non-students. In this regard a great deal of attention was given this year to our publications and media.

NUSAS News has been very valuable this year in keeping students on the NUSAS campuses informed of national NUSAS gatherings. Students are also able to gain a national perspective through the coverage of news from different centres.

It is important for NUSAS to make its presence felt on the campuses right at the beginning of the academic year. This year we gave all new, and many old students an Orientation Week Folder. In it we included pamphlets on NUSAS, its structure, history and the theme for 1982. We also included a sheet with interesting facts about South Africa, a sticker, and a year planner which students could stick up on their walls and use throughout the year. New students also used the folder for all other material collected during orientation week.

THE CRISIS IN EDUCATION

In discussing the implementation of the theme at the beginning of the year, it was felt that students needed to come to a better understanding of the education system in South Africa. "The Crisis in Education" focussed on 3 broad areas. Firstly, it examined the current education crisis in South Africa. Secondly, it focussed on State initiatives in the schools, examining, in particular, the de Lange Commission, and the continuing repression of students. Finally, it looked at the university system, at the racialisation of the universities in the form of the Vista initiative, and at the so-called liberal universities and the call for them to be racially "opened." It concluded by calling on students to continue the struggle for real gains within the university in the interest of the long-term goal, of a changed education system, in a changed society. This publication was banned.

CAMPUS ACTION FOR DEMOCRACY

As in 1981, NUSAS produced a publication on its theme. This was in semi-cartoon form with many pictures and drawings making it accessible and easy to read.

The publication examined the undemocratic nature of South African society, focussing particularly on the education system, its history and the resistance to it over the past 3 decades. The conclusion looked at the university system and the possibility for student action on the campuses. Within 2 weeks of its release the publication was banned. In September we were successful in appealing against the banning and were able to continue distribution.

NUSAS NEWS

Our National Union's 60th Congress

NUSAS NEWS

Some friends back but repression remains



National Council at Wits

CAMPUS ACTION FOR DEMOCRACY

NUSAS JULY
Education: We



SPT

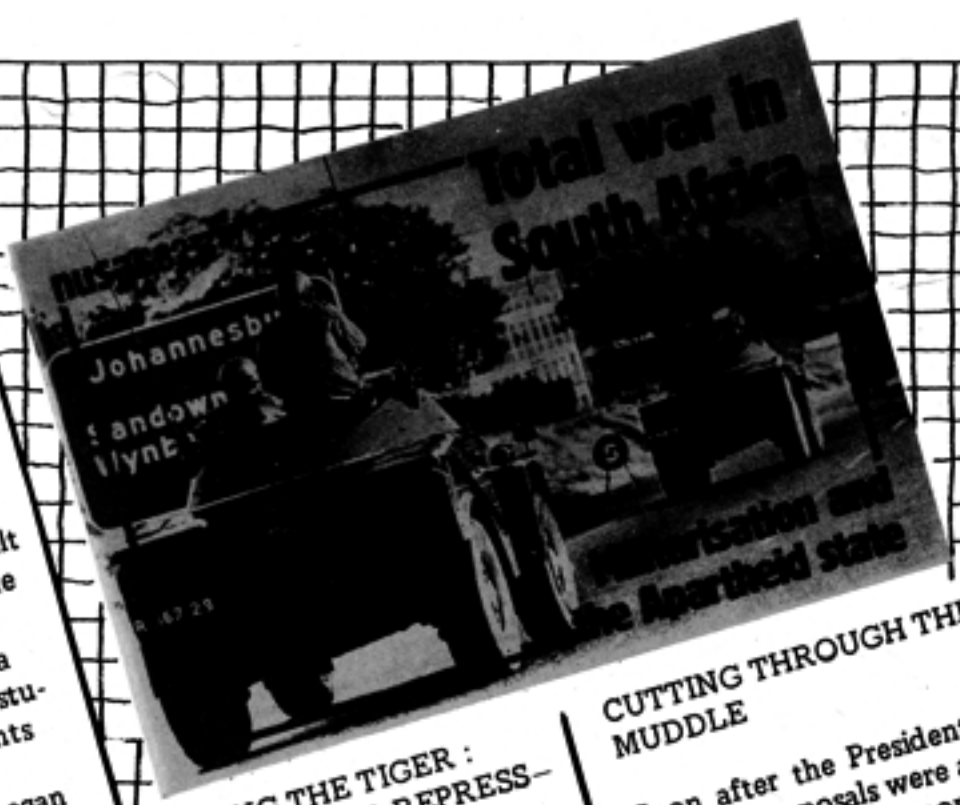
TOTAL WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA : MILITARISATION AND THE APARTHEID STATE

The civil war theme was taken further in NUSAS' lengthiest, and most successful publication of 1982. The militarisation issue is one which affects students very directly, with the result that this publication on the SADF and the South African civil war drew a positive response from students and non-students alike.

The publication began by examining the growth of the SADF alongside the history of resistance. This section was complemented by a note on war resistance in South Africa, and by a chronology of resistance from 1906 until today.

The bulk of the publication then examined the penetration of the SADF into all spheres of South African society : its increasingly significant role in the area of political decision-making; its growing involvement in the economy, particularly through the massive arms industry; the SADF's attempts to incorporate women and blacks; its various operational activities, from the war in Namibia and Angola to local civil defence and police operations; and, finally, the SADF's increasing involvement in the education system - both in schools and tertiary educational institutions. The publication concluded by encouraging readers to examine for themselves the implications of the growing militarisation of our society.

Despite its positive acceptance throughout the country, there was one group which - perhaps not surprisingly - did not like the militarisation publication. In a record 6 days after its release, the censor board banned it for distribution. However, its topical content ensured that almost all copies had been snapped up by that stage.



RIDING THE TIGER : REFORM AND REPRESSION IN S.A.

What began as an essay, ended up as a medium length and relatively glossy publication on co-optation and repression in South Africa. In it the State's reformist moves were examined, with particular emphasis being placed on the Riekert Strategy and the recent 'Koornhof Genocide Bills'. The second section of the publication looked at the failure of the reformist strategy and at the State's frequent use of "the big stick," ie military and police repression. The deathblow for the reformist strategy was seen to be reflected in the PC proposals, which do not even begin to meet the minimum demands of the oppressed people in S.A. The conclusion : the intensification of S.A.'s on-going civil war.

CUTTING THROUGH THE MUDDLE

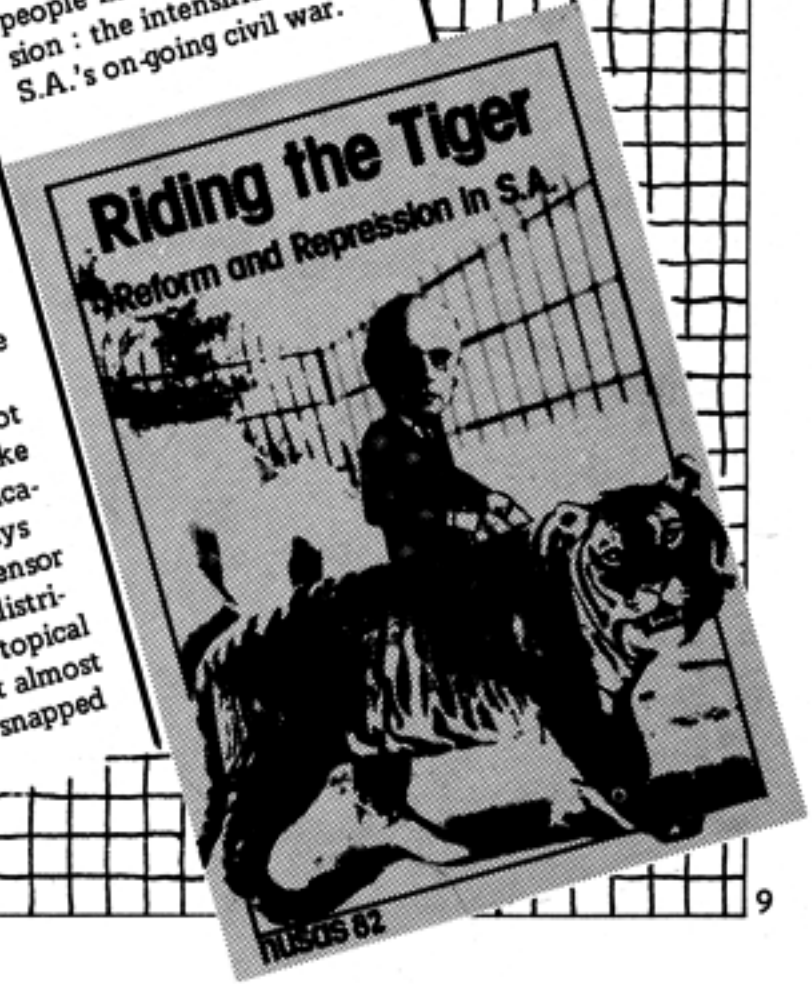
Soon after the President's Council proposals were announced, NUSAS responded in the form of a lengthy pamphlet, 'Cutting through the Muddle'. This examined the President's Council in the context of the current crisis, and then focussed on the various responses to the PC proposals. Unfortunately, the pamphlet was banned before it was widely distributed.



CONGRESS AND FESTIVAL SPEECHES

It was felt that the evening speeches given at the 1981 Congress were of sufficient value to the student movement, to warrant reproducing them. The 6 speeches were included in a publication entitled "A Call for Democracy." They focussed on the issue of democracy, on the role of the student movement and on student activity within the university and in the broader community.

Late in the year NUSAS published a number of speeches given at the July Festival. Produced under the title 'Education: weapon and tool' they should provide a useful basis for discussion in the student movement over the following year.





Sally Hogan addresses meeting in Durban.

Guerilla theatre at detentions meeting at UCT.

Students and state repression

THIS year has been one of immense state repression against the democratic movement as a whole in South Africa. Starting with the death of Dr Neil Aggett whilst in detention at John Vorster Square in Johannesburg, virtually every day has brought news of a further act of repression. It is possible that it is not since the early 1960s that South Africa has suffered under so extensive and brutal an onslaught.

The issue of State repression – and more particularly that of detentions and security legislation – has been one of the primary focusses of NUSAS activities throughout the year.

The call for a national work stoppage in protest

against the death in detention of Neil Aggett caught students right in the midst of orientation week programmes. The event was one of such great importance that work stoppages for the entire university were organised at Rhodes and Wits. The other campuses were able to powerfully wind the issues into meetings called in the first weeks of term to launch the NUSAS theme.

NUSAS joined the initiative of the Detainees Parents Support Committee (DPSC) to collect signatures for a petition protesting against South Africa's security legislation, and organised protest meetings to commemorate 'National Detention Week'. An important role was play-

ed in shifting the national call of protest from one of "charge or release" to detainees to a demand for the "immediate and unconditional" release of all detainees.

Numerous people close to the student movement spent the first months of 1982 in detention. Although the release in March of some of the people detained in the massive State clampdown of late 1981 was greeted with relief, the subsequent banning of Clive van Heerden, Keith Coleman, Fink Haysom, Morris Smithers and Pravin Gordhan once again angered students. Protest meetings were held on the campuses

contributing to the expression of public outrage.

There were numerous other acts of repression during the year that fuelled the attention of students. Prominent amongst these were the death in detention of Ernest Dipale; the disappearance of poisoned COSAS executive member Siphwe Mtimkulu, the deportation of UCT student Mark Kaplan; the denial of a passport to UCT academic Graeme Bloch; the recommendations of the Rabie Commission, the conviction of High Treason of NUSAS Honorary Vice-President, Barbara Hogan and finally the re-banning of NUSAS Honorary President Beyers Naudé. These were focussed on in various ways including seminars, articles in publica-



at UCT.

Sheena Duncan speaks at Wits.

d sion

tions, meetings and broad-
sheets.

The inquest into the death of Neil Aggett captured much public attention during the second half of the year. Students consistently attended the inquest, as well as giving it publicity. Possibly the largest mass meeting of the entire year was held at Wits in October around the issue of "torture in detention."

NUSAS has not itself been the subject of much repression during 1982. Besides the repeated banning of student publications, the State attack against the organization has occurred more on the level of anti-

NUSAS propaganda. The constant focus of the student movement on the plight of other democrats and progressive organisations has been both an educative and a publically important one.

Past NUSAS office-bearers have had an incredibly rough year at the hands of the Nationalist Government.

- * Cedric de Beer, NUSAS media officer in 1976, spent a full 7 months of the year in solitary confinement.
- * Fink Haysom, NUSAS president in 1977, spent 4 months in solitary confinement, before being issued with a 2 year banning order.
- * Andrew Boraine, NUSAS president in 1980 and 1981, remained banned.
- * Auret van Heerden, NUSAS president in 1978 and 1979, spent 7 months of the year in solitary confinement. Despite repeated acts of intimidation he appeared in the Neil Aggett inquest to give detail of the final days of the trade unionist. An affidavit detailing his own treatment and torture in detention was rated inadmissible by the magistrate. ■



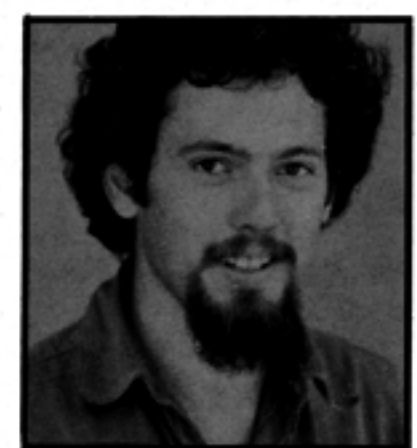
Cedric de Beer



Fink Haysom



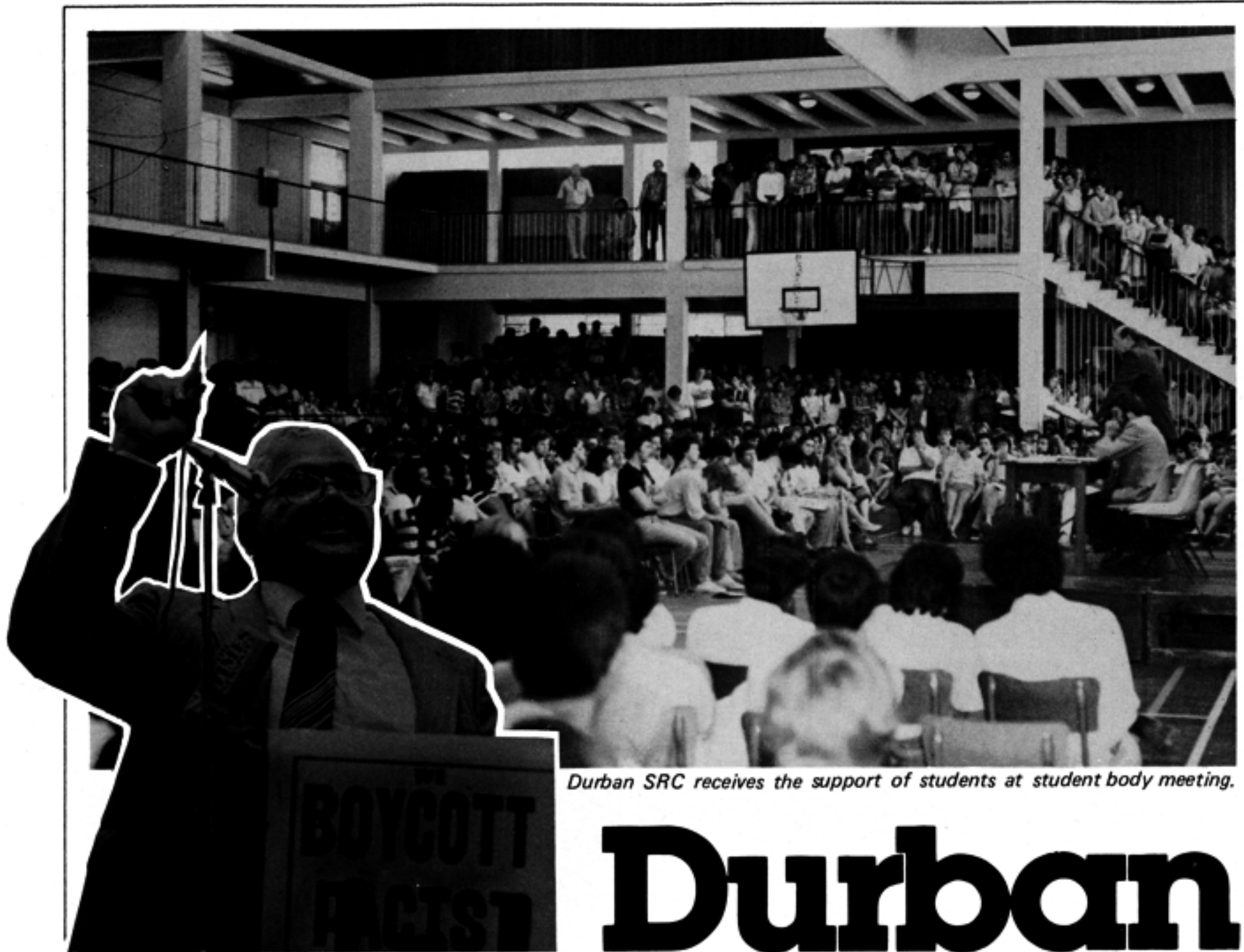
Andrew Boraine



Auret van Heerden



Keith Coleman (left) and Clive van Heerden on their release from detention.



Durban SRC receives the support of students at student body meeting.

Durban

Hassan Howa speaks at the initial Cricket Tour protest meeting.



THE NUSAS theme was launched on Durban campus in conjunction with the issue of detentions. Jonty Joffe, Zac Jacob and Sally Hogan addressed the meeting.

Guerilla theatre shocked the audience when three masked 'interrogators' burst into the meeting in pursuit of a 'detainee' who was then 'beaten, harassed and humiliated' in a simulation of a detainee's experience at the hands of the security police.

The arrival of the SA Breweries invitation cricket side in South Africa caused havoc on the campus. The SRCs of the three Natal University campuses organised a protest meeting over the tour.

The main issue to be focussed on was the international sports boycott of South Africa. Ex-SACOS

president Hassan Howa addressed the meeting.

Right wing students objected to the meeting and mobilised in opposition. Determined to make their presence felt, a small pocket of them hurled abuse and chairs over the balcony onto students sitting in the hall below. A fight broke out in which many students were injured.

The SRC called for a commission of inquiry into campus racism and violence which had erupted at the meeting. The university administration appointed a commission.

A campaign calling for a vote of no confidence in the SRC was initiated by right wing students. The SRC then called a student body meeting and was given the support of students.

A number of educative focuses were held on the

campus during the year, including a militarisation focus as well as a protest on the Prohibition of Information Bill.

The thirtieth anniversary of the Defiance Campaign was commemorated in a week-long focus. Amanda Kwadi from the Johannesburg Womens Federation spoke at a rousing meeting. A well researched publication on the Defiance Campaign was produced.

The editor of the official Durban student newspaper, Dome, and seven members of the SRC are being sued for libel by the professor of Political Science.

This comes in the wake of an exposé by Dome of his alleged activities in his department and links with the SADF. The SRC is defending the charge in court.

Pietermaritzburg unaffiliated campus

PIETERMARITZBURG is the only unaffiliated English language university campus. The last year has been a successful one with increased student activity.

Jonty Joffe and Sally Hogan spoke at the launching of the theme meeting which was linked to the issue of detentions. The meeting went very well and was well attended.

NUTS, the Natal University Transmission Service, was established this year. This is a local radio station with link-ups in the residences and the canteen. It has proved very popular and an exciting acquisition for the campus.

A debate was held on the Defence Amendment Bill between a PFP MP and a Nationalist MP. The meeting drew a lot of interest, though no motion was taken.

The tour of campuses by overseas musician Peter Starsted under the auspices of NASRO, the National Student Radio Organisation drew an interesting response from a large group of students who objected to the tour.

They organised an alternative concert on the same night as the Starsted concert. This enabled students to voice their opposition to Starsted's breaking of the international cultural boycott of South Africa.

A very successful concert was held which was reported to be much better than the Starsted show, lasting four hours longer! Students rocked the night away with gay abandon.

The Rents Protest in Sobantu township in Pietermaritzburg was discussed at an informative meeting addressed by Martin Wittenberg and Virgil Boheme.

The bread price increase was also discussed and petitions calling for the price to be lowered were circulated and many signatures obtained.

The feminist group OASIS - Organisation against Sexism in our Society - held a focus on women.

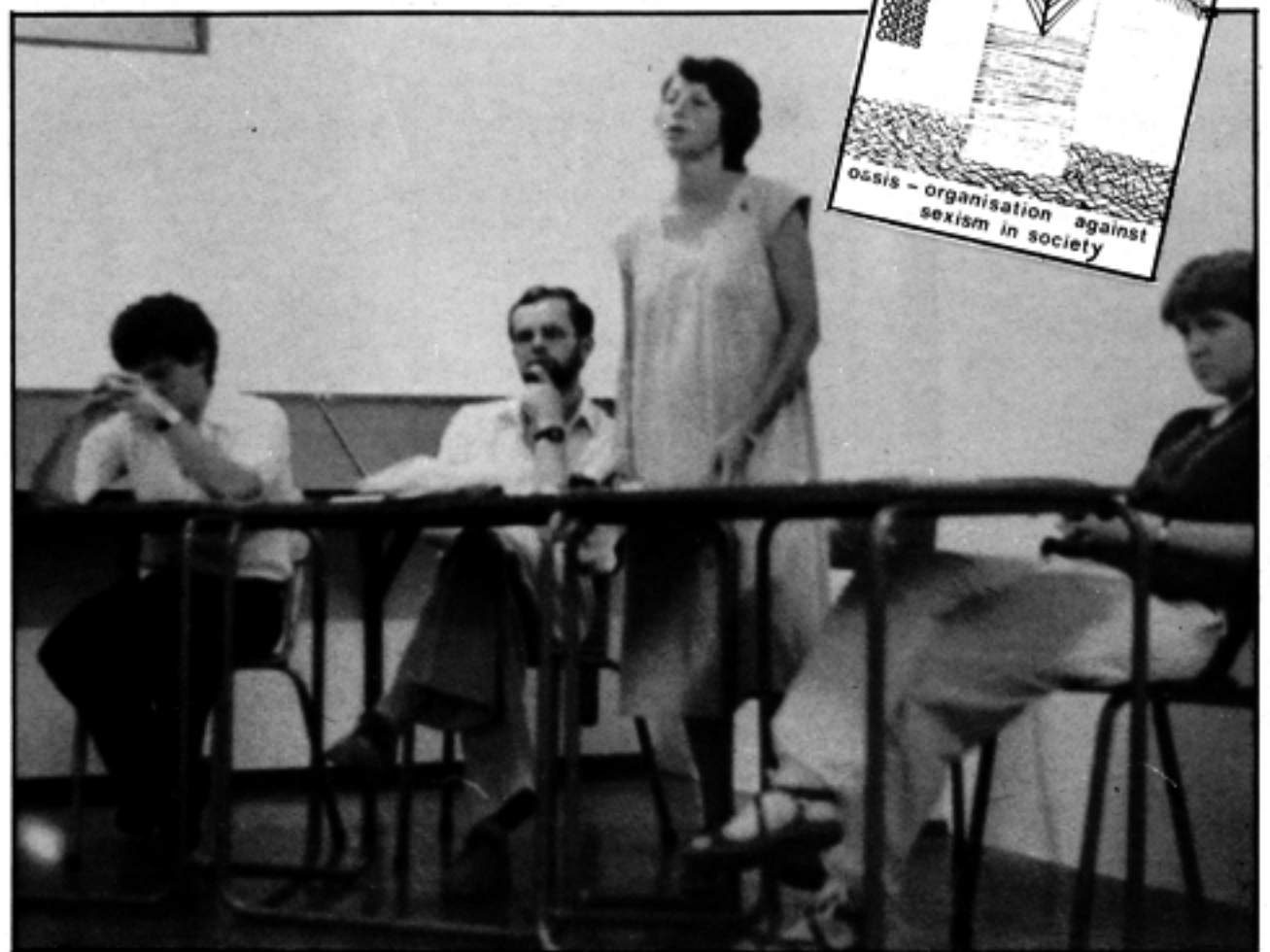
A wide range of activities took place. A play, written and produced by members of the group was very popular, playing to capacity audiences for a week.

Other events were talks on 'Women and the Law', 'Women in the Media', women's role in marriage and abortion. ■



Above: members of the newly launched Pmb. radio station - NUTS.

Below: Sally Hogan speaks on detentions at a meeting to launch the NUSAS theme





Rhodes students hold a 'quad squat' to demand residence reform

Rhodes

DR. Alex Boraine and Jonty Joffe spoke at a large meeting launching the NUSAS theme for 1982. The meeting also looked at detentions and specifically at the death in detention of Neil Aggett.

A well supported petition called for the unconditional release of all detainees and the repeal of all security legislation. This was followed up later in the year with a focus on security legislation, organised by the Law Directive.

A packed auditorium listened to speaker Peter Storey at a meeting on the Defence Amendment Bill. Students objected strongly to the Bill.

The SRC ran a well attended seminar program for three terms of the year. A wide range of topics were covered including education in Mozambique, migrant labour, Total Strategy, schools boycotts. All seminars were presented by students.

The issue which seemed to attract the most student participation was the Residence reform campaign. Rhodes is reputed to have the most archaic residence rules in the country.

Much discontent existed around the residence system. The SRC circulated a questionnaire to gauge student opinion on the issue. The overwhelming response was a call for drastic changes in the residence rules.

Groups of interested students in the womens residences were formed to discuss the issue, to talk to other students about the system and to begin to formulate demands. Stickers demanding reform went up all over the campus.

The residence superintendents committee formed a sub-committee to look into the issue.

Later a very successful mass meeting was held and a new residence structure was unanimously adopted by over 300 students.

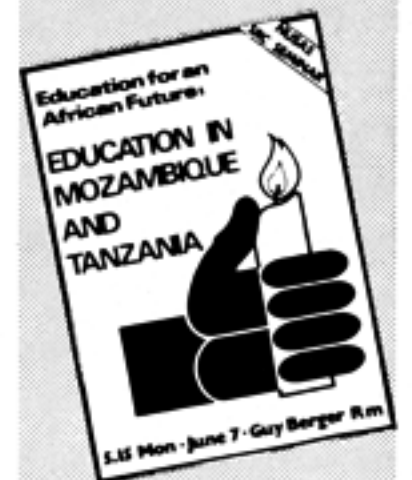
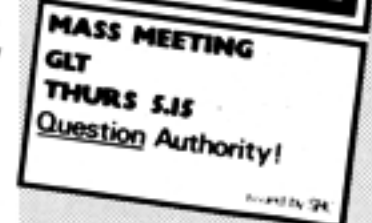
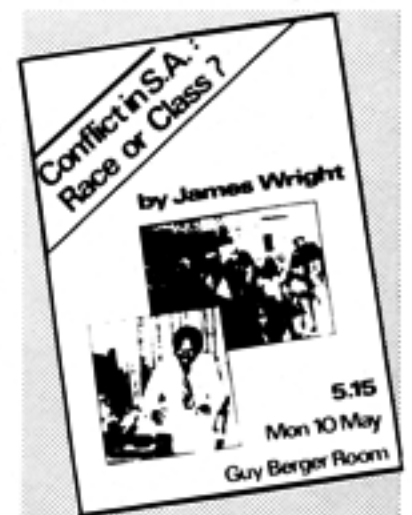
The recommendations were then presented to the University Council. On the afternoon of the Council meeting over 600 students held a 'quad squat' outside the venue of the meeting

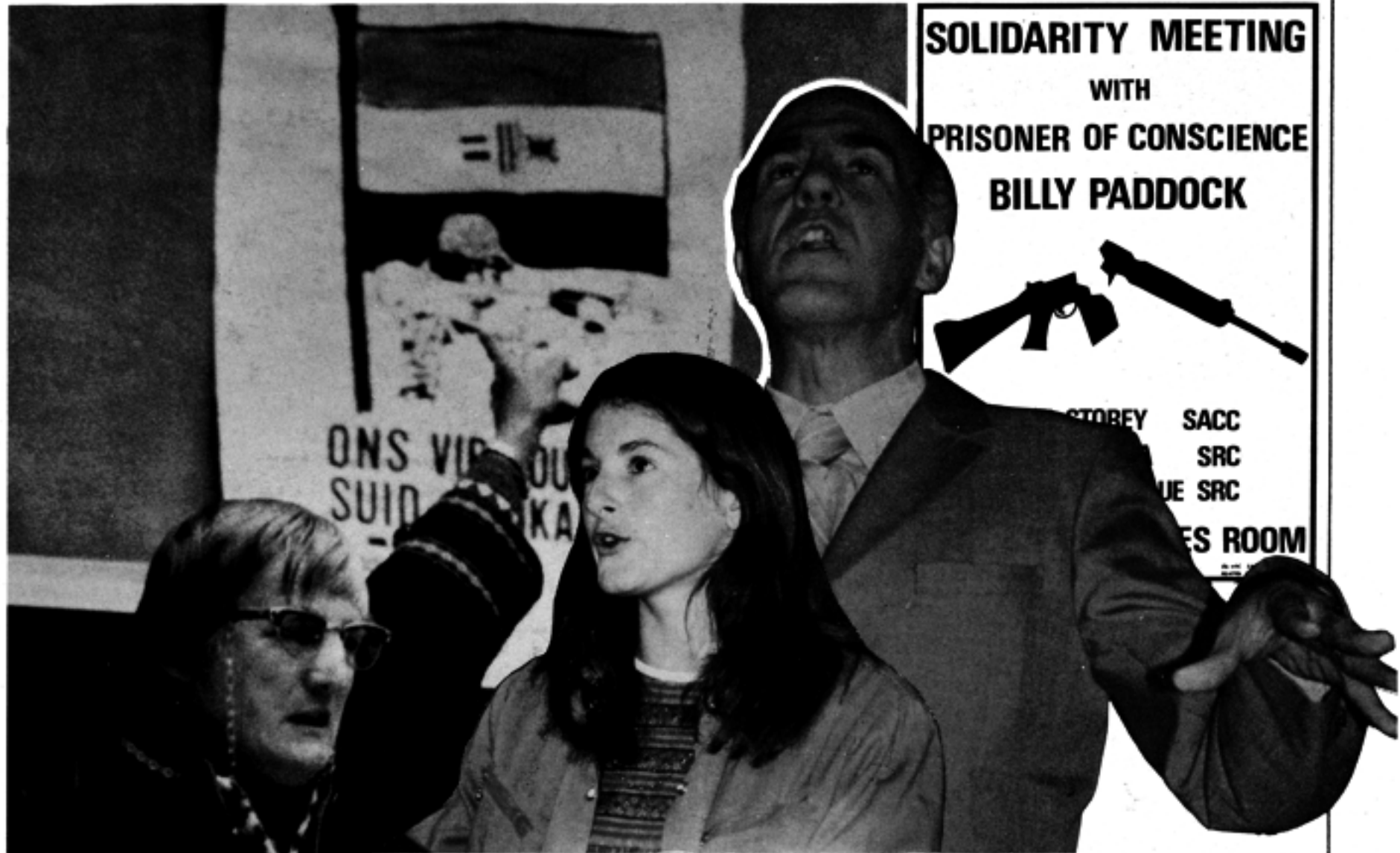
in an attempt to show that students were serious about their demands.

The SRC's commitment to involve as many students as possible in the campaign has certainly contributed to its success so far.

With people in the residences making a conscious effort to work through the issues and voice their demands, Admin has been forced to recognise that the drive for reform is coming from the whole campus.

Although the campaign is likely to continue in 1983, its success can already be seen in its ability to mobilise students around issues which affect them. It has certainly seen the NUSAS theme in practice.





Margaret Nash speaks during Militarisation focus. Jill Thorne, Science Students Council, at Von Holt meeting. Doug Bax at meeting called to protest the extension of military call up.

UCT

UCT has had a very active year. The NUSAS theme was very successfully applied.

This was probably best seen in the 'Von Holt affair'. The president of the Science Students Council was excluded from a department because Prof von Holt allegedly objected to his 'approach to science'.

Students saw this as a violation of academic freedom. Edcom and the SRC took the issue up and a mass meeting was called. Over 300 students attended, calling for the reinstatement of the student.

After discussions with university authorities the SRC managed to secure the reinstatement. In addition, a Lecturer Disciplinary Board was established to which students could report

lecturers whom they felt had behaved unfairly.

Students saw that when organised they had the power to assert their rights within the university.

The issue of extended military call ups put UCT aflame. The Defence Amendment Bill, tabled in March 1982 prompted a mass meeting on the issue. Over 600 students attended to hear Rev Doug Bax, Adi Patterson and Zuneid Hussein speak in opposition to the Bill. The meeting resolved to oppose increased militarisation in South Africa and to reject the Bill in its entirety.

Later in the year a two week focus on militarisation was held. The aim of the focus was to educate students around the issues relating to militarisation.

Large audiences characterised the focus, adding to its success. The speeches from the focus were later published and distributed on campus.

In a two week focus on education organised jointly by the Arts Student Council the SRC Projects Comm and Education Commission (Edcom) students heard speakers examining various aspects of education in South Africa.

The recent De Lange Commission report was analysed in detail. Student struggles in education in the past and the lessons learnt and gains made were also discussed.

At a highly emotional mass meeting in August, a packed Jameson Hall

protested against the deportation of UCT student Mark Kaplan, the expulsion of students from Fort Hare University and the death in detention of Mohapi Dipale.

The SRC elections were a tremendous victory for the liberal and left candidates. None of the conservative group of three were voted onto the SRC. Anton Richman, ex-Varsity Editor topped the poll and was elected SRC President.

The trial of conscientious objector Billy Paddock drew the response of a protest meeting of over 300 students. The meeting resolved to support Billy in his courageous stand and to condemn increased militarisation in South Africa.





Detentions protest mass meeting



Wits

The death in detention of Neil Aggett, Transvaal organiser of the Food and Canning Workers Union, was the issue which started activities at Wits this year.

A half hour work stoppage was called in protest against his death. The Wits SRC managed to persuade the university authorities to support the call and campus workers participated in the work stoppage.

A Great Hall, filled to capacity, heard speeches from the Vice Chancellor Prof du Plessis, SRC President Jeremy Clarke, Albertina Sisulu, Bishop Desmond Tutu as well as representatives from university staff associations.

The Steyn Commission Report on the mass media was unanimously rejected by about 300 people. In a meeting where most of the editors of Johannesburg papers were present the Steyn Commission was seen to be just as much a repressive measure as bannings and detentions.

A successful meeting opposing the Defence Amendment Bill was held soon after details of the Bill became known. Speakers

were Rev Doug Bax, Roger Hulley and Zuneid Hussein.

After spending eight months in detention two Wits students, Clive van Heerden and Keith Coleman were banned. Fink Haysom, an ex-NUSAS President and earlier in the Centre of Applied Legal Studies was also banned.

Wits erupted like never before when conflict arose between students over the issue of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The university administration responded to the issue in an extremely autocratic way by suspending 8 students from the university and banning all meetings on the campus.

The SRC organised a petition which was signed by 3000 students calling for the reinstatement of the students and condemning the way in which admin had responded to the issue. After a disciplinary hearing the students were allowed

to continue their studies.

Three candidates were nominated for the position of Wits Chancellor this year. They were Mike Rosholt, chairman of Barlow Rand, Nelson Mandela, jailed leader of the ANC and Helen Suzman, PFP MP. Mike Rosholt won in an extremely contentious election.

Rosholt sprung to prominence again when workers at Veldspun went on strike. Veldspun is owned by Romatex which is a member of the Barlow Rand group.

The SRC called on Rosholt to intervene on behalf of the workers. At a meeting to discuss the issue Rosholt was asked to speak. He was unable to attend as he was to be overseas at the time. Subsequently he denied any knowledge of the meeting to the press.

The SMA (Student Moderate Alliance) continues to be a thorn in the flesh of Wits students. They have continually attempted to undermine student politics at Wits with 'dirty games'. Allegations fly about who they are funded by, their links with the National Party and their funding of 'liberal' SRC candidates.

After numerous infringements of SRC by laws, the SRC decided to suspend the SMA. However, university authorities refused to uphold this decision, preferring to give the SMA one more chance to mend their ways.



Opposing sides over the Israeli invasion of Palestine



Directives

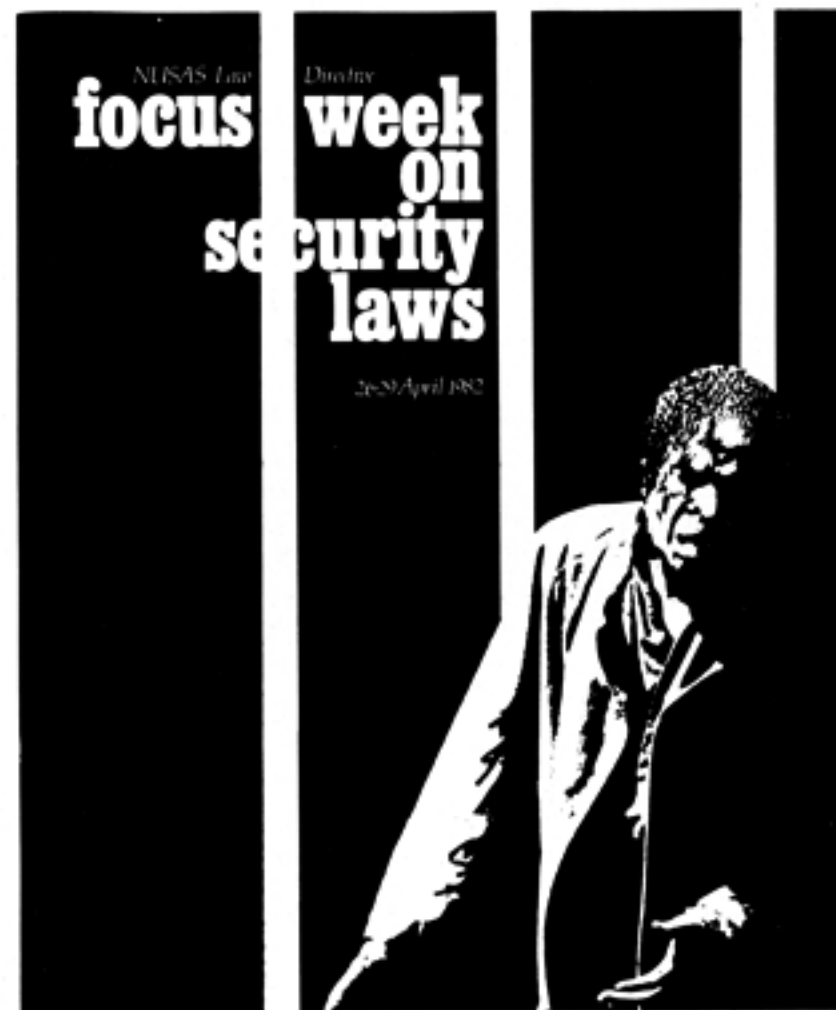
THE four NUSAS Directives – Health, Law, Women and Labour – have been established over the past few years.

They operate on the NUSAS campuses within appropriate faculties or organisations. For example, the Health and the Law Directives have groups on the different campuses which organise activities, working in co-operation with the Faculty Councils.

The Labour Directive is made up of the labour committees and the Womens Directive is made up of the Womens Movements on the different campuses.

In addition to these groups, the Creative Arts Workshop, CAW, was initiated last year. The suggestion for the formation of CAWs on the campuses came out of the Political Art Committee at the 1981 NUSAS Congress.

Law Directive

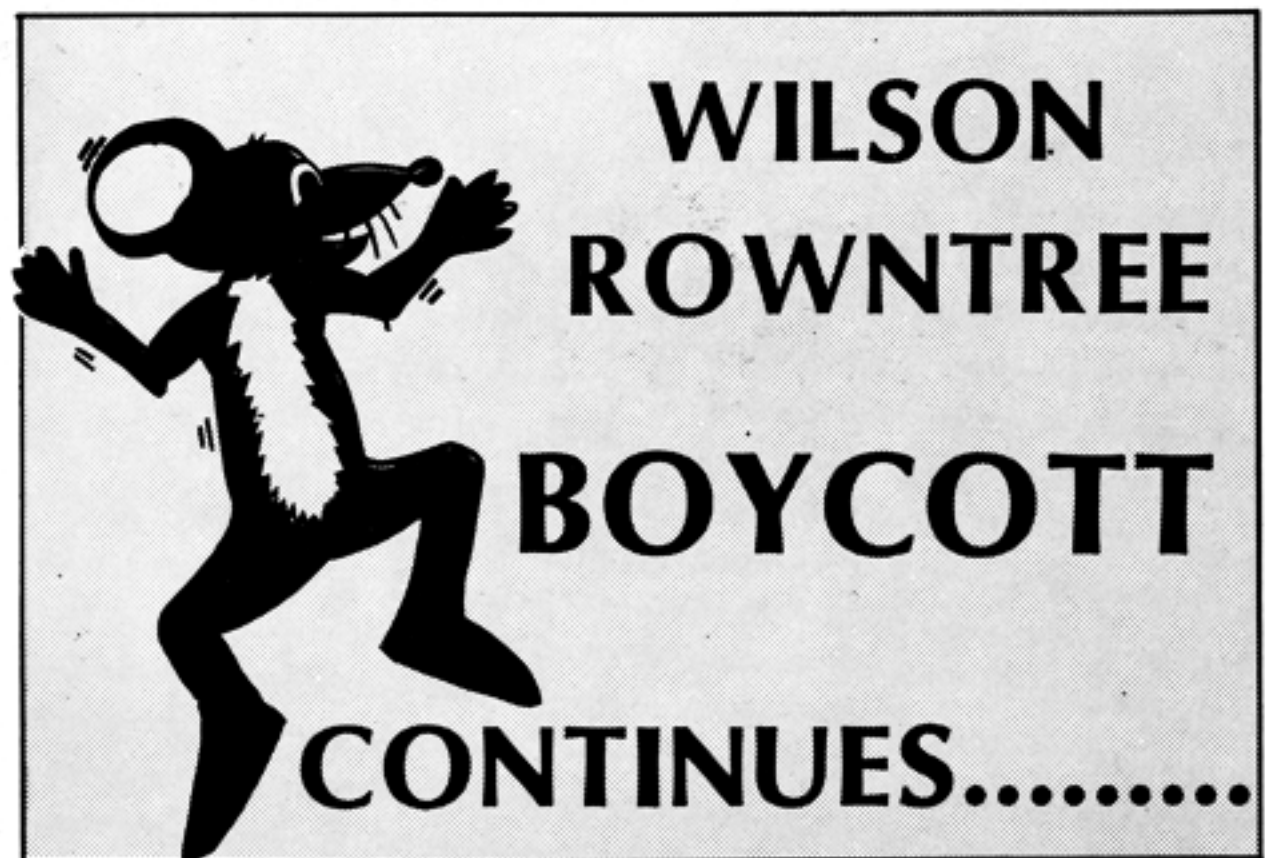


The working groups of the Law Directive have been active in the faculties of all our affiliated campuses. Involvement in areas has ranged from Durban, where theoretical seminars and papers were an ongoing focus; to Rhodes who had a highly successful focus on security legislation. Wits, ran a seminar programme and produced pamphlets on topics related to detentions and political trials.

UCT also had an ongoing seminar programme and a series of talks. They involved themselves in challenging the lack of student representation within the faculty. This caused a great uproar! Many meetings were held to discuss the issue. A spin-off of this mobilisation was the increased awareness and participation of law students in the faculty council election.

Labour Directive

The youngest of the directives, it was formed at the 1981 NUSAS Congress. This year has seen its steady growth with the highlight being the labour workshop held at Wits in July. 60 students from all over the country examined a range of issues pertaining to labour in South Africa. These included a history of the Wages Commissions; labour organisation in the 1970s and 1980s; a brief introduction to theoretical issues and discussion on the future direction of the labour committees on the campuses. Wits and UCT have well-established groups. Durban and Rhodes are growing slowly but surely.



Women's Directive



Above: Helen Joseph opens the Women's conference at Wits. Below(left): Speakers from Rape Crisis during a focus on rape held at UCT. Members of the UCT Women's movement at orientation week table.

Women's movements on the campuses this year saw their role primarily as focussing on issues which directly affected women students. These issues were seen in the context of and related to the broader position of women in South Africa.

This clear definition of their role has largely contributed to the successes of the Women's Directive this year.

Seminars and focusses have been held on all the campuses around issues such as rape and violence against women, contraception, women and health, abortion, alternative lifestyles and many others.

The most stimulating and exciting event of the year was the women's conference held at Wits in July, attended by over 150 students from all over the country. The highlight of the conference was the opening by Helen Joseph, her first public address since her last banning order expired only ten days before the conference.

Academics and activists presented papers on topics such as 'Is there a South African feminism,' 'Women in Trade Unions,' 'organising women,' 'Men and feminism,' 'Women and Psychology.'

The campus women's movements also took responsibility for presentations 'women and the law,' 'the personal and the political,' 'women in Southern Africa - their role in liberation.'

Delegates felt that the conference had been a valuable learning experience and that it provided direction for future activities.

On 9 August, National Women's Day, the women's movements commemorated the anti-pass protest by 20 000 women at the Union Buildings in 1956.

Publications on women were produced by each of the women's movements. Rhodes WM 'From Women,' UCT WM 'Consent,' Durban WM 'Women and the Law' and Wits WM a publication to commemorate national women's day.



Health Directive

This operates at Wits and UCT Medical Schools as well as at Rhodes, where an enthusiastic group was started this year. At the medical schools a range of activities are engaged in. At Wits, Zulu lessons, meetings on detentions, and the widely distributed NUSAS Health Directive fact sheets eg overpopulation, health statistics were well received.

At UCT, a regular reading group on health related issues was held throughout the year. Directive people assisted in organising the Medical Students' Council conference on Tuberculosis - 'Consumption in the land of plenty' and a fact sheet on this topic was written.

A controversial issue confronted medical stu-

dents, that of the continued relationship of SAMSA (South African Medical Students' Association) with the world body. The NUSAS Directives from the campuses, together with the Black medical schools from Durban and Medunsa, wrote a joint memorandum to the world body, outlining the reasons why SAMSA should not be allowed to partici-

pate as it was a racist, unrepresentative structure. The memo was successful.





Student services

SASTS, started by NUSAS in 1972, continues to provide an extremely useful student service.

As the only student travel company in South Africa, SASTS, has grown steadily over the last year. Membership of two international travel organisations FIYTO and ISTC enables SASTS to provide discounts and deals for students travelling overseas. In April this year, Jonty Joffe went to Malta to the FIYTO conference. There, useful ideas were gained to add to SASTS' impressive list of benefits.

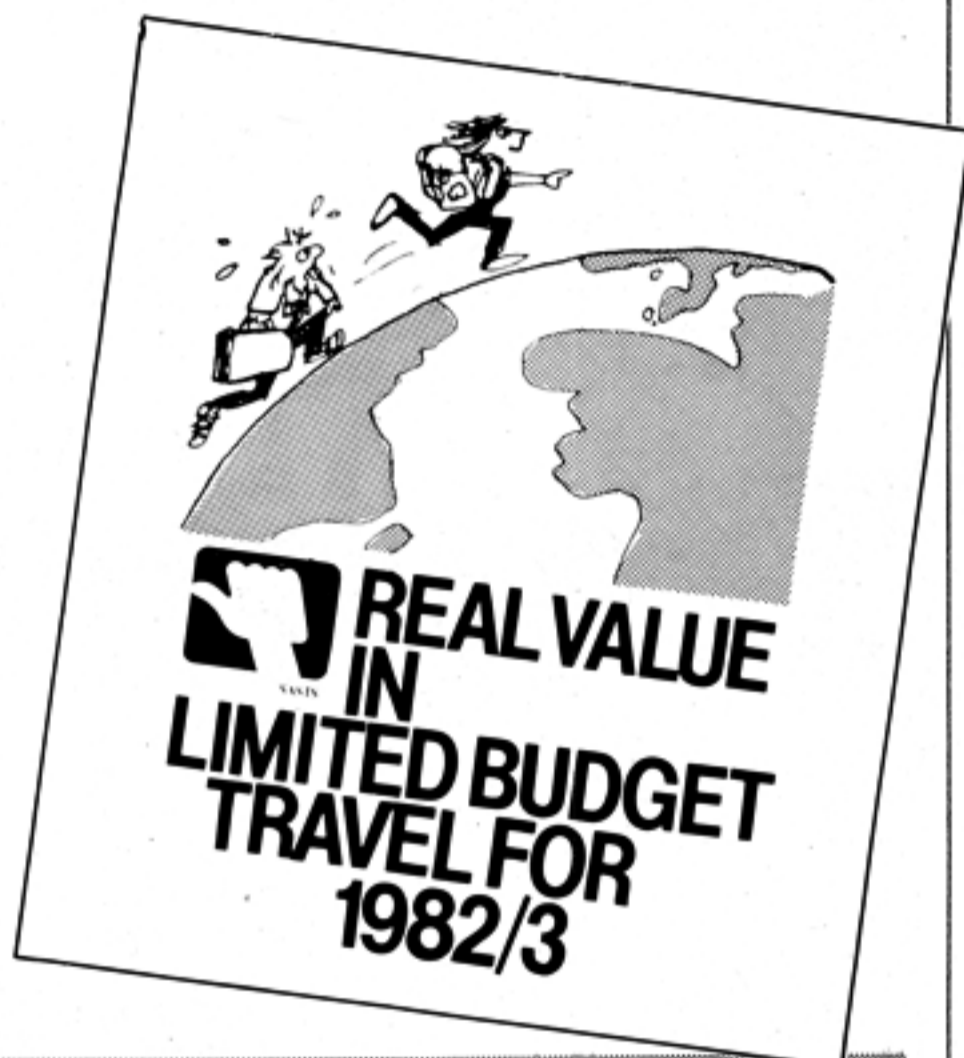
Swift Lift, the NUSAS co-ordinated lift scheme between the campuses is in its second year of operation. It continues to provide a use-

ful service to students for local travel.

The Student Handbook is due to be updated. New ideas have heralded a change in format. The handbook and discount guide are to be separated. The handbook will contain all kinds of information of value to students - student service kit.

The discount scheme will be updated every year in the form of a supplement. This will be available in the new year and promises to be an exciting and useful addition to the NUSAS Student Services.

Some progress has been made into a NUSAS text book scheme. This is still in its investigation stage but looks like a promising scheme.



FONS - Friends of NUSAS

The second year of FONS has seen the organisation growing considerably.

FONS was formed at the end of 1980, with a committee chaired by Sir Richard Luyt and including Nadine Gordimer, George Bizos, Eddie Webster, Charles Nupen, Geoff Budlender and others.

The aim of the organisation is two-fold. Firstly, to raise funds which are made available to NUSAS for specific projects. And secondly to keep past members of

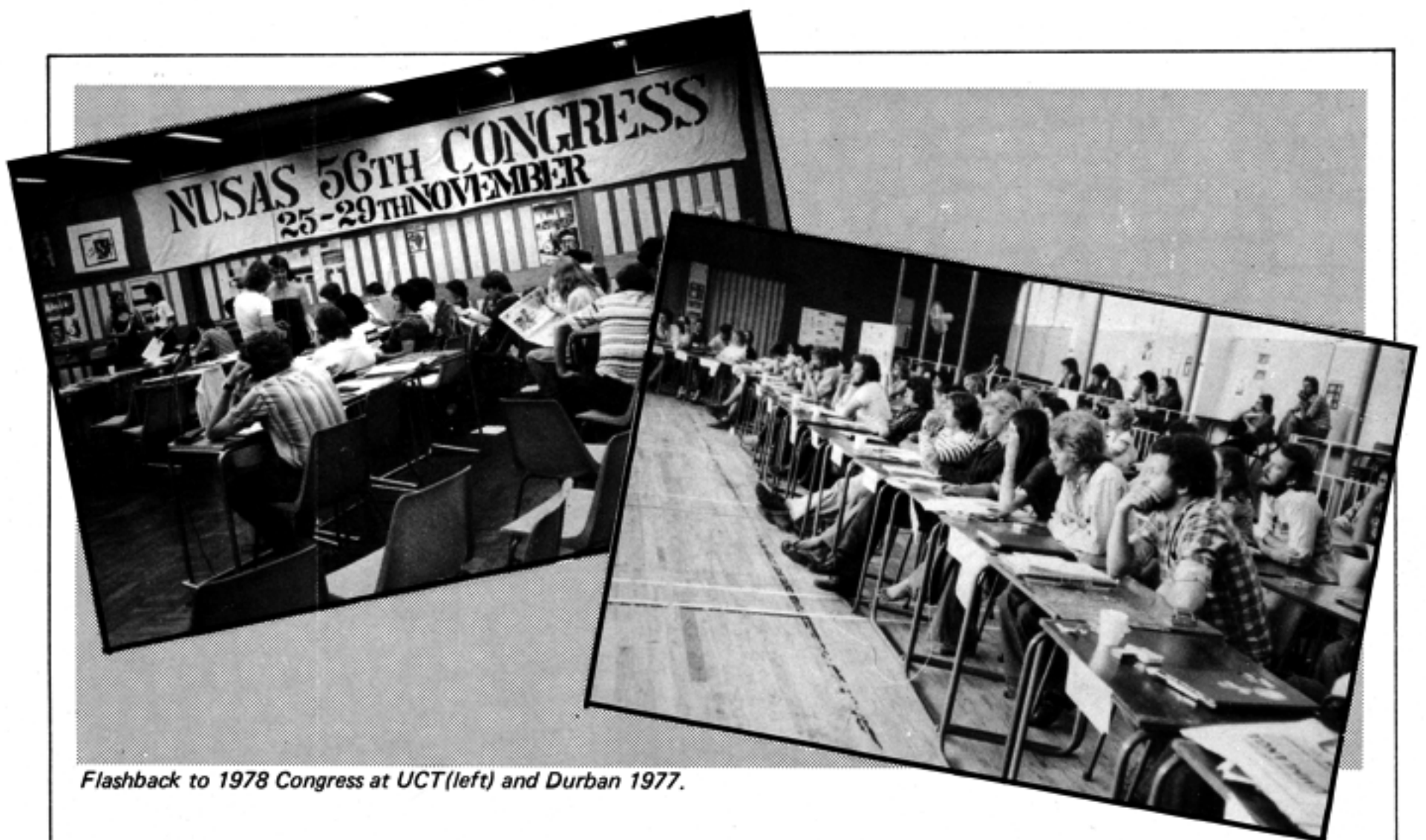
NUSAS in touch with current developments, and trends in the organisation.

Cocktail parties and fundraising "blitzes" have been organised by FONS at all centres during the year. Although membership has now passed the 200 mark, the organisers feel that it has not significantly reached the potential that does exist for recruitment. The further expansion of the organization is a definite priority for 1983.



FONS

*An invitation to join the
Friends of The National
Union of South African
Students*



Flashback to 1978 Congress at UCT (left) and Durban 1977.

Towards 1983

Students from all affiliated and non-affiliated NUSAS campuses will be meeting at Howard College, Durban from 28 November to 3 December to assess and plan future direction of the National Union. All past policy is rescinded and new decisions taken by all present.

Congress is structured to facilitate maximum participation by delegates. The primary unit of Congress is the committee.

These cover a range of areas pertinent to the student movement eg. Faculty Councils, Political Action, Women, Internal Education, Labour, Media, Health, Law, Student Services, Orientation Weeks and many others.

Reports and recommendations from the committees are presented to the National Student Assembly (NSA) which consists of all students present. Reports and motions are

year is chosen on the last night. Finally, the 1983 NUSAS Head Office staff are elected.

The intense activity and exchange of ideas and knowledge between the different campuses makes Congress one of the most exciting NUSAS national gatherings.

A critical, open look at last year's activities will provide a solid base for organisation and activity for 1983.

discussed and debated before adoption.

Each affiliated campus has 9 voting delegates from the SRCs, but all delegates are encouraged to participate.

Evening sessions in the past have provided valuable input with keynote speakers on topics relevant to the student movement.

The NUSAS theme for 1983 which determines broad direction for the



Nusas' 59th Congress held in Cape Town, 1981.