

Dear Alumni & Friends,

We'd like to thank everyone who attended our recent Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner and Speaker Day events, helping to make them such a great success. So that these events can be enjoyed by all our alumni around New Zealand and the globe we have published video clips of the presentations, performances and acceptance speeches. You can [view the video on the Alumni and Friends website](#).

Distinguished Alumni accomplishments recognised



From left: Distinguished Professor Brian Boyd, Lynley Dodd, Sir Douglas Graham, The Hon Tuilaepa Malielegaoi, Toa Fraser, Dame Cath Tizard and Judge David Abbott.

This year's Distinguished Alumni Awards (DAA) Dinner had a distinctive Pasifika flavour with the Samoan Prime Minister, The Hon. Tuilaepa Malielegaoi, and film-maker Toa Fraser among those being honoured.

[Read about the event](#)

[View video of the Tu'oro, Mihi and speeches](#)

[View a photo gallery of the event](#)

2009 Speaker Day lectures inspire audiences

UPCOMING EVENTS

16-18 April

- [Property & sustainability conference](#)

30 April

- ["The Man who made Shakespeare" free public lecture](#)

7 May

- [Graduation Gala Concerto competition](#)

14 May

- [Vancouver Alumni and Friends event](#)

18-22 May

- [Postgraduate Information Week](#)

LATEST HEADLINES

6 April

- [Selected for major symposium in Switzerland](#)
- [New perspectives on sexual ethics and sexual violence prevention](#)

2 April

- [New High-Tech Accelerator for the Transformation of New Zealand Industry](#)
- [Support for top doctoral scholars](#)
- [University of Auckland home to World Class New Zealanders](#)

1 April

- [Accolade for university](#)



Lynley Dodd

Our inaugural Speaker Day gave attendees a chance to hear about the life and work of the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients.

[Read about the event](#)

[View video of all the Speaker Day lectures](#)

[View photo galleries](#)

Alumni speakers share expertise on economic recovery



Guest speaker in New York, Graeme Wheeler

With global attention focused on the G20 summit in London and economic recovery, guests at the recent Alumni and Friends receptions in London and New York were privileged to hear the perspectives of two exceptional University of Auckland alumni speakers, both economists whose expertise informs some of the world's most influential international organisations and decision makers.

[Read a report of the events and download speech notes by Graeme Wheeler, and an article by Professor Ngaire Woods](#)

Graduation Gala Concerto Competition 2009



Please join us at the free Graduation Gala: Concerto Competition showcasing School of Music soloists Tiantian Xu (piano), Christine Kim (flute) and Rose Cheng (piano). The Gala will be held at the Auckland Town Hall at 7:30pm on Thursday 7 May. Graduands and their family and friends are warmly invited. No tickets are required but please arrive early to secure seats as this event has been extremely popular in previous years.

[publisher](#)

■ [Visiting artists, Elam students explore art and free speech](#)

■ [New book challenges what we think about learning](#)

31 March

■ [New book examines Māori-Chinese relations](#)

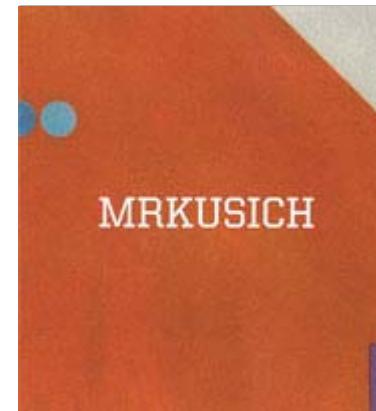
30 March

■ [Giving up smoking early in pregnancy reverses risk of complications](#)

27 March

■ [Outstanding student off to Cambridge](#)

BOOK OF THE MONTH



"Can there be any more difficult task in writing than to write well about abstract art? . . . the co-authors, have done very well. They have produced a big, well-packed, well-researched, serious-minded study which I found so informative and interesting I read it almost at a sitting... a handsome, well-designed, well-produced hardback, good

[Read more about the Graduation Gala Concerto Competition](#)

TAKE 40: The Giles Peterson Collection



Contemporary Māori and Pacific Rim art is showcased in a new exhibition in South Auckland curated by alumnus Giles Peterson.

TAKE 40, at the Fresh Gallery Otara, features a mix of different media including animation, painting, street fashion, tattoo, embroidery / textile, hip-hop music video, installation, sculpture, photography and drawing.

[Read more about the exhibition](#)

University of Auckland's first Pacific Island PhD in English publishes poetry book



The first Pacific Islander to graduate from The University of Auckland with a PhD in English published a poetry and CD collection last month hailed for its confidence and musicality. Dr Selina Tusitala Marsh's *Fast Talking PI* (University of Auckland Press, 2009) reflects the poet's own focus on issues affecting Pacific communities in New Zealand, and indigenous peoples around the world — including the challenges and triumphs of being afakasi (half-caste).

[Read more about *Fast Talking PI*](#)

Postgraduate Information Week: 18-22 May 2009, The University of Auckland

More events have been confirmed for Postgraduate Information Week.

Events throughout the week allow you to visit your faculty of interest for information sessions

value for money." - Peter Simpson, *NZ Herald*

■ [Trans-Form: The Abstract Art of Milan Mrkusich, exhibition at UoA's Gus Fisher Gallery](#)

■ [Go to the AUP website](#)

■ [Download the AUP order form](#)

KEA DALLAS EVENT

Kea New Zealand family picnic in Dallas

The Dallas/Fort Worth chapter of Kea New Zealand is planning a typical New Zealand picnic (lolly scramble, North Island vs South Island tug-o-war, three legged races, barbecue of sausages and lamb chops and much more) on Sunday May 3, 2009.

To get an indication of interest, please contact Geoff Andrews at geoff@keanewzealand.com or call 203.554.6077.

Note: preliminary work has been done on securing a site and now we just need an indication on numbers.

IN EVERY ISSUE

Want to share with a friend?
Have You Moved?

■ [Update your details if they have changed](#)

We welcome your feedback

and display presentations, and give you the opportunity to discuss your research or study interests with postgraduate advisers and current students. You can also network with academic programme staff and other like-minded students.

For information about the events happening in all of the faculties and to register your attendance visit www.auckland.ac.nz/postgradweek

 [Tell us what you think of @ Auckland](#)

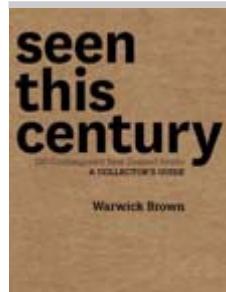
"The Man who made Shakespeare" - free public lecture

The Faculty of Arts has invited Professor Gary Taylor, Cambridge, to present the 2009 Alice Griffin Shakespeare Lecture titled "The Man who made Shakespeare" on Thursday April 30.

The most famous book in English is the 1623 first edition of William Shakespeare's collected "Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies". This volume was instrumental in turning Shakespeare into the most powerful brand-name in Anglophone literature. The publisher was a 51-year-old London shopkeeper and small businessman whose name, now, almost no one remembers. But he was the first English publisher to specialise in what we would now call literature, and his belief that Shakespeare belonged on the same shelf with Montaigne and Cervantes virtually bankrupted him.

[Read more about the Alice Griffin Shakespeare Lecture](#)

Invaluable tips for art collectors



Alumnus Warwick Brown is launching a new book that highlights 100 New Zealand artists who have come to prominence since 2000.

Seen This Century gives collectors an invaluable tool by highlighting who is on the rise, who will become the next big thing and whose work should be bought now before prices skyrocket.

[Read more about *Seen This Century*](#)

Art History alumni to intern at Guggenheim, Venice

Two graduates of The University of Auckland's Department of Art History have been selected to participate in a prestigious internship programme at the Peggy Guggenheim Museum in Venice, Italy. Our congratulations to Winsome Wild who will be heading to Venice in May and Sophie Keyse who takes up her internship in November.

[Read more about the Guggenheim interns](#)

Renowned Judge opens property rights and sustainability conference

A world-renowned jurist, Judge Christopher Weeramantry, is giving a free public lecture at the University on 16 April.

His topic is "Rights and responsibilities: A global cultural perspective" and his lecture, at 6pm in Lecture Theatre 401-439, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street, will open an international conference on property rights and sustainability.

Judge Weeramantry served as a Judge on the International Court of Justice including a term as its Vice-President. While on the court, he presided over prominent cases, including the Lockerbie bombing case and the Advisory Opinion on the Legality of Nuclear weapons.

[Read more information about the lecture and the conference](#)

Orientation Day iPod Nano winner



Second year Commerce student Natalie Robinson won an 8GB iPod Nano in our Orientation week competition at the beginning of March.

"I never win anything" said Natalie, thanking the Alumni Office for the prize. "I'd been saving up to buy an iPod so I am extremely grateful. It will no doubt make my walks to the University a lot more enjoyable".

[Read more about the competition](#)

Alumni Scholars ten pin bowling night



Earlier this month a number of Alumni Scholars joined the Alumni Relations Team at Newmarket Ten Pin Bowling alley for a night of competition, fun and prizes. The evening was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all, winners and losers alike.

[Read more about the Alumni Scholars evening](#)



Until next month,
The Alumni Relations Team
The University of Auckland
www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz

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