Dear alumni and friends,

Congratulations to the 2515 students who graduated from the University last month. Central Auckland came alive with colour and celebration during the ceremonies, despite the rain.

We have two online galleries of informal graduation photographs for you to view.

View the gallery on the Alumni and Friends website
View the gallery on the University website

Photography competition - shortlist gallery

Boys in the Hood

We received hundreds of entries to our Alumni Photography Competition, which launched last month. We'd like to congratulate all entrants on the high standard of photographs submitted.

The first round of judging has been completed and we're pleased to present a gallery of our shortlisted entries. Note that the photographers' names have not been revealed to keep the final round of judging anonymous.

Click here to view the shortlist gallery

The winners of our grand prizes, including a new Nikon D5000 DSLR camera, will be announced next month.
### Commerce Cougars lift the Sir Wilson Whineray Trophy

The first inter-faculty rugby competition for many years has culminated in the award of the Sir Wilson Whineray Trophy to the Commerce Cougars.

[Read more about the tournament](#)
[Watch a video report of the tournament](#)

### Montana winner to address Wellington alumni

Author Emily Perkins is the guest speaker at the Wellington Alumni and Friends Reception later this month. Emily's recent book *Novel About My Wife* won this year's Montana New Zealand Book Award for Fiction, and the Montana Medal for Poetry or Fiction.

Join other alumni and friends for drinks and canapés and to hear Emily discuss the writing process, the false starts experienced by many writers in undertaking a new project, and the challenges of keeping faith with creative work while it is at a formative stage.

[Read more about the Wellington reception](#)

### Elam Graduate Show promises visual arts extravaganza

The dates have been set for one of the most anticipated events on Auckland's visual arts calendar for 2009.

The weekend of 21-22 November will see the return of the Elam Graduate Show (formerly called Elam Open Days) at The University of Auckland. The annual contemporary art exhibition showcases the final year work of more than 120 graduating students at Elam School of Fine Arts.

### Good Business

Ian Wedde (UoA Distinguished Alumnus & 2009 Writer in Residence)

Auckland University Press, PB; RRP $24.99; UoA Alumni price: $21.25

In the superb poems of his 14th collection, Wedde takes care of business in the streets of Wellington, the flickering screens of dreams, the rivers of Bangladesh and in the south of France. He 'continues that vivid exchange he has long worked at between the disconnected particulars of experience and ordering forms of poetry'.

- Go to the AUP website
- Download the AUP order form

### LATEST HEADLINES

- 3 November
  - Auckland student wins prestigious scholarship to study at Cambridge
- 30 October
  - New centre dedicated to education leaders
- 29 October
  - Students’ heart model a world-beater
  - New direction for James Henare Māori Research Centre
  - Alumna's Auckland University Press book a best seller
- 27 October
  - New Zealand’s Next Top Engineering Scientists
The Elam Graduate Show 2009 is free and open to the public. For information call (09) 373 7599 ext. 88000 or visit www.creative.auckland.ac.nz

Annual Pacific Alumni Club Dinner - 26 November

The University of Auckland Pacific Alumni (UAPA) Club invites all alumni and friends to their Annual Dinner on 26 November at Sorrento in the Park in Auckland.

The keynote speaker for the evening is the Honourable Georgina te Heuheu, Minister of Pacific Island Affairs and there's entertainment from the band Avaiki, hip hop dance group SAMPLE, and DJ Maea.

Read more about the dinner and buy tickets

Inaugural John Drake Scholarship awarded

The first winner of the John Drake Memorial Scholarship to The University of Auckland is Matthew Matich.

The scholarship award was announced at a reception at the University attended by more than 300 alumni and friends including leading lights from the world of rugby. John Hart was the guest speaker and Sean Fitzpatrick gave reminiscences via video of his time playing rugby with John Drake.

Read a gallery of photos from the event
View video of all of the speeches and the presentation of the scholarship

Call for Kiwi hosts

As the Alumni Host Family Scheme continues to grow, we are on the lookout for more people to open their homes for an evening.

Now into its fourth year, the scheme allows international students to experience Kiwi hospitality and it's a great social night for everyone involved.

Read more about the Host Family Scheme

Prize honours Māori judge

Tamina Cunningham is the inaugural winner of a prize honouring the second Māori woman to become a District Court Judge.

Worth $1500, the prize was established in memory of the late Judge Karina Williams, an Auckland graduate, who was appointed to the Manukau District Court bench in 2003.

Read more about the prize

Global Women - Thinking Globally forum

Two of our Distinguished Alumni will speak at a new forum organised by New Zealand Global Women (NZGW). The Thinking Globally forum features Bridget Liddell as a keynote speaker and Justice Lowell Goddard will be providing a cameo 'snapshot' of her professional experiences.

Taking place in Auckland on 17 November, Thinking Globally is NZGW's first public forum for...
women from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. The forum will offer invaluable insights and connections and begins the process of building an effective core community of Global Women, able to facilitate valuable connections locally and internationally.

Read more about the forum

**Marti Friedlander: A NZ wine selection**

Renowned wine writer Joelle Thomson leads a wine tasting at the Gus Fisher Gallery to celebrate Marti Friedlander's portrayal of the West Auckland émigré vintners who helped pioneer the NZ wine industry.

Free admission, no bookings

Read more about the Wine Tasting
Read more about the Marti Friedlander exhibition

Marti Friedlander,
Self Portrait, Paris,
1972

**John Chen's Trio wins first place in Hamburg Competition**

Young Alumnus of the Year 2008 John Chen has won the coveted first prize at the International Chamber Music Competition Hamburg (ICMC) with colleagues violinist Luanne Homzy and cellist Peter Myers.

This first place win solidifies the reputation of the Saguaro Trio as one of the most thoughtful and engaging young ensembles in the classical music world today.

Read more the ICMC prize

**Recent alumni events - photo galleries**

We'd like to thank all of our alumni and friends who attended our recent events in Hamilton, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore.

We have photo galleries from Hamilton and Kuala Lumpur for you to view. The Singapore gallery will be published on our website next week.

View the Hamilton gallery
View the Kuala Lumpur gallery

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

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