Dear alumni and friends,

Congratulations to the 2,600 students who graduated either in person or in absentia this Spring. We'd like to welcome you all to the alumni community.

View informal photos of the Spring Graduation events

View the Spring Graduation gallery on the University website

Read on for more news from around the University.

Record number of doctorates

The University's strategy to grow its postgraduate programme was rewarded with a new record for doctorates at one Spring Graduation ceremony.

Read about the record number of doctorates

Assessing damage, locating risk

Faculty of Engineering staff were among the teams of specialists checking quake-ravaged buildings and scouring Christchurch's damaged landscape in the days following the 7.1 magnitude earthquake.

Read about the Engineering team's work in Christchurch

University names its own team of All Blacks

All Blacks of past, present and, potentially, future
teams gathered for an event at The University of Auckland on Wednesday evening.

The University of Auckland External Relations Office, in partnership with the Auckland University Rugby Football Club, held the event to celebrate the University's sporting achievements by announcing a squad of Alumni All Blacks - a team consisting of former students and graduates of the University, who have played rugby for New Zealand.

Read more about the event, and find out who is in the Alumni Starting XV

Nutrition - more than a good square meal

Biologist and adventurer Professor David Raubenheimer, who delivers the third lecture in this year’s Seasons of Life series

The Liggins Institute's 2010 Seasons of Life lecture series, which begins this month, tackles the broad theme of nutrition. Five leading scientists and communicators explore diverse aspects of the foods and nutrients that we consume and discuss how they affect our development, health and well-being.

- 13 October: Matching our diet to our genes: a new way to optimise our health
- 20 October: You are what your mother eats: the impact of maternal nutrition on children's reproductive development
- 17 October: A delicate balance: foraging, food and fat
- 03 November: Super foods: optimising the value of what we eat
- 10 November: Is it safe to eat?

Read the lecture previews on the Liggins website

Taking evidence based parenting programmes to the people

At our reception in Whangarei on 17 November, Professor Matt Sanders, founder of the Triple P - Positive Parenting Programme, will explore the value to children and the broader community of the wide spread adoption of evidence based programmes to improve parenting. Join us for an afternoon of informed discussion, followed by a performance by the Whangarei Boys Choir.

BOOK OF THE MONTH

- Evolving the city: Using evolutionary theory to understand and improve the human condition (public lecture)
- Master of Public Policy seminar series: New Zealand and the world - Building effective partnerships (seminar)
- Lumped-parameter modelling of cardiovascular dynamics (seminar)
- The settlement process for Ngapuhi claims: He whakaputanga o te ranga i rātanga o nō te Tiriti o Waitangi (seminar)
- You are what your mother eats: the impact of maternal nutrition on children’s reproductive development (public lecture)
- Maritime orientalism, or the political theory of water (public lecture)
- Staff and Guests in Recital: Works for Violin and Piano by Lilburn (concert)
- Critical Studies in Drama in Education International Symposium
- Saving Waves: Coastal planning and surf breaks
- The politics of the brown table
- Foreign language aptitude revisited again (seminar)
- A delicate balance: foraging, food and fat (public lecture)
- Master of Public Policy seminar series: New Zealand and the Pacific - The leadership challenge
- View a full list of University events
and implementation of evidence based positive parenting programs. Join us to hear from Professor Sanders and to network with other alumni and friends.

Read more about the Whangarei reception

Lord Stern lectures now online

Lord Nicholas Stern of Brentford's recent Robb lectures can now be viewed online.

All three lectures are available and the topic is "managing the risks of climate change, overcoming world poverty and creating a new era of growth and prosperity: The challenges for global collaboration and rationality".

View Lord Stern's lectures

Participation plays a part

In August, alumni received their annual appeal to support students and significant initiatives in their faculties. Since the University first opened its doors, many programmes, research projects and scholarships would not have survived without community and alumni support. When alumni and friends contribute, their combined generosity has an incredible impact.

Read more about the 2010 Annual Appeal

Students model skyrises of the future

SKYRISE City is a large scale design and fabrication competition during Auckland Architecture Week, 10 - 17 October.

120 University of Auckland Architecture students are working in teams to make eight meter high models of the skyrises of the future. Some will be able to grow bigger, others will float above the city, while some teams draw on fairytales to make towering prisons accessed only by ropes of hair!

Come along and vote for your favourite skyrise.

Mauri Ola: Contemporary Polynesian Poems in English - Whetu Moana II

Edited by Albert Wendt, Reina Whaitiri & Robert Sullivan
Auckland University Press

PB: RRP $49.99; UoA alumni price $42.50

The second volume in the award-winning Whetu Moana series featuring Polynesian poetry in English, "Mauri Ola" is a fresh selection of poetry written over the last 25 years by over 70 poets scattered around the world, a significant number alumni or former staff of The University of Auckland.

Read more about Mauri Ola
Download the AUP order form

LATEST HEADLINES

6 October
- Owen Glenn to support new Chair in cancer research at The University of Auckland

4 October
- University hosts inaugural Upper North Island wine awards
- Engineering seek redemption in rugby final

22 September
- Niue and Cook Island Māori languages threatened
- Unique mode of action of
Saving Waves: Coastal planning and surf breaks

In recent years, New Zealanders have adopted the legal process to protect the world class surf breaks in Aotearoa.

At a presentation at the University on 26 October, renowned surfers and campaigners Paul Shanks and Matt Skellern aim to raise awareness of surf break protection at home and abroad, identifying potential issues for future ocean planning.

The Politics of the Brown Table

The 2010 Bruce Jesson lecture on 27 October is hosted by Annette Sykes, Ngāti Pikiao, Lawyer and Activist.

The commercial deals on Treelords, the Emissions Trading Scheme, geothermal resources, national parks, private prisons, mining, whanau ora are all harnessing Māori to a global capitalism that impoverishes the mass of working class Māori and making them dependent on its survival. Most whanau and hapu are excluded from decision-making and denied the rights over their resources just as they always have been.

This lecture challenges this agenda and identifies the basic principles for a politics that genuinely empowers the people.

Exposure - Postgraduate work exposition

Exposure is coming up and with it the opportunity for postgraduate students to showcase their work to the general public

Whether it's cellular processes, eco business, storytelling through dance or a cutting-edge area that no one's heard of yet, Exposure represents just a small portion of the work being undertaken by our research students.

Rethinking the ethics of educational research

The Faculty of Education is hosting Professor Robin Small's inaugural lecture on Thursday 14 October.

The ethics of academic research as we know it is largely an ethics of biomedical research, which in turn
finds its basis in an ethics of medical practice. But is that the most appropriate model for educational research?

[Read more about the lecture and RSVP]

Best wishes,
The Alumni Relations Team
The University of Auckland
[www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz]