Greetings, Talofa and Kia Orana

This is the third annual newsletter from our project. We hope that this newsletter, in conjunction with personal contacts, helps us to keep in touch with all those who have had some involvement in our research to date. Thank you for your continued support and your interest.

**Students and scholarships**

Debi Futter-Puati of the Cook Islands and Setapu Resture of Tuvalu both graduated with MA Honours in History in September 2010, but as Setapu was in Tuvalu at the time she graduated *in absentia*. Bound and PDF copies of these theses have been presented to the national and USP libraries in Rarotonga and Funafuti as well as to related ministries and key individuals. Copies have been given to the Fiji School of Medicine Library and to USP in Suva. PDF copies are available on request, and the theses are also in the University of Auckland Library. We would like to take the opportunity to heartily thank those people in the health services of both islands who contributed to these theses and in particular to Dr Nese Ituato-Conway and Dr Stephen Homasi in Tuvalu.

Evelyn Marsters has completed her first year of PhD study working particularly on her ethnographic study of Cook Islands–NZ health. After completing the requirements for her preliminary PhD year, she undertook a first period of fieldwork in Rarotonga and Aitutaki, and is currently on six months parental leave, enjoying her new daughter, Nina-Pearl. She will resume her studies in June. While Evelyn is on leave, Sagaa and Jennifer Hand are working with Cook Islands families with TB in Auckland.

Tufoua Panapa completed a preliminary period of fieldwork in Tuvalu where he is concentrating on the intersection between education and health for his Development Studies PhD. At present he is in Auckland where is has just completed the requirements for his preliminary year of the PhD. He will return to Tuvalu for his main period of fieldwork once his confirmation of his PhD preliminary year is official.

The final pair of graduate students have taken up their scholarships. Sagaa Malua is working for a Post-graduate Diploma in Arts, and Rochelle Newport is studying for her Honours degree in Health Science. Sagaa, from Tuvalu, will focus her research on migration policy and health, while Rochelle, from the Cook Islands, is researching health promotion strategies using physical activity with women as her health case study. Both immigration policy and physical activity/obesity/diabetes are interlinked with tuberculosis.

Over the summer (December to February) we were grateful to be granted two Faculty of Arts Summer Scholarships and were joined by Ally Palmer and Siobhan Patia who did invaluable research work here in Auckland and in the archives in Rarotonga.
Visitors
Jessica Grant, a Masters student from the University of Saskatoon, visited for two months in Semester 2 as she worked on her thesis, which included a comparison with First Nations people and tuberculosis in Canada and Maori and Pacific Peoples in New Zealand.

Two nurses from the Cook Islands, Denny Teremoana Manavaroa and Metua Tuara, who have special responsibilities for Public Health including TB visited our project and the Auckland Regional Public Health Service and clinical TB services, mid year. We are very grateful to Jill Miller of ARPHS for making such excellent arrangements for them, and to Debi Futter-Puati for helping to initiate contact.

Research progress

An all-day workshop (see attached photo montage) which all research group members took part in was held in November. We were privileged to hear Dr Debbie Hay talk about her recently completed Masters of Public Health research which explored why access to TB services was a challenge for some people in Auckland: a topic that relates directly to our project. The day was spent in reviewing the work of the past year, and planning for the next and concluded with a social.

Anne and Keith Chambers travelled to Auckland to work with the rest of the team and participated in our annual team workshop in November 2010, and subsequently accompanied Tufoua to Suva and Tuvalu to help him introduce his project in Funafuti and Vaitupu and to begin preliminary fieldwork. They also discussed project accomplishments and future objectives with a wide range of government officials, NGO service providers, local leaders and health care providers.

In May, Ward Friesen visited the headquarters of the Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC) in Noumea. He had discussions about the project with a number of staff there including Janet O’Connor (head of the TB section) and others in the TB section, as well as with the SPC Demographer, Gerald Haberkorn. As well as this, Ward searched the SPC library and archives and copies a number of reports and other documents which were not available in the University of Auckland library.

Julie Park spent a month in the Cook Islands in June/Julie: two weeks on Atiu researching health services and the health/education link, and two weeks in Rarotonga visiting key people. She was joined by Yvonne Underhill-Sem, Evelyn Marsters and Jennifer Hand in Rarotonga to make arrangements for Evelyn’s fieldwork and for the “summer scholars”.

All of us involved in fieldwork are very grateful for the help extended to us. Julie particularly thanks Dr Tekaai Nelesone and the hospital staff in Atiu, the Island Secretary, the Principal and teachers of Enuamanu School, Bazza Ross, Debi Futter-Puati and the Ministry of Health Staff in Rarotonga who facilitated this visit. Anne, Keith and Tufoua thank Drs. Stephen Homasi and Nese Ituaso Conway, and other Ministry of Health staff for courtesy and time spent explaining the current situation; Aunese Simati, Tuvalu's High Commissioner to Fiji; and the many others who shared insights and information with us... Ward would like to thank all those who facilitated his research in Noumea.

A major focus of attention for most of the research team over the last year has been our monograph on health and health contexts of Pacific people in New Zealand from 1950 to 2000. It is intended as a complementary volume to the two completed Masters theses which focussed on Tuvalu and the Cook Islands. This volume has been submitted for publication and we hope it will be available as an e-book as well as in hard copy. Its title is “Better Lives: The Struggle for Health of Transnational
Pacific Peoples in New Zealand, 1950-2000”. We are privileged that Dr Colin Tukuitonga, Secretary of Pacific Island Affairs (NZ), is preparing a Foreword for it.

The year ahead:

Publication of “Better Lives”.

PhD and post-graduate students will complete their fieldwork in Tuvalu, the Cook Islands and New Zealand.

Sagaa and Rochelle will plan research to follow up their dissertation projects.

Judith and Julie plan a return trip to complete community research in Atiu in September.

A research visit to one of the northern Cook Islands is planned.

Preparation and submission for publication of academic papers and oral presentations.

An annual workshop in the first quarter of 2012.

The project will conclude towards the end of 2012.

Our Research Office

The Research Office is in room 836a on the 8th floor of the Human Sciences Building, 10 Symonds St, Auckland City, phone (64) 09 3737599 ext 87744. The postal address is c/- the Anthropology Department. Faxes addressed to the project can be sent to (64) 09 373441.

Sagaa Malua and Philippa Blackmore continued to provide invaluable research support. Philippa is currently on parental leave until later in the year while she looks after her new daughter, Florence. Sagaa can be reached through the number above or via email s.malu@auckland.ac.nz. Please note that she works part time.

Our webpage has been redeveloped and is at http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/social-research-on-tb-and-health?S=M_PTB

Dissemination

Chapters in Books

Littleton J, Park J, Bryder L. 2010 End of the Plague? Tuberculosis in New Zealand. in Plague: Metaphors and Epidemics. Infected Spaces Past and Present. eds.Herring DA and Swedlund AC. Berg :

Bryder L,,Condrau F.Worboys M. 2010 Tuberculosis and its histories: Then and now. in Tuberculosis: Then and now. eds. Condrau F and Worboys M. McGill-Queen's University Press :

Technical reports


Marsters, E. 2010 Report on a research visit to Rarotonga and Aitutaki.

Friesen W. Report on visit to Secretariat of Pacific Community, Noumea, 2010. TB research Group, Anthropology Department, The University of Auckland

Collaborations

2010. University of Saskatoon. With Sylvia Abonyi (Sask) and Richard Long (Edmonton). Canada. Supervision of Masters student,Jessica Grant.
Lectures and presentations
2010. Transnationalism and health through the lens of TB: A syndemic approach. Park J and Marsters E.
Invited presentation to Auckland Regional Public Health Service
2010. Imagining networks in anthropological research on tuberculosis in the Pacific. Park J and Littleton J.
Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Socio-Cultural Anthropology, Montreal

Feedback
We will be very pleased to have any feedback from you on any matters relating to the project.

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for the Research Team.
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Photos from the annual workshop of team members held in November. Taken by Julie Park who missed out being in a photo as a result!