

# **2015-2016** PROFILE



# The University of Auckland 2015-2016 Profile



The University of Auckland is New Zealand's leading university. It is the only one included in the Times Higher Education top 200 and is the highest ranked New Zealand university in both the QS World University Rankings and the Shanghai Jiao Tong Academic Ranking of World Universities. Some 35% of the top ranked academic researchers in New Zealand are at the University of Auckland.

www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/new-zealands-leading-university

## **History of the University**

Founded by Act of Parliament in 1883 as a College of the University of New Zealand, the University of Auckland became fully independent in 1962. From the beginning, it has admitted both men and women as students. At first the College dedicated itself to providing opportunities for higher education in the arts, science and music, and vocational education in law, teaching and commerce. Over time its curriculum has expanded to include architecture, fine arts, engineering, planning, medical and health sciences and theology.

The University was established in the heart of the small colonial city of Auckland and has grown to become a major feature of the twentyfirst century city, with a number of specialised satellite campuses. The iconic ClockTower, built in 1926, is a city landmark, and the more recent Owen G Glenn Building for the Business School is one of the most commented-on buildings of its time.

The original staff of four professors and a registrar has swelled to over 2,150 academic and over 2,800 professional staff. In 1883 the College enrolled 95 students; now it enrols about 42,000 each year.

The University is an international university, with staff appointed from many countries and students attending from around the world. Its high proportion of international staff and students and the high number of published papers written by staff in collaboration with overseas co-authors has earned it a ranking of 19th= in the Times Higher Education list of the world's top 100 most international universities.

Both staff and students participate in international exchanges and attend international conferences. These linkages are vital to a teaching and research university which strives to be academically excellent and to provide its staff and students with the best possible educational and career opportunities.





# **Students**

Students	Totals
Total student numbers	42,000
Domestic	36,000
International	6,000
Undergraduate*	31,000
Postgraduate*	11,000
Masters	3,200
PhD	2,600
Other	5,300
*Includes multiple enrolments for one student	

#### Student entrepreneur

In 2003 Engineering student Fady Mishriki (BE, BCom 2007) entered the University's inaugural Spark Entrepreneurial Challenge, sowing the seeds for the wireless power



Khylee Quince



Sherwin Stowers

company PowerbyProxi. The great success he later achieved led on to his selection as the University's 2015 Young Alumnus of the Year.

"Spark provided us with world-class training, education and mentorship from experienced business people," says Fady, who is now the company's Executive Vice-President and Chief Tesla Officer, while also playing his part in mentoring and inspiring some of our younger entrepreneurs.

PowerbyProxi is leading a revolution to deliver unplugged power to industrial environments where power cables, physical connectors and mechanical slip rings are problematic, expensive and unreliable. Founded in Auckland, the company is now a global leader with clients in more than 37 countries and two offices in the US, in Silicon Valley and Alpharetta. www.powerbyproxi.com

#### Sporting career

Sherwin Stowers, a student in the University's Bachelor of Education programme, has been a regular member of the All Black Sevens rugby squad since 2012 and has contributed strongly to the team's triumphs in the World Series and the World Cup.

Twenty-eight-year-old Sherwin, who is also a member of the provincial side Counties Manukau Steelers and is training to be a primary school teacher, says the University's support has been crucial in allowing him to combine his high-level international sporting career with successful study towards his BEd.

He hopes to win another gold medal with his team in the 2015 Sevens World Series and to "make the squad for the Olympics" in 2016 in Brazil.

# Staff

Staff	Totals
Total staff numbers	5,000
Academic	2,160
Professional	2,840

#### Staff fellowships and awards:

### National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards - 19

(Set up by the Government in 2002)

Fellows of the Royal Society - 3

#### Fellows of the Royal Society of NZ - 69

#### Rutherford Medal - 7

(The Royal Society of NZ's highest honour for the advancement and development of science, mathematics, social science, or technology)

#### Fields Medal -1

(Awarded internationally for outstanding discoveries in Mathematics)

#### **Top teachers**

Auckland teachers or teaching teams have won a National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award in every year except one since their inception in 2002. In 2014 Senior Lecturer in Law, Khylee Quince of Te Roroa/Ngāpuhi and Ngāti Porou descent, won a national Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award for sustained excellence in tertiary teaching.

#### Leading researcher

Professor of Paediatrics and Physiology, Alistair Gunn, was the 2014 recipient of the MacDiarmid Medal, awarded by the Royal Society of New Zealand, for his research into using brain cooling to prevent brain injury in babies who experience low oxygen at birth. The MacDiarmid Medal is for outstanding scientific research which demonstrates potential for human benefit.

#### **Eminent scientist**

Distinguished Professor of Chemistry Margaret Brimble is a fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand, Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit and a recipient of the RSNZ's Rutherford Medal for her world-leading contributions to the synthesis of bioactive natural products and novel peptides. A recent important breakthrough has been her discovery of the drug NNZ2566, which has proven highly successful in phase two human trials in the treatment of Rett Syndrome, a tragically disabling neurogenetic disorder.

#### Top geographer

Professor Robin Kearns was named New Zealand's 2014 Distinguished Geographer of the Year.



Sir John Hood

# Student profile

Titaningtyas, also called Tita, was born and grew up in Jakarta, where she completed a bachelors degree in natural resources and environmental economics at Universitas Indonesia. For her postgraduate study Tita chose to come to New Zealand because it has "good economic growth and beautiful natural resources" and to the University of Auckland because it is "the best university in the country". She gained a Postgraduate Diploma in Science (Environmental Management) in 2014 and enrolled in 2015 for a Master of Science degree. Tita's passionate interest is in sustainable development and she has discovered that issues related to the environment are treated in a different manner here than in her own country. "In New Zealand it is more participatory and engages the stakeholders." Tita's dream is to become an expert in the participatory approach to environmental decision-making, and to implement her new skills "for the benefit of Indonesia".





Rt Hon Helen Clark receives a welcome as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

# Alumni

Total alumni	125,000
Overseas alumni	14,000
New Zealand alumni	111,000

Among our alumni are: His Excellency the Honorable Anand Satyanand (LLB 1971 and LLD (Honorary) 2006), Governor General of New Zealand 2006-2011; Rt Hon Helen Clark (BA 1971, MA 1974, LLD (Honorary) 2010), Prime Minister of New Zealand 1999–2008, now based in New York as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme; champion rower Mahe Drysdale (BCom 1999, PGDipCom 2001), Olympic Gold medallist 2012 and Young Alumnus 2007; and Sir John Hood, former Vice-Chancellor of the Universities of Auckland and Oxford, now CEO of the Robertson Foundation and chair of the Rhodes Trust.

# Budget





Professor Rod Dunbar, Director of the Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery



Distinguished Professor Jane Harding

## Research

The University of Auckland is New Zealand's largest research organisation with more than 12,000 staff and postgraduate students involved in fundamental and applied research. It generates more than \$200 million in annual research revenue, more than \$30 million from overseas bodies such as the European Commission and the National Institutes of Health (US).

The New Zealand Government operates a national research evaluation system, the Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF), which is similar to the British Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) but based on the evaluation of individual staff. Twenty-seven New Zealand tertiary institutions participated in the last PBRF exercise in 2012.

The University of Auckland, with just 25% of the eligible staff nationally:

- Had 35% of the top rated researchers in the whole country
- Won 28% of the funding nationally based on quality evaluation of academic staff, 33% of the funding based on research degree completions and 36% of the funding based on external research income
- Won 31% of the funding overall, thereby confirming its position as the nation's premier research institution.

Our research programmes range across all disciplines: from Education, where researchers are trying to increase learning success in lowachieving primary and secondary schools, to our Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre, a world leader in cancer drug development. We are international research leaders in inductive (wireless) power transfer and computational physiology. Neonatologist Distinguished Professor Jane Harding (FRSNZ) is leading a project that has global implications for reducing brain damage in newborn babies and has funding from the United States National Institutes of Health.

#### **Centres of Research Excellence**

As well as having more than 50 research units, centres and institutes at departmental, faculty and University level, the University of Auckland hosts six of New Zealand's Centres of Research Excellence, established by the Government to drive innovative, international research. The centres hosted at Auckland include four of six selected through the 2013-14 funding round (the first four listed below), which have been granted funding until January 2020.

Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery, which brings together more than 200 researchers in multi-disciplinary teams working in drug discovery and development.

Medical Technologies Centre, which applies bioengineering technologies to healthcare by producing new knowledge of physiological processes in health and disease and developing novel bio-instrumentation and computational physiological models.

Te Pūnaha Matatini, the Centre for Complex Systems and Networks, which brings together New Zealand's leading researchers in physics, economics, mathematics, biology, computer science, operations management, statistics and social science to study complex systems and networks.

Brain Research New Zealand, Rangahau Roro Aotearoa, which seeks to unlock the secrets of the ageing brain and develop new therapies and better clinical and community care to enhance brain health throughout life. This centre is cohosted with the University of Otago.

Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, which carries out research for the advancement of New Zealand's indigenous Māori, focusing on their needs and aspirations in education, health and science.

Gravida (National Centre for Growth and Development), which brings together leading biomedical, clinical and animal scientists from across New Zealand and around the world to increase understanding of the effects of earlylife influences on growth and life-long health.

#### **National Science Challenges**

The University of Auckland is Challenge Contractor for two of New Zealand's National Science Challenges: "High-Value Nutrition" and "A Better Start". These are both hosted in the Liggins Institute, and the University is developing detailed research and business plans for the Challenges through to 2024. The University is also a formal party to eight other Challenges (as a "Challenge Member").

#### Commercialising research

Auckland UniServices Limited is our commercial research, knowledge transfer and custom education company.

It is the largest company of its kind in Australasia, with 600 employees. UniServices brings income and new employment opportunities into the University and New Zealand, with revenue of \$127 million in 2014, over 252 licences for intellectual property and more than 37 New Zealand businesses spun out from University research.

UniServices currently has more than 1,500 projects in 45 countries. These range from inductive power transfer wirelessly charging vehicles on the streets of London to creating energy from artificial muscles and developing robots to assist with the care of elderly people.

www.uniservices.co.nz

#### Entrepreneurial ecosystem

The University's Business School has established an entrepreneurial ecosystem to foster young entrepreneurs to create start-up companies. It features two key competitions: Spark – an annual student-led entrepreneurial challenge with categories ranging from new ideas through to fully developed products and business plans, and Chiasma – another student-led initiative which encourages ideas, networking, careers and business in biotechnology.

www.spark.auckland.ac.nz www.chiasma.auckland.ac.nz



Fale Pasifika

# **Faculties and schools**

#### **Faculty of Arts**

#### Schools

- School of Cultures, Languages, and Literatures
- School of Humanities
- School of Social Sciences
- Te Wānanga o Waipapa School of Māori Studies and Pacific Studies

www.arts.auckland.ac.nz

# Business School (Faculty of Business and Economics)

#### Departments, schools,

#### institutes, centres

- Accounting & Finance
- Commercial Law
- Economics
- · Graduate School of Management
- Information Systems & Operations
  Management
- · Management & International Business
- Marketing
- Property
- NZ Asia Institute
- NZ Leadership Institute
- · Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship

#### www.business.auckland.ac.nz

# National Institute for Creative Arts and Industries

#### Schools, centres

- $\cdot$  School of Architecture and Planning
- Elam School of Fine Arts
- School of Music
- Dance Studies Programme
- · Centre for Art Studies
- www.creative.auckland.ac.nz

## Faculty of Education

#### Schools

- Curriculum and Pedagogy
- Counselling, Human Services and Social Work
- · Critical Studies in Education
- Science, Mathematics and Technology
- Te Puna Wānanga School of Māori Education
- Teaching, Learning and Development
- Teacher Education Practice

#### www.education.auckland.ac.nz

#### **Faculty of Engineering**

#### Departments, institutes,

- $\cdot$  Chemical and Materials
- Civil and Environmental
- · Electrical and Computer
- Engineering Science
- Mechanical

• Institute of Earth Science and Engineering www.engineering.auckland.ac.nz

#### Faculty of Law

www.law.auckland.ac.nz

#### Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

#### Schools, institutes

- School of Medical Sciences
- School of Medicine
- National Institute for Health Innovation
- School of Nursing
- · School of Optometry and Vision Science
- School of Pharmacy
- · School of Population Health
- www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz

#### **Faculty of Science**

#### Schools, departments

- School of Biological Sciences
- School of Chemical Sciences
- Computer Science
- School of Environment
- Institute of Marine Science
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Psychology
- · Sport & Exercise Science
- Statistics
- www.science.auckland.ac.nz

# Auckland Bioengineering Institute

www.abi.auckland.ac.nz

Liggins Institute www.liggins.auckland.ac.nz

#### Subject rankings

The Times Higher Education publishes rankings for the top 400 universities each year. The University of Auckland is the only New Zealand university included in the top 200. Auckland's current ranking of 164 is seventh highest of all Australian and New Zealand universities. In 2013-2014 the University of Auckland was the highest ranked New Zealand university, at 94, in QS World University Rankings of 700 universities. In ranking of broad subject areas the University of Auckland is 69th for Arts and Humanities, 78th for Life Sciences and Medicine, 151st for Natural Science, 58th for Social Sciences and Management and 89th for Engineering and Technology. www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/key-statistics For individual subject areas In 2014 the University was in the top 50 for ten of these subjects, with Accounting and Finance (24th), Politics (26th), Law (28th), Education (34th), and Psychology (34th) ranking particularly well.





Artist's impression: Newmarket Campus

**City** – this campus covers 16 hectares in the heart of Auckland City and is home to the University's administration and the Arts, Engineering, Science, Law, Business and Creative Arts and Industries faculties.

Director, Centre for Brain Research

Campuses

**Grafton** – houses the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences (FMHS) and is adjacent to Auckland Hospital. It has undergone a \$24 million redevelopment, replacing traditional divisions between departments with theme-based, openplan, multi-disciplinary research spaces.

#### **Newmarket** - is a new campus covering 5.2 hectares and adjacent to the major business area in Newmarket. The first of the new facilities are now occupied by the Faculty of Engineering and the campus will provide the University with a site for expansion over the next 50 years.

Tāmaki - is home to the School of Population Health, and the Sport and Exercise Science programmes. **Epsom** - is the main Faculty of Education campus, ten minutes drive from the City, and offers programmes in teacher education and social services.

Tai Tokerau - offers courses run by the Faculty of Education at the Tai Tokerau Campus in Whangarei, three hours north of Auckland.

www.auckland.ac.nz/campuses

# Facilities

#### **Research facilities**

Among leading University research facilities that benefit staff, students and the public is the world class Centre for Advanced MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) at Grafton, which has the most advanced 3T Skyra MRI research scanner in the world. Our National Conservation Laboratory for Wet Organic Archaeological Materials, based in the Department of Anthropology, is the only facility of its type in the South Pacific and our new Brain Recovery Clinic at Tāmaki Campus links people in the Auckland community with world-leading scientists and clinicians from our Centre for Brain Research. Facilities at Newmarket Campus will include an Aerodynamics Hall, the University's Yacht Research Unit and a new wind tunnel, as well as a 45-metre 50-tonne flume that will sit on a specially-designed foundation and circulate water from a below-ground reservoir, allowing fluid engineers to conduct research ranging from the understanding of erosion in river beds to effects of waves on engineering structures.

#### Library

The University Library system is the most extensive tertiary library system in New Zealand and ranks alongside the top five university libraries in Australia. Located on the five campuses, it includes 14 subject-specific libraries, three of which include information commons, as well as the stand-alone Kate Edger Information Commons on the City Campus. There are 4,700 study spaces, 1,200 with computers. Each year the University invests over NZ\$18 million in the Library's collections, giving students and staff access to a very extensive digital collection as well as print, multi-media and archival collections.

#### Art and recreation

On the City Campus there is a large Recreation Centre, a 448-seat theatre and 150-seat Music Theatre, and two art galleries: The Gus Fisher and George Fraser. At Epsom campus there are dance studios, a fitness centre and gymnasium, tennis courts and a swimming pool.

The University provides counselling and medical services for students and there are three childcare centres on the City Campus and two each at Epsom and Grafton.

#### International engagement

The University of Auckland has formal agreements with 161 universities in 39 countries and we attract high-quality undergraduate and postgraduate international students to study here from over 110 countries

We have achieved a position of 19th= among all universities world-wide in the Times Higher Education Rankings for internationalisation, and we are the only New Zealand member of three international consortia which enable leading research universities from around the world to collaborate in addressing issues of global significance: Universitas 21, the Association of Pacific Rim Universities and Worldwide Universities Network.

We have strong collaborations with leading universities in China - including initiatives such as the New Zealand Centre, established at Peking University as a venue for NZ-China policy development, the Three Brothers collaboration with Tsinghua and Qinghai universities in highland ecology and advanced materials and a Confucius Institute (one of 300 world wide) based at Auckland and run in partnership with Fudan University. Top Chinese PhD students are also enrolling at Auckland, many in disciplines like biomedicine and bioengineering.



## The University of Auckland

Private Bag 92019 Auckland 1142, New Zealand Phone: +64 9 373 7599 Email: contactus@auckland.ac.nz Web: www.auckland.ac.nz

#### Alumni Relations and Development

Phone: +64 9 373 7599 ext 88113 Email: alumni@auckland.ac.nz development@auckland.ac.nz Web: www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz

# www.auckland.ac.nz