In celebration of International Women’s Day in March, this edition’s Faculty Focus showcases the Law School’s Women’s Mentoring Programme.

In 2019, the Law School piloted a Women’s Mentoring Programme for senior female LLB students. Run throughout the second semester 2019, with 25 pairs of mentors and mentees, the programme was such a great success that we’ve expanded it to 50 pairs for 2020. We’ll now run it for the entire academic year.

Participants are matched with alumni and friends of the Law School. These mentors are successful women who have five or more years of experience in a variety of industries. The key objective of the programme is to offer a professional development opportunity and provide mentees with the chance to benefit from their mentor’s experience and industry knowledge.

The programme has been spearheaded by Pro-Chancellor Cecilia Tarrant, who has run a similar programme at the Business School for the past 10 years. The value of mentoring for women is well documented. There are various mentoring initiatives within the legal industry for young practising lawyers, and we recognised the potential of a programme specifically for female students. One of the many benefits of our new programme is that mentors don’t just come from law firms but also from a wide variety of other sectors, including finance, international relations, marketing, and not-for-profits. We’ll also support students in their careers as they transition into their first graduate role.

The response to last year’s programme was fantastic. The feedback from mentees revealed that the students found it to be an invaluable opportunity to develop relationships with the amazing mentors. We look forward to the growth of the programme and supporting more of our phenomenal female students as they move into their careers.

Want to know more?

Find out more about the Law School at www.auckland.ac.nz/law

Email us for more information at undergradlaw@auckland.ac.nz
Tēnā koutou katoa.
I hope you are well.

Our school advisers started their school visits in Auckland and the regions with fantastic feedback. Our sessions were full, and schools, staff and students were enthusiastic and welcoming. Thank you for hosting us.

We look forward to resuming our school visits when the current health emergency is over. In the meantime, please connect with us by filling out our registration form for updates.

www.auckland.ac.nz/register

COVID-19 in New Zealand and around the world has been worrying for everyone. As a university, we’ve been very conscious of how it continues to affect our current student body and how it may affect school leavers in the future. We’re taking every precaution in looking after our current students and have planned forward, as best we can, for future developments.

Have a great Term Two. I look forward to seeing you in the future.

Ngā mihi,

Dennis Matene
Director, Schools Partnership Office

Introducing our new Schools Adviser

Junior Toailoa

“Talofa lava. My name is Junior Toailoa and I’m very excited to be the new Schools Adviser Pacific. Of Samoan descent, I was born and raised in Auckland. I’m also a graduate of the University of Auckland, having completed a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. I’ve been at the University for over nine years, both as a student and as an employee. I’ve been working till now in the Scholarships and Graduation Office. I’m passionate about education – more specifically, Pacific academic success. I’m excited about the role and what I have to offer. I’m very much looking forward to guiding and supporting students on their journey to the University of Auckland.”

Haere rā, Simon Crook

In April, we sadly waved farewell to our longest-serving adviser, Simon Crook. Many of you will have got to know Simon during his six-and-a-half years in the Schools Partnership Office, so it’s fair to say he will be sorely missed by us all. All the best in your new venture, Simon!

Open Day 2020

Who knows what the day will bring. We’re optimistic that we’ll be able to deliver Open Day 2020 as an exciting visitor event. Realistically, however, we’re also planning for the possibility of alternative delivery in the current health crisis. We’ll come to a final decision by late May. Please keep an eye on our Open Day webpages for updates.

www.auckland.ac.nz/openday
Meet the Team

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Equal Justice Project: Students delivering justice for all

The Equal Justice Project (EJP) is a student-driven charity. We use the knowledge and legal skills of volunteering Law School students to promote a culture of inclusivity, equality and easy access to justice for all citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand. EJP is comprised of four teams, each contributing to social justice in their respective capacities.

Pro Bono

The Pro Bono team prides itself on providing analytical support and academic research to practitioners, academics, interested organisations, and community groups that share the values and aims of EJP. The main project for Pro Bono in 2019 was the Save Our Unique Landscape (SOUL) Campaign, relating to the acquisition and intended development of Ihumātao by Fletcher Building Ltd.

Access

The Access team focuses on extending the school outreach programme, with a particular emphasis on lower decile schools. A recent event focusing on the Zero Carbon Bill was a resounding success. We hosted a packed theatre of students and members of the public, who aired a diverse range of perspectives and insights.

Community

The Community team assists community law centres and other community facilities around Auckland. Volunteer students can apply their legal skills in real world settings, helping our most vulnerable citizens who can’t afford representation or legal assistance.

Communications

The Communications team is the media hub of EJP, focusing mainly on social media. It works hard to bring to light current social issues by writing opinion pieces and academic articles, and working on bill submissions to Parliament. This year we have covered a wide range of topics, including climate change, pay transparency, drug law reform, hate speech, and Oranga Tamariki.

www.equaljusticeproject.co.nz
directors@equaljusticeproject.co.nz

The Malosi Project

Named after their patron, Judge Ida Malosi, the Malosi Project (MP) is a student-volunteer association made up of prospective Māori and Pasifika law students who wish to give back to communities.

Together with the collective vision of founders Dylan Asafo and Irene Vano, Malosi work with around ten low decile schools. The students run workshops covering academic skills, a future in law as a Māori or Pasifika student, Brown Empowerment and more.

One of the newer initiatives, the Malosi Mooting Competition, aims to encourage the presence of community and to develop one of the skills that Malosi are known for: oratory.

Malosi also work with community organisations such as the Pacific Lawyers Association, the Ministry for Pacific Peoples, and the Waitematā Community Law Centre to create Family Protection Legal Aid for the Tongan community.

Faculty of Arts/Law School – Student Profile

Joshua Sade-Inia
Programme: Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Laws

“Coming to the ‘big smoke’ was a way for me to discover myself, meet new people and embrace my inner-city person. My studies in the Faculty of Arts have complemented my Law degree and prepared me for my chosen career path. I enjoy the wide variety of people and personalities I have encountered in my Arts major, as well as the many different ideas within it. “I am passionate about social issues and politics. I also enjoy the wide level of discussion and debate about societies, what they should do and how they should function. I hope to take this learning into my career later on.

“I would like to practice as a lawyer before entering politics, as a Member of Parliament first and then gradually working my way up. I want to positively influence society through my work, and I feel I can offer the most in politics.

“If I could offer one piece of advice, it would be to study what you’re passionate about and enjoy. If you do something you enjoy and are engaged with, you’ll gain so much fulfilment in your life.”
Celebrating International Women’s Day

Education and Social Work

Clarissa Mafoe
Programme: Bachelor of Sport, Health and Physical Education

What has been your biggest challenge as a woman in sport?
“Feeling the need to compete against men in the same code. There’s still a bit of a preconception that women cannot perform at the same level of intensity as men. However, I believe nowadays women are finding our own way of owning the sport we play. Society’s perspectives are changing, and people are taking women’s sports more seriously.”

Who is your biggest inspiration?
“So many women have inspired me in some way in sport. The likes of Luisa Avaiki, Valerie Adams, Beatrice Faumuina, Rita Fatialofa, Sophie Pascoe and so many more. These ladies have been trailblazers for women’s sport in New Zealand. They’ve inspired me to realise that the only person in the way of achieving your goals is yourself. It doesn’t matter what your background is, there’s no excuse for not trying to achieve your dreams.”

Any advice for girls who want to get into sport?
“My advice would be to break away from the negative connotations of ‘throw like a girl’. Never be afraid of being a leader. Never lose sight of your ‘why’.”

Why do you think International Women’s Day is important to celebrate?
“I feel that women don’t always get the recognition they deserve. It’s about celebrating each other’s achievements and women empowering women.”

What is your proudest achievement in sport?
“Representing New Zealand in softball and being appointed captain for the New Zealand development team.”

Alumni – 40 Under 40

Alex Magaraggia
Co-founder/Director, Ecoware
Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws

40 Under 40 is an annual celebration of the University of Auckland’s most inspiring young alumni who continue to shine in both their professional and personal lives.

Ecoware co-founder Alex Magaraggia considers that studying for a Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws conjoint was ideal preparation for a foray into entrepreneurship.

“My time at university really taught me how to persevere and work hard towards a goal. I aimed to achieve the top marks in each of my subjects, but I also had fun along the way.”

Ten years ago, Alex and his friend James created Ecoware, an eco-friendly food packaging business developing and manufacturing single-use food and beverage packaging made from plants. They supply businesses across New Zealand and now globally in more than 10 countries. From the outset, the two partners decided to focus on changing the way Kiwis and the world view waste. They believe it is not “waste” until it is wasted.

“Ultimately we want a nation that composts, because composting is the most viable way to divert food waste and its packaging from landfill. It’s part of the circular economy, returning ‘waste’ back to the earth in the form of compost, ready to be used again and again.”

Alex admits he has learnt plenty of important lessons about business along the way. But the one that really stands out is to “get comfortable with the uncomfortable”.

“Learning how to overcome challenges and become a better problem solver is all part of the journey.”

For more details on 40 Under 40, visit auckland.ac.nz/alumni
Elam School of Fine Arts has changed the Bachelor of Fine Arts for students applying for 2021 entry onwards. Students will now benefit from a significantly increased number of conjoint options and more flexibility with their duration of study.

Conjoint programmes

We’re increasing our conjoint degree study options from one to 11. From 2021, students will be able to apply to study for a Bachelor of Fine Arts alongside one of the following: Advanced Science (Honours), Arts, Commerce, Design, Engineering (Honours), Global Studies, Health Sciences, Law, Law (Honours), Music or Science.

Duration of study

We’re reducing the length of study from four to three years, and also establishing a part-time study option. This means that Bachelor of Fine Arts students will now be able to complete their degree in either three years full-time or six years part-time.

Accessibility

We’re also providing more opportunity for people to study at Elam by removing the submission of a portfolio as part of the application.

The changes above are subject to standard regulatory approval.

For further details about Elam School of Fine Arts, please visit www.elam.auckland.ac.nz

And check out more than 300 art projects by our graduating students at www.elamartists.ac.nz

Gabriela Baron
Lecturer, Bachelor of Design

Have you faced any particular challenges as a woman in a predominantly male industry?

“While researching my PhD, I met my husband-to-be and I became a mum to two girls. This was the hardest thing I’d ever done in my life. Being a mum while teaching and studying challenged all my beliefs, my body, my health and my ways of thinking. I put myself and my family under a lot of stress, and came very close to an emotional breakdown. I felt I was failing as a mother, a professional and a human being.

“On the other hand, this led me to ‘redesign myself’. Since then, I have reconnected with my feminine side, the motherly side, the side that pushes me towards self-care, self-love and self-compassion. This is the only path for a fulfilling, wholesome life.”

Which female designers have inspired you?

“Leona Chalmers. She invented the menstrual cup in 1937. This is a reusable, sustainable feminine hygiene product, designed to collect menstrual flow. Bearing in mind that Chalmers designed this product at a time when talk of periods and vaginas was shrouded in shame and scandal, she is undoubtedly an inspiration.”

What advice would you give to female designers who are just starting out?

“You’re coming to the right profession at the right time. Design has all the potential to save the world, but it requires real commitment, passion and strength. Challenge everything; no more trying to fit in like us ladies are accustomed to. Follow your intuition and don’t be afraid to shine.”

What advice would you give to a younger you?

“You are perfect. Love yourself. One of our innate gifts as women is that we are able to empathise and listen deeply. We listen with our entire selves as instruments of intuition. Don’t ever underestimate this. These are your superpowers. “Don’t let the world force you into becoming more masculine to succeed in a man’s world.”

University Updates

Creative Arts and Industries

Gabriela Baron
Lecturer, Bachelor of Design

Celebrate International Women’s Day

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Education and Social Work

Education and Social Work to depart Epsom Campus in 2023

The University has confirmed the relocation of the Faculty of Education and Social Work from Epsom Campus to the City Campus. The faculty will move in late 2023 in readiness for lectures to begin in 2024.

Once on City Campus, the Faculty will continue to provide students with an excellent learning, teaching and study environment, delivered from newly refurbished spaces in five centrally-located buildings. The relocation is designed to give students easier access to the support services, student clubs, societies and amenities that are concentrated on the City Campus. The move is also aligned with the scheduled opening date of the University’s new state-of-the-art recreation and wellness centre on the City Campus.

In the meantime, it’s business as usual at Epsom Campus. The vast majority of students beginning their programme in Education or in Sport, Health and Physical Education in 2020 and 2021 will finish their qualification at Epsom before or during 2023. Social work students beginning in 2021 can expect to complete their final year of study at City Campus.

A decision about the future of the Epsom Campus site is yet to be made.

TeachNZ Scholarship applications now open

A TeachNZ Scholarship will support students enrolling in any approved Initial Teacher Education Programme such as the Bachelor of Education or Graduate Diploma in Teaching.

Scholarships cover course fees and provide an allowance over the period of study. There are scholarships available for students across all teaching settings: early learning, primary, secondary and Māori medium. The next round of applications closes on Friday 5 June 2020.

Find out more at www.auckland.ac.nz/teachnz

What is it like studying in Epsom, South Auckland or Tai Tokerau?

Our upcoming Experience Days are a great opportunity for school leavers to find out more about their study options at our various campuses. They’ll learn about the range of programmes offered by the University of Auckland while getting a taste of student life.

Tai Tokerau Campus:
Tuesday 28 July

South Auckland Campus:
Wednesday 29 July

Epsom Campus:
Thursday 30 July

For further details, visit www.auckland.ac.nz/education-info-sessions
2021 Scholarships

Applications for the University of Auckland school-leaver scholarships for 2021 will be opening later this year, so now is the perfect time for your students to prepare their applications.

In order to apply for one of these scholarships, students will first need to apply for admission to the University of Auckland. This process will give students an ID number and password, which they’ll use to access the online scholarship application system.

In addition to these scholarships, there are also faculty and donor-funded scholarships and awards on offer.

Find out more at www.auckland.ac.nz/scholarships.

Business School

The Future of Accounting Looks Bright

Have you heard that accountants are being replaced by robots? Think again. The Business School recently brought together four leading accounting professionals at the event “Relevance of Accounting in a Digital World”. They all agreed that the present and future of accounting is very bright.

If you’re thinking about studying accountancy, it’s likely the role and job title you will end up with will be very different.

“We tend to call our accountants analysts now, as the role is more forward-looking,” said Ian Hankins, CFO at Westpac. “We definitely still need accountants. We run a graduate programme every year because we are always keen to bring new talent into the business, and we don’t see that changing.”

Yet what about those robots? Rather than replacing people, automation software lets accountants move away from repetitive tasks, freeing them to focus on the important parts of the job. According to CFO of Teknique, Anna Davis:

“The primary role of an accountant is to solve financial problems. To do that, you need commercial and financial judgement, skills that can’t be automated.”

Of course, working with technology requires some tech skills, and employers seek students with a mix of accounting, communication and IT skills.

“There will always be a role for accountants,” says Kylie Liew, Director at Giles & Liew Chartered Accountants. “But what we have traditionally thought accountants do is evolving and they have to adapt to changing expectations.”

The University of Auckland Business School offers a range of options to create accounting graduates well suited to the changes in the business world.

For more information on Accounting and the complementary majors available at the Business School, go to www.auckland.ac.nz/accounting.
Campus Life launches programme to recognise extra-curricular activities

Students could be forgiven for thinking that university life is all about maintaining good grades and acing their exams. Doing well academically is really important, but extra-curricular activities matter too!

The new Co-curricular Recognition Programme has been designed to record and recognise students’ co-curricular voluntary or community-based work.

There are four possible paths of activity: community engagement, leadership skills, global endeavours, or innovation. Students complete one path at a time via voluntary or community activities, workshops and a written self-reflection. Once they’ve completed two paths, they’ll be invited to work towards the University of Auckland Distinguished Graduate Award, which is recorded on their academic transcript.

The activities include volunteering at radio station bFM, spending time as a UniGuide, mentoring other students, or participating in innovation workshops and courses. Getting involved in the Co-curricular Recognition Programme is a great way to find some balance while studying, plus it looks great on a student’s CV.
Duran Pouri Whiu
Waikato, Ngāpuhi

Programme: Bachelor of Nursing

“Family members who are healthcare professionals have inspired me to help people achieve wellness. When I thought about how to train for that, the University of Auckland stood out because of its reputation for producing leaders in the community.

“Completing a Bachelor of Nursing will open so many professional doorways. I can also see myself following the excellent postgraduate pathway offered at Auckland. This will lead to more opportunities for senior nursing roles.

“The bachelors programme integrates fundamentals of research, so it sets students up extremely well for postgraduate study.

“Nursing study is very relatable to our everyday lives. What we’re taught in patient care can be applied in self-care as well. We learn how to be the best version of ourselves – because that’s the person our patients will need.

“The University provides amazing facilities, including comfortable study spaces and access to endless information. I’m also surrounded by people who aim high, which inspires my own passion for excellence.

“I came from the countryside near Hamilton. The move was huge, but it was great to live in the Halls of Residence. Moving to a new environment was hard, but I met some incredible people. I’m still extremely close with them, and we’ll continue to flat together over the next few years.

“As a member of MAPAS (Māori and Pacific Admission Scheme), I’ve had access to social, academic, emotional, and financial support to make studying away from home a lot more manageable.”
Zarrin Sinclair

Programme: Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws conjoint
Exchange institution: The University of Oslo

Zarrin Sinclair just returned from her semester exchange at the University of Oslo, which was arranged through the University of Auckland’s 360 International programme.

“Hello! My name is Zar and I have just finished my BA/LLB conjoint, majoring in Education and Politics. I never expected to study abroad. But after five years of high school at Wellington East Girls’ College I went straight into five years of study at the University of Auckland. So I jumped at the opportunity to spend a semester somewhere totally new.

“Taking six months out to try something new, have some fun and grow a little was 100% the best decision. Completing my studies while in Norway was a great experience – I gained an extra six months of summer, met so many cool people and visited all of my dream European locations.

“I’m so grateful to the University of Auckland for always pushing me to step outside of my comfort zone and to have fun with my degree. I’d never have dreamed Law could take me to Norway. Through my exchange I was able to learn about so many more amazing opportunities where I can use my law degree all over the world.”

To learn more about 360 International’s overseas opportunities, visit www.auckland.ac.nz/360

Read more about Zarrin’s Oslo adventures at www.360internationalblog.com
Equity Office – Te Ara Tautika

Proud to support our Rainbow communities

The University supports a safe, inclusive and equitable environment through:

- Our LGBTQITakatāpui+ Student and Staff Network
- Faculty Rainbow Groups
- Legal name change support for transgender students
- Unisex toilets for gender diverse students and staff

Find out more
www.equity.auckland.ac.nz/rainbow

From the Equity Office

Kim Spain is a Senior Mental Health Adviser at the Equity Office’s Student Disability Services. A University of Auckland alumnus, Kim has spent the last 15 years working in counselling, with a focus on young people in schools and those with addictions.

“Mental illness is surprisingly common,” says Kim. “It doesn’t discriminate. Some people think that their mental health isn’t bad enough for them to deserve to get support while they study, but that’s not true – everyone deserves care. The University caters for every level of support. It’s just a matter of knowing how and where to access it.”

“Student Disability Services offers support for students with diagnosed mental health conditions. We see students regularly throughout their time at University and offer support around wellbeing and academic studies. We also advocate for them. Everything is completely confidential and not shared with academic staff or anyone else. The exception to this is if I’m worried about someone’s safety.”

“Sessions are tailored to each student’s unique needs. We’ll have a chat about how they, their studies and their mental health are going. From there, we’ll make a plan that highlights possible support options available. They’re then welcome to come back and see me fortnightly or whenever they’d like for as long as they’re studying. We can do whatever they find most helpful – a wellbeing check in, stress or time management, a review of assessments or other forms of support.”

One of the biggest challenges Kim sees students facing is perfectionism, which can act as a trigger for mental health problems. She sees “practising more self-kindness and mindfulness as a tonic”.