



Next Week In Focus

Weekly newsletter for University staff | 12 May 2014

Diary

Monday 12 May

Jazz concert

Carolina Moon. 7-9:30pm, Kenneth Myers Centre, 74 Shortland Street.

Cost: \$15-\$20. Book at iTICKET.

Featuring Carolina Moon (vocals, bells), Roger Manins (soprano saxophone), Nigel Gavin (guitar, glissantar, banjo), Jessica Hindin (violin), Kevin Field (piano), Matthias Erdrich (double bass), Ron Samsom (drums) and Chris O'Connor (drum set, hand drums).

The sybilline Ms Moon unfolds ancient scripts and original songs amid creative, evocative soundscapes with guttural wisps of electric oud, guitar loops, crazy rhythms and pure wildness. This ensemble assembles the cream of boundary-stretching NZ improvisation artists. Hosted by the School of Music.

Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

Tuesday 13 May

The Spark Ideas Challenge deadline

By 12noon. \$33,000 total prize pool.

How fantastic would it be to win \$1,000 cash for simply putting your idea down in 1,000 words?!

There are 32 chances to win a prize:

10 x \$1,000 Commercial prizes

10 x \$1,000 Social Entrepreneurship prizes

5 x \$1,000 UniServices Research prizes

\$1,000 Special prizes for entries from NICAL, Arts, Law, CompSci, Property and Engineering faculties.

\$2,000 Chiasma BioScience prize.

This is a easy way to 'test' out your idea. All entries can also receive valuable feedback from our judges.

With \$33,000 to be won, what have you got to lose!? Ideas Challenge submissions are open now. Entries can be submitted to www.spark.auckland.ac.nz/spark-challenges/ideas-challenge

Wednesday 14 May

Auckland Writers Festival 2014

Runs until 18 May.

The Auckland Writers Festival brings the very best local and international writers of contemporary fiction and non-fiction, scientists,

economists, poets, journalists and public intellectuals together with audiences to explore ideas, share stories and experience brilliant conversations.

The Festival includes over 100 public events, gathering together 150 of the world's best writers and thinkers with over 10,000 festival attendees and more than 3,000 young people to celebrate the world of books and ideas.

Proudly supported by the University of Auckland.

Visit <http://writersfestival.co.nz/>

Thursday 15 May

Communiqué

Scott Figenshow, Director, Community Housing Aotearoa: *Achieving 20 percent by 2020: How is it going to happen?* 12noon-1pm, Design Lecture Theatre, Conference Centre, 22 Symonds Street.

Reform of social and affordable housing space is in full swing in New Zealand. The Government has set the goal for 20 percent of the country's social and affordable housing to be delivered by community housing organisations by 2020. This is a great goal but how are we going to get there? What are the policy levers we need to pull? Where will the finance come from? How will social and community housing achieve the kind of long-term stability that currently exists in the health, education, and superannuation systems? Scott's presentation will address these questions and offer some possible answers.

The School of Architecture and Planning and Transforming Cities are pleased to host Scott Figenshow, Director of Community Housing Aotearoa. Scott has extensive experience in the field of community housing, across non-profit, government and private sector roles. He has been involved in the implementation of housing strategy, a range of policy and planning initiatives, and social capital projects. Scott holds a Master of Arts in Urban Planning from UCLA, and is a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute. In his new role of Director, he works closely with CHA members, local and central government in order to increase the size and scope of the sector and meet the housing needs of communities.

Queries to events-archplan@auckland.ac.nz

Visit www.creative.auckland.ac.nz/communique

Libraries and Learning Services workshop

Theses and dissertations: How to find them. 1-2.30pm, Room IC 231, Level 2, Kate Edger Information Commons.

This workshop is useful for postgraduate students preparing thesis proposals or literature reviews, and anyone searching for unpublished theses and dissertations. You will find theses from the University of Auckland, and from other New Zealand and overseas universities.

Book at <http://library.auckland.ac.nz/booking/Queries> to learningskillsworkshops@auckland.ac.nz or ext 89744.

Centre for Biodiversity and Biosecurity seminar

Dr Gavin Lear, School of Biological Sciences: *The development and use of bacterial community indicators to monitor the health our changing environment.* 3.30-4.30pm, Lecture Theatre 722.201, Tāmaki Campus.

Can bacterial communities be used as sensitive and reliable indicators of changing environmental conditions? Bacteria are both ubiquitous and taxonomically diverse and it is thought that they may be highly responsive indicators of changing environmental conditions as a consequence of their rapid life cycle. Here, I discuss the outcomes and opportunities provided by two current major studies designed to explore the biogeographical distribution of both soil and freshwater microbial communities across New Zealand. In each study, more than 1000 samples have been collected to quantify the extent that bacterial community composition and function may be determined by anthropogenic stresses, rather than by natural influences such as gradients in sampling location, temperature or soil taxonomy. In light of these findings, we discuss the development of novel bacterial community indices to 'score' the ecological health of NZ's terrestrial and aquatic environments, and consider the pros and cons of their use compared to traditional chemical and biological methods. Finally, we highlight how recent advances in the molecular detection of functional microbial genes (eg encoding for C degradation, N fixation, denitrification, and resistance to various

metals) may be used to monitor not only the extent of environmental degradation, but to identify the specific drivers of environmental change within complex terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

Fermata seminar

Dr Gregory Camp: *Mickey Mouse muzak: Shaping experience musically in Walt Disney World*. 5.30-7pm, Music Theatre, 6 Symonds Street.

This paper examines the musical techniques used by the Walt Disney Company to enhance and control the visitor experience at the Walt Disney World theme parks.

Dr Gregory Camp arrived at the University of Auckland in July 2013 to take up a lectureship in music. He has recently been awarded his DPhil by The Queen's College, Oxford University, studying the performance and reception history of Monteverdi's operas in the twentieth century. Originally from Denver, Colorado, he graduated summa cum laude from The George Washington University with a double major in International Affairs and Music. He then went to Oxford for an MSt in Musicology, studying the modern reception history of Monteverdi's 1610 Vespers. While at Oxford Gregory sang in the Queen's College chapel choir, for which he also acted as librarian, and served the Queen's College graduate community as treasurer and as president of the Queen's Middle Common Room. In early 2013 he was an adjunct instructor of music at Metropolitan State University of Denver.

At the University of Auckland Gregory teaches musicianship, music theory, and courses on Monteverdi's operas, twentieth-century music, and film music.

Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

2014 Gibbons Lecture

Keeping Secrets: Privacy and security in the information age.

Associate Professor Steven Galbraith, Mathematics, University of Auckland: *Public key cryptography: Computation, cash and John Nash*. 6pm for 6.30pm start, Room OGGB3/260-092, Owen G Glenn Building. The third of four lectures.

This talk will explain how security can be enhanced by the use of hard computational problems from mathematics. This was the basis for the creation of public key cryptography in the 1970s. Public key cryptography has many applications in information security, such as secure internet shopping, digital signatures and secure automatic software updates.

We will see how digital signatures have now become a crucial component of the electronic currency bitcoin.

Cryptography is, of course, of great interest to national security. Recently (only declassified in 2012) it has been revealed that John Nash (subject of the film *A Beautiful Mind*) sent a letter to the United States National Security Agency in 1955. His letter outlined

new concepts that anticipated by decades fundamental notions in computational complexity and modern cryptography. Associate Professor Steven Galbraith is a leading researcher in computational number theory and the mathematics of public key cryptography. He has published over 50 papers in this area, written one book, and edited three conference proceedings. He has a Bachelors degree from the University of Waikato, a Masters from Georgia Tech in Atlanta, and he completed his PhD at Oxford University in 1996.

The lecture will be streamed live. Note that there is public parking in the basement of the Owen G Glenn Building at 12 Grafton Road

Friday 16 May Head of Tāmaki Innovation Campus seminar

Dr Teuila Percival: *Starving in paradise*. 3-4pm, Lecture Theatre 731.201, Tāmaki Campus. The Pacific is a diverse beautiful region with challenges of widely scattered populations, geographical isolation, limited resources and increasing climate change effects. The Health sector faces the double burden of infectious disease and non-communicable disease along with health service delivery challenges. As the Millenium Development Goals draw to a close in 2015, there is good progress in some countries with improvement in health indicators, economic growth and the development of business and tourism. However paediatric frontline clinicians are not only seeing acute severe malnutrition in their hospitals, but deaths from malnutrition. This is a sentinel marker of increasing disparities and the lack of focus and investment in future of the Pacific, which is its children. Dr Percival will discuss the key issues in the Pacific region which are impacting on people's health and well-being, along with examples of effective interventions and programmes and particular areas of concern and need.

Dr Percival is a Senior Lecturer and Director of Pacific Health at the University of Auckland. She is also a Consultant Paediatrician at KidzFirst Children's Hospital in South Auckland. Her particular interests are in Pacific people's health, maternal and child health, child abuse and community paediatrics. She graduated from the University of Auckland in 1983 and completed paediatric training in Auckland and Samoa before taking up an appointment as a Consultant Paediatrician in 1993 at Starship Childrens Hospital and then later at Middlemore Hospital. Dr Percival is involved in research both in New Zealand and the wider Pacific. She works clinically at KidzFirst Children's Hospital and regularly travels to the Pacific carrying out paediatric clinical work. This seminar will be followed by a networking event (4pm-5.30pm) in Function Room 220, Building 730.

Saturday 17 May Made in Auckland: Stand up paddleboard

Get a group lesson on the latest action water sport, stand up paddleboarding. Qualified instructors will show you the basics in this 90-minute lesson which includes board and wetsuit hire. Transport and refreshments also included. Part of the Made in Auckland art programme.

\$70 for University of Auckland students.

Queries to eventservices@auckland.ac.nz

Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/madeinauckland

Poetry Slam

7pm, B28, Library Basement, General Library, 5 Alfred Street.

Check out the amazing student talent on campus when University of Auckland students perform spoken word poetry in the 2014 Poetry Slam. There will also be a special performance by international guest Jan Blake, one of Europe's leading storytellers.

Come along if you enjoy intellectually stimulating material, ranging from hilarious and whimsical to sassy and political.

Check out www.auckland.ac.nz/poetryslam for all the details.

Concert

Magic Flutes NZ. 7-8pm, Music Theatre, 6 Symonds Street.

The versatility of the flute will be showcased by School of Music Flute Ensemble in a programme including works by JS Bach, Ravel, Mike Mower and Will Offermanns.

Free. No booking required. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz