



Next Week In Focus

Weekly newsletter for University staff | 2 May 2016

Diary

Monday 2 May

Professor John Thwaites public presentation

12.15-1.30pm, Fale Pasifika, Building 275, 20-26 Wynyard Street, Auckland.

You are cordially invited to a public presentation by Professor John Thwaites, Co-Chair of the Leadership Council of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Chair of the Monash Sustainability Institute and ClimateWorks Australia.

Professor Thwaites has been closely involved in the development of the UN-Sustainable Development Goals that were adopted by 185 countries in the UN-General Assembly late last year. He is visiting New Zealand to raise awareness of the goals and the role of civil society, the private sector and tertiary education in their implementation. Professor Thwaites' presentation will be followed by a panel discussion on a range of critical issues facing New Zealand and the South Pacific and how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) framework can help to meet the challenges they present. Free - spaces are limited so please register by email to lj.stone@auckland.ac.nz

Tuesday 3 May

New Zealand Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice public lecture

Professor Dominique Clément: *Equality Deferred: Human Rights Law in Canada*. 6-7pm, Lecture Theatre 102 - G36, Old Government House, Corner of Princes Street & Waterloo Quadrant.

Professor Clément Clément asks is human rights transformative? Are we more equal today? Clément explores the historical origins of human rights law, politics and activism in Canada. He focuses on sex discrimination and recent controversial cases that have contributed to a backlash that has led to several regressive legal reforms.

Dominique Clément is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Alberta. He is the author of the award-winning books *Canada's Rights*

Revolution, Equality Deferred and Human Rights in Canada, as well as the co-editor for Alberta's Human Rights Story and *Debating Dissent*. Clément has been a Visiting Scholar in Australia and the United Kingdom, and is the author of numerous articles on human rights, social movements, women's history, foreign policy and labour history. His website, www.HistoryOfRights.ca, serves as a research and teaching portal on human rights in Canada. RSVP to lawevents@auckland.co.nz by Monday 2 May 2016

Wednesday 4 May

Fermata Lecture

Dr Davinia Caddy, Senior Lecturer in Musicology, School of Music: *French Perspectives on Strauss's Salomé, Paris, 1907*. 5.30-6.30pm, Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St, Auckland Central.

Fermata is a series of engaging public presentations throughout the year that highlight School of Music staff, students, national and international guests. Founded by School of Music lecturers Dr Allan Badley and Dr Davinia Caddy, the series aims to showcase the distinctive specialisms and issues pertaining to the study and history of music. Scholarly studies of Richard Strauss's most famous operatic shocker have tended to foreground what Lawrence Kramer calls 'the Salome complex', a cluster of cultural strains of influence (Kramer describes 'a bundle of instabilities') that feed off and thus fuel each other. Degeneration, sexual perversion, anti-Semitism, narcissism, exoticism, the femme fatale: these themes are familiar, emerging clearly from the initial press response to the opera in Germany and Austria, and repeated almost obsessively in a voluminous secondary literature.

This presentation aims to investigate the historical and cultural salience of these lesser-known tropes, exploring intersections between the opera and prewar debates about nationhood, cosmopolitanism, foreign politics and mass consumption, besides specifically musical issues of vocal *décadence*, operatic symphonisation and the illustrative role of the orchestra. The presentation will raise questions about the role of the historical imagination, the body and the senses in operatic spectatorship in the early twentieth century, and, more

broadly, about possible points of contact between traditional text-based reception histories and trending themes (embodiment, immersion, mediation) within the field of opera studies. Free.

Queries to creative@auckland.ac.nz

Thursday 5 May

Book launch: Re-inventing New Zealand: Essays on the arts and the media

6-8pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St, Auckland Central.

Atuanui Press would like to invite you together with friends and family to celebrate the launch of *Re-inventing New Zealand: Essays on the arts and the media* by Roger Horrocks.

Re-inventing New Zealand features a selection of essays from a lifetime of writings about the arts and the media.

"These essays are seminal contributions, central to the major intellectual and cultural changes that define the New Zealand we live in today." - Wystan Curnow.

A preview of the contents and the introduction to the book can be viewed on the Atuanui Press website.

Refreshments and book signings will be available on the night.

For more information contact editor@atuanui.co.nz

Gibbons Series Lecture

Distinguished Professor Peter Hunter, Director of Auckland Bioengineering Institute, the University of Auckland: *Computational physiology*. 6.30pm, 260.092 (OGGB3), Level 0, Owen G Glenn Building, 12 Grafton Road. Multi-scale computational models of organs and organ systems are being developed under the umbrella of the Physiome Project of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) and the Virtual Physiological Human (VPH) project funded by the European Commission. These computational physiology models deal with multiple physical processes (coupled tissue mechanics, electrical activity, fluid flow, etc) and multiple spatial and temporal scales. They are intended both to help understand physiological function and to provide a basis for diagnosing and treating pathologies in a clinical setting. A long term goal of the project is to use computational

modeling to analyze integrative biological function in terms of underlying structure and molecular mechanisms. It is also establishing web-accessible physiological databases dealing with model-related data at the cell, tissue, organ and organ system levels. The talk will discuss the current state of the standards, databases and software being developed to support robust and reproducible multi-scale models for the VPH/Physiome project.

Professor Peter Hunter FRS is Director of the Auckland Bioengineering Institute (ABI) and Director of the Medical Technologies Centre of Research Excellence. His research interests are in modeling human physiology using an anatomical and biophysically-based multiscale approach that links molecular processes to tissue level phenotypes. He was awarded the Rutherford Medal and a KEA World Class NZ award in 2009 and appointed to the NZ Order of Merit in 2010. He is an elected Fellow of the Royal Society (London and NZ), Chair of the International Academy of Medical and Biological Engineering, and President-elect for the World Council of Biomechanics.

Note: Drinks and nibbles will be served from 6pm on Level 1 of the Owen G Glenn Building.

Friday 6 May

Autumn Graduation - Day One

10.30am-9.30pm, Aotea Centre, Queen Street, Auckland Central.

Ceremony 1

10.30am - Faculty of Arts.

Ceremony 2

1.30pm - Faculty of Arts; Faculty of Education & Social Work.

Ceremony 3

4.30pm - Faculty of Education & Social Work.

Ceremony 4

7.30pm - Faculty of Creative Arts & Industries, Faculty of Law.

Graduation Service

8.30am, Maclaurin Chapel, 18 Princes Street, University of Auckland.

Graduands, their families and friends are invited to attend a short Service of Thanksgiving for the gifts of intellect and learning, and for personal accomplishment in reaching the point of graduation. The service will be followed by some light refreshment. There will be plenty of time to join the procession.

Please wear academic regalia, and bring your parents, family and friends, spouse or partner. We look forward to seeing you at the service.

The service will also take place at the same time on Monday 9th May and Wednesday 11th May.

Free. Queries to chapelsec@auckland.ac.nz

Lunchtime Concert Series

Chamber music ensembles. 1-2pm, Music

Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds Street, Auckland.

A public concert series showcasing talented School of Music students in both individual and ensemble settings.

Free. Queries to creative@auckland.ac.nz

COMPASS seminar

Professor Matthias Schonlau, University of Waterloo: *Improving the accuracy of automated occupation coding*. 3-4pm, Room 104, Fale Pasifika Complex (273-104).

Occupation coding, an important task in official statistics, refers to coding a respondent's text answer into one of many hundreds of occupation codes. To date, occupation coding is still at least partially conducted manually at great expense. We propose two new methods for automatic coding that also apply when only a fixed proportion of the text answers are to be coded automatically. Using data from the German General Social Survey (ALLBUS), we show that both methods improve on both the coding accuracy of the underlying statistical/ machine learning algorithm and the coding accuracy of duplicates where duplicates exist. (Co-authors: Hyukjun Gweon, U of W, Lars Kaczmarek, GESIS, Germany, Michael Blohm, GESIS, Germany, Stefan Steiner, U of W).

Matthias Schonlau is a Professor in the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science at the University of Waterloo. Prior to his academic career, he spent 14 years at the RAND Corporation (USA), the Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin (Germany), the German Institute for Economic Analysis (DIW), National Institute of Statistical Sciences (USA), and AT&T Labs Research (USA). He is on sabbatical at the University of Auckland until July 2016. His research interests evolve around survey methodology with a current emphasis on categorizing open-ended questions using text mining. He is the lead author of the book "Conducting Research Surveys via E-Mail and the Web".

Queries to b.milne@auckland.ac.nz

Head of Tāmaki Innovation Campus seminar series

Clinical Associate Professor Hilary Blacklock, MBChB (Otago), FRACP, FRCPA: *Blood, Genes and Sport Performance: Clues from Haematology*. 3.30-4.30pm, Lecture Theatre 731.201, Tāmaki Innovation Campus, 261 Morrin Road, St Johns, Auckland.

Sport haematology covers a wide range of topics of interest to clinical and laboratory haematologists. The expansion of knowledge relating to physiology, genetics, and laboratory data is likely to also benefit patients with blood disorders. Some blood conditions are known to convey a performance advantage (e.g., erythropoietin receptor mutation and haemochromatosis) or a potential risk to the athlete (sickle cell trait). Recent areas of focus have included the role played by the spleen,

the cellular mechanisms of sport-related anaemia, and drugs and techniques that enhance erythropoiesis. This talk will focus on recent published literature and draws on the speaker's clinical and laboratory experience. Hilary Blacklock is a Haematologist in the Department of Haematology at Middlemore Hospital, Auckland. Hilary is also Medical Director of the New Zealand Bone Marrow Donor Registry, Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular Medicine at the Auckland School of Medicine, Trustee of the Leukaemia and Blood Foundation of New Zealand and immediate Past-President of the Auckland Medico-legal Society.

Hilary is active in clinical research, and one of her interests in both life and work is how the blood can influence sport performance. She has competed in a number of sports, including to the national level in Surf Lifesaving (once trained the Surf Rescue helicopter squad at Piha), still plays a bit of tennis and enjoys cycling.

This seminar will be followed by a networking event (4.30-5.30pm) in Cafe Europa, Building 733, Room 203.

Queries to suzanne.mitchell@auckland.ac.nz

Saturday 7 May

Human versus Zombies

City Campus. Reclaim the campus from the zombie horde! Are you tough enough for this live action game?

Visit <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/zombies>

Choreographic Research Aotearoa public lectures

Associate Professor Carol Brown and Suzanne Cowan: *When flesh meets data: Curious bodies, extended bodies*. 1pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland Street, Auckland Central. REVOLVE was an art/science collaboration between choreographer/performer Carol Brown, media artist Anne Niemetz, sleep scientist Philippa Gander and sound artist Russell Scoones. In this talk, Carol Brown discusses what kind of dancing emerged through this art/science collaboration and the kinds of artefacts that remain from this work. Suzanne Cowan speaks about her concept of the extended body where we exist relationally and always in context including the human and the non-human. She is interested in some of the ethical implications of the extended body and our response-ability to other.

Carol Brown is a choreographer, performer, writer, researcher and an Associate Professor in Dance Studies at the University of Auckland. Her body of work has evolved through dialogue and experimentation in diverse settings including urban, architectural and theatrical environments in response to questions of space, embodiment and identity. Her current research with Gibson/Martelli considers the kinaesthetic potentials of Virtual Reality Environments. www.carolbrown dances.com

Suzanne Cowan is a PhD candidate in Dance Studies at the University of Auckland. She Has worked as a professional dancer and choreographer for sixteen years both in New Zealand and in the UK.
Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz