

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND news

Fortnightly newsletter for University staff | Volume 37 | Issue 12 | July 6 2007

Equity innovations ripple out



Ralph Buck works with University Dance students and with pupils from the Pegasus Unit at Pakuranga College.

The Excellence in Equal Opportunities Awards, presented at Old Government House on June 21, clearly show the ripple effect of the University's impact on the community.

The four awards for excellence (in equal opportunities and in equal educational opportunities), the two special commendations for emerging activities and the special award for sustained commitment have all been presented for work that shows clear evidence of its impact.

Who could doubt the wider benefits of the "Community Dance Programme: Innovation in disability" when seeing the glow in the eyes of the students from the Pegasus Unit at Pakuranga College who have gained a new pleasure in movement while at the same time extending their concentration, cognition and social skills?

The quality of this programme led by Dr Ralph Buck from the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries has won him an Excellence in Equal Opportunities Award.

The programme has established new and creative partnerships between the University and local communities such as Pakuranga College, a home for the elderly, and Starship Hospital. While increasing the University students' awareness of equal opportunity issues, it also enhances the life

experience of people with disabilities and, for these reasons, attracted much positive attention when featured in the television programme, *Close Up*.

"I was completely overwhelmed by what the University dance team had brought to your students," wrote a member of the public to the principal of Pakuranga College. "... I do want to applaud and congratulate all those involved in that wonderful work. I could see the great joy and expression in the children's faces..."

In a similar way, who could doubt the value of the Māori Nursing Postgraduate Programme in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences which has used innovative ways of recruiting experienced Māori registered nurses, thereby creating a highly-skilled Māori nursing workforce.

Six years after the first Māori nurses commenced postgraduate studies in this programme, 26 have successfully completed masters degrees in Nursing or in Health Sciences in Nursing, and some have now undertaken doctoral studies. Graduates from the programme have attained key positions across the health sector, widely spreading the benefits of their enhanced skills.

Work providing prolonged and continuing benefits has also emerged from a Tuakana programme for Māori and Pacific students in the Faculty of Science and another in the Faculty of Arts.

Continued over page.

Key events

Signal facts

Hood Fellow, Professor Marlene Zuk from the University of California, a prominent and well-known biologist in the field of sexual selection, has made critical contributions to Darwin's theory of why organisms possess variable and conspicuous displays to attract mates. On 6 July Professor Zuk will speak on "Rapid evolution in silence: The causes and consequences of signal variation in crickets". This Ecology, Evolution, and Behaviour seminar of the School of Biological Sciences will take place from 4 to 5pm at Mac 1, Old Biology Building, 5 Symonds Street.

Lawyer self-regulation challenged

An internationally recognised authority on legal ethics and professional responsibility, Professor Brent Cotter from Canada, will give a public lecture on "The demise of lawyer self-regulation: Inevitable fate or passing trend?". Professor Cotter, Dean of Law at the University of Saskatchewan, is at the Faculty of Law as the NZ Law Foundation Distinguished Visiting Fellow for 2007. In this lecture he will look at government moves throughout the common law world to modify and even greatly reduce the scope for lawyer self-regulation. He will discuss the reasons, and how far lawyers themselves are responsible for this happening. The lecture will take place at 6pm on 11 July at the Stone Lecture Theatre, third floor, School of Law, 9 Eden Crescent.

Your food your health

The 2007 Winter Lecture Series invites experts across medicine, science and engineering to present current thinking on food and beverages and their possible roles in influencing health and well-being. On 17 July Dr Bronwen Smith (Chemistry) and Dr Bryony James (Chemical and Materials Engineering) will speak on "What is food?" This will be the first of six lectures to be held at the Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred Street, at 1pm on Tuesdays. Others will look at food processing, the human digestive system, obesity, antioxidants, and the future.

In this issue

- 2 | Staff learn Mandarin
- 3 | Trampers to celebrate 75th
- 4 | Institute of Earth Science and Engineering

From the Vice-Chancellor

The outstanding success of University of Auckland graduate students, who virtually "scooped the pool" in the recent MacDiarmid Young Scientist of the Year competition, held under the auspices of the Royal Society of New Zealand, is a reminder of just how important such students are to the life of the University.

In winning the overall prize, Jessie Jacobsen joined Claire French, also an Auckland PhD student, who was last year's national winner. With Jessie on the podium this year were runners up and category winners James Russell, Peter Brown and Sarah Cox.

Attracting postgraduate students of this calibre is vital to the future success of a university such as ours. Our Strategic Plan target of 800 masters completions and 500 doctoral completions per annum by 2012, while very challenging by New Zealand standards, will still leave us some considerable way to go if we are to match the size of graduate schools of the best universities overseas. Furthermore, we are facing a world shortage of academics - of the 1.15 million academics in the US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, some 20 to 30 percent will retire in the next ten years. That will create around 380,000 vacancies, without taking into account the growth in demand through increasing student numbers. Thus continuing to attract young people into graduate work and academic life will be very important over the next decade and beyond.

Happily, a number of initiatives in this area are beginning to bear fruit. Efforts by the School of Graduate Studies and the faculties have substantially increased graduate enrolments and reduced times to completion - an important consideration given how the PBRF operates. International PhD enrolments are rising thanks to the Government's decision to allow such students to study at domestic fee rates and a concerted recruitment campaign by our international staff. Our investment in scholarships has been substantially enhanced, and we are in discussion with Deans about a scheme to assist with the research and related costs of doctoral students. Such initiatives will, I hope, continue to bring to the University students of the outstanding calibre of our MacDiarmid Award winners.



Continued from page one.



From left above are Tracey McIntosh; Nicolette Sheridan, Associate Professor Judy Kilpatrick and Associate Professor Nicola North (from the Māori Nursing Postgraduate Programme) with Professor Stuart McCutcheon.

The Psychology Tuakana Programme, winner of an Excellence in Equal Educational Opportunities Award for sustained Māori and Pacific student support, was first piloted in 2002 and has now been expanded to support all undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Participants have achieved well in their studies, with 11 percent higher success rates than for those outside the programme. A record number of 31 Māori and Pacific students are now enrolled in Psychology postgraduate programmes.

An Excellence in Equal Educational Opportunities Award was also presented to Stallone Vaiaoga-Loasa from the Tuakana Programme in Film, Television and Media Studies for innovations which have resulted in enhanced Māori and Pacific student retention.

Stallone has written, filmed and produced lively and effective videos on attendance, essays and exam preparation. These have been a resounding success, contributing to the growing numbers of Māori and Pacific students in the department, and their increasing rates of success.

Acting Equal Opportunities Manager Prue Toft told those attending the prize-winners' function: "Achieving success in equal opportunities has changed from merely avoiding the road blocks of disadvantage to proactively creating environments in which people can truly flourish.

"It takes vision. It takes action and planning," said Prue, "not necessarily waiting for that perfect plan to be achieved next week or next month, but delivering the one that will make a difference right now.

"[To achieve success in the awards, programmes]



Above: Stallone Vaiaoga-Loasa.

had to be embedded in strategic objectives with clear evidence of their impact and achievements. Other criteria considered were innovation for fresh ideas and/or sustained programmes which have demonstrated prolonged benefits."

Those receiving Special Commendations for New Equity Initiatives were from the Faculties of Law and Education.

These were the Pasifika Law Honours Club, which identifies top Pasifika students at the end of their first or second year and provides them with opportunities to advance their legal research and writing, including assistance in entry to an honours programme; and the Pasifika Early Childhood Education Specialisation Programme, which integrates Pasifika languages and cultures in ways that enable teachers to respond to the needs of diverse learners.

The special award for Sustained Commitment to Advancing Equity this year went to Dr Tracey McIntosh, who has completed a term as Assistant Dean (Equity) in the Faculty of Arts.

Staff Chinese course challenging and fun

The first-ever Chinese language and culture course run by the Confucius Institute and tailor-made for staff brought an enthusiastic response from its 13 participants.

Rating of the course from those who took part was an unmistakably approving five out of five, with all expressing an interest in studying at the next level, and all stating that they would recommend the course to others.

Organised by Confucius Institute Director, Nora Yao, and taught by Xiaomei Wang, the lunch-hour course run once a week over ten weeks

in semester one was described by its students as challenging but fun, "an excellent blend of language and culture" with a "good and organised" teacher.

Nora believes the Confucius Institute has a strong educational role within the University as well as beyond. "Every department has Chinese students, and there are more and more research collaborations," she says. "We need to support the University's strategic commitment to China by helping increase the China awareness of staff."

The course was unlike any other offered elsewhere,

Tramping club to celebrate 75th



Clockwise from top right are staff members Penny Brothers and Phillippa Poole with Lisa Mead and Louise Porteous, former University of Auckland students and tramping club members.

Around 300 present and former staff and students are expected to gather for the 75th Jubilee dinner of the Auckland University Tramping Club (AUTC), to be held on 27 July in the Atrium of the Engineering School.

Among those organising the jubilee celebrations is Associate Professor Penny Brothers, Assistant Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), seen above tramping in Tasmania with former tramping club members.

Being in the tramping club Penny describes as “one of the defining experiences of my life as an undergraduate student in the 1970s. Outside of my studies, my social interactions, friendships and holidays were all framed by the tramping club and its activities.”

The club also provided one of her early experiences of leadership, when she became Student Club Captain.

Later, when Penny joined the staff she continued her involvement with the club, serving as president several times over the last 20 years, taking turns along with Professor David Gauld (Mathematics) –

she says, because it was created specifically with staff in mind. The idea was to offer a language component that would be immediately useful in an everyday context, with a cultural component that would help staff understand more about the Chinese students.

Course participants were drawn from Asian Languages, the English Language Academy, Communications and Marketing, Education and Business Development, Ophthalmology, Optometry and Vision Science, Human Resources and the Faculty of Arts. Already one course member is making full use of what he learned. Stijn de Strake,

who is currently president of the club – and with other staff members, some now retired.

Traditionally the club, formed on 11 April 1932 as Auckland University College Tramping Club, has been a place where people from the different disciplines at the University have been able to mingle.

Current Student Club Captain, Jane Dudley, says she and her organising committee are expecting former members from other countries as well as from other parts of New Zealand.

The jubilee events will include a traditional camp at Hunua at the weekend, with participants heading out for day walks on the Saturday morning and enjoying a dinner and party in the evening, with all guests welcome to stay the night.

A jubilee magazine will be available, recounting some of the stories from the different generations (including the attendance of Sir Edmund Hillary at the club’s first birthday celebrations, and the experiences of a group lost for six days in difficult weather).

To register and reserve places for the various events or to obtain the jubilee magazine and t-shirt, see www.autc.org.nz or write to AUTC c/- AUSA, Private Bag 92019, Auckland.

formerly at the Confucius Institute, is now in Beijing, studying Mandarin and assisting at the New Zealand Centre at Peking University.

Class teacher, Xiaomei Wang, said she very much enjoyed the course, appreciated the encouraging feedback and was impressed by the great enthusiasm of those who took part and their interest in learning Chinese.

The advanced course which will help participants build on what they have learned will begin in the second week of semester two.

Enquiries to n.yao@auckland.ac.nz, ext 87544.

... in brief

Fulbright appointment

Associate Professor Scott Optican (Law) has been appointed to Fulbright New Zealand’s board of directors. He will be one of six Americans on the board, which has an equal number of New Zealanders. Fulbright New Zealand, officially known as the New Zealand-United States Educational Foundation, was set up in 1948 to promote international understanding through educational and cultural exchanges. Its awards enable New Zealanders and Americans to study and research in each other’s countries. The Fulbright NZ board is responsible for the programme’s overall administration, direction and growth. Scott came to Auckland in 1992 from the US. As well as holding degrees from Berkeley, Cambridge University in England, and Harvard, he has experience as a criminal lawyer. His specialities are evidence and criminal procedure. He is often quoted and interviewed in the media on crime and justice issues. For some years Scott has encouraged and supported University of Auckland students applying for Fulbright awards.

Emerging trends in higher education

The 2008 conference of the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE) will be held at Waseda University in Japan from 26 to 28 March. The conference aims to share emerging trends in international education and its theme is “The next wave in Asia-Pacific higher education”. More information can be accessed at www.apaie.org

Festivities for Matariki

Around 70 staff members, friends and whānau gathered in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences to celebrate Matariki, the rising of the constellation, also known as Pleiades, over the horizon and the start of the Māori New Year. Welcomed to the festivities by Ngarau Tupaea, attendees enjoyed great food and company, with an entertainment programme from Kahurangi of Auckland Girls’ Grammar, inspired by everything from traditional Māori kapa haka to Freddie Mercury. Faculty Dean, Professor Iain Martin, spoke of the global significance of the celebration, comparing it to the winter solstice and other natural turning points in cultures around the world. Tumuaki (Māori Dean) Associate Professor Paaparangi Reid also spoke, and, in keeping with the philosophy of Matariki, presented a koha to Te Roopu Taurima, a Māori health provider for the intellectually disabled.

Careers fairs increased to four

"It is never too early for students to start planning to get the career or job they want," says David Trought, Careers Centre Director.

"It is vital this occurs in their penultimate year of study, if not earlier."

Five years ago there was just one on-campus careers fair held each year to help students gain information about prospective employers, and make contacts.

Since then the University Careers Centre has increased the number of annual fairs to four and now includes specialist events. Three have already taken place this year: an Accounting and Finance fair in March, with around 3,000 students attending to talk with representatives from 17 organisations; an Engineering fair, held in April with the Faculty of Engineering, and attracting about 3,000 students and 52 organisations; and the General Careers Fair, attended by around 2,300 students and 42 organisations.

Attendance at the events has more than doubled over the last three years.

The fourth and final fair for 2007 – to be held on 1 August, 5-7pm, in the fourth floor Atrium of the School of Engineering – is Science@Work, organised by the University Careers Centre on behalf of the Science Faculty.

This fair, highly rated and well attended by students and staff in previous years, gives undergraduate and postgraduate students a chance

to explore career opportunities with a wide range of employers ready to answer questions about all aspects of work from "What type of people do you recruit?" to "What's a typical day like?"

Students attending will also get useful information from the five science employer seminars, each focusing on careers in health and social sciences, environmental sciences and biotechnology, chemistry and materials science, information technology, or areas needing maths/physics and quantitative skills. Further details are available in July on www.auckland.ac.nz/careers

In addition, the University Careers Centre organises employer presentations, with more than 2,000 students attending 38 presentations in 2006. Typically held for an hour in the evening, these sessions focus on one individual employer, who gives information about the organisation, the job opportunities it offers, what it is looking for in graduates, and its recruitment procedures. Students usually have the chance to ask questions and talk to the presenters afterwards.

Staff from the Careers Centre would like students at any stage of study to be encouraged to attend these events.

In this way students can expand their network of professional contacts, build up information on



The Tamaki Campus stand at Science@Work 2006. Vice Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon (left) speaks with Brendon Mosley, director of the Tamaki Campus, and Hayley Schnell, Manager of Campus Services.

employers, recruiting strategies, job opportunities, organisational culture and on whether an organisation would meet their career goals.

"This is a vital part of the job search process," says David.

For further information visit www.auckland.ac.nz/careers or the Careers Centre in Room 001, The ClockTower, 22 Princes Street or call the Careers Centre, ext 88727.

Fifty reasons to be here

Ask Professor Peter Malin, a leading international geophysicist, why he left America's Duke University to become director of The University of Auckland's new Institute of Earth Science and Engineering (IESE), and he'll point to the same 50 reasons he gave the University's interview panel over the phone.

"I said to them: 'You are up in UniServices House, and I bet you can see Rangitoto'," he recalled. "And they said 'yes'. And I said: 'Well, you've got about 50 volcanoes in your backyard and here in North Carolina all I can see are loblolly pines.'"

But even for this avid earth scientist, the attraction went beyond the volcanoes. The IESE, a joint venture between the Faculties of Science and Engineering and UniServices, offered Peter a unique opportunity not only to bring together the fields of earth science and engineering, but also to focus this interdisciplinary research on the significant issues relating to New Zealand's unique natural environment: coastlines, landslips, water systems, earth materials, and energy resources.

"I am really excited by all this because I think bringing a variety of perspectives together like this, particularly in geosciences, is really quite unusual and shows that Auckland can show the way forward internationally," he says.

Peter, who received his PhD in geophysics from Princeton University, has an extensive background in seismic propagation in planetary crusts,

borehole investigation of seismic sources and signals and environmental geology. He has been widely published in *Nature*, *Science* and geophysics journals. He will take up his position as the inaugural Director of the new Institute and Professor of Earth Science and Engineering upon his arrival in August.

Peter's broad background exemplifies the institute's approach of focusing a cross-section of disciplines to provide one solution to problems that draw on infrastructure issues of energy supply and environmental management.

One simple example of how this can be applied, he says, is in developing solutions for the best way of finding high-quality rock aggregates, which Aucklanders now consume at a rate of several kilogrammes per person per day in transportation and construction projects.

Dean of Science, Professor Dick Bellamy, says there is "huge opportunity for the Institute to work off-shore and locally to interface with local government, industry, engineering consultancies and crown agencies". Dr Peter Lee, CEO of UniServices, says the IESE is structured along similar lines to other specialised University Research Centres managed by UniServices. He looks forward to IESE producing strong growth in both research publications and in income.

With Peter's arrival, IESE will also acquire his research and consulting company, SONDI, which employs three staff and grosses around \$250,000 per year, in UniServices. For further information on what will become IESE-SONDI, please see www.geosondi.com



Peter Malin at work.

Significant advances from HR

A range of initiatives are currently underway in response to the Human Resources Functional Review. These changes will bring significant improvement in the way HR delivers service.

HR and Payroll, responding to the need identified in the review to "improve operational standards and performance", are focusing on increasing efficiency of process and providing accessible, accurate and timely information for faculties and service divisions.

A key step towards these changes will be the replacement of the current PeopleSoft HR system with the latest version of the software. The implementation project (known as HR Connect+) commences in July 2007 and is expected to be finished by August 2008.

The latest version of PeopleSoft HR has very different capabilities than the current system and will bring a number of benefits to faculties and service divisions. Many manual paper-based processes will be automated, meaning a faster turn-around time. These processes include appointments from the point of recruitment to the generation of employment agreements and new staff going on the payroll. Changes of employment status, for instance promotions and accident and incident reporting, will be automated.

Staff will be able to request and approve leave on line and have this information automatically updated in the HR system. Managers will be able to access predefined reports in a few simple steps.

There will be additional self-service functionality: managers will have greater access to view and

update information, and staff members will be able to keep their own personal details up to date (for example, changes of address and telephone numbers).

Faculties and service division representatives will provide feedback on the HR processes that will need to change as a result of the new technology through a reference group chaired by Professor David Ryan and through workshops that will be run from late July through to October 2007 as part of the design phase of the project.

Several other initiatives are being run in parallel to the new system implementation. The HR Roles and Accountabilities Project will clarify roles and responsibilities within the HR team and the way the HR works with staff. The Data Audit and Integrity Project will review the information already in the system to update and correct it and establish clear rules for future data entry to ensure that its integrity is sustained. Another project will establish a list of delegated HR authorities and ensure that these are well known and correctly identified in all of our systems.

Kath Clarke, HR Director, says that these changes will require significant time, effort and resources from HR and that input from University managers and staff will be critical. The improvements, however, should benefit all staff. HR sees the changes as a huge opportunity to improve its services and to align HR activities with the goals of the University.

For more information see: www.auckland.ac.nz/uoq/for/staff/governance/administrative%2Dfunction%2Dreviews/

Viewpoint

Outside the square

The seizure of power in Gaza by the radical Islamist party Hamas in Gaza, and the formation by the secular nationalist party Fatah of a new government in the West Bank, have shredded the US-proposed "roadmap" to peace.

The United States, Europe, Israel and the United Nations Secretary-General have opted to support the Fatah government and isolate the Hamas government. Syria, Iran, and other radical governments and militant movements have done the opposite. Moderate Arab regimes such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt remain ambivalent. Consequently, the "two state solution" – Israel and Palestine republic coexisting in peace – now appears unachievable.

Already analysts are speculating about a "three state solution" irreverently defined as Zion, Fatahstine, and Hamastan. But this will leave a million Palestinians trapped in Gaza under the armed rule of Hamas, lacking food, fuel, medical supplies, and other necessities as Western aid is cut off. Gaza will become a "failed state" with its inhabitants suffering the horrors of rule by armed gangs, some of them criminal.

Furthermore, Al Qaeda and other terrorist organisations will turn Gaza into a haven for regrouping and a launching pad for further attacks on Israel and the West. The policy of "doing nothing" will thus allow the growth of terrorism, criminality, and humanitarian disaster and the renewal of conflict.

This grim scenario must tempt right-wing Israeli leaders such as Benjamin Netanyahu to consider a radical solution: military re-occupation of Gaza. An uneasy peace might thus be imposed but the human and material consequences would be dire. And the bloody clash would exacerbate, not ease, political tensions.

A more positive suggestion is confederation: Israel incorporates both the West Bank and Gaza into a loose constitutional structure but grants political autonomy to Fatah in the West Bank and Hamas in Gaza. The deal would entail relaxation of border controls, resumed aid and financial support, and international legitimacy in return for stable governance and cessation of attacks on Israel. The hope is that concessions by Israel will bring pragmatic Palestinian leaders to the fore and marginalise the militants.

This is an attractive scenario, but past experience offers little support for it.

Thus the options of paralysis, isolation, imposition and incorporation are under discussion, each with its promise and hazard. And the search for a just peace continues.

Associate Professor Stephen Hoadley,
Political Studies

Public lecture strikes a chord

Interfaith dialogue struck a chord with University students and staff and the Auckland public, as shown by the crowd that almost overflowed the venue for the School of Theology's first public lecture for 2007.

The lecturer was Amy-Jill Levine, Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, speaking on "Jesus and Judaism: Why the connection matters".

Growing up in a Jewish household in a predominantly Catholic neighbourhood, Amy-Jill conceived an interest at an early age in the interface between the two faiths, and is now internationally renowned in this field.

In this lecture she set out to recover the way Jesus Christ would have sounded to the people who first heard him.

"For a number of Christians Jesus speaks to them from the pages of the Bible," she says. "But since most Christians are unfamiliar with life in the first century, with the diversity of Judaism at the time, and with Jesus's relationship with his own people, one only gets from reading the Bible today part of the message."

She said she would like "to bring back some of the punch, the provocativeness, the radicality of Jesus's message" which is "more than love of God, love of your neighbour" but "also includes economic reform, social justice, establishing new families

based on loyalty to God."

Professor Elaine Wainwright (Theology) said there was an enormous amount of engagement at the event, with "almost a sense of the room buzzing", and far more questions than there was time for answers.



Amy-Jill Levine.

Former dean takes new appointment

As a graduate of the Department of Engineering Science and an alumnus of the School of Engineering, Professor Peter Brothers was appointed as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering in February, 1998.

At the end of February this year, Peter resigned from the deanship to take up his new appointment as Chief Executive of Manukau Institute of Technology.

With his background in commercial and industrial engineering management and as Engineering's first externally appointed dean, Peter brought a new style of leadership to the faculty at a time when it was about to undergo considerable change. During Peter's nine-year term as dean, it has seen a significant increase in both undergraduate and postgraduate student numbers; it has been through two major course restructuring exercises; four new engineering specialisations have been introduced; and it has successfully completed two accreditations of its engineering qualifications by the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand.

The faculty has also seen an increased focus on the importance of quality teaching and learning and the establishment of a Teaching Academy to

recognise and honour its most outstanding teachers. Very significant changes have occurred in its physical infrastructure with the development of the Atrium and the excellent new lecture theatre, the new Engineering Library and Student Centre, the new Dean's Suite, the development of the Ray Meyer research complex at Tamaki and the move of Engineering Science and Electrical and Computer Engineering to new accommodation at 70 Symonds Street and across Symonds Street in the Science complex respectively.

The externally funded research income has increased by more than a factor of five, and Peter has encouraged increased focus on the creation of research groups and centres and the establishment of the Bioengineering Institute.

The international standing of the faculty owes much to Peter's commitment to the promotion of our activities in many international forums.

During his time as Dean, Peter has been responsible for improved structure to the administrative and decision processes in the faculty, and his emphasis on open and fair allocation of resources has been appreciated by all who have worked closely with him in leadership roles in the faculty.

As the largest and most comprehensive School

of Engineering in New Zealand, it owes much to Pete's vision and leadership over the past nine years. Staff thank him for his commitment to the faculty and the University, and wish him well as he begins a new chapter in his career at MIT.



Professor Peter Brothers.

Rugby a drawcard along with research

Professor Michael Davies loves rugby and good wine, so New Zealand has always been appealing to him.

But more so, it was the University's reputation that attracted Professor Davies to relocate here from the University of Dundee in Scotland, where he was Dean of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

"One of the reasons I was attracted to this University was the quality of research. The reputation of this University is well-known in the UK, and I haven't been disappointed," he says.

"As well, there is a healthy dedication to teaching in this faculty. It is refreshing after the UK where teaching is often treated as a poor relation of research. A good balance has been found here."

Michael has a research pedigree in geotechnics and still chairs the British Geotechnical Association. He is also a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Born in Wales, he attended Christ's College at Cambridge, and is the proud former Vice President of the Pontypridd Rugby Club in South Wales.

While admiring engineering research at Auckland, Professor Davies notes that more integration could be achieved across disciplinary boundaries, particularly across medicine, physical sciences and engineering.

"Major advances are now being made across these fields and the Bioengineering Institute is already a good example of what can be achieved. There is a huge multibillion dollar industry out there which New Zealand should have a share in; we have brilliant minds here," he says.

"But the first thing we have to do as a faculty is maintain our international reputation. We need to support the staff coming up through the system and ensure they are well resourced and continue to conduct world-class research."

He has joined the faculty at a time when the country is dealing with a massive shortage of trained engineers.

"An important part of my role is to get out there and talk to leaders of industry and find out what the trends are. It is also important to know what the aspirations of the young people coming into the degree are, and to marry the two."

He is keen to expand as well on the "great untapped resource" of women (who make up only 20 percent of the student body).

"Our aim is to produce more graduates without dropping our standards, so that means looking for new sources of students and widening access to women, Māori and Pacific Islanders.



Michael Davies.

"I'm very impressed with the work that schemes like WISE and SPIES are doing in this area. They are providing the role models that are so important to help young people realise that they can do this."

Michael has a track record in attracting substantial external research funding and fostering international collaborations and hopes to continue this at The University of Auckland.

From the collection

Art

Commissioned for the exhibition “Parihaka: the art of passive resistance” in 2000, Laurence Aberhart’s *The Prisoners’ Dream* yokes elements from his own past with New Zealand’s colonial legacy.

Four of the five photographs in the group are of Ripapa Island, close to the southern shore of Lyttelton Harbour, which was once the site of a Ngāi Tahu fortified pa. Construction of Fort Jervois, part of a system of coastal defences against the Russian scare in 1885, obliterated both this Māori history and that of the story of the men from Parihaka who were imprisoned there for two years from 1879-1881.

Until 1983 when he moved to Russell, Aberhart himself had lived in Lyttelton, with a view out to Ripapa Island. Self-taught as a photographer, he had begun using a camera at Teachers’ College in Christchurch in 1967. From the mid-1970s, his equipment of choice has been a nineteenth century 8x10-inch Korona plate camera, the kind where the photographer puts his head under a black cloth to focus the image from the lens upside down on a glass plate, and the exposures take hours. Always a patient black-and-white photographer, Aberhart says he has never been tempted to take a quick family snap in colour.

This commission provided him with an opportunity to revisit Lyttelton Harbour in autumn, to try and re-create the experience of the 420 ploughmen and 216 fencers from Parihaka who were arrested while practising non-violent resistance to armed force. Heavily bracketed by black, with horizontal openings showing the harbour entrance and surrounding hills, the four

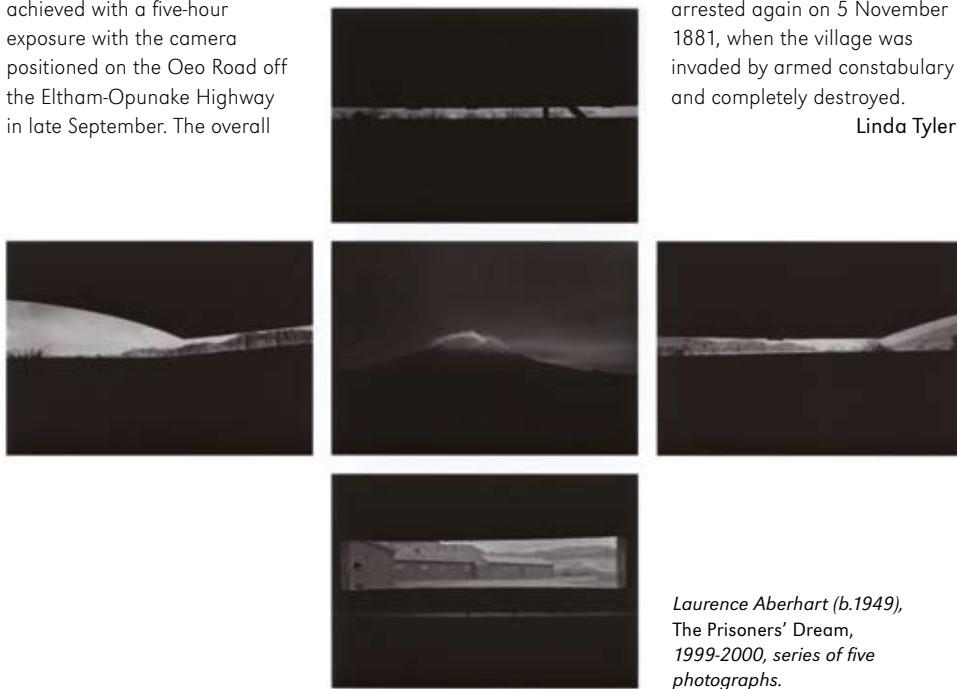
photographs which form the shape of a cross were taken inside Fort Jervois looking out through the musketry parapets.

Dreams of home are symbolised by the centrepiece moonlit view of Mount Taranaki and Fantham’s Peak swathed in mist, achieved with a five-hour exposure with the camera positioned on the Oeo Road off the Eltham-Opunake Highway in late September. The overall

configuration and funereal black of the five photographs is commemorative, and recalls Colin McCahon’s *Parihaka Triptych* of 1972.

Held without trial in Dunedin, Lyttelton, Hokitika and Ripapa Island until their release in 1881, many of the Parihaka prisoners were arrested again on 5 November 1881, when the village was invaded by armed constabulary and completely destroyed.

Linda Tyler



Laurence Aberhart (b.1949), *The Prisoners’ Dream*, 1999-2000, series of five photographs.

John Arnold Kalman 1928-2007

John Kalman, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Auckland from 1964 to 1993, was a distinguished algebraist and a fine and meticulous teacher.

John was a student at Auckland University College 1946-1950, having been dux of King’s School, and later King’s College, and top of the Entrance Scholarship list.

He enrolled in the Faculties of Arts and Law and completed his MA with first class honours in Mathematics in 1951. He then obtained a scholarship to Harvard and gained his PhD in 1955 under the guidance of George Mackey with the thesis “Some inequalities related to Hilder’s inequality and some contributions to lattice theory”.

He returned to The University of Auckland in 1955 as a research fellow and was appointed lecturer in 1957. After rapidly rising through the ranks, he became the second professor of Mathematics in 1964. When Professor Frederick Chong resigned from the University in 1965, John became head of department and held this position for a short time. In 1993, on his retirement, John was given the title of emeritus professor. He held part-time lectureships in the following two years and a visiting professorship in 1996.

Throughout his long career of service to the University, John Kalman was noted as a careful

and precise lecturer, as a champion of high standards of mathematical scholarship, and as a kind and unpretentious person. He worked tirelessly to ensure that the library holdings in mathematics were of a level to support first class research in this subject. He was instrumental in the founding of the *Mathematical Chronicle*, which later became the *New Zealand Journal of Mathematics* and has established itself as an important periodical with international standards.

John always encouraged the department’s most gifted students to study for doctorates overseas, and helped them make arrangements to achieve this. This policy has paid off handsomely; the department is stronger because of former students returning to Auckland as world class mathematicians in their own right.

John’s early research interests included lattice theory, universal algebra and nonclassical logic. More recently he devoted his attention to automated reasoning. In particular he became an expert with the automatic logic software tool “OTTER” and his book entitled *Automated reasoning with OTTER* appeared in 2001 to much critical acclaim.

John is remembered by his colleagues and former students for his qualities of quiet and unassuming scholarship and his respect both for mathematics and for mathematicians.
Emeritus Professor John Butcher (Mathematics)

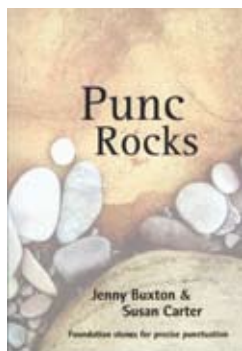


John Kalman.

Books

Punc Rocks

Those who believe that all you need to know about commas is that you put them in every time you would take a breath if you were reading



a sentence out will be surprised to learn that this lengthy sentence cannot take a comma.

Anyone in doubt must read the book *Punc Rocks: Foundation stones for precise punctuation* written by Susan Carter and Jenny Buxton (Student Learning Centre) and published by Pearson Education New Zealand.

This little book came about, write the authors in their introduction, because many students have minimal understanding of basic punctuation, to the detriment of their writing, and their reading. Their classroom teaching suggested the need for a small handbook – direct and practice-based, with a New Zealand context – which would acknowledge both American and British preferences and provide a clear guide to the punctuation rules of clear writing.

The aim is to simplify and clarify punctuation while examining its complexities.

In punctuation there are rules that cannot be broken, but some rules are optional, and sometimes the choice between options is difficult. In this book the authors have identified which rules are essential, which are useful, and how punctuation affects style and meaning. They acknowledge the grey areas and discuss guiding principles.

Punc Rocks is \$19.99, and is available at the University Bookshop.

What's on

FRIDAY 6 JULY

NZ Association of Clinical Research Conference – day two

8am-5pm SkyCity. Queries to info@nzacres.org.nz View www.nzacres.org.nz
Ecology, evolution and behaviour seminar Prof Marlene Zuk, evolutionary biologist, Hood Fellow: *Rapid evolution in silence: The causes and consequences of signal variation in crickets*. 4-5pm Mac1, Old Biology Bldg, 5 Symonds St. Queries or to meet with Prof Zuk to Dr Mark E. Hauber, m.hauber@auckland.ac.nz

SATURDAY 7 JULY

In response Window curator and Gambia Castle board member Sarah Hopkinson discusses the work in Moving Still. 1pm Gallery One, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 9 JULY

People skills and behavioural styles 9am-1pm Rm 330, Bldg 810, Short St. Queries to Jemimah Wilson, HR, ext 85070 or je.wilson@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 10 JULY

Bioengineering research seminar Assoc-Prof Alistair Young, Dept of Anatomy and Auckland Bioengineering Institute: *Big hearts are bad, but soft hearts are good: How MRI can help*. 4-5pm Fifth Floor Seminar Room, Bioengineering Institute.

Marae protocol workshop. 10-11am FGW's Suite, OGH. For staff attending VC's Powhiri. Queries to Jemimah Wilson, HR, ext 85070 or je.wilson@auckland.ac.nz

Public Policy Group meeting

Dr Grant Duncan, Massey University: *The value of the PBRF*. 1-2pm Upstairs Dining Rm, OGH. This is an opportunity for those affected to have their say. Queries to s.stjohn@auckland.ac.nz

WEDNESDAY 11 JULY

NZ Law Foundation Distinguished Visiting Fellow 2007 lecture Professor Brent Cotter, Dean of Law, University of Saskatchewan: *The demise*

of lawyer self-regulation: Inevitable fate or passing trend? 6pm Stone Lecture Theatre, School of Law, 9 Eden Cres.

THURSDAY 12 JULY

Marae protocol workshop. 1-2pm. FGW's Suite, OGH. For staff attending VC's Powhiri. Queries to Jemimah Wilson, HR, ext 85070 or je.wilson@auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 13 JULY

CAD Workshop Introduction to tutoring. 10am-4pm Seminar Room, 5th floor, 76 Symonds St. Enrolments to ext 88140 or cadreception@auckland.ac.nz Designed for recently-appointed tutors who will be teaching for the first time this semester.

Department of Psychology seminar Prof Michael Peters, Psychology, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada: *Sex differences in the ability to rotate 3D images: Now you see them, now you don't*. 1pm HSB 604. Queries to Tony Lambert, ext 88520 or email a.lambert@auckland.ac.nz

SATURDAY 14 JULY

Panel discussion Artists from the exhibition Moving Still discuss their work and the influence of moving images on still photography. Participants include Ann Shelton, John Savage and Jennifer French. 1pm Gallery One, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 16 JULY

VC's Welcome Powhiri for new staff 11am-1pm Waipapa Marae. Queries to Jemimah Wilson, HR, ext 85070 or je.wilson@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 17 JULY

Trinity College London Certificate in TESOL information session 12-2pm Rm B104, Epsom Campus. Queries to Charles Hadfield on 919-7695 or chadfield@ela.auckland.ac.nz View www.ela.auckland.ac.nz

First Winter Lecture: Your food your health Dr Bronwen Smith and Dr Bryony James, University of Auckland: *What is food?* 1pm Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St.

WEDNESDAY 18 JULY

General Staff Managers Forum.

4-5pm FGW's Suite, OGH. Queries to Jenny Tayler, HR, ext 89630 or j.tayler@auckland.ac.nz

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Beautiful large studio apartment available from 4 July until end of year. In superior building adjacent to the University, view of harbour, balcony, furnished. \$250 pw. Please phone apartment live-in manager, 366-1829 or 0274 396-393.

Furnished room and ensuite. Separate lounge with tea and coffee making facilities in modern house. Opens onto private garden. Osp. Prefer visiting academic short or long-stay. On bus route to City Campus and close to Tamaki Campus. Phone 528-5353.

Great short/long-term board available for single/partnered visiting academics/mature students. Easy access to uni/techs in City or North Shore. Close public transport, motorway, beach, park, Takapuna and Devonport villages. Huge sunny, fully-furnished rooms including desk, bookcases, sofa, coffee table. \$170 pw neg. Contact Susan, +64 (0)21 730-882 or stlawrence2005@yahoo.com.au

House for rent Cheltenham, delightful three-bedroom villa, walking distance to Cheltenham beach. Available 5 weeks end of August 2007. Rent \$550 per week. Ph 445-8255.

Ponsonby, large dble room with French doors to deck and garden available in three-bdrm villa to share with one other (and cat). July-December, maybe longer. Handy to University, Link bus, one minute to Ponsonby Rd. Suit graduate student, visiting lecturer or similar. N/s. \$190 pw unfurnished, \$210 pw semi-furnished, + exps. Ph (09) 360-4121 or email ponsonby-room@hotmail.com

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Short-term rental: Academic and family, arriving in January 2008, wish to rent furnished house or apartment

through July. Mature, responsible, quiet couple with two girls will take good care of your property. Prefer close to University or with good bus service. Please contact Nicholas Horton, nhorton@email.smith.edu

MISCELLANEOUS

Applying for permanent residency?

Avoid delays and problems. Keep your application on track with an easy-to-follow action plan tailored to your situation. For a free no-obligation quote contact Glenys at GVL Faculty Migration & Settlement. Email glenys@gvl.co.nz Ph (027) 476-8771 or view www.gvl.co.nz

Editing and proofreading.

Editwrite offers efficient, competitive and professional online text editing for staff and students. Theses, dissertations, academic treatises, monographs, reports, etc can all be expertly edited. We will review spelling, punctuation, grammar and syntax to turn your text into fluent, clear, literate prose. For more details, visit www.editwrite.co.nz
Housecleaning work in central or west Auckland sought by Brazilian woman with good English. \$16 per hour; already cleaning for academics at the University. Please phone Sally on 625-5322.

International travel insurance.

The AUS recommends that members use Uni-Care insurance for sabbatical, other study and very long-term travel overseas. Uni-Care offers 15% off standard rates for travel out of NZ to all university staff, full-time tertiary students and their families. Uniquely, we can maintain cover for greatly extended periods overseas. Uni-Care International Insurance Service, PO Box 32-167, Devonport, ph (09) 446-1166, fax (09) 445-8832, email insure@uni-care.org, website www.uni-care.org (secure online application facility).

Painting. High quality house painting. Also hand painting of boats. Refs available. Phone me for a quote on your painting requirements. Contact Rick on (09) 638-4252 or (021) 953-901 or email rick@gaffrig.co.nz Website www.gaffrig.co.nz

For a full list of The University of Auckland events see Next Week Online: www.auckland.ac.nz/nextweekonline

Please email classified ads to m.playfair@auckland.ac.nz nine days before publication. Cost \$20 (incl GST).