# THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

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# Women's chance to advance



Kate Winn (left) with Suzanna Irwin. Both are in the Women in Leadership programme.

For Kate Winn, a recruitment coordinator in the Faculty of Education, the University's Women in Leadership programme has given her the impetus to change her life.

"The programme has been just fantastic," says Kate. "It's given me precisely the kick I needed. I now have the confidence to go ahead and do what I can to advance my career."

Among decisions she has now made is first to complete her masters degree and second to stay within the University to build her career, now she has had the chance to see what rich and varied opportunities it offers.

The Women in Leadership Programme has been running since 2000, with very positive responses from its participants (and a Manaaki Tangata Award from the EEO Trust, whose judges described it as showing "a great deal of innovation in the degree of thought that has gone into developing it"). It provides leadership development for the University's academic and general staff women and encourages them to apply for promotion and seek leadership roles.

All interested women are invited to apply but priority is given to general staff women at levels four to seven or to academic women who are considering applying for promotion during the next two vears.

The programme includes an overnight introductory retreat, mentoring by a senior academic or general staff member, a workshop held over a full day, a series of special workshops and seminars held monthly over the year, and a reading group to discuss research and ideas relating to leadership practice. It also offers the chance for "job shadowing" of someone at a higher level.

What Kate has found particularly helpful has been the contact with people in the programme's Working Group (mainly comprising previous participants) and the support of her mentor, Lynn Lander from Continuing Education, who has, says Kate, "from the word go, been everything I wanted her to be "

"The programme has given me the confidence that I can work fulltime and do a research degree

story continues on page 2

### In this issue

- Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award
- 3 Automated recording of lectures 4
- Research funding opportunities

## Key events

## A better future

Our former Prime Minister, Helen Clark, administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, will speak at the School of Population Health on 24 August from 12.30-1.30pm on "A better future for all: Why meeting the Millennium Development Goals matters". She will argue that global efforts need to be redoubled to meet the goals by 2015, and that achieving them would be a milestone in bringing about a juster and more peaceful world.

## **Policy powerhouse**

Big questions about this country and its future are being carefully considered at a free, public seminar series entitled "New Zealand: Realising our potential". The second seminar in the series, organised by the University's Master of Public Policy Programme and Motu Economic and Public Policy Research, is "New Zealand's economic performance: The growth agenda", featuring Dr Don Brash, Chair of the 2025 Taskforce, and Dr Jennifer Curtin (Political Studies). It will be held from 12.30-2pm on 25 August in the Women's Federation Room at Old Government House.

## **Bootful of fashion**

The Liggins Couture Car Boot Sale is a major fundraising project, giving a chance to support research projects at the Liggins Institute, while picking up designer bargains. It will be held at Team McMillan BMW, Great South Road, Newmarket, on 2 September from 7-10pm. Standard tickets at \$30 include complimentary champagne and canapés. For further information email friends@liggins.auckland.ac.nz

## Chinese New Zealanders

On 16 September at 6pm at the Conference Centre, 22 Symonds Street, Professor Manying Ip (Asian Studies) will give her inaugural professorial lecture "From Chinese in New Zealand to Chinese New Zealanders".



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## From the Vice-Chancellor

A key objective of the University is to safeguard its ongoing viability and autonomy through sound financial management. That in turn requires that we – and the university sector as a whole – make government and other stakeholders aware of the benefits of investing in a high-quality university sector.

On 5 August the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee (NZVCC) launched its new name, Universities New Zealand – Te Pōkai Tara. The event was hosted by the Minister for Tertiary Education the Hon Steven Joyce and addressed by Professor James McWha who has been a Vice-Chancellor on both sides of the Tasman.

The new name follows the convention adopted by similar organisations overseas, including Universities Australia and Universities UK, but with the addition of a Māori name, Te Pōkai Tara, bestowed on the group by our committee of Pro Vice-Chancellors (Māori), Te Kahui Amokura. The names seek to reflect the fact that in addition to its statutory role in the approval and quality assurance of academic programmes and administration of scholarships, the NZVCC has increasingly adopted a key role in the development of tertiary policy and in advocacy on behalf of the university sector. Besides which, as several speakers pointed out, the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee is a name that offers little in the way of explanation or enthusiasm! Addressing the gathering, Professor McWha noted the important role that universities play in the economic, social and cultural development of a nation. A recent KPMG Econtech report commissioned by Universities Australia, "Economic modelling of improved funding and reform arrangements for Australian universities" (www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/ resources/288) shows that investment in university research and education produces very high rates of economic return to the government and private citizens. This occurs through the impact of research on enhancement of existing businesses and the creation of new businesses, and through the salary premiums earned by university degree holders (which in turn reflect their greater value to employers). Professor McWha noted that the Australian government has responded to this and other evidence of the value of universities with significantly increased investment in the sector. Our own recently released Commentary Issue 6, "Investment in universities: high rates of private and public return" (www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/about/ the-university/tm-commentary), shows much the same situation in New Zealand. It is to be hoped



Zealand government will respond to this information in the same way that the Australian government has.

that the New

# National award for gifted teacher



#### Margaret Henley (Film, Television and Media Studies) has received a national Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award for "sustained excellence".

Margaret is one of just 11 in New Zealand to receive recognition for sustained excellence and commitment to their teaching and students at a parliamentary ceremony hosted on 4 August by the Hon Steven Joyce, the Minister for Tertiary Education.

The annual awards are conferred on tertiary teachers from universities and institutes of technology and polytechnics throughout New Zealand who have already been recognised for teaching excellence within their own institutions.

Margaret's nomination followed her earlier recognition for teaching excellence from the Faculty of Arts and the University, with the high regard for Margaret noted through staff and student recommendations.

"Margaret is an unusually gifted, passionate

# 70 years of service

This is a landmark year in a number of ways for the Department of Engineering Science: and 70 seems to be the department's magic number for 2010.

Both Professor Ian Collins and Professor Michael O'Sullivan are celebrating their 70th birthdays this

#### story continued from page 1

at the same time. It has also helped me define and refine the topic for my thesis" – which is to be (most appropriately) on perceptions of career pathways for general staff women in a university environment.

Applications for next year's Women in Leadership Programme close on 29 October. To learn more about the programme as a participant or a manager, and to hear about the experiences of previous participants you can attend one of two and innovative educator," wrote one colleague. "She truly inspires students and teachers. Her untiring efforts are fuelled by her delight in teaching and determination to make a difference in the lives of her students. She is hugely committed to equity in tertiary education and highly innovative in her approaches to achieve this – one example, a highly successful Bebo forum was set up in 2006 so students could access academic advisers and each other in a nonuniversity social networking space."

One of her students wrote: "You are a teacher of the highest quality. You made us work our butts off but in a constructive and amicable manner which is far more effective than harsh criticisms."

Margaret's commitment to excellence in teaching is best summed up in her own words: "I know that when I stop thinking as a learner, I will be rendered ineffectual as a teacher."

Emeritus Professor Noeline Alcorn, Chair of the Tertiary Teaching Awards Committee, described the winning teachers as an inspirational group. "The quality of the winning portfolios was humbling," she said. "The diversity of situations in which excellence in teaching occurred was also striking. This group of exceptional teachers demonstrated passion for what they were teaching and for the achievement and well-being of their students."

Said Dr Peter Coolbear, National Director of Ako Aotearoa: "These are people who open up new horizons for their students and change lives."

Margaret is Associate Dean Equity for the Faculty of Arts and a senior tutor in her department. Her areas of expertise include sports and media, video and film production, practical television skills and television journalism. She is currently engaged in a longitudinal study of the work-study-life balance of undergraduate students.

This year Margaret is involved in setting up a faculty-wide peer mentoring scheme with the aid of the Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Development Fund - based on a scheme which she initiated and developed within the Department of Film, Television and Media Studies.

year. In addition they have achieved a combined total of 70 years of service.

The department will be celebrating with a lunch for students of Engineering Science on 27 August and a dinner for staff on 7 September.

information sessions: one to be held on 15 September from 3.30-4.30pm at the Conference Centre, 22 Symonds Street, and the other planned for 22 September, 12noon-1pm, in Building 119 just behind the ClockTower. To register for these events go to PeopleSoft HR on the intranet and use course code WILIS. For assistance in finding this, call AskHR on 83000.

For further information contact Gail Reichert on ext 86379 or g.reichert@auckland.ac.nz

# **Recording for review**



Anna Lehmann in a lecture theatre providing for automated recording of lectures.

Many academics across the University are now choosing to have their lectures captured in digital form and made available to their students through Cecil.

More than a third of teaching spaces across the University now offer this automated recording service, and a growing number of staff are taking advantage of this.

The system was enabled from the start of Semester Two last year, but only in six selected large lecture theatres. After a successful and well-received trial the number has now been lifted to 38 (with three still in the testing phase).

Anna Lehmann, Media Services Coordinator from the ITS Media Services team, says feedback from staff has been very positive.

The recording service captures the lecturer's voice, slide displays such as PowerPoint, document camera items, and information presented on DVD or CD. The service can also capture video of the lecturer if they select the Presenter Camera to project onto the screen. This camera is not available in all of the lecture theatres though.

Students use the recordings to review lectures they have attended or to catch up on lectures they have missed, and peaks in use around exam-time indicate that students are also using the recordings for revision and study.

Preliminary surveys indicate that staff consider the recordings as particularly useful for students with learning difficulties or for those who have English as a second language. The recordings have also been helpful in cases where students have to hurry across campus from one lecture to another and sometimes miss the first few minutes of a lecture. Tutors in courses are also finding the recordings a benefit to their preparation for tutorials.

In addition selected lectures are now being released for cross-institutional usage. A recent group studying University of Auckland courses in Asian Studies as part of their programme at the University of Otago utilised these recordings.

Anna Lehmann emphasises that access to the recordings is restricted to authenticated students

and staff. The Media Services Team does not release the lectures directly to students. The teaching staff involved are provided with links to the recordings, which can be placed in Cecil at their discretion.

There are several ways of releasing the lectures. The most popular, says Anna, is the first.

1. Streaming. This means the lectures are made available for viewing on a website accessible only by students and staff. They cannot be downloaded, copied or kept.

2. Full download versions. This means students given access to the recordings are then free to download and keep them.

3. Audio-only version, with no slides. This can be useful when there are issues of copyright which prevent visuals from being made available.

4. A "slides high" version, which offers increased quality and clarity of text in Power Point presentations.

Lecture recordings are stored in ITS servers for only seven weeks following exams (for the particular subject), and after that are deleted. This allows teaching staff adequate time to download copies for themselves.

The Centre for Academic Development has prepared materials for staff and students to assist in the use of Lecture Recording technologies. Those materials can be found at: http://www.cad. auckland.ac.nz/index.php?p=lecture\_recording

The biggest issue with lecture theatre recording, and the delivery of the recorded lectures is copyright. The University has many policies around copyright, and the Media team has worked closely with Melanie Johnson from the Secretariat on being able to provide simplified information on the policies to staff. To learn more about the copyright policies the University hold, please visit: http:// web.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/for/staff/teaching/ copyright-for-staff/copyright-for-staff\_home.cfm

Anna is one of three in the ITS Media Services team, formed officially in January. The others are Robert Hamilton, Technologies Architect, and David MacDonald, Systems Engineer.

## In brief...

# Entertainment aplenty for visitors

A festive air will pervade Courses and Careers Day on Saturday 28 August, with musical and other performances across the City Campus.

The 8000 prospective students and their families expected to converge on the University will be spoilt for choice when not immersed in more than 160 lectures, displays and tours.

Two professional bands will play in the Student Quad while student bands from the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries will be in action in front of the General Library and outside the School of Architecture and Planning. Outside the Owen G. Glenn Building, student clubs - Glee, Popping Crew, Karate and Triple8funk - will go through their paces.

In Wynyard Street the Arts Faculty will feature Kapa Haka, Cook Island drummers and dancers, Japanese drummers, Indian dance (classical and Bollywod), and Chinese lion dance. Stalls will serve a variety of national and ethnic foods including Indian sweets, Korean pancakes and Taiwanese bubble tea.

There will be a vertical bungy outside the Recreation Centre. Artistic self-expression will find a ready outlet on a large used vinyl banner being "upcycled" outside the Science Centre.

The Recreation Centre will cater for anyone seeking strenuous physical activity with a "bouldering competition" on the climbing wall, a Zumba (dance fitness) class, and a powerlifting and bench press competition.

A fleet of free buses will bring 450 visitors from as far away as Whangarei and Tauranga plus many more from across Greater Auckland.

Staff not actively involved in Courses and Careers Day are welcome to come and check out faculties and disciplines outside their own - and join in the fun.

The programme is online at www. coursesandcareers.auckland.ac.nz The printed version has been widely distributed to schools and is available from the Call Centre, 0800 61 62 63.

Brigitte Hannett in Marketing (ext 85219, b.hannett@auckland.ac.nz) is co-ordinating the event.

## **Historic occasion**

Dr Winston Halapua, former Bishop of Aotearoa in Auckland, who was until recently a member of staff of the School of Theology, has been installed as Archbishop of Polynesia in Suva, Fiji.

Around 2000 of his supporters, including bishops from around the Pacific, filled Holy Trinity Cathedral for the ceremony.

This was an historic occasion, marking the first time in 35 years that a new Archbishop of Polynesia has been installed.

## **Research funding**

## **Funding opportunities**

#### European Commission

The European Commission has launched 51 new calls for proposals under its FP7 programme, each with its own timeline. These include mobility fellowships (Marie Curie scheme) and also funding for collaborative projects within themes. For further details contact David Saunders, International Fund Specialist, d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz

#### US Department of Homeland Security

Funding is available for joint NZ/US projects which benefit US homeland security in priority areas: explosives, chemical/biological, command, control and interoperability, borders and maritime security, human factors/ behavioural sciences and infrastructure/ geophysical. The Research Office deadline is 17 September. For further details contact David Saunders, d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz

#### Royal Society of New Zealand

- New "Mobility funding" will facilitate bilateral research by providing funds for New Zealand researchers to travel overseas or overseas researchers to travel to New Zealand to work on joint research projects. For more information, see the Royal Society website: www.royalsociety.org.nz/ programmes/funds/international/
- The Royal Society of New Zealand-China Scientist Exchange Programme is offering support for mid-career researchers to collaborate with researchers in Chinese institutes for a four-week period beginning 17 October 2010. Research Office deadline: Monday 23 August. For further details contact Chris Tews, Fund Specialist, c.tews@auckland.ac.nz

#### Health Research Council

Career Development Awards for Pacific Health Research will close at noon on 26 August at the Research Office. HRC has also announced dates for the 2010/11 funding round. For further details contact Carmella Lee, HRC Funding Specialist, c.lee@auckland.ac.nz

## NZ Pharmacy and Education and Research Foundation

Project grants from the foundation offer funding for pharmacists from all areas of the profession to support them to undertake practice-related research. The Research Office deadline is 13 October. For further details contact Carmella Lee, c.lee@auckland.ac.nz

For a list of all funding opportunities and contact details please email researchoffice@auckland.ac.nz

# **Patterning brain cells**



Charles Unsworth (left) and Scott Graham

Two University researchers have succeeded in "patterning" adult human brain cells on a silicon chip, a breakthrough which may lead to new treatments for brain disorders.

Dr Charles Unsworth (Engineering Science) and Dr Scott Graham (Pharmacology), have been awarded a \$150,000 grant from the Faculty Research Development Fund (Faculty of Engineering, Technologies for Health theme) to develop the new technology further.

"The breakthrough in patterning such cells on a silicon chip has widespread implications and value as a platform technology as it will allow scientists to perform detailed studies of adult human brain circuits for a range of brain disorders, such as epilepsy and Alzheimer's disease," said Charles.

Charles's main research interest is to understand and mathematically model the synchronisation effects that neurons undergo in the brain during epilepsy. He developed the chips during his sabbatical to the University of Edinburgh earlier this year. There he worked with Professor Alan Murray and Dr Evangelos Delivopoulos who pioneered this technology using rat neurons.

"We chose to pattern the human hNT neuron on chip as it provides a very close model to adult human neural tissue", he said. "This technology will allow us to grow neurons to regular networks such that they can be stimulated and recorded

# Quest for cancer drug

In her 15 years working in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences Dr Julie Spicer has been driven by a desire to have a positive impact on people's lives.

Wiith the help of the Faculty Research Development Fund (FRDF) she is taking the fight to cancer.

Five years ago Julie was sought out by an Australian research centre to put her chemistry skills to the fore in the search for a new and improved immune suppressant drug. using microelectrodes which are also embedded in the chip design. This allows us to study the behaviour of these cells at the single cell level. "It could eventually lead to potential new treatments and to the development of new drug assays.

"What is also nice about the work is that it raises no ethical concerns as the neurons were differentiated from a cancer stem cell line rather than embryonic stem cell lines," he said.

Professor Mike Dragunow (Pharmacology) provided the stem cell line for the initial work. The research was sponsored by the UK's EPSRC Visiting Fellowship Scheme and FRDF.



Lines of human hNT neurons cultured on a silicon chip. The figure demonstrates how the neurons have successfully migrated onto the lined surfaces and large networks have formed spanning distances of up to 2mm.

Julie was asked to develop a drug from an already identified protein (called perforin), which is essential for the immune system. The idea was to develop a drug that would target this one particular protein – unlike currently-used immunosuppressive drugs which affect a number of targets.

Julie says the drug would be particularly useful to those who have undergone chemotherapy or radiotherapy and require bone marrow transplants, as the marrow is inadvertently targeted and damaged by these therapies.

"The drug would increase the chances of the body accepting the bone marrow graft without the side-effects caused by current immunosuppressants. This would enable the new bone marrow to produce blood cells which carry oxygen and fight infections," she says.

The programme started with very little funding and Julie was the sole person working on her project area until a \$75,000 FRDF grant in 2008 gave the research the impetus it needed.

"It's difficult to get funding when you start a project and you need to collect data before people will seriously look at what you're doing. With the FRDF grant I was able to fund another full-time chemist, which enabled us to collect enough data to back up the original ideas and take our calls for funding to a much larger stage." In 2009 the programme approached the Wellcome Trust in Britain and was awarded an Interim Award of NZ\$1 million dollars to continue the research, with the possibility of a further grant for NZ\$7 million over three years, should their research continue to yield results.

The programme, which is a partnership between The University of Auckland, the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne, Monash University and the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, has seven people working on it through the four research centres. If the new grant from the Wellcome Trust comes through, this number will expand to 20.

"It is a very multi-disciplinary, collaborative effort and we all share, learn about and respect each other's contributions, with the big picture being to get a drug into pre-clinical development," says Julie. "It would be nice to think that one day a drug might come out of this that will help people - that would be fantastic."



## Generous support from alumni



The Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon welcomed friends and supporters of the University who gathered at University House on the evening of 4 August to mark the generosity of The University of Auckland Society in donating \$100,000 to the University.

After a warm acknowledgment from the Vice-Chancellor of the Society's longstanding support, Peter Hays, on behalf of The Auckland of Auckland Foundation, which holds and administers gifts and bequests on behalf of the University, thanked the Society for

its "outstandingly generous gift"

He also spoke of the initiative of its members who inaugurated many of the events which now form an important part of the University's calendar – including the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner and the Golden Graduates' Luncheon.

"One of our guiding philosophies," said Peter Hays, "has been in making a difference, particularly to students – which this gift will help to do."

President of the Society Judge David Abbot said, in presenting the gift, that the Society's goal has been to support the University's people, and to raise awareness of what the University can and does contribute to the community.

Over the last four years The University of Auckland Society has given \$20,000 each year to support The University of Auckland Strings Orchestra. David Abbott expressed the desire that this support would continue this year; \$20,000 of the \$100,000 donation will be devoted to this purpose.

Peter Hays (right) receives the cheque from Judge David Abbott.

## New resource for parents



The University's new Parental Leave Adviser (PLA) scheme was launched by Trudie McNaughton, Pro Vice-Chancellor (EO) in the Presentation Room in the ClockTower Building on 29 July.

The PLA scheme, created in response to a recommendation arising from the 2007 report "Women returning to work", has established a

team of 18 voluntary advisers – nine academics and nine general staff – who are available to provide support, advice and information to University staff. The team will advise on working while

on working while pregnant; seeking to take parental leave; transition to work after parental leave; and managing staff who are balancing parenting and working at the University.

Trudie McNaughton, in launching the scheme at a lunch attended by the advisers, the Director of Human Resources Kath Clarke, HR managers and advisers, and others who have helped establish the scheme, gave special thanks to Suzanne McNab Women's Officer for TEU, who drafted core material for the project; Project Manager Kim Hope; and Staff Equity Manager Prue Toft.

"Research on parental leave," said Trudie, "tells us that good discussion and understanding prior to leave makes a difference not only to the person going on leave but also to their colleagues and managers. We greatly value our talented staff, and research makes it clear that if we manage parental leave well, we are more likely to retain them."

Trudie expressed her pleasure that a male staff member – Mark Harvey – is to be available as a parental leave adviser and would welcome more suggestions and involvement from men with experience of parental leave. "We want to ensure that this initiative works well for men as well as women."

The PLA scheme is a pilot that will be enhanced as participants learn more about what works best. Anyone who would like to offer suggestions is encouraged to address them to Prue Toft.

Parental Leave Adviser Alison Miller (Faculty of Education) on right talks with Kim Hope at the launch of the scheme.

# **Professor Mike Thomas (Mathematics)**



Mike Thomas, recently promoted to Professor, has been asked to write a little about himself and his work for the readers of *University News*.

I was born in England, gained a BSc (Hons) in Pure Mathematics at Warwick University and 16 years later had completed an MSc and a PhD (1988) in Mathematics Education, also at Warwick University.

After 21 years teaching mathematics in secondary schools in the UK I was appointed to a lectureship in mathematics education in the

Mathematics Department of The University of Auckland in 1993. Promotions to senior lecturer in 1997 and associate professor in 2003 followed. During this time I also served as Head of the Mathematics Education Unit from 2000-2002 and from 2005-2007.

My research field is mathematics education, with particular interests in using technology to improve learning; developing theories of advanced mathematical thinking; learning and teaching of calculus and undergraduate mathematics; school and university teaching; and the connections between mathematics education and cognitive neuroscience.

I like the inter-disciplinary nature of my field, which calls on ideas and expertise from a number of differing domains, but always emphasises the mathematics. I enjoy collaborative research and currently work with researchers from the United States, Israel, UK and Italy, as well as local students and colleagues. I also lead a major international project, reporting at the 2012 International Congress on Mathematical Education, which seeks to understand the mathematical difficulties inherent in the transition from school to university.

I have been invited to give research talks in a number of countries and am on the editorial boards of two international journals, *Mathematics Education Research Journal* and the *International Journal of Mathematical Education in Science and Technology* and an international book series entitled *Interweaving Mathematics Pedagogy and Content in Teaching*.

I enjoy the challenge of teaching mathematics and mathematics education at all levels, finding it very rewarding to be able to assist others to build their understanding, enjoyment and appreciation.

I think it is important to keep close connections with mathematics teaching in schools and so I have been involved with setting national examinations and NCEA standards in mathematics, as well as working closely with teachers and teacher organisations.

# Dangerous element distinguishes design

*Mirabile Dictu*, a collection of poems by inaugural New Zealand Poet Laureate, Professor Michele Leggott (English), was announced as the Best Non-illustrated Book at the 2010 PANZ (Publishers Association of New Zealand) Book Design Awards in Auckland.

The Hachette New Zealand Award for Best Non-Illustrated Book was presented by New Zealand CEO Kevin Chapman to Keely O'Shannessy (cover design) and Auckland University Press's Katrina Duncan (interior design).

The judging team said: "The typographically

complex poems sit effortlessly on the page. Grid, type and numbers are all balanced, and the cover conveys a sombre yet transcendent tone. What sets this book apart, however, is its use of a potentially dangerous element. Several entries floundered when thin papers allowed text on the reverse to intrude and distract. Here, this see-through effect works both visually and conceptually. It reinforces the grid, and also, in a book that is a journey, provides a subtle reminder of the past and a hint of the future."

Interior designer Katrina Duncan (Auckland

University Press) says: "Quality paper and a large format allowed plenty of room for the poems to breathe. The font is Dante, classic and beautiful with, I think, just the right rhythm for the poems."

*Mirabile Dictu* is published by Auckland University Press.

Associate Professor Len Bell (Art History) had his book *Marti Friedlander* (AUP) highly commended in the Best Illustrated Book category (one of three finalists).

# Fontane's Landscapes



"Landscape [in literature] has as much to do with subjective identity as it does with recording an objective reality," writes Associate Professor James Bade (European Languages and Literatures) in the first chapter of his recent book

Fontane's Landscapes, published by Kōnighausen & Neumann.

This book, aimed primarily at English-speaking undergraduate students of German literature, but also with graduate students and a general readership in mind, deals with the literary landscapes in Theodor Fontane's best-known novels, the three which tend to appeal most to students in the Anglo-Saxon world – *Schach von Wuthenow* (1882), *Irrungen, Wirrungen* (1988) and *Effi Briest* (1895).

The book comprises an illuminating introduction to one of Europe's finest novelists. Its analysis is primarily concerned with the narrative and symbolic functions of the landscapes, and how they contribute to the novels' main themes. Says Professor Christian Grawe from the University of Melbourne: "It is an excellent idea to guide readers through the novels by way of focusing on the landscapes. James N. Bade brings an enormous amount of material into the discussion and is always detailed and precise."

Says Professor Dirk Göttsche from the University of Nottingham: "The book brings out the symbolic meaning and arrangements of locations and landscapes very clearly – I really hope that it will be read by students who are discovering Fontane."

# From the collection



Dame Louise Henderson was born in Paris in 1902 and immigrated in 1925 with her husband to New Zealand, where she studied painting at the Canterbury School of Art.

Louise later moved to Auckland where she attended classes under Archibald Fisher at the Elam School of Fine Arts. During this time she also worked in the Auckland studio of painter John Weeks and subsequently in Paris under the internationally acclaimed cubist painter, Jean Metzinger (1883-1956).

Throughout her extensive career, Louise worked in a variety of materials including most paint mediums as well as sculpture, embroidery, tapestry, weaving, stained glass and mosaic. It is arguably, however, in the medium of paint that she made her biggest impact on the New Zealand art scene.

Louise's early work consistently focused on the landscape of the Canterbury region and she often accompanied friend and artist Rita Angus on her sketching trips. Louise's work of this period was exhibited alongside fellow leading Christchurch artists including Leo Bensemann, Rata Lovell-Smith and Olivia Spencer Bower. Although Louise is now recognised as being one of the pioneering figures of early cubism in New Zealand, her hard-edged abstractions were often met with disdain and derision by the public throughout the 1930s and 1940s.

Louise's understanding and appreciation of contemporary European art made her an important and influential figure in the New Zealand art scene, in both a teaching and exhibiting capacity.

Her time spent as a lecturer in painting at the Elam School of Fine Arts at The University of Auckland during the 1950s saw her teaching some of New Zealand's most renowned abstractionists including Gretchen Albrecht and Geoff Thornley.

Completed in 1952, the present work was bought from the artist by The University of

## Arts

Auckland in 1991. Featuring a predominantly earthy palette, the work is characteristic of Henderson's cubist works where she transcribes her subject through a series of angular planes. The time-honoured subject of the reclining female nude is revitalised and reinvented under Henderson's pencil and brush as she fractures and distorts her subject by amalgamating a series of seemingly disparate viewpoints.

In line with the cubist ethos, Henderson unabashedly draws attention to the twodimensional physicality of the work by doing away with the traditionally celebrated technique of perspective in order to create a three-dimensional illusion and the use of fine mimetic brushwork to consolidate the illusory view. Instead, the viewer is presented with thin rubbings, and smudges of crayon graze the surface of the paper in places, drawing attention to its presence and its texture while any notion of receding space is negated by the background planes being pushed up directly behind the nude form.

The work of Louise Henderson features in all major public collections throughout New Zealand including the Auckland Art Gallery, Christchurch Art Gallery and the Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa Tongarewa in Wellington, as well as in an extensive number of important private collections throughout Australasia and Europe.

Jemma Field

Louise Henderson Reclining Nude,1952 Crayon and charcoal on paper, 485 x 1095 mm The University of Auckland Art Collection

# Disadvantaged students hope to inspire others



Young New Zealanders look back at their personal journeys from low or mid-decile schools to tertiary education in a new book compiled by the Starpath Project at The University of Auckland and launched at the Strata Café on 23 July.

Uni Bound? Students' Stories of Transition from School to University is a rare insight into how 15 students, many of them from economically disadvantaged communities, survived the process of adjusting to tertiary study. Many of the contributors are the first in their family to embark on a university education.

"The transition process can be particularly challenging for students with little previous contact with universities. We hope this book will inspire secondary school students who are planning to go to university, and those wondering if they should," says Starpath Director, Associate Professor Elizabeth McKinley.

The book stems from a Starpath research project which followed nearly 50 students from high school over summer to their first semester of tertiary study. It sought to understand why many able students from disadvantaged backgrounds begin to struggle, and often drop out, once they reach university study.

Each of the students featured in the book has contributed a chapter about their own experiences of striving to gain a higher education and adjusting to university life. The authors reflect the ethnic mix of New Zealand today – with Māori, Pacific, and European/Pākehā voices. They come from rural and urban schools from Auckland and Northland, and attend universities all over New Zealand. Some excel in their first year, while others learn to deal with failure.

"Their stories are open and honest. They provide a real glimpse of what it is like to leave the familiarity of school, family and community to become a university student," Dr McKinley says.

The final chapter is written by Dr McKinley and Starpath researcher Dr Irena Madjar, and covers tips for a successful transition to university.

Uni Bound? Students' Stories of Transition from School to University is published by NZCER Press and is available online at www.nzcer.org.nz.

## What's on

#### FRIDAY 20 AUGUST

#### MRI Case Conference

Prof Vivian S. Lee, UoA Distinguished Visitor. 12noon Henley Rm, Clinical Education Centre, Level 5, Auckland City Hospital.

#### Lunchtime concerts

Featuring School of Music voice and strings students. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Inaugural lecture

#### Prof Ananish Chaudhuri, Economics: Experiments in economics: Playing fair with money. 3pm Decima Glenn Rm, Owen G Glenn Building, 12 Grafton Rd.

#### Distinguished Visitor lecture

Prof Vivian S. Lee, UoA Distinguished Visitor: Functional renal MRI: Querying physiology and pathophysiology with MRI. 3pm Fifth Floor Seminar Rm, Grafton Campus.

## Department of Philosophy research seminar

Terry Horgan, University of Arizona: The Soritical Centipede: Rationality and backwards induction in centipede games. 3-5pm Patrick Hanan Rm 501, Arts 2.

#### SPARK \$100k Challenge Qualifiers Ceremony

5.45pm Fisher & Paykel Appliances Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

Join us to celebrate the qualifiers of the Spark \$100k Challenge. The top 10-15 ventures will be announced, each receiving a mentoring and workshop development package valued at \$5,000. Visit www.spark.auckland.ac.nz/

#### SATURDAY 21 AUGUST

#### Julian Dashper tribute

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. John Reynolds, Judy Darragh and Ian Jervis, friends and peers of Julian Dashper, pay tribute in a group discussion chaired by exhibition curator Ariane Craig Smith. Free. Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

#### Glee: 'A Debut'

By the UoA Glee Club. 7.30pm Dorothy Winstone Centre, Auckland Girls' Grammar School, 16 Howe St. \$15/\$10. Queries to info@uoaglee.com Visit www.uoaglee.com

#### **MONDAY 23 AUGUST**

#### **Exhibition: Tensions**

10am-5pm, George Fraser Gallery, 25 Princes St. Until 29 August. Work from postgraduate students from Advanced Design 1.

#### Student Jazz Ensemble Concert

7.30pm Studio One, Kenneth Myers Centre, Shortland St. School of Music students perform jazz standards, modern pieces and original works. Free.

#### **TUESDAY 24 AUGUST**

## Teaching to diversity: Multiple means of student expression

10am-12noon CAD Seminar Rm, Fifth Floor, 76 Symonds St. Design learning tasks and assessments that give all students an equal opportunity to let you know what they know. Enrol at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140.

#### Final 2010 Winter Lecture

Gavin Ellis, former Editor-in-Chief, NZ Herald; doctoral candidate, UoA: *The end(s) of journalism: Paying the piper*. 1-2pm Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St. Chair: Prof Stuart McCutcheon, Vice-Chancellor, UoA. Free. All welcome. For further information please phone 373 7599 ext 87698. Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/winter

visit www.duckidhd.dc.hz/ winte

#### WEDNESDAY 25 AUGUST

#### Masterclass: Violin

Feng Ning, China. 9-11am Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Free.

## Department of Applied Language

Studies and Linguistics seminar Prof Miriam Meyerhoff, UoA: Learning local lingoes: Migrant teenagers' use of (ing) in English. 12noon Room 103, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quad. Master of Public Policy seminar

#### Dr Don Brash, Chair, 2025 Taskforce

and Dr Jennifer Curtin, Dept of Political Studies, UoA: New Zealand's economic performance: The growth agenda. 12.30-2pm Women's Federation Rm, OGH.

Host: Assoc-Prof Michael Mintrom. Visit www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/ public-policy-seminar-series **Researching the doctorate: Three** 

#### papers from the International Doctoral Education Research Network

Courtesy of the Doctoral Research Education Group, this research-inprogress seminar dissects the doctorate through several vectors. 3.30-5pm CAD Seminar Rm, Fifth floor, 76 Symonds St. Enrol at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/ workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140.

#### Inaugural lecture

Prof Phil Crosier, Molecular Medicine and Pathology: *Lessons for medicine from model organisms*. 5.30pm Robb Lecture Theatre.

#### Fast Forward lecture series

Ken Tremaine, Peter Salmon and Graham Bush: *Perspectives on the Super City.* 6.30pm Engineering Lecture Theatre 1.439, Bldg 401, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds St.

#### THURSDAY 26 AUGUST

Music seminar series Mário Carreira, Portugal. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Free.

#### Department of History seminar

Felicity Barnes, UoA: Colonial encounters: NZ, London, and commodity culture. 1840-1940. 4pm Rm 59, Department of History.

#### FRIDAY 27 AUGUST

#### Legal Research Foundation's Miscarriages of Justice conference

10am-4.30pm Hyatt Regency. A distinguished panel of speakers will gather to consider miscarriages of justice in NZ. \$260/\$290. Queries to info@legalresearch.org.nz

#### Visit www.legalresearch.org.nz/ Lunchtime concerts

Featuring School of Music students from the guitar and Early Music. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Free.

For a full list of The University of Auckland events see: www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/events

#### Composition workshop

Prof John Young. 4pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Free.

## SATURDAY 28 AUGUST

#### **Courses and Careers Day** 9am-3pm City Campus.

The University of Auckland invites you to our City Campus to discover more about the study opportunities available and what our student life is like. For further information phone 0800 61 62 63. Visit www.coursesandcareers.auckland.ac.nz

#### Film screening: MY SPACE

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Screening of the Simone Horrocks and Richard Flynn-produced documentary, created with Julian Dashper as an intimate dialogue between the artist and his work. Originally premiered on YouTube in accordance with Dashper's wishes, it tracks his activities in mid-2008 and runs for 70 minutes. Introduced by Simone Horrocks. Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

#### TUESDAY 31 AUGUST

Auckland Branch of Society for Legal and Social Philosophy seminar Prof Jeff Berryman: *The law of remedies:* A prosepectus for teaching and scholarship. 6pm Small Lecture Theatre, Bldg 803.

Chair: Professor Peter Watts. Queries to pj.evans@auckland.ac.nz

#### WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

#### Teaching inclusively

This workshop will outline how staff can assist students with impairments through the principles of inclusive education. 10-12noon CAD Seminar Rm, Fifth Floor, 76 Symonds St. Enrol at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140.

#### THURSDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

#### Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority presentation

10am Rm 501, Bldg 404, Faculty of Engineering.

Dr Sea Rotman, Principal Scientist/Team Manager Research at EECA. Dr Rotman will be speaking on what EECA does and what research interests they have. All staff are welcome to attend.

#### Friends of the Liggins Couture Car Boot Sale

6-10pm Team McMillan BMW, Great Sth Rd, Newmarket. Support the Institute by editing your wardrobe of unwanted designer women's and children's clothes, shoes and accessories, and come to the sale and pick up some bargains. Queries to friends@liggins.auckland.ac.nz NZ Electroacoustic Music

#### Symposium (NZEMS) 2010

7pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. \$15/\$10. Phone 361 1000 or 0508 iTICKET.

## Classifieds ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

#### ACCONINIODATION AVAILABLE

A one-bdrm apartment is available in The Aucklander, Rutland St, City, just behind the Public Library. Fully furnished, immaculate, everything included. North-

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

facing, sunny and warm. No smokers. \$300 pw. Contact Bryan on 480 5857. **Apartments for rent.** Call us for your rental requirements; we offer city apartments furnished/unfurnished, all sizes and prices; great rental deals for long-term leases; call Shirlene Brebner on 09 303 0601 at City Sales or email rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to

#### www.citysales.co.nz/rentals Furnished house for rent in

Glendowie, from 26 September 2010 to 22 January 2011. Three bdms + office, two bthrms, open plan living area, decks and garden, Broadband, piano, no pets. 20 minutes to UoA by car, 35 mins by bus, close to beach, Glendowie Primary School zone. Rent and use of two cars negotiable. Email meyer@stat.auckland.ac.nz

## House for rent in Lincoln Road,

Henderson. Enjoy the uniqueness of West Auckland. Three-bdrm house with garage and a big storage shed. Deck and spacious compound for outdoor activities. Easy access to motorway, train and bus routes. Walking distance to six schools, shops, mall, swimming pool, library and other amenities. Ideal for academics or small families. Available from October for long-term lease. Short-term lease for visiting academics negotiable. Email d.pang@xtra.co.nz

#### ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Room wanted in established flat/ house for University staff member. Furnished preferred, close to University City Campus. Reliable, tidy and dependable with impeccable references. Can pay up to \$200 pw. Contact Sabine on s.kruekel@auckland.ac.nz or phone 0226923486.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**Do you have a 9-14month old?** You can help us find out what infants know! The Early Learning Lab (ELLA) in the Department of Psychology is looking for guardians and their babies to participate in our studies. Phone 373 7599 ext 84236 or email earlylearning.nz@gmail.com Our studies were approved by the University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee on 10/03/2010 for 3 years. Ref number 2010/013.

## Early childhood vacancies for under two year old children. The

University Infant and Toddler centres have vacancies for under two-year-old children. Centre hours are 7.45am-5.15pm. Very competitive rates especially for student parents. High adult to child ratio. City Campus, Alten Road Early childhood Centre, 3 Alten Rd - phone Teresa on 923 5121 or email ecc-altenrd@auckland.ac.nz Grafton Campus, Park Avenue Infant and Toddler centre, 28 Park Ave - phone Jenni on 923 7755 or email eccparkaveinfants@auckland.ac.nz Travel. I have 12 years experience in booking all aspects of personal travel for university staff and lecturers. I pride myself in ensuring that your travel plans are sourced at the lowest possible costs and are tailor-made to your requirements. Contact Karen on Karen.embleton@ mondotravel.co.nz or 940 0064 (wk) or (021) 188 7781.